

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/95/4

Title: V1A Heavy Trench Mortar Battery

October 1916



AWM4-13/95/4

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

VIA BATTERY

OCTOBER 1916.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
YPRES.	OCTOBER			
	1 st		D Subsection assist MTM Batteries stowing ammunition. Bluff HTM position commenced. Materials for this position, 7 GS loads, loaded on trucks and pushed to dump at Bluff at night. Bricks and piles for Ravine position carried and prepared. 2 officers & 2 men.	
	2 nd	-	Work on No 2 (Ravine) and 3 pits going on. Rain very hindering to work. At night continuation of transport of materials from Bedford House to Bluff per team. 3 officers & 2 OR.	
	3 rd	-	Work on pits and pumping. Building dugout at Bluff. Strength 3 officers & 1 OR. Mr Gubbins to Hospital.	
	4 th	-	Work as for 3 rd inst. Strength 3 officers & 1 OR. Mortar positions visited by CRA.	
	5 th	-	Work as for previous day. Left Section relieves Right section in trenches. A subsection to rest camp B subsection to Ypres. Lint brown relieves of duties of Act. DTMO.	
	6 th	-	Work on gun pits. 1 OR to Div Post Station. Strength 3 officers & 0 OR.	
	7 th	-	Work on gun pits. Battery paid. Strength 3 officers & 0 OR.	
	8 th	-	Work on gun pits. Lint Nowland transferred to XIA Battery temporarily. Strength 3 officers & 0 OR. Mortar mounted in (Ravine) No 2 position.	
	9 th	-	Work on gun pits. Strength 3 officers & 0 OR. Mortar ready to fire but cannot get permission.	
	10 th	-	Work on gun pits. Strength 3 off & 0 OR. HTM ammo received from Halifax Camp.	
	11 th	-	Work on gun pits. Strength 3 officers & 0 OR.	
	12 th	-	Work on gun pits. Strength 3 off & 1 OR. Gun Pelling trans from 25 th Batt. Lint brown to trenches. Relief.	
	13 th	-	Work on gun pits. Strength 3 off & 1 OR. Lint Johnston on leave to England.	
	14 th	-	Work on gun pits. Strength 3 officers & 1 OR.	
15 th	-	Verbrander worden HTM and stores handed over to 2 nd Aust Div HTM Battery. Remains of positions & stores to HTM Battery 4 th Aust Div. VIA Battery personnel move to Halifax Camp at night from Ypres and trenches. See logbook Strength 3 officers & 1 OR.		

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Oct 1916 *Continued*

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VIA Battery

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
YPRES				
Halifax Camp	16 th	10.30	VIA Battery marched to STEENVOORDE and camped for the night. Lieut Brew and 1 OR to TM School 2 nd Army. 1 OR returned from Hospital. Lieut RA Howland assumed command. 3 off. 62 OR.	
FME de N.D.	17 th	9.00	Battery marched to FME de NOTRE DAME ^{VIA} LUDERZEELE. 3 officers 62 OR. Camped.	
	18 th	-	Battery exercised at drill and marching. 3 officers 62 OR.	
	19 th	-	Voting on Commonwealth Referendum (Compulsory Service). Drill and marching 3 officers 62 OR.	
	20 th	-	Drill and marching. Summary evidence for CM gas books & Stapleton. 3 officers 62 OR.	
	21 st	-	Battery paid. Drill and marching. 3 officers 62 OR.	
ST. OMER.	22 nd	-	Battery marched to ST. OMER. Entained at 16.30. Travelling all night. Strength 3 officers 62 OR.	
LONGUEVAN	23 rd	4.00	Detained at LONGUEVAN. March to CORBIE. Billeted in town. 3 officers 62 OR.	
CORBIE	24 th	-	Remained at Corbie. 1 OR to Hospital. 3 officers 61 OR.	
"	25 th	9.00	Marched to LAVIEVILLE. Billeted. 1 Sgt & 2 OR to AMIENS, escort duty. 1 OR to England, cadet school.	
LAVIEVILLE	26 th	9.00	Marched to ALBERT. Occupied houses vacated by N.Z. Div. TM. Received 4 HTM complete 19 Rds ammunition.	
ALBERT	27 th	-	Battery employed building shelters and arranging camp. Lieut Johnstone reported back from leave. 3 off 60 OR.	
"	28 th	-	Work on camp building. 3 officers 60 OR.	
"	29 th	-	Work on camp. 3 officers 60 OR.	
"	30 th	-	Lieut Brew and 1 OR reported back from TM School. Lieut Howland and 1 OR off strength to MTM. 2 off 59 OR.	
"	31 st	-	Overhauling HTM and ammunition. Drill on HTM. Work on camp.	

J. Brew
Commandy VIA Battery