

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/34/19

Title: Headquarters, 6th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

March 1917



AWM4-13/34/19

WAR DIARY

6th (Army) FAB

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Flers.	1-3-7		Our Artillery during the night 18 th Bty fired 120 Rds on Trench. During day 17 th Bty completed registration from new position and fired on movement along road at N4B 7.3. 7.00 reports all firing very satisfactory. 16 th Bty also registered. 112 th Hm Bty registered of fired 100 rds Bx on N2 b 1-4 b 3-6 + 5 with good effect. 18 th Bty 150 Rds on Trench. Enemy Artillery active on LE BARGOE in bursts and indiscriminately on front line. General Visibility very good.	JWS
	2-3-7		Our Artillery 17 th Bty fired 60 rounds on BAPAUME - TRANSLAT ROAD in N4B. 16 th Bty registering. Enemy Artillery fairly active during night on communication trench in N19d and tracks in N26a. Gas shells on N19d and N25a. General Visibility very poor owing to fog.	
	3-3-7 3-3-7		Our Artillery during morning 14 th Bty shelling BAPAUME - PERRONE Rd with HE and 16 th Bty on houses at N4b 5.4 and road N4b 6-1. Enemy Artillery - continual shelling of ridge at N20C 9-6 to N25 b 8-1 with 5.9 HE from direction of RIENCOURT, also active with Gas shells on N13 A-3 - B-3 - N14A, apparently from behind BAPAUME. Intermittent shelling of front line. General Observation bad.	
	4-3-7		Our Artillery ^{How} 14 th Bty fired 28 Bx on M.G. position at N3C 2.7 and also N2D 8 1/2. 2. 14 th Bty fired 110 rounds on working parties at N10b & N4C with good results. 16 th Bty registering on Trench. Enemy Artillery continuous shelling of Flers throughout day by 5.9 + 4.2 & intermits on ridge in N19d with 4.2. General Observation good, Our planes active throughout day.	
	5-3-7		Our Artillery We effectively shelled Trench during the morning. 8.00 reports shells getting right into trench. Hostile Artillery - below normal throughout twenty-four hours. General Visibility good.	
	6-3-7		Our Artillery During night 16 th Battery fired 100 rounds on road X34C 33 1/6 Z4B 5.3. Enemy Artillery fairly active Z19B and neighbourhood receiving much attention from 7.7.17.17. General - Visibility poor owing to mist.	

Harold Coley

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Flers	7-37		<p>Our Artillery - During night 16" Battery fired 100 rounds on road junction N4c5-b road H33d +4 and trench in N3c central to N3d. - 17" Bty fired 70 rounds in bursts on TILC TRENCH 103" Battery expended 48 rounds on gun position H35b6.6 during forenoon. We fired 150 rds (in bursts) on N4b2.3 - N4b3.0 + N4b5.3 between 2.6 pm. 18" Bty effectively shelled TILC TRENCH in N3c. Enemy Artillery - below normal during night. During day 50 77mm fired on road N13d and neighbourhood of LOISENHOF FARM and intermittently on THILLOY and BAYONET TRENCHES. A few 5.9's + 4.2's on duckboards in N31d. General Visibility poor.</p>	
	8-37		<p>Our Artillery During night our How. Battery fired 100 rounds (in bursts) on REINCOURT - 16" + 17" Batteries fired 100 rds per battery on trenches N33c.1-8 to N34c5.4 and new trench N36b.6 and H33 central to H34c8.1. How Battery firing on REINCOURT during afternoon and Battery position at H35b6.6. 16" Battery fired on Reservoir N4b4.3 and 17" fired 70 rounds on N33c.1-8 to N34c5.4. Hostile Artillery - slight during night. During day 7.7mm fired in small bursts on N19d, N19c9.1, N25A. Few 4.2's also fired, one of which exploded, some ammunition being unloaded from the hecauville at FACTORY CORNER, 23 rounds were lost and 1. OR of 17" Battery wounded. Intermittently shelling of FLERS by 5.9 also duckboards in N31c. General Observation good at intervals.</p>	
	9-37		<p>Our Artillery - 17" Battery fired 100 rds during night on N33d + N34c + communication trench in N3. 16" Battery fired 100 rds on trench N33 central to N34 c4.4 + road in N4d to H33d. Artillery Instruction No 4 was carried out between 3.12 + 3.32 pm. - 16, 17, 18" Blys fired 360, 336 + 308 rounds respectively on TILC TRENCH and supports. + 115" Bly fired 120 rds on H33d52.6 + H34c70.05 + N360.2 to N368.9. F.O. reports shooting very accurate. Hostile Artillery - During night about 20 77mm were fired on</p>	

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

Handwritten signature

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 93

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hers.			<p>N25a 8.9.9. A few 4.2's were fired into rear areas apparently from direction of FREMICOURT. During morning a few 77mm were fired on LUISENHOF - FACTORY CORNER ROAD. 12.5's were fired on N19b 510. At 2 pm. ten 4.2's were fired into FLERS - these were mostly blind. The enemy took 8 minutes to reply to our bombardment. He retaliated weakly with 4.2's & 77mm on TICK & BARLEY TRENCHES and a dozen 5.9's into THILLOY. General - 4 hostile planes over area during morning.</p>	
	10-3-7		<p>Our Artillery During night 16" Battery fired 100 rounds on N260.8 N33b 9.0 & N33b 5.0. 115" Battery fired 50 rds on REINCOURT. During afternoon 17" Battery fired 60 rds on N858.2 to N8d 6.6, Fbg de PERONNE, and Reservoir N4b. 16" Battery fired 16 rds on targets engaged during night. Hostile Artillery During evening 10 5.9's were put into FLERS & N31c. FLERS was shelled intermittently night & morning with 4.2 HE & 77MM. N31a was shelled by 216 m during morning. 50 5.9's were fired into FLERS at 3.30 pm. from FREMICOURT. 5.9's were also put into THILLOY & N19d. General Visibility poor.</p>	
	11-3-7		<p>Our Artillery - During night 16" Battery fired 100 rds on trench N3b & N33d H34c. 17" fired 50 on N33d H34c and 115" 30 rds on N6d 8.4. From 12 noon to 12.30 we carried out bombardment of enemy trenches - 16" Bty fired 340 rds on N3c 1.5 to N3c 2.5. 17" Battery 340 rds on N9a 1.5.9 to N9a 6.2. 18" Bty 290 rds on N9c 9.9 to N9d 4.6. & 115" Battery fired 120 rds on N3c central, N9a 6.5, N3b 8.9. 17" Battery fired 20 rds on battery in N6a & 16" Battery engaged battery position in N5a & 9 with 20 rounds. 16" Battery dispersed working party in N12a. 5.9 & burst shrapnel over 4 horse-drawn G.S. Wagons seen at H32d 3.9. 115" Bty fired 20 rds on N9a 5.7. and at 6 pm. 16" Bty fired 25 rds on Battery position N6a. Hostile Artillery - During night - normal. During morning about 120 5.9's & 4.2's were fired on FLERS & N32a & c. Six 5.9's were fired into 16" Battery position damaging slides of one gun, one dug-out blown in. FLERS and rear of FLERS was shelled with 50 4.2's during latter part of afternoon and 16 rds 4.2 were fired on GRASS LANE. General - much aerial activity on both sides. Visibility good. Enemy reply to our bombardment light.</p>	
	12-3-7		<p>Our Artillery - 17" Battery fired 55 rds during morning on TILL TRENCH, Fbg de PERONNE and checking registration N9b. 16" Battery fired 6 rds on N3b 6.5. 115" Bty fired 50 rds on N9b 5.6, N4b 4.3. From 4.25 to</p>	

A5834 Wt W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

Handwritten signature

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Flers.	13-3-7		<p>4.45pm we carried out a bombardment of enemy defences - 16" fired 300 rds on N3c 2.3 1/2 to N3c 2.0, 17" fired 388 rds on N3c 2.0 to N3c 4.6 1/8. 18" Bty fired 296 rds on N9c 5 1/2 9 1/2 to N9c 9.6 and 115" fired 160 rds on MG. at N3c 2.1, Post at N9d 6.5 1/2 & N4d 9.5 and T.M. at N3c 5.5. Hostile Artillery during night about 50 4.2's & 77mm were fired on N1q d & N25 a & b. 77mm were put solely into LUISENHOF FARM. and 36 5.9's were fired on N1q d 5.4. FLERS was shelled with 5.9's from direction of FREMICOURT during early morning. A few 4.2's were fired on the left of 115" Battery & 6 5.9's fired in N25 b & 4 4.2's in wireless dugout. 4.2's were also fired on FACTORY CORNER during afternoon. General. The enemy took ten minutes to reply to our bombardment on this sector. - visibility good. MOVE 1st section of 6" (Army) Bty moved from St Gratien to Brigade Wagon lines at 2200.</p>	
	14-3-7		<p>Cour Artillery - during night 18" Battery fired 60 rds on TILL TRENCH at N9c 2.5 & 115" 50 rds on N5d 8.3. During afternoon 115" Battery fired about 120 rds on aeroplane calls on H28 a & b 79, H28 d 88 62, H29 d 4.2 58 & H28 d 05 22. Hostile Artillery - 4.2's & 5.9's were fired intermittently on N1q d throughout night. BAYONET TRENCH & LUISENHOF FARM were also shelled with 5.9's & 4.2's during afternoon. 60 rds 5.9's fired on N10 b & d & N21 a & c. General. Visibility low.</p> <p>Cour Artillery. during night 115" Battery fired 30 rds on T.M. emplacement at N3c 5.5. 16" Battery fired 240 rounds were cutting at N16 a & 1 to N16 a 0 9 & 17" & 115" were engaged on similar tasks at N16 c and N16 a & c respectively. - 282 rds fired by 17" & 200 by 115" on these tasks. 18" Battery fired 100 rds on TILL TRENCH during late afternoon. Hostile Artillery during morning 27 8" were put into FLERS & vicinity from direction of SANCOURT - this was repeated in afternoon with the addition of some 5.9's & 4.2's. 12 4.2's were fired on FACTORY CORNER at noon - BAYONET TRENCH was also shelled. FACTORY CORNER & BAYONET TRENCH were again shelled during afternoon. 80 - 5.9's were fired on N25 a & c from direction of LUBDA CORSE & VILLERS AU FLOS. General. Enemy activity above normal all day. MOVE 1st section 6" (Army) Bty moved from St Gratien to Brigade Wagon lines at 2200.</p>	

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

Handwritten signature: Handley

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Here	15-3-7		<p>Our Artillery At 2.55am 16th Battery fired 270 rds on "F" Group SOS on H32d & at 3.17am 17th Battery fired 105 rds on H32d & N3C - also on "F" Group SOS. During afternoon 16th & 17th Batteries between them fired 200 rds on N16a & C. 115th Battery fired 30 rds on aerial target guns at H33060. 115th also fired 180 rds on N16a & C. Hostile Artillery During afternoon 300 5.9 & 4.2⁵ were fired on THILLOY, LIGNY, LE BARQUE & BARLEY TRENCH from RANCOURT & behind BAPAUME. QUEDECOURT was shelled with 4.25 from N17023. 60 4.2⁵, a portion of which were gas shells, were fired on N19d, N20C & N25a. CHEESE ROAD and LUISENHOF FARM were also shelled. General - 3 hostile planes over during afternoon.</p>	
	16-3-7		<p>Our Artillery During evening 115th Battery fired on communication trench N3C55 to N3603 & 18th 34 rds on TILL TRENCH. 17th, 16th & 115th Batteries fired 50, 30 & 30 rds, respectively, on N16a & C. During afternoon 115th Bty exploded 10 rds on aeroplane target N4d02. Hostile Artillery quiet throughout night. 10 rds 5.9⁵ fired on N19c & d during afternoon and occasional rds of 7.7 on LUISENHOF FARM. A few 7.7mm were also fired on N19d, N25b. MOVE Remainder of 6th (Army) Bde moved from St. Hubert to Brigade Wagon fire at X29d.</p>	
	17-3-7		<p>Our Artillery - During night 17th Battery fired 80 rounds on N19c 7.7 & 115th fired a few rds on same target. 17th Battery engaged same target later with 16 rds. Hostile Artillery. During morning occasional bursts of 7.7mm were fired on N4a from behind FREMICOURT. 5.9⁵ were also fired on BAPAUME. General - aerial activity very marked - hostile planes very daring & flying very low.</p>	
	18-3-7		<p>No firing took place to-day - owing to advance. 115th & 18th Batteries commenced move to new forward position.</p>	
	19-3-7		<p>Our Artillery - no firing. Headquarters 6th (Army) Brigade established in BAPAUME. 17th, 18th & 115th Batteries occupied new forward positions.</p>	
Bapaume	20-3-7		<p>No firing by our Artillery.</p>	
	to			
	27-3-7			

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

Handwritten signature

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>RELIEF</u>	
	28-3-7.		The Brigade was relieved by 13 th F. a Brigade ^{under} Colonel Caddy. The Brigade moved out to rest camp at BELLVUE FARM less 16 th Battery which preceded remainder of Brigade and arrived at BELLVUE FARM on 27-3-7.	
	29-3-7.		Day spent cleaning equipment &c.	
	30-3-7		do do	
	31-3-7		The Brigade (less 106 th Bty) marched via Bapaume to Brvillers 8 am to 1.30 pm in accordance with instructions from 1 st Army Corp H.Q. C.O. reported to C.R.A. 7 th Div Arty H.Q. COURCELLES. Batteries occupied positions at S.W. of ST LEDGER B. 2.d. and B. 9.a Sheet 57.C.N.W. Brigade attached to V Corps Fifth Army for attack on Croiselles 106 th Bty remained attached to 2 nd Aust Div Arty to W of Bapaume	

Handwritten signature: *Handwritten signature*
Ltd Col
AFA