

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/98/4

Title: V5A Heavy Trench Mortar Battery

October 1917



AWM4-13/98/4

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

WAR DIARY

Confidential Original

Army Form C. 2118.

283

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in P. 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
Dickebück	Oct 1 st		Battery engaged cleaning Guns. Otherwise quiet day.	
Ypres sector	2 nd		do At night the following twelve reinforcements reported from Base, N ^o 28944 Gnr Swenell A.R., N ^o 31806 Gnr Clark H.H., N ^o 32716 Gnr Dawes P.H., 32716 Gnr Dungeford H.R., 32740 Gnr Gilmour W.K.R., N ^o 31823 Gnr Hooks M.T., N ^o 31833 Gnr M ^o Donald R.H., 32737 Gnr Nolan E.C.T., 32752 Gnr Sharp F.J., 32753 Gnr Turner J.T., 32755 Gnr Walker D.J., 32759 Gnr Watts I.A.	
	3 rd		All available men to proceed to forward area to carry bombs for 6" Trench Mortars. 60 rds were taken to gun positions. Casualties 2 men wounded.	
	4 th		Battery in Billets.	
	5 th		A party of 2 N.C.O's + 15 men were detailed to proceed to Lille Gate. (Map reference - Belgium + France Sheet 28. I.H.C. 94. 83.) to erect Dug-outs for H.Q. Staff.	
	6 th		do. Party erecting Dug-outs, remainder of Battery in Billets.	
	7 th		do do	
	8 th		Battery ordered to proceed to & take over from 5 th D.F.C. Ammunition Dump at I 9. d. 7. 5.	
"Taylor Dump" Ypres	9 th		Enemy shelled the Dump but no damage done.	

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HEAVY TRENCH
MORTAR BATTERY,
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WAR DIARY ^{II} *Confidential Original*

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Taylor Dump				
I 9. d. 75	Oct 10 th		Quiet day, received 8,000 rds ammunition at night.	
Ypres	11 th		Sent out 7,000 rds. Enemy again shelled the dump - no damage done.	
	12 th		Battery employed cleaning up the dump. At night the enemy again shelled the dump, one shell completely destroyed a dug-out where two men were sleeping, both men were taken to hospital - one with shellshock, the other with three ribs broken.	
	13 th		Battery employed cleaning up the dump.	
	14 th		Sent out 6,000 rds. At night the enemy aeroplanes dropped several bombs in vicinity of dump, damage nil.	
	15 th		Battery employed repairing roadway.	
	16 th		do , & cleaning up the dump.	
	17 th		Quiet day, received 12,000 rds at night.	
	18 th		Sent out 5,000 rds ammunition. Enemy again shelled the Dump, damage nil.	
	19 th		Battery employed repairing roadway & erecting new dugouts.	
	20 th		do	
	21 st		Very busy day receiving ammunition & issuing ammunition. Enemy	

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

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Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

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OR
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Taylor Dump Ypres	Oct 21 st	Contd	shelled the dump all day, getting two direct hits on the roadway, killing two mules—two others having to be destroyed. The front portion of one motor Lorry & the rear of another was completely blown away. A terrible congestion of traffic ensued & for gallantry & devotion to duty in clearing up the debris & reorganizing order N ^o 7957 BSM Marshall F.S. was recommended for immediate reward & awarded the "Distinguished Conduct Medal". Casualties one man wounded.	
	22 nd		Sent out 6,000 rds. Received 9,000 rds at night.	
	23 rd		Quiet day on dump, battery employed erecting new dug-outs.	
	24 th		Sent out 8,000 rds, Received 10,000 rds at night. Enemy aeroplanes dropped bombs round the dump, damage nil.	
	25 th	10:00 AM	Enemy shelled the dump with H.E. & Shrapnell. Casualties Six men evacuated to Hospital with Shrapnel wounds.	
	26 th		Battery employed on new dug-outs.	
	27 th		do	
	28 th		Sent out 6,000 rds of ammunition.	

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V. 5A.
HEAVY TRENCH
MORTAR BATTERY,
R.A.
No.
Date

^{IV}
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>"Taylor Dump"</i>				
<i>Ypres</i>	<i>Oct 29th</i>		<i>Battery employed clearing up the dump.</i>	
	<i>30th</i>		<i>Enemy again shelled the dump but no damage was done.</i>	
	<i>31st</i>		<i>Quiet day, sent out 700 rounds.</i>	

Ophing Rylford Captain
Cpl. G. V. H. T. M. 1364

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