

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/50/4

Title: 2nd Australian Siege Battery

May 1917



AWM4-13/50/4

CONFIDENTIAL.

~~ORIGINAL.~~
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd (Aust) Siege Battery

FOR

May 191*7*

Signature of Officer compiling *J. E. Britnell Lieut*

Signature of Officer Commanding _____

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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

May 1917.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dierkerbusch Belgium	May 1917 25th		Information received that all batteries in H.A. Groups from 60 pounders up to 9.2" will shortly be raised to 6 gun batteries.	
"	28th		5 okhs wounded (Gassed)	
"	29.		3 okhs. wounded (Gassed)	

Battery I
Valley 151
2-5-17.

Four guns at 10' interval in bank of chalky hill. Good holding ground.

Very cramped position as 20. Siege Bty with 4. 8" hows were on the right and a Battery of 4. 9.2 hows on our left of the position. To the left of them on the other side of the railway line were a section of 9.2 hows & a Siege Bty of 4. 6 inch Mⁿ VII guns.

Ammunition supply was by light railway to a point immediately in front of and above the Battery on the side of the valley. No chutes could be utilised so the shells were rolled down promiscuously over the rough surface of the hill.

B Co Post. in old German trench in rear of position.

Living Quarters: Relief on duty in improvised shelters near guns and under the railway bridge. Relief off duty at the Moat position.

Casualties Nil from shell fire. 1 Man cut his bare foot on barbed-wire when the position was shelled one night.

General. Hostile shelling practically nil except light harassing fire sweeping the valley towards end of occupation. Right section under Major M. D. Williams pulled out and went to rest Tincques. before moving north. Left section under Capt B. M. Morris remained another fortnight. Guns were then condemned for inaccuracy after having fired roughly 10,000 actual rounds each (7000 equal full charges). Left section drew two guns from another battery and proceeded to Tincques. After 3 days entrained at Aubigny Detained next day at Abee. Right section meanwhile had got into action at Dickelbusch.