

AWM4

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/98/3

Title: V5A Heavy Trench Mortar Battery

September 1917



AWM4-13/98/3

V. 5A.
HEAVY TRENCH
MORTAR BATTERY,
R.A.

283

WAR DIARY I *Confidential Original*

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence No.
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Par. II.
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages Date
will be prepared in manuscript.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres	Sept 1 st		The gun received a direct hit on the metal platform, which buckled, jamming the traversing gear, the gun was dismounted, & repaired temporarily by the detachment on its position.	
	2 nd		20 rounds were fired with good effect on machine gun strong points in the vicinity of Berry Farm. Retaliation was again very heavy. One direct hit on components parts box ignited the charges, but only two cases were destroyed, the rest being pulled clear.	
	3 rd		Battery engaged transporting ammunition to gun position.	
	4 th		Twelve rounds were fired, giving three direct hits on machine gun strong points in rear of Berry Farm.	
	5 th		A registration shoot of five rds was carried out on Berry Farm and strong points at D25.6.1.5. in preparation for an Infantry attack next day. That night ammunition was carried to the gun position in readiness for the action the following day, whilst returning, & right clear of the locality, three men were killed & four wounded by shell fire.	

A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 35,000 12/16 D. D. & I. Forms/C./2118/14.

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V. 5A.
HEAVY TRENCH
MORTAR BATTERY,
R.A.

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WAR DIARY II *Confidential Original* Army Form C. 2118.

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OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ypres	Sept 6 th		In accordance with programme, fire was opened on D25. b.1.5 at 7.15 A.M. + maintained until Zero hour (7.30 A.M.) when it was lifted + swung on to Berry Farm. Eighteen rounds being fired. Casualties Nil.	
	7 th		Gun was handed over to the 59 th Div's T.M. Bde, in accordance with orders to prepare for moving to rest area.	
	8 th		Battery moved per motor lorries at 11.0 A.M. for rest area, arriving at Billers St Momelin (Sheet. Hazebrouck 5B) - 4 kilos North of St Omer at 5.0 P.M.	
St Momelin	9 th		Battery resting.	
	10 th		Do do	
	11 th		" "	
	12 th		" " Lieut N Scott to be A/O.C. during the absence of Capt W.H. Hind on leave to U.K.	
	13 th		Battery resting.	
	14 th		" "	
	15 th		" "	
	16 th		" " Lieut O.J. Taylor, transferred from 5 th D.A.C. to V.S.A. Bty.	

O.J.T.

V. 5A.
HEAVY TRENCH
MORTAR BATTERY,
R.A.

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WAR DIARY III *Confidential Original*

Army Form C. 2118.

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OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
St Momezin	Sept 17 th		Battery resting.	
	18 th		Lieut E.H. Booth transferred from VSA Bty to 5 th A.D. Bty Head Quarters & appointed reconnaissance Officer, vice Lieut Christian to Australia.	
	19 th		Battery in Billets.	
	20		Ditto.	
	21 st		Ditto.	
	22 nd		Ditto.	
	23		Ditto.	
	24		Ditto.	
	25		Ditto.	
	26		Ditto.	
	27 th		Capt W.H. Hind returned from leave & resumed Bty command. Received orders to prepare for move to forward area.	
	28 th		Battery moved off per 1 Sec 5 th D.A.C. at 9.10 AM, arriving at Wemaers-Cappel - two Kilos North West of Cassel. (Map-Hazebrouck 5 th) 2.55 PM.	
	29 th		Moved off at 6.45 AM, arrived Dickebusch - (Sheet 28. H.33. b) at 2.30 PM.	

[Signature]

