

AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/38/18

Title: Headquarters, 11th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

July 1917



AWM4-13/38/18

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

188

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

VOLUME 18

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAGON LINE	1/7/17		<p>The Brigade took over from the 3rd NZ FA Brigade in the line on the night 30th June, 1st July and 11th July. The change was completed 11.45 pm 1st July, without mishap. ^{Left Col. Walk DSO MC.} Major P. J. Edwards took command of 17de. proceeded to England on leave.</p>	
DIEPPE	2/7/17		<p>X Group Artillery, Subsections No 7 attached marked I and ^{new} new BOD. instructions with outposts marked 2 General Holmes GOC 4 Am Division killed by shell fire.</p>	I II
	3/7/17		<p>Representatives of the Poce attending Major General Holmes funeral.</p>	
	4/7/17		<p>Working to report, Am Batteries spending practically all.</p>	
	5/7/17		<p>Reconnaissance made of Group OP's all want a lot of repair and constructional work, to make them efficient. instructions No 8 marked <u>3</u> attached.</p>	III
	6/7/17		<p>Batteries working mainly on heavy constructional work - Division have authorized the issue of 16.4 Ser Battery for use against hostile aircraft.</p>	-

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NIEPPE	7/7/17		Normal work being carried on. Liaison Barrage worked 11th IAB Brigade 4 attached.	IV
	9/7/17		More order dearming order from DA received relief to be complete by midnight 9/10 July, then to proceed north.	
	9/7/17		Batteries completed relief marched to wagon lines.	
	10/7/17		Batteries still in wagon lines, though working parties are at the forward positions preparing camp for the reception of guns.	
	14/7/17			
	16/7/17		Hostile aircraft raided our back country ^{3:30 am} and dropped 1 bomb on our wagon lines killing 35 horses of 1 battery. From this experience it is noted that it is unwise to 'stand to your horses' as the bomb is an instantaneous one, with very little noise and though it burst right among the horses there was no sign of stampede among the un wounded horses. and had men been with them	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dickebusch	15/7/17		heavy casualties among men must have resulted.	11 th Aus. F. A. Brigade
	16/7/17		Preparatory work going on at pits. Lt Col King wounded and evacuated. Appendix marked by showing the grouping of the Bde for the coming operation.	V
	18/7/17			
	19/7/17			
	20/7/17		42 nd & 43 rd Batteries under Canal Group were taken into the line without mishap (six guns each Bty). 41 st & 111 th Bty to oosthoek jump also went into the line. 11 th Bde H. & S. remained in reserve at W.L.	
	21/7/17		Routine duties at W.L. Lt Col A.C. Wait (adjutant) proceeded to England on leave.	
	22/7/17		Wagon lines of 111 th battery shelled, horses evacuated for 1 1/2 hours - no casualties. Lt Col H. Pagel (111 th Bty) wounded & evacuated.	
	23/7/17		Lt Col H. Pagel took over duties of adjutant during absence of Lt Col A.C. Wait on leave.	
	24/7/17		Major P. M. Edwards (acting CO - Brigade) proceeded to gun position of 111 th How Bty from W.L. to take charge.	
	25/7/17			
	26/7/17		Major Edwards slightly wounded but not evacuated. He returned to W.L. same day.	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

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1918

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or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dixkbusch	27/7/17		Aeroplanes (hostile) overhead between 10 pm and 12 midnight, no bombs dropped near W.L. One section of guns and personnel of each of following batteries withdrawn from the line 41 st 42 nd 43 rd , and brought to wagon lines.	
	28/7/17			
	29/7/17		Gas alarm at W.L. about 2 o'clock pm, gas not very strong. Guns at W.L. were taken to battery position with personnel to complete batteries. One officer (Lieut. Christ) and 40 O.R.s attached to Brigade from 4 th Aus Div. T.M. Bty. to relieve personnel at gun positions, and replace casualties and O.R. on leave and at schools.	
	30/7/17			
	30/7/17		10 O.R.s attached from 4 th BAC. to replace 10 O.R. at 2 nd Army Rest Camp.	
	31/7/17		Total casualties etc for month. Killed in action 6. Died of Wounds 4. Wounded & evacuated 31. - Gassed & evacuated 24 - Wounded & remaining on duty 17. - Sick evacuations 65 - P.D. evacuations 8. Lieut. A.C.R. Waite returned from leave. reported to 4 th Aus Div July 31. Pres. to act as Staff Captain, same day. Appendix marked C. attached showing number of casualties, sick evacuations etc since reorganisation. P. M. Edwards Major A/C.O. - 11 th Aus T.A. Brigade	VI

11th AUSTRALIAN F.A. BRIGADE.

COPY NO. 9

SECRET.

INSTRUCTIONS NO. 7.

HEADQUARTERS.

2nd July, 1917.

1. "X" Group consists of 11th Aust. F.A. Brigade minus 43rd Battery covering the 4th N.Z. Infantry Brigade, from the River WARHAVE to where River LES crosses the line.
2. A Battalion Liaison Officer will be supplied in turn by Batteries from 9.30 p.m. to 5.30 a.m. daily as follows:-
 - 41st Battery: 2nd July to 4th July inclusive.
 - 42nd Battery. 5th July to 7th July inclusive.
 - 11th Battery. 8th July, to 10th July inclusive.

This Officer will report to Infantry Battalion Headquarters, SURREY FARM, C 9 & S.5.

Attention is called to 4th Aust. Div. Artillery Instructions No. 12.

Arthur Roberts Lieut.

Adj. 11th AUST. F.A. BRIGADE

- No. 1 File.
 2 4th P.A.H.Q.
 3 41st Battery.
 4 42nd Battery.
 5 11th Battery.
 6 4th N.Z. Inf. Bde. (for information.)
 7 War Diary.

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"X" GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

COBY NO.....

SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS.

2nd July, 1917.

The following are verified locations of both day and night Infantry posts along Group Front marked respectively D and H

- H C 11 c 30.30
- H C 11 a 35.10
- H C 8 d 45.90
- D·H C 5 a 30.00
- H C 8 a 20.30
- D·H U 29 c 30.30
- D·H F 29 a 50.10
- D·H U 29 a 25.30

Until further orders the S.O.S. Zones for Batteries will be as follows:-

41st Battery. All Guns C 11 c 50.50 to C 5 d 20.00

42nd Battery. 4 guns. C 8 d 00.00 to C 5 b 00.35
2 Guns. U 29 d 30.00 to U 29 d 45.45

In view of the fact that the Southern end of 41st Battery barrage is rather close to our outposts, G.C. 41st Battery will register at first opportunity. It is thought hostile aircraft and balloons are much more active from about 8 A.M. onwards so every effort must be made to complete registrations in early morning.

All maps including Batt^{ALION} Liaison map will be marked according to above.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Arthur Roberts Majut.

Adj. "X" GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY

Normal distribution.

"X" GROUPEFIELD ARTILLERY.S E C R E T.INSTRUCTIONS NO. 8

HEADQUARTERS.

5th July, 1917.

From personal reconnaissance of O.P.'s this morning the following notes were taken and allotment of O.P.'s made.

- No. 1 O.P. at C 9 d 91.75 allotted to 41st Battery.
- No. 2 O.P. at C 9 d 50.50 allotted to 42nd Battery.
- No. 3 O.P. Tower at REBEQUE FARM and with mutual arrangement with both the above - 11th Battery.

At present the access to and accommodation for men at No. 1 O.P. is unsatisfactory and unsafe. O.C. 41st Battery will have a working party put on to the construction of same immediately.

From No. 2 O.P. not enough of the country NORTH can be seen and a new one must be sought. CHELMSFORD COTTAGE was looked at this morning but thought unsuitable as it has obviously been "crumped out" quite recently, and it is feared the work necessary to make it a likely spot would draw too much fire, though perhaps in the vicinity a good O.P. tree could be found. O.C. 42nd Battery will make a reconnaissance of the locality with that end in view and report to this Office by 12 noon on the 7th instant as to result. Failing a suitable O.P. there, a place will have to be sought on the 30 contour at AU CHASSEUR CAB^t in U 16 b. It is understood that a buried route will shortly run to this locality eliminating any existing difficulty in that respect.

Each Battery/ will have their O.P. manned day and night. If for any reason an Officer cannot be spared for this, authority may be asked from this Office to permit of a senior N.C.O. being left in charge of O.P.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Arthur Roberts Lieut.

Adjt., 11th AUST. F.A. BRIGADE.

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Appendix N^o 44

11TH AUSTRALIAN F.A. BRIGADE.	
No.	4476
Date	6/4/17

8

"Z" GROUP FIELD ARTILLERY.

HEADQUARTERS.

S E C R E T.

6th July, 1917.

In the event of the 57th Divisional Artillery Front being attacked and our front not being involved the following barrages will be put on by "Z" Group on receipt of call "HELP G.O. 8."

41st Battery. Barrage F.L.T. from C 17 a 50.20 to C 23 Central.

111th Battery. 1 Section. barrage Road from C 17 a 60.90 to C 17 a 30.45

2 Sections. barrage on CELIA SUPPORT C 17 a and CELL RESERVE C 17 d.

Registrations for the above will be carried out immediately.

Arthur Swain Lieut.

Adj. "Z" GROUP ARTILLERY.

Normal distribution.

War Diary

11th AUSTRALIAN P.A. BRIG DE/

Copy No. 4442

SECRETHEADQUARTERS.11th July, 1917.

1. The Batteries of the 11th Aust. P.A. Brigade will be divided and attached to Groups as under:-

41st Battery. - OOSTHOEK GROUP - 190 Bde. R.F.A.
111th Battery. - OOSTHOEK GROUP - 190 Bde. R.F.A.
42nd Battery. - CANAL GROUP - 10th Aust. P.A. Bde.
43rd Battery. - CANAL GROUP - 10th Aust. P.A. Bde.

Groups Headquarters and Battery positions are located as follows:-

<u>GROUP.</u>	<u>HEADQUARTERS.</u>	<u>BATTERY</u>	<u>BATTERY POSITION.</u>
OOSTHOEK	I 31 d 70.00	41st. 111th.	0 2 b 48.30. 0 3 c 88.30
CANAL.	I 33 c 10.30	42nd. 43rd.	0 3 b 68.00 0 3 c 78.32

2. Battery Commanders will report to their respective Group Commanders at 9 a.m. tomorrow, 12th instant (OOSTHOEK GROUP are at present at H 36 c 30.10), and will also make a reconnaissance of their new positions.
3. Preparation of positions and ammunition dumps will be proceeded with at once.
4. Orders regarding the occupation of positions will be issued later.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Arthur C. Stewart Lieut.

No. 1 File.

Adj. 11th AUST. P.A. BRIGADE.

2 War Diary.

3 47th Div. Arty.

4 41st Bty. 111th Bty.

5 42nd Bty. OOSTHOEK GROUP (For Inf.)

6 43rd Bty. CANAL GROUP. (For Inf.)

11th AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE.RETURN SHEWING NUMBER OF CASUALTIES, SICK EVACUATIONS, ETC.
=====JANUARY. (26th to 31st).

Wounded and Evacuated.....	6
Sick evacuated	8
Wounded but not evacuated.....	1
TOTAL.....	<u>15</u>

FEBRUARY.

Killed in action.....	1
Died of wounds.....	2
Wounded and evacuated.....	3
Sick evacuated.....	23
V.D. evacuated.....	2
TOTAL.....	<u>31</u>

MARCH.

Wounded and evacuated.....	2
Sick evacuated.....	33
V.D. evacuated.....	8
Wounded but not evacuated.....	2
TOTAL.....	<u>45</u>

APRIL.

Killed in action.....	14
Died of wounds.....	2
Wounded and evacuated.....	28
Sick evacuations.....	19
V.D. evacuations.....	6
Wounded but not evacuated.....	4
TOTAL.....	<u>73</u>

MAY.

Killed in action.....	5
Died of wounds.....	1
Wounded and evacuated.....	16
Sick evacuations.....	20
V.D. evacuations.....	1
Wounded but not evacuated.....	3
TOTAL.....	<u>46</u>

JUNE.

Missing (since reported killed).....	1
Killed 'n action.....	6
Died of wounds.....	8
Wounded and evacuated.....	37
N.Y.D.N. (shell-shock) evacuated.....	2
Gassed and evacuated.....	3
Sick evacuations.....	32
V.D. evacuations.....	1
Wounded but not evacuated.....	6
TOTAL.....	<u>95</u>

JULY.

Killed in action.....	6
Died of wounds.....	4
Wounded and evacuated.....	31
Gassed and evacuated.....	24
Sick evacuations.....	65
V.D. evacuations.....	8
Wounded but not evacuated.....	17
TOTAL.....	<u>155</u>