

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/87/11

Title: 1st Australian Siege Battery
Ammunition Column

February 1919



AWM4-13/87/11

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CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

1st AUSTRALIAN SIEGE BATTERY AMMUNITION COLUMN.

FOR

FEBRUARY

1919.

Signature of Officer compiling

F. S. Sephton L'

Signature of Officer Commanding

F. S. Sephton L'

Lieut.

O.C. 1st A.S.B.A.C.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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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.

SHEET 36 T. 5618

(Erase heading not required.)

1st AUSTRALIAN SIEGE BATTERY AMMUNITION COLUMN

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FIELD. FRANCE.	11/2/19		Weather cold & damp. Lieut J. S. Siphon left for U.K. on 14 days leave. Two lorries out on rations etc. Very little work & nothing of interest to report.	
	2/2/19		Very cold & looks as if we will get more snow. One lorry out on Company rations.	Lieut
	3/2/19		Again very cold. The men may now be granted leave to any town in Belgium for 72 hours. Paris & U.K. leave is also much better. Three lorries out on stores & various.	788888
	4/2/19		Snowing. Five lorries on stores and various.	
	5/2/19		Snowing heavily. Roads in a very sloppy condition & very slippery. 3 lorries out on stores, supply & various, one of them to take 36 Bde. Wireless to CHARLEROI.	
	6/2/19		Very cold but snow ceased. 4 lorries on various, supply etc.	
	7/2/19		Freezing. 8 lorries on supply, various & moving ammunition. The first ammunition we have handled for about 2 months.	

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SHEET 36 15 61.8

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1ST AUSTRALIAN SIEGE BATTERY AMMUNITION COLUMN.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FIELD	8/2/19		Still freezing. Three lorries out on stores & various.	
FRANCE	9/2/19		Very cold. One lorry out on Company rations. 9 lorries to V. P. Park. * APP. 2.	
	10/2/19		Still very cold with clear moonlit nights. Six lorries out on stores etc.	
	11/2/19		A little warmer than before but still very cold for all that. Six lorries out on personnel, supply and stores.	
	12/2/19		Weather the same as yesterday. Six lorries out on stores & various.	
	13/2/19		A little warmer with slight rain. Beginning to thaw. Five lorries out on stores and various.	
	14/2/19		Thawing slowly. Two lorries on stores & 2 more on various.	
	15/2/19		Weather wet & thawing quicker now. Six lorries out on supply etc.	
	16/2/19		Still wet & thawing. One lorry only on Company rations. Thaw precautions came into force as from midnight last night.	
	17/2/19		Thawing & much warmer. Coy. rations only carried.	
	18/2/19		As yesterday. Thaw precautions still on. Advantage taken of this to clear up & look over lorries which are all in Park. Instructions regarding re-grouping received. * APP. 3.	

A.B.S. H. 1. 20
7888/18887

Mr. Septon returned from leave to U.K.

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1st AUSTRALIAN SIEGE BATTERY AMMUNITION COLUMN

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TOURCOING	19/2/19.		Weather damp & cold, still thawing. Only one lorry out on Company rations etc.	
FRANCE.	20/2/19.		Weather not so cold but cloudy. Thaw precautions lifted as from midnight last night. Two lorries out on various.	
	21/2/19.		Weather cloudy & dull. Lieut. O.T. Robertson handed over to Lieut. F.S. Siphon & left to report to S.M.T.O. Australian Corps. Lieut. F.S. Siphon therefore assumes command of new "D" Group with Lt. P.E. Towne as his second in command. Three lorries out on fuel & various.	
	22/2/19.		Weather same as yesterday. Three lorries out on various.	
	23/2/19.		Weather dull with slight rain. One lorry on fuel & two on various, rations etc. One lorry bogged but soon entangled with a caterpillar.	
	24/2/19.		Weather met. Five lorries out on personnel (P.O.W.), stores, supply etc.	
	25/2/19.		Weather still met. Six lorries out on personnel, supply & various.	
	26/2/19.		Weather dull & cloudy with occasional sunshine. 5 lorries detailed for stores & various.	
	27/2/19.		Weather slightly met. Two lorries out on ammunition & various.	
	28/2/19.		Weather met. Three lorries out on ammunition & various. Most of the Column have had their leave to U.K. now & leave to Paris is more frequent.	

F.S. Siphon Lieut. 1st A.S.B.A.C.
OC. 12/19 A.S.B.A.C.

WAR DIARY

OF

1st A.S.B.A.C.

FOR

*FEBRUARY**1919*

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

*1.**Summary.**2.**Demobilising Lorries.**3.**Grouping.*

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APPENDIX /

UNIT

1ST A.S.B.A.C.

DIARY APPENDIX NO. 1 FOR MONTH OF

FEBRUARY 1919.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Date	Loads Amm.	R.E. Work	Supply	Stores	Person'l	Various	Total Loads Done	Total Lorries Out	Miles Run Full	Miles Run Empty	Petrol Issued	Lorries Av'able Not used	Lorries Under Repair	Lorries D'tach'd
1st			4			1	5	5	64	5	10	3	9	1
2nd			3		2	1	6	6	75	56	34	4	-	-
3rd			3			1	4	4	54	42	27	6	-	-
4th			1		3	2	6	5	71	53	18	5	-	-
5th			5			3	8	8	93	69	36	2	-	-
6th			5		2	-	7	7	82	61	18	3	-	-
7th			3			1	4	4	49	37	12	6	-	-
8th			3			3	6	6	66	48	13	4	-	-
9th			3	1		3	7	7	52	71	32	8	-	-
10th			1			3	4	4	30	46	14	5	1	-
11th			1	2		2	5	5	47	65	22	4	1	-
12th			1			3	4	4	32	47	16	4	2	-
13th			3	2		-	5	5	35	60	16	5	-	-
14th			1	2		2	5	5	46	52	16	3	2	-
15th			3			2	5	5	40	56	22	4	1	-
16th			1			6	7	3	78	53	26	3	-	-
17th						4	4	1	8	7	3	6	3	-
18th						4	4	1	8	7	3	6	3	-
19th						4	4	1	8	7	3	6	3	-
20th						8	8	2	38	14	10	6	2	-
21st			1			5	6	3	69	41	22	3	4	-
22nd			1			5	6	3	45	35	16	3	4	-
23rd			1			4	5	3	75	35	22	4	3	-
24th			3	1	1	4	9	5	88	82	34	-	5	-
25th			3		2	5	10	7	88	53	30	-	3	-
26th				2		7	9	5	52	77	26	1	4	-
27th	2					4	6	2	35	35	14	6	2	-
28th	1			1	2	5	9	5	60	68	25	2	3	-
29th														
30th														
31st														
Total	3		50	11	12	92	168	121	1477	1264	540	-	-	-

A.I.F. P.S.—A/3—8-18

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Sheet 36 F561-8.

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1st AUSTRALIAN SIEGE BATTERY APPUNITION COLUMN

APPENDIX 2.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TOURCOING FRANCE.	9/2/19.		<p><u>DEMobilISING LORRIES.</u></p> <p>Orders were received at the end of last month to hold 9 lorries in readiness to proceed to 7th 9 Vehicle Reception Park for demobilisation. The nine most ^{least} unserviceable lorries were chosen & all spare parts etc. were checked & A. Forms 3346 prepared. All these lorries were mobile with the exception of one which had been waiting on workshop for about three weeks.</p> <p>Orders were received to-day to hand over these lorries to 7th 9 V.R.P. and they were therefore dispatched in convoy with one driver to each vehicle & a Corporal in charge.</p>	<p>7.8.36/107</p> <p>11.10.19</p> <p>Asst. Adj. Gen.</p>
	11/8/19.		<p>The above lorries have now been handed over and the drivers have returned to Park.</p> <p>The vehicle strength of this column is thus reduced to 10 lorries, 6 caterpillars and one light touring car & several cycles.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Sheet 36 F561.8.

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1st AUSTRALIAN SIEGE BATTERY AMMUNITION COLUMN.

APPENDIX 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TOURCOING FRANCE.	18/2/19.		<p><u>GROUPING.</u></p> <p>Orders were received from "P" S.A.P. to-day, re-grouping the columns. Under this scheme the 1st and 2nd Australian Siege Battery Ammunition Columns become one group viz: "D" Group, under the command of Lieut. F. J. Sefkow and with Lieut. S. E. Downe (2nd A.S.B.A.C.) as his second in command.</p> <p>This will probably mean the consolidation of returns etc. but further instructions are awaited.</p> <p>Meanwhile the two columns will continue to operate separately.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">//</p>	<p>7. Sefkow D.C. 12. A.S.B.A.C.</p>