

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/90/25

**Title:** 1st Australian Divisional Trench  
Mortar Officer

April 1918



AWM4-13/90/25



*Confidential Original*

*1st Aust. Div. Medium Trench*

WAR DIARY

*Mortar Batteries - April 1918*

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

*- Volume 25. Page 1. -*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NORFOLK LODGE (1.33.D.60.50 Sheet 28 BELGIUM)	April 1		Strength at beginning of month 10 off. 88 O.R. Ammunition on hand T.M.G. Bombs 542. Charges 287. Parts 334. Guns in position: Right Group 3 Newtons 6" in front line in position, 3 " Reserve, 7 2" Mortars. Left Group 4 Newtons 6" in front line, 2 " Reserve.	
	April 31	3-30	2nd Aust M.T.M. Bty fired 3 rounds. Registration of new gun placed in position at 1.36.D.50.66 shown in Appendix 8 of March War Diary (Arcs of fire should read P.2.A.00.35 to J.32.A.30.20 - zero line 97° - 50.5 target not yet decided upon by Infantry. Weather - good.	Rah
	April 1		1 O.R. rejoined from Base Depot - (Sick) 1 " to hospital sick. 1 O.R. transferred from 2nd FA.B	Rah
			6 6" Newtons & 7 2" Mortars taken over in Right Group from 5th Aust Div M.T.M. Bties and 6 6" Newtons handed over in exchange. The guns taken over are included in guns in position shown above.	Rah
		2 5pm	2nd Aust M.T.M. Bty fired 3 rounds on enemy strong point P.I.D.2.6 } Counter T.M. shoot - silenced. " " " " 4 " " " P.I.C.92.10	Rah
		3 2	" " " " 8 " " " T.M. positions O.B.90.10 } Effective - 2 direct hits observed " " " " 3 " " " O.B.90.10 " " " " 6 " " " O.B.D.20.25	
		3 "	" " " " 6 " " " Strong point P.I.B.32.53 } " " " "	
		4 30	" " " " 3 " " " Communication trench to ditch } " " " "	
		4 30	" " " " 5 " " " Chalk Farm P.I.C.90.15. " on M.G. position - detachment dispersed.	
		4 45	" " " " 18 " " " Row Pill Box P.I.D.15.65. - Several direct hits	
	5	" " " " 8 " " " Strong Point P.I.D.05.40 - Effective - 1 direct hit		
	5 30	" " " " 3 " " " Chalk Farm P.I.C.90.15. - all effective.		
			Orders received to hand over to 9th Scottish Division all positions on Left Group & to 9th Right Group all positions on Right Group. Relief to be completed by 4th inst. 2 O.R. rejoined from Base Depot (Sick)	

CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



FRENCH BATTERIES, 1ST AUSTRALIAN DIV.

*Confidential Original*

WAR DIARY

1st Aust Div Medium Trench Mortar Batteries

Army Form C. 2118. April 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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- Volume 75 Page 2 -

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NORFOLK LODGE (I.33.D. 60. 50 Sheet 28 BELGIUM)	Apl 3		<sup>24 Mortars</sup> All <del>guns</del> and ammunition in Right Group to be handed over in situ. In Left Group ammunition to be transferred to 9th Div but guns to be withdrawn.	R.A.H.
		4 2pm	Transfer in Right Group completed. All guns withdrawn in Left Group & taken to Reserve Camp at Laiterie at N. 16. D. 20. 40. Personnel of 1st Battery in line at Right Group, transferred to Laiterie, <sup>5 or 6" Newtons</sup>	R.A.H.
			D.T.M.O. & Adjutants & personnel of 2nd Battery also transferred to Laiterie with exception of 3 OR left as Guard.	R.A.H.
LAITERIE CAMP N. 16. D. 20. 40	5	12 noon	Relief of Left Group completed & personnel of this Unit stationed at Laiterie pending instructions for move to new Area.	R.A.H.
	6		Orders received that this Unit to be transferred to 3rd Army Area & to be ready to move at a moment's notice.	R.A.H.
	7		Routine work & clearing up of Camp. Inspection of men & kits and Baths for the men arranged.	R.A.H.
	8	1-15	Handed over Laiterie Camp to 9th Division. Unit moved off per 6 motor lorries for 3rd Army Area - entraining at Hopoutra near Poperinghe. and detraining the same day at 5.30pm at Amiens. Billeted 1 night in Amiens & proceeded per motor lorries to Buiets at Bertheaucourt les Dames par la Somme.	R.A.H.
BERTEAUCOURT LES DAMES.	9		1. OR exact hosp sick. Order No 120 dated today (copy to War Diary) received advising that the Artillery is to be transferred by rail back to 2nd Army Area.	R.A.H.
	10		1. OR rejoined from Base Depot (Sick)	R.A.H.
	11		Unit moved off for new Area. Embarked at St Roch Amiens. at 3pm & train moved off at 4.30pm	R.A.H.
Section de la CANNERVILLE, HAZEBROUCK (V.25.C.O. 2 Sheet 29 BELGIUM & FRANCE.)	13	7 am	Arrived at BORRE near HAZEBROUCK at 6 am, and detrained & marched to Section de la CANNERVILLE, HAZEBROUCK where Unit was billeted.	R.A.H.
	14	6	Instructions received to make reconnaissance of Dive Spout with a view to emplacing Trench Mortars	R.A.H. Appendix No 1.
	15		Instructions and consequent report are attached (Appendix 1.)	R.A.H.
		8 pm	1st & 2nd Batteries went into action & proceeded to line at 8 pm. Weather conditions cold & windy - visibility bad. T.M.G. 6" Newtons.	R.A.H.
	16		Weather improved. Ammunition forwarded to guns 5. 560 pounds in all. Hazebrouck & vicinity subject all day to enemy shell fire. Two Trench Mortars ready for action and 18 pounds fired as under. All gun positions shown on Appendix No 2	R.A.H. Appendix No 2 (of only)

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV. CAPTAIN

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A-88) Wt. Wagon/M162 350,000 1/17 Sch. 52a Form C/21/8/14



TRENCH BATTERIES,  
1ST AUSTRALIAN DIV.  
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
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WAR DIARY

*1st Aust. Div. Medium Trench  
Morlan Batteries*

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

*Volume 25 Page 3*

*April 1918*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Section de la CANNERVALE HAZEBROUCK (V25.C.O.7 Sheet 27 BELGIUM & FRANCE)	<i>Apr 16</i>	<i>A.M.</i>		
		<i>11</i>	<i>1st Aust M.T.M. Bty fired 10 rounds on Farm Beauhen E28.D. 4 direct hits, effective shoot.</i>	
		<i>8pm</i>	<i>2nd " " " " 8 " Houses at E.17.B. 2.6. Houses on roadway - all rounds effective</i>	<i>R.A.H.</i>
	<i>17</i>	<i>7.30 AM</i>	<i>" " " " 5 " House E.11.B.60.90 Registration</i>	
		<i>7.45</i>	<i>" " " " 5 " " E.11.B.95.55 On entrenching party - dispersed</i>	
			<i>" " " " 5 " Houses E.12.A.20.60 &amp; E.12.A.30.70 Effective</i>	
		<i>8 AM</i>	<i>1st " " " " 15 " Farm Beauhen E28.D. 1 Building destroyed &amp; 1 badly damaged. Positions now occupied by this Unit were not taken over from any other but the result of new line formed.</i>	
			<i>Lieut F.E.C. Bugby to Hosp sick 14/4/18. 1 O.R. wounded in action 17/4/18</i>	
		<i>12 noon to 7 pm</i>	<i>1st Aust M.T.M. Bty fired 6 rounds on E29.A.30.90 Registration - satisfactory</i>	
			<i>14 " " E28.C.20.80 } 4 direct hits } Registration.</i>	
			<i>10 " " E28.C.95.80 } 3 " " }</i>	
		<i>10.30 to 6.45 AM</i>	<i>" " " " 40 " Beauhen Farm E28.D. Very good shooting. Fired when Infantry reported movement. Many direct hits, one house on fire &amp; small explosion.</i>	
		<i>4pm</i>	<i>2nd Push " " 5 " E.6.C.60.25. On houses surrounded by timber where enemy are known to mass - all effective - enemy seen running.</i>	
			<i>" " " " 8 " E.11.B.7.6. On enemy strong point &amp; collecting point. Enemy seen with packs on gathering at this point. Two first bombs fell right amidst them. Only two seen to run.</i>	<i>R.A.H.</i>
	<i>18</i>	<i>7am</i>	<i>" " " " 6 " E.11.B.7.6 Observation not good - shots all fell on target.</i>	
			<i>" " " " 5 " E.6.C.60.25 do do do</i>	
		<i>7.30</i>	<i>" " " " 8 " E.6.C.50.60 registering on farm houses and trenches.</i>	
<p><i>Reports by Battery Commanders - Appendix 3</i> <i>2 O.R. Wounded in action.</i></p>				<p><i>Appendix 3</i> <i>of only</i></p>

R.A.H. CAPTAIN  
 D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.

(A.583) Wt. W.007/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Form C/21/8/14



*Confidential Original*

WAR DIARY

*1st Aust Owl Medium Mortars  
Mortar Batteries*

*April 1918*

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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*— Volume 25 Page 4 —*

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Section de la CANNEVALE HAZEBROUCK (V. 25. C. 0. 2 Sheet 27 BELGIUM & France)	<i>Apr 18</i>		<i>No. 1 Gun Left position moved from E 16. B 25. 90 to E 16. A. 65. 60 Arcs of Fire E. 17. B. 30. 10. to E. 11. B. 10. 98 Zero Line 80° S.O.S. Cross Roads E. 11. C. 70. 30.</i>	
			<i>This alteration was due to the enemy observation and activity with guns of all sizes from 77 mm to 9" - enemy could apparently observe from the right flank. 92 Charges &amp; Component Parts destroyed by enemy shell fire at E. 16. B. 25. 90 MAP SHOWING GUN POSITIONS APPENDIX 3A</i>	<i>APPENDIX 3A</i>
		<i>2 pm to 12:30 AM</i>	<i>1st Aust. M.T.M. Bty fired 35 rounds on Beauheim Farm Bldgs - Many direct hits - Bldgs gradually being destroyed. This gun placed out of action 5 AM 19/4/18</i>	
		<i>noon to 5:30 pm</i>	<i>E 29. A. 30. 90 } Good shooting - Destructive &amp; harassing E. 28. C. 20. 80 } fire. Lifted roof off two buildings at E. 28. C. 85. 80 } E. 28. C. 20. 80.</i>	
		<i>8 pm</i>	<i>2nd " " " " 5 " " E. 6. C. 60. 25 Harassing fire.</i>	
	<i>19</i>	<i>4:30 AM</i>	<i>5 " " " " " E. 6. C. 55. 90 " " Effective 3 direct hits obtained on house - Shoot at request of Infantry</i>	
		<i>11:30</i>	<i>8 " " " " " E. 12. A. 30. 65 } Enemy party - about 30 seen to leave farm E. 11. B. 7. 6 } house which was being shelled. Shooting very effective causing casualties</i>	
			<i>Reports - see Appendix No 4</i>	<i>Appendix 4 (9 only)</i>
			<i>No. 1 Gun (piece No 1989) out of action by enemy shell fire, 30 Bombs &amp; 60 Component Parts destroyed 2 O.R. wounded. (Location E 27. D. 60. 55.) 19 O.R. transferred to strength from 1st Aust D.A.C.</i>	
			<i>Operation Order No 5 dated 18/4/18 (1st Aust Owl Bty) copy sent to War Diary - instructing that the two 6" Newtons at present emplaced on the Right Infantry Bde be withdrawn. 10 pm withdrawal completed - surplus bombs 20 transferred to Left Position, the following shoot being previously conducted - 10 Bombs were destroyed by shell fire during withdrawal no casualties.</i>	
		<i>10 AM to 6 pm</i>	<i>1st Aust M.T.M. Bty fired 58 rounds on two farms E 23. C. 20. 80 Harassing &amp; destructive fire on enemy strong point - Farm is now practically destroyed. Many direct hits were obtained - a very satisfactory shoot.</i>	

CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st A.I.B. DIV.



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WAR DIARY

1st Aust Div Medium Trench  
Mortar Batteries

April 1918

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

- Volume 25 Page 5 -

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Section de la CANNERVILLE HAZE BROUCK (V. 25. C. O. 2 Sheet 27 BELGIUM & France)	Apr 19		Left Brigade Position. No 2 gun in position at E. 5. C. 10. 10. out of action by enemy shell fire - Guide bolt broken. replaced by another piece - Three Reserve positions for T. M. S. have been selected after consultation with Infantry Brigade Major. See Appendix No 5.	Appendix 5 p. only
		2pm	2nd Aust M.T.M. Bly fired 30 rounds on E. 6. C. 50. 90 - Harassing fire on strong point - good results.	
		7.30	20 " " E. 6. C. 15. 60. Harassing fire on known centres of activity & destructive fire on house occupied by enemy. Troops were dispersed & casualties inflicted.	R.A.H.
		6pm to 7am		
		4.15 to 7.30	20 " " E. 6. C. 60. 20 Harassing fire on known enemy massing points.	
		11 AM	7 " " E. 12. A. 35. 65 Registration	
		5 "	10 " " do 15 E. 11. B. 7. 6 - On enemy movement seen from farm house to strong point on railway - all rounds effective.	
		5.30	5 " " E. 11. B. 7. 2. Farm house known to be occupied. one direct hit observed.	
		5.45	6 " " E. 11. B. 65. 95 Farm house known to be occupied. all rounds effective.	
		11.45	7 " " E. 11. B. 7. 6 Enemy strong point on railway - all effective.	
			Reserve positions selected - vide Appendix No 5	Appendix 6
			Under instructions from 1st Aust Div Artillery a reconnaissance was made of 3rd Inf Bde front extending from Sq X 20 C. 8. 8. 15 Sq X. 11. C. 5. 9 Sheet 27 - for instructions & report see Appendix 6	Appendix 6 R.A.H.
	21		Two guns placed out of action replaced by pieces No 920 & 1016. Change of positions of (right & left advised) vide Appendix 7	Appendix 7 p. only R.A.H.
	22		1. O.R. rejoined from base. 1. O.R. rejoined from P.O.R.A.C. Lieut W. H. Bryan seconded for duty with, returned to M.T.M. Blys from duty as 1st Aust Div Artillery Gas Officer. 1. O.R. Lieut M. G. Murchison M.M. transf'd to R.A. Cadet School England.	

M. A. Howard CAPTAIN D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



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WAR DIARY

1st Aust Div Medium Trenches  
Morlan Bastones

April 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Volume 25 Page 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Section de la CANNERWALE	April 21	7 PM	<u>RIGHT POSITION</u>	
HAZEBROUCK (V. 25.C.O. 2 Sheet 27)	21	4:30	2nd Aust M.T.M. Bly fired 13 rounds on E. 11. B. 8.3. Registration & houses	
		4:45	10 " E. 6. C. 0.3 % } Sweeping between farm houses known to be occupied. all effective	R.H.
	22	AM 12:15	10 " E. 12. A. 25.65 } Sweeping between strong point & railway to farm house known to be occupied - all effective	
		4:30	5 " E. 11. B. 7.9 % } Occupied farm house - all rounds effective	
		4:45	5 " E. 6. C. 0.3 " " " " " " " "	
		5	5 " E. 12. A. 20.65 " " " " " " " "	
		5:15	5 " E. 11. B. 7.6 " " " " " " " "	
		4:45	5 " E. 11. B. 7.5 " " " " " " " "	
		4:55	5 " E. 6. C. 55.90 } Harassing fire on points known to be centres of activity & occupied by enemy	
		5	5 " E. 6. C. 15.65 " " " " " " " "	
		5	5 " E. 6. C. 60.20 " " " " " " " "	
		6:8	40 " X. 20. D. 09.15 An excellent shoot. Target pointed out by Genl Bennett. Knocked end of out of 1 building & sent 4 bombs through roof of another. Destroyed small building by shell fire & set alight to biggest building which is burnt to ground	
			6 " Houses in METEREN - A satisfactory harassing & destructive shoot	Appendix 8 (To of only)
			Intelligence Summary - Appendix No 9.	
		PM 6:15-7:30	1. O.R. taken on strength from 1st A.D.A.C. 1st Aust M.T.M. Bly fired 45 rounds on X. 20. C. 95.90. Destroyed buildings & drove out some enemy troops to prevent enemy machine gunners from stopping our Inf. advance.	
		7	2nd " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	
			10 " E. 11. C. 75.30 Harassing fire on houses at cross roads	
			10 " E. 11. C. 99.00 % " " " " " " " "	
			10 " E. 11. C. 99.40 " " " " " " " "	
		3:41 A.M.	10 " E. 11. B. 7.6 " " " " " " " "	
		3:30	14 " E. 6. D. 50.55 Excellent results obtained. 8 direct hits on farm. Remainder effective on known trenches adjoining.	
		3:45	10 " E. 6. C. 5.9 Harassing fire on points known as centre of enemy activity	R.H.
	23		1. O.R. taken on strength from 1st A.D.A.C. 1 O.R. killed in action. 2 O.R. wounded in action.	

CAPTAIN  
D.I.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



*Confidential Original*

WAR DIARY

1st Aust. Div Medium Trenches

Mortar Batteries

April 1918

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Volume 25. Page 7

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheet 27 P.35.A.8.3 near St Sylvester-Cappel	23	8 AM	Moved from Lannerwale to P.35.A.8.3 near St Sylvester Cappel. Asked to fire on this target by Inf. as it was	
		8.15-30	1st Aust. M.T.M Bde fired 15 rounds on X.20.d.80.65 giving trouble. Knocked the roof off and	
		6 AM to 8	70 " " X.15.B.50.15 houses } all occupied by enemy troops. Destroyed	
		4.30	2nd " " 6 " " E.11.B.7.6 } Harassing fire on house occupied by enemy. 1 shot	
		4.45	20 " " E.6.C.0.31 } Harassing fire along enemy's outposts. all effective.	
		5.	16 " " E.11.B.7.2 } All main points on this line having been previously registered.	
			5 " " E.6.C.15.60 } Harassing fire on points known as centre of enemy activity. 3 direct hits on house.	
			5 " " E.6.C.60.20 } Harassing fire on strong points.	
		7.30 to 8.30	30 " " E.11.C.99.00 } trenches reported near road.	
			E.11.C.99.40 } a good shoot many direct hits.	
		Intelligence Summary No T.M.R.50. see Appendix No 9		APPENDIX No 9
	23/24	Firing Report & Return From 10 AM 23/4/18 To 10 AM 24/4/18 No 51. see Appendix No 10. 208 rounds fired.		da 10
		Intelligence Summary for 23/4/18. Nothing important to report. 1 O.R. wounded in action.		11
	25	Firing Report & Return From 10 AM 24/4/18. To 10 AM 24/4/18 No 53. see Appendix No 11. 135 rounds fired.		12
		Intelligence Summary No 55 for 24/4/18. Appendix No 12.		
		Under instructions from 1st Aust Div Artillery HQ (Operation Order No 11 Series 2 dated 23/4/18 copy to War Diary). Two 6" Newton Mortars emplaced on 3rd Inf. Bde front were handed over to DTMO 25th Div (in situ) from whom two mortars have been received in exchange. Relief completed 10 pm 24/4/18.		
		Under same order a reconnaissance was made of remaining front held by this Unit and report forwarded - see Appendix No 13. concerning selection of 4 forward positions & 4 Reserve positions.		13
		1 O.R. wounded in action.		14

CAPTAIN

*S. H. Land*  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



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WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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1st Aust. Div. Medium Trench

Mortar Batteries

April 1918

Volume 75 - Page 8 -

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
(Sheet 27. P. 35. A. 8. 3. NEAR ST. SYLVESTER CAPPEL)	Apr 26		2. O.R. rejoined from Base. 2. O.R. wounded in action - 4. 1 O.R. wounded (at duty). During Report by 2nd Aust M.T.M. Bly (No 57) attached - see Appendix No 14 - 30 rounds fired <u>Intelligence Summary</u> . Fairly quiet during daynight with exception of spasmodic shelling by 77 m m. 4. 2 5. 9 on railway station & Dump (Strazeele) weather conditions - misty. Reserve Positions selected - vide Appendix No 15.	APPENDIX 15 RAH
	27		During Report by 2nd Aust M.T.M. Bly (No 60) attached - see Appendix No 16 - 77 " " <u>Intelligence Summary</u> Observation poor all day. No enemy movement could be noticed - Aerial activity considerably less - shelling intermittent & very scattered. Alterations necessary in Reserve Position guns. vide Appendix No 17.	APPENDIX 16 RAH
	28	10pm	1. O.R. detached for duty - 2nd Army Area. Guard on surplus kits - 1. O.R. transfer from 1st A.D.A.C. Gun in position at E. 4. D. 7. 6 placed out of action by enemy shell fire - Piece replaced & in action same night. 45th Battery relieved 2nd Battery in line at 10pm - no casualties.	RAH
	29	4:30 AM	1st Aust. M.T.M. Bly. fired 20 rounds on H.B. Central to 6.C. 2. 4. - Harassing sweeping fire - Unobserved but good reports. Enemy shelled vicinity of Strazeele Station - evening 28th & morning 29th.	
		3:30	1. O.R. transferred to 1st A.D.A.C. 1st Aust. M.T.M. Bly fired 10 rounds on M.G. position at X. 20. C. 30. 43 - Effective. 6 " " " E. H. B. Central to E. 6. C. Central - A sweeping shoot from new bed on S.O.S. line - satisfactory. 10 " " " X. 26. B. 3. 5. Houses - 2 direct hits - all good bursts	RAH
	30	5:30 AM	17 " " " E. 6. C. 0. 3. Registration shoot satisfactory - Activity Report 6 AM 29/4 to 6 AM 30/4/18 - " Fairly quiet - Gun Piece No 1337 in position at W. 30. B. 60. 05 out of action through guide pin snapping off. New piece forwarded & placed in action.	
			Sketch M.A.P. showing all gun positions attached - APPENDIX No 18 -	APPENDIX 18

D. D. & Co., London, E.C. (A7893) Wt. Wagon M1672 350,000 1/17 Sch. 52a Forms C/2118/14

CAPTAIN  
 P. A. Howland  
 D.T. No. 1st AUS. DIV.



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WAR DIARY

1st Aust. Div. Medium Trenches  
Mortar Batteries

April 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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- Volume 25 - Page 9 -

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																																
Sheet 27 P 35. A. 8. 3 near ST SYLVESTER (CAPREL)	Apr 30	6 PM.	1st Aust. M.T.M. Bty fired 123 rounds from 6 AM 30/4 to 6 AM 45 - Report No 66 - vide Appendix No 19 Gun Piece No 937 - out of action by enemy shell fire - new piece placed in action. Lamps moved from P. 35. A. 8. 3 to V. I. C. 8. 6 (Sheet 29) including D.T.M.O. Headquarters - personnel not in line. Location of Gun Positions etc as on 30/4/18 -	APPENDIX 19 P.A.H.																																																
Les Ciseaux V.I.C. 8. 6 (Sheet 29)			<p>Forward No 1 Gun Position at E. 4. D. 7. 6</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>W. 29. D. 70. 35</td> <td>Zero line True</td> <td>94°</td> <td>ALTERNATIVE POSITION E. 4. D. 25. 25</td> <td>97°</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>W. 30. D. 75. 99</td> <td>"</td> <td>122°</td> <td>W. 29. D. 55. 30</td> <td>152°</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>X. 19. D. 55. 90</td> <td>"</td> <td>140°</td> <td>W. 30. D. 70. 99</td> <td>105°</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>"</td> <td>120°</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>RESERVE POSITIONS</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>No 1</td> <td>W. 26. D. 6. 3</td> <td>"</td> <td>120°</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>W. 26. D. 6. 4</td> <td>"</td> <td>82°</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>W. 21. B. 4. 99</td> <td>"</td> <td>130°</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>W. 15. D. 62. 05</td> <td>"</td> <td>88°</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	2	W. 29. D. 70. 35	Zero line True	94°	ALTERNATIVE POSITION E. 4. D. 25. 25	97°	3	W. 30. D. 75. 99	"	122°	W. 29. D. 55. 30	152°	4	X. 19. D. 55. 90	"	140°	W. 30. D. 70. 99	105°			"	120°			No 1	W. 26. D. 6. 3	"	120°			2	W. 26. D. 6. 4	"	82°			3	W. 21. B. 4. 99	"	130°			4	W. 15. D. 62. 05	"	88°			ZERO LINE TRUE.
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4	W. 15. D. 62. 05	"	88°																																																	
			<p>AMMUNITION ON HAND AT BEGINNING OF MONTH</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Received 5th Aust. DIV M.T.M. Bties</td> <td>547</td> <td>287</td> <td>334</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dumps</td> <td>251</td> <td>195</td> <td>200</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2008</td> <td>2270</td> <td>2270</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2801</td> <td>2747</td> <td>2804</td> </tr> </table> <p>EXPENDED etc</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Trans to 9th DIV T.M. B.E.F</td> <td>531</td> <td>421</td> <td>473</td> </tr> <tr> <td>or Right group</td> <td>251</td> <td>195</td> <td>200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25th DIV T.M. B.E.F</td> <td>286</td> <td>286</td> <td>286</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Destroyed by enemy action</td> <td>62</td> <td>172</td> <td>192</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fired</td> <td>1459</td> <td>1459</td> <td>1459</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2589</td> <td>2533</td> <td>2610</td> </tr> <tr> <td>On hand at end of month</td> <td>212</td> <td>214</td> <td>194</td> </tr> </table>	Received 5th Aust. DIV M.T.M. Bties	547	287	334	Dumps	251	195	200		2008	2270	2270		2801	2747	2804	Trans to 9th DIV T.M. B.E.F	531	421	473	or Right group	251	195	200	25th DIV T.M. B.E.F	286	286	286	Destroyed by enemy action	62	172	192	Fired	1459	1459	1459		2589	2533	2610	On hand at end of month	212	214	194					
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			<p>Weather conditions - during month - Cloudy &amp; foggy &amp; unfavorable for observation for most part</p>																																																	

CAPTAIN

P.A. Newland

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.







## WAR DIARY

OF

DIVL  
1st AUSTRALIAN MEDIUM TRENCH MORTAR BATTERIES

FOR

A P R I L

1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.	
I.	INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE RECONNAISSANCE & REPORT ON SAME	(in trip: )
2.	GIVING PARTICULARS OF GUN POSITIONS	( O/. only)
3.	REPORT BY BTY COMMANDER (enemy action)	( " )
3 a.	TRACING SHOWING T.M. POSITIONS ON 18/4/18	( " )
4.	REPORT BY BTY COMMANDER (enemy action)	( " )
5.	PARTICULARS of RESERVE POSITIONS SELECTED on 20/4/18	( " )
6.	INSTRUCTIONS to make RECONNAISSANCE & REPORT on same	( in trip: ) ( O/. only)
6.A.	TRACING showing positions selected	( " )
7.	ADVISING <del>assessment</del> of GUNS REPLACED	( " )
8.	INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY for 21/4/18	( " )
9.	" " " 22/4/18	( in trip: )
10.	FIRING REPORT for 23 & 24/4/18	( O/. only )
11.	" " " 24 & 25/4/18	( " )
12.	INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY for 25/4/18	( " )
13.	REPORT of further RECONNAISSANCE for selection of further positions in front line & Reserve	( " )
14.	FIRING REPORT for 26 & 27/4/18	( " )
15.	PARTICULARS of RESERVE POSITIONS Selected	( " )
16.	FIRING REPORT for 27 & 28/4/18	( " )
17.	ADVISING ALTERATIONS in RESERVE POSITIONS And full particulars of same	( " )
18.	TRACING showing positions of GUNS on 30/4/18	( " )
19.	FIRING REPORT for " 30/4/18	( " )

*S. A. Howland* CAPTAIN

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



Appendix N° 1

Star Diary - April 1918

1st Aust Div Medium T. Mortar Batteries

From 1st Aust Div Artillery to D.T.M.O. 1st Aust  
dated 14/4/18 No B.M. 773 DIV"Make a reconnaissance tomorrow morning  
with a view to emplacing mortars.

"Reconnoitre Right Infantry Brigade front

"yourself and send another officer to

"reconnoitre Left Infantry Brigade front

"consult with Infantry Brigadiers as to

"feasibility etc. Right Infantry

"Brigade HQ is D. 24. A. 0. 2. Left

"Infantry Brigade HQ is at BORRE.

"Report on reconnoissances to be

"forwarded to this office as early as

"possible. Herewith find necessary

"maps."



Appendix N° 1

Star Diary April 1918

1st Aust Div Medium T. Mortar Batteries

D.T.M.O. to 1st Aust Div Artillery HQ

dated 15/4/18 No T.M.R. 30

"Reference your No B.M. 773 dated 14<sup>th</sup> inst"Reconnoissances were made this morning  
with a view to emplacing mortars on fronts

"occupied by Right Infantry Brigade and

"Left Infantry Brigade and the following

"report is submitted:

"Right Infantry Brigade front occupied

"by 2nd Infantry Brigade:

"Country reconnoitred by myself and

"following positions (approximately) selected.

(sheet 36<sup>A</sup> N.E. France)

"1. E 27. D 90. 60 Target Farm Beaulieu

with alternative position at

E 28. C 10. 90.

"2. E 22. A. 70. 50 Target La Beque and vicinity

contained in E 23 C also house

at E 29. A. 40. 90

with alternative position at

E 27. B. 50. 70

Left Infantry Brigade front occupied by

1st Infantry Brigade:

Reconnoitred by Lieut A. E. Wallis M.C.

and



2/

APPENDIX N° I. WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918 - PAGE 2.

and following positions (approximately) selected:-

1. E 16 B 25.80 Target - Houses on Strazeele -  
 -Vieux Benjamin Road from E 17 A  
 99.85 to E 17 D. 5.5  
 With alternative position at E 16 B 20.90
2. E 11. A. 10.90 Target - Cross Roads at  
 E 11. C 65.35 and at E 11. D. 30.40  
 With alternative position at  
 E 5. C 10.20
3. E 5. B. 60.80 Targets E 5. D and E 6. C  
 With alternative position at  
 E 6. B 7.9

The Brigadiers of both above Brigades were interviewed and expressed keenness in the matter of placing mortars in action. As will be seen from above, 5 positions in all have been selected each with an alternative position and when guns are placed, full details giving actual positions, axes of fire, zero lines etc will be forwarded.



APPENDIX 2  
War Diary - April 1918

APPENDIX N° 2.- WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918-

To 1st Aust Div Artillery

D.T.M.O.  
MOUNTAIN DIVISION  
No. M.R. 31  
Date 17/4/18

Reference my N° 30 dated 15th inst the following particulars of guns placed in action are submitted.

Right Positions

No of Gun	Position of Gun	Area of Fire	Zero line true bearing	SOS Target
N°1	E 27 D. 60.55	K. 4. D. 75. 70 1/2 E 29. C. 45. 50	111°	Farm D. <sup>No 1997</sup> 19/4/18 Beaulieu
N°2	E 22. A. 50. 30	E 29. A. 60. 40 1/2 E 23. B. 35. 15.	113°	not yet to hand

Left Position

N°1	E 16 B. 25. 90	E 17. D. 70. 50 1/2 E 12. C. 00. 40	100°	SOS will be fired from gun in alternative position
Alternative position at (gun replaced for SOS only)				
	E 10. D. 20. 00	E 17. B. 98. 55 1/2 E 11 B. 60. 50	80°	Cross roads E 11. D. 70 40
N°2	E 5. C. 10. 10	E. 12. C. 40 80 1/2 E. 6. C. 80. 70	102°	House at E 12. A 15. 60
N°3	E 5 B. <sup>60</sup> 25. 40	E 12. <sup>A</sup> 0. 00. 20 1/2 E 6. D. 65. 10	60° 152	Farm at E 6 C 30. 50

It has been found necessary to remove N° 1 Gun in Left Position from E B. 25. 90 1/2 E 16 A 65. 60 - Full particulars will follow

R. G. Howland  
CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



1st  
 AUSTRALIAN DIVISION  
 No. 36 TMR  
 Date 18/4/18

The following are reports by  
 Battalion Commanders received today:-

Right Infantry Brigade Front

Lieut T.H. Byrnes

reports that yesterday (17/4/18) afternoon a  
 plane bearing our markings dropped a  
 bomb near the guns and turned a machine  
 gun on the wire (Location E 27 D 60.55  
 Sheet 36<sup>A</sup> N.E.)

Hit a small building in Beaulieu Dr and  
 caused an explosion and small fire so  
 evidently hit some kind of dump.

Left Infantry Brigade Front

The night

section positions had to be evacuated owing to  
 enemy observation and activity with guns of  
 all sizes from 77 mm to 9". Observation is  
 from the right flank. This shelling was  
 constant during the day. Location E 16 B 25.90.

The centre section at Strazeele railway station  
 came under a heavy barrage of guns up to  
 5.9 which lasted from 8 am to 11 am when  
 it gradually died down. 77 mm and 4.2

were known in round this position inter-  
 -munitly all day. At about 11 pm a  
 searching shoot, about every hour was  
 put round this locality (E 5. C. 10 10)

Considerable Infantry movement was  
 observed on the Railway Bank at E 11 B 7.6  
 where the enemy were seen to be gathering.

About 40 had collected with their packs  
 on and left in in close order. Two rounds  
 with instantaneous cartridges were fired  
 and dropped right in the centre of the  
 party. Only 10 were seen to run away.

Left Section (E 5. B. 60.90)

This Section also came under the same  
 barrage as the Centre section -

General

Last night (17/4/18) there was an  
 Infantry Relief and No 2 & 3 guns  
 had to keep quiet -

Report by Officer in Charge Right Section gun:-

The wire exploded by machine guns; and  
 a power house in close proximity in which  
 we had our charges & component parts  
 was set alight by incendiary shells, nothing  
 could be saved as the charges exploded  
 immediately. Enemy shelled with extreme  
 violence & persistence all day.



1<sup>ST</sup> AUSTRALIAN DIVISION M.T.M. BATTERIES  
APPENDIX 3<sup>A</sup> - WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918

APPENDIX 3a

PARTS of SHEETS 27 S.E. and 36<sup>A</sup> N.E. SHOWING T. MORTAR POSITIONS ON 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 1918.



Two Guns in Right Infantry Brigade Front  
 withdrawn on night 19<sup>th</sup> April 1918 and transferred  
 to new front on left of Left Infantry Brigade Front  
 taken over on 20<sup>th</sup> 4/18 by 3<sup>rd</sup> Coy of Bty -

POSITIONS - marked N°1R } are the Reserve  
 - 2R } positions chosen up  
 - 3R } to date. 18/4/18

AWM 4  
 13/90125 ①



APPENDIX No 4. WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918

AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

No. 37

Date 17/4/18

Reports by Battery Commanders  
dated today:

Right Infantry Brigade Front

Enemy planes flew low over our lines about noon. Right Battalion Front shelled heavily intermittent. Left front fairly quiet. Some of our shrapnel bursting uselessly high over our right battalion front.

At 5 a.m. enemy got a direct hit on right gun position (location E 27. D 60.55) and totally destroyed it also 30 bombs and 60 component parts. Two men were burned but recovered and have been evacuated.

Left Infantry Brigade Front

The day was fairly quiet. During the night about 10 rounds each of 77<sup>s</sup>, 4.2<sup>s</sup> & 5.9<sup>s</sup> were thrown about every hour on Strazeele Railway Station & large dump which stretches back from same. At about 4.45 a.m. a barrage was put down on Bty front which lasted for about 10 minutes. 9 a.m. 10 rounds of 4.2<sup>s</sup> thrown round dump in rear of Strazeele

railway station. All this firing seems to come from the S.E.  
Enemy activity round E 12 A. 30.65. also at E 6. B. 60.30.

General

Reference Operation Order No 5 Series 2 dated 15th inst.:  
Guns in Right Infantry Brigade Front are being withdrawn tonight.

*S. H. Land* ..... CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



Appendix No 5  
 War Diary - April 1918 D.T.M.O.  
 APPENDIX N° 5.- WAR DIARY APRIL 1918 PAGE I.

To -----  
 1st Aust. Div Artillery.

AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

No. 43

Date 20/4/18

The following reserve positions for  
 Mortars have been selected with areas  
 of fire as shown: (approximate)

Left Brigade Front.

No 1 Reserve Gun. Position E. S. A. 75. 98

Area of Fire E. 15. A. 30. 65 to

E. 9. B. 45. 20

Zero Line 125° True Bearing

No 2 Reserve Gun. Position E. 4. C. 20. 90

Area of Fire E. 11. A. 25. 05. to

E. 5. C. 98. 70

Zero Line 114° True Bearing

No 3 Reserve Gun. Position E. 4. A. 98. 40

Area of Fire E. 5. B. 80 to (Sheet 36)

to W. 29. B. 10. 40 (Sheet 29)

Zero Line 72° True Bearing

..... Capt. CAPTAIN

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.

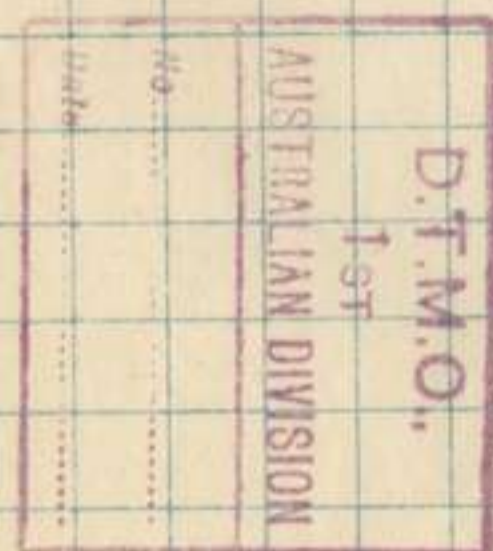


Appendix 6 War Diary  
1st Aust Div M.T.M.R. April 1918

APPENDIX N° 6. WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918 -

Copy of telegram received from 1st Aust Div  
Artillery addressed to D.T.M.O. 1st Aust Div.  
N° 3799 dated 19/4/18 :-

Reference this office Orders N° 5 and  
6. Carry out tomorrow a  
reconnaissance of front to be taken  
over by 3rd Aust Inf. Brigade with  
a view to implacing 4 M<sup>s</sup> and  
forward report to this office as  
early as possible.



Appendix 6 (Original Only)  
War Diary April 1918  
APPENDIX N° 6.- WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918 PAGE 2. -  
6666



1st Aust Div Artillery

Reference your No 799 dated 19th inst:

Reconnaissance has been made of front  
to be taken over by 3rd Aust Inf. Brigade -  
extending approximately from X. 20. C. 8. 8 to  
X. 16. B. 9. 5. - and the following two  
mortar positions selected: - (Sheet 27.)

No 1 Gun X. 14. C. 67. 20

Zero line 170° True bearing - on  
METEREN Church.

Area of Fire X 26. A. 20. 45 to X 27. A. 10. 80

Not quite as  
good a position as No. 2.

No 2 Gun

X. 9. D. 30. 55

Zero line 170° True bearing on

X. 20. D. 09. 15

Area of Fire X. 21. A. 80. 75 to X 16. C. 65. 05

Afterly good position.



Appendix  
War Diary

APPENDIX N° 6. -WAR DIARY APRIL 1918 PAGE 3.

The above will be in position and ready for action to night

1st ADAC report. 540 rounds T.M.G. Ammunition to hand that morning: 240 rounds of this is being forwarded to these new gun positions this evening.

Ammunition

of the 540 rounds to hand to day the following distribution is being made

	Bombs	C.P
To Right Positions	268	380
Left " as above	240	240
	508	620
Leaving on hand	112	20
	620	640

This still leaves 112 Bombs incomplete. The matter of a further supply of ammunition is urgent & I should be glad if you could possibly arrange to have the above 112 Bombs made complete by issue of 112 Charges & Component Parts as early as possible.

*R. H. ...* CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



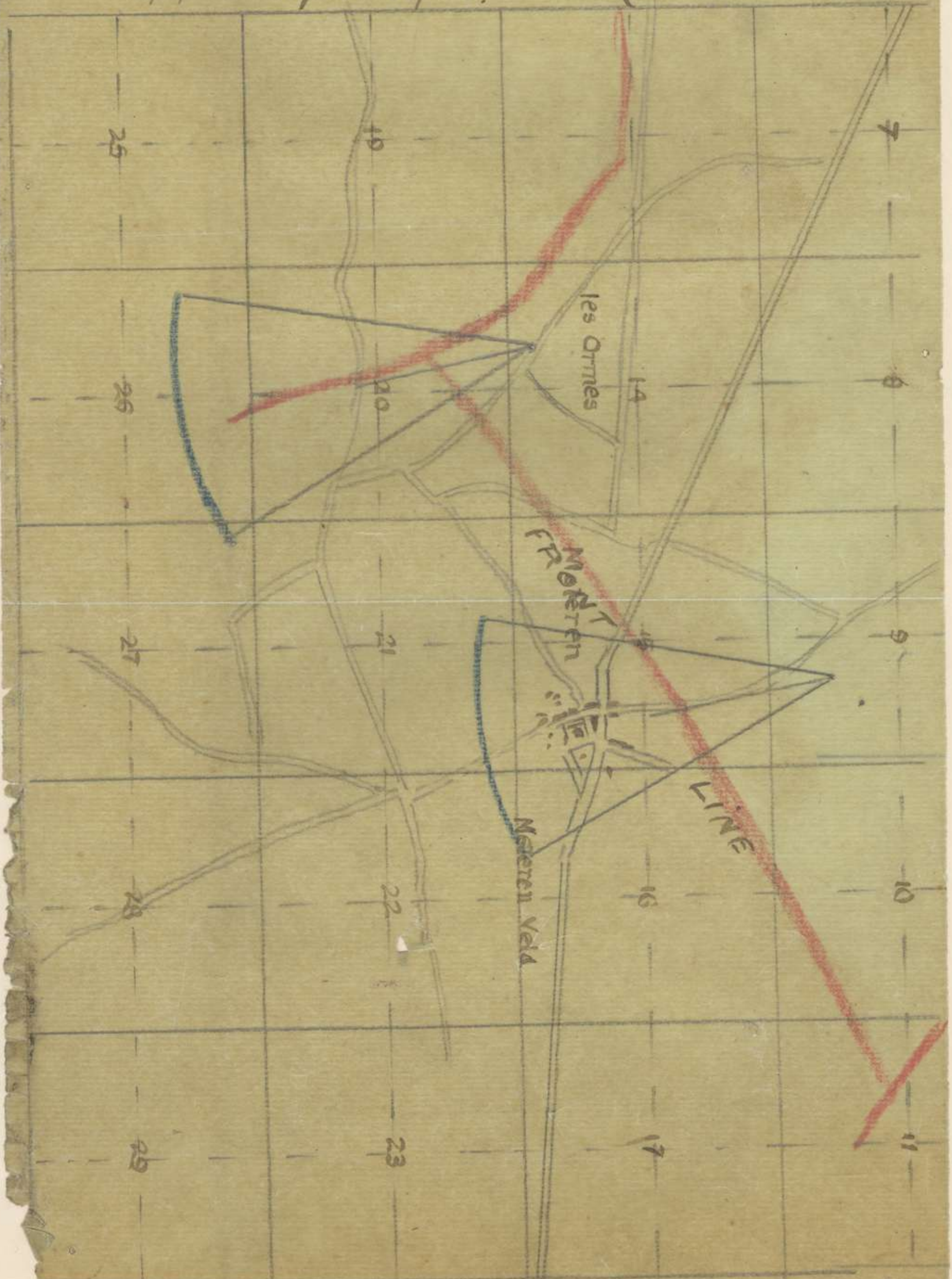
1<sup>ST</sup> AUST: DIV<sup>L</sup> M.T.M. BTIES

APPENDIX N<sup>O</sup> 6<sup>A</sup>.

WAR DIARY- APRIL 1918.

PART OF SHEET 27. SE. FRANCE.

Showing position of guns in 3rd Inf. Bde front  
from 21/4/18 to 24/4/18 inclusive taken over on  
24/4/18 @ 10pm by 25th Div. (B.E.F.)





Appendix No 7 - War Diary

1st Aust MTM B Co

..... (to be inserted only) .....

To 1st Aust Div Only

APPENDIX N<sup>o</sup> 7. WAR DIARY

D.T.M.O.
1st
APRIL 1918
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
46 T.M.R
No. ....
Date 27/4/18

Reporting that the two guns placed out of action Nos 1918 and 1313 referred to in Army No 47 of 20th inst have been replaced by I.C.M. by Nos 920 and 1016.

Change of Positions.

Following upon Operation Order No 5 and B.M. 799. of 18th and 19th inst respectively :-

T. Mortars previously reported as on Left Infantry Brigade Front will be ~~mentioned~~ <sup>mentioned</sup> as in Right Position in future.

and those on 3rd Infantry Brigade <sup>Front</sup> will be mentioned as in Left Position.

(sgd) R.A. Howland ..... CAPTAIN

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



APPENDIX N° 8 War Diary - April 1918  
 1<sup>st</sup> Aust & New M.T. Bks  
 To APPENDIX N° 8.- WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918-  
 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Artillery

DTMO.  
 AUSTRALIAN DIVISION  
 No. 48 T.M.R.  
 Date 22/4/18

Intelligence Summary  
 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. T.M.R. Bks - for date 21/4/18

A. Our Operations.

2. French Mortars -  
 During report attached.

B. Enemy Intelligence - Night positions  
~~the night positions~~

1. Artillery

2. Counter Battery Work  
Right Section - Activity below normal during day - About 10 shells from 77 mm guns fell about 5.15 pm on E. 16. A. 8. 8. Some shelling on E. 16. A. 4. 4. at 12 midnight - about 10 shells from 77 mm.

Centre Section - Straggle along railway station & railway dumps along railway line from forward position to behind Bty HQ - Under constant fire with a lull between 2.44 am. Rate of fire - 1 per minute up to 3 per minute apparently by one 4.2 Bty & one 5.9 Bty. Direction - From South-Easterly.



Appendix No 8 War Diary

APPENDIX N° 8. - WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918 PAGE 2.

Result Between hours 7-9 am today  
1 shell in every 3 of the enemy's has  
been a dud.

Left Section normal

d) Aerial

4 enemy balloons held com-  
-manding view of our positions during  
day -

Aerial activity very considerable -

General

Battery commander reports :-  
"There was considerable movement of  
"Artillery Observers of different batteries  
"and infantry round this locality  
"(Strazelle Railway Station) which I  
"think helped considerably to draw  
"attention to this unhealthy spot."

*[Signature]*  
..... CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



APPENDIX N<sup>o</sup> 9.

WAR DIARY APRIL 1918.

Copy. Ist Aust Divl M. T. M. Bties

To Ist Aust Divl Arty

Intelligence Summaries, 22/4/18.

A. Our Operations.

(2) Trench Mortars-Report N<sup>o</sup> 49 forwarded to-day.

B. Enemy Intelligence

(I) Hostile A-CTIVITY.

(b) 2 Counter Battery Work.

After firing at 4.30 & 11 p.m. enemy retaliated about 10 minutes after each shoot with two or three batteries of various sizes lasting about ten minutes, ranged on Railway Station (Strazeele) and dump.

(3) CONCENTRATIONS. Heavy shelling on Railway station, slight in vicinity of E I6 A with 77m.m. Gas smelt at gun position at at 9.30 p.m. (location E I6A) appeared to be mustard gas, did not last long.

Intermittent shelling in locality ESB, with several bursts of fire at fairly long intervals. About seven p.m. in rear of this position there was a very heavy area shoot put down over Strazeele and surrounding posts & roads.

D.AERIAL. Enemy planes very active over T.M. positions in Right Sector & vicinity.

*Capt P. A. Howland* CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



15  
 Firing Return Report No 51  
 1st Aust. Div Medium T. Mountain Bks. - From 10am 23/4/18 To 10am 24/4/18

APPENDIX No 10  
 WAR DIARY - APRIL 18

Battery	Time of Firing	Target	No of Rounds	Report
2nd Aust. M.T.M. Bty	23.4.18			
	7.30pm	E.6.D.50.55	15	Farm house known to be occupied - > direct hits observed.
	7.45 a	E.B.7.6	5	on occupied farm houses
	4.30 am	-	5	out post. All rounds effective
	8 pm	E.12.A.20.65	5	Occupied farm house. Effective
	8.15pm	E.11.B.7.4	5	Enemy out post
	9.30 to 10.30	E.A.10.0 K E.17.B.2.5	20	Harassing fire on roads, houses & trenches.
	24.4.18			
	11.45 AM	E.12.A.35.65	5	Occupied farm house - Effective
	5 AM to 7.30	E.11.A.10.00 E.17.B.2.5	17	on hostile MG reported between above points
	5.15 AM	E.6.C.60.20	10	on known enemy trench lines - Too
			57	

APPENDIX No 10  
 WAR DIARY  
 APRIL 1918  
 APPENDIX No 10

mostly to observe.

R.A. Howland  
 CAPTAIN  
 D.T.M.C. 1st AUS. DIV.

Firing Return Report No 51 (Contd)

1st Aust. Div Medium Trench Mountain Bks 10am 23/4/18 to 10am 24/4/18

Battery	Time of Firing	Target	No of Rounds	Report
1st Aust M.T.M. Bty	8.30pm	X.15.B.50.15	24	Harassing & destructive fire - very effective.
	12.15 AM	X 20° central 6x20 D do	30	Harassing fire whilst infantry were attacking. All good bursts.
	12.15 to 1.15 am	Meterer	31	Harassing & destructive fire on houses in Meterer - all good bursts.
	9 to 10 AM	Strong Point X 21.C.65.95	36	A strong front which held up Infantry last night. Had to put in new bed during barrage to do so. 4 direct hits + still firing at 10 am.

APPENDIX No 10  
 WAR DIARY  
 APRIL 1918  
 APPENDIX No 10

Total 208  
 R.A. Howland  
 CAPTAIN  
 D.T.M.C. 1st AUS. DIV.



During Return Report No. 53

1st Aust Div Medium & M Batteries - From 10 am 24/4 to 10 am 25/4

Battery	Time of Firing	Target	No of Rounds	Report
1st Aust M.T.M Bty	24/4/18 1 to 3 pm	X 21. A. 65. 95	71	Harassing & destructive fire on 2 houses. One had the front and side blown in & the roof knocked off. The other a machine gun strong point - which held up the infantry attack had the front blown out & the roof blown off.
	3 to 5 pm	Houses in Metenen	40	Targets pointed out by Infantry - destroyed some houses - Excellent results.
2nd Aust M.T.M Bty	7.30 to 8	E. 17. B. 05 15	18	Enemy houses - All effective & 40 carried to fall among buildings
	25/4/18 10.45 AM	E. 12. A. 35. 65	14	do
	8.15 pm 24/4	E 12. A. 4. 9	7	Registration

APPENDIX No. II.  
 WAR DIARY APRIL 18  
 APPENDIX No. II

*J.A. Howland*  
 CAPTAIN  
 D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



APPENDIX N° 12 - WAR DIARY 1918 - APRIL

To 1st Aust Div (C) ...

1st AUSTRALIAN DIVISION  
55 T.M.R.  
No. 25/4/18  
Date

Intelligence Summary - 24/4/18

A. Our Operations

2- T.M.R. firing report No 53 forwarded today.

Left position guns handed over in situ to 5th Div (B.E.F.) to whom command passed at 10 pm. 24/4/18

B Enemy Intelligence

- 1) Artillery
- 2) Counter Battery work

Enemy shelling in search of gun position about time of firing (7.30 to 8 pm) with about 20 to 30 shells. Location E 16. B. 3.7 to E. 16. B. 05.99.

3) Concentrations

10.30 AM heavy area shoot on Strazeele Railway Station & dumps in rear. Lasted till 12.15. Shells from 77 mm to 8 in.

6 to 8 pm further shelling on station also on farm house at E 3 B. 35.65 by 8 in. Bombardments from 9.15 to 9.30 pm 24/4/18 5 to 6 am 25/4/18 vicinity of Railway Station.

P. H. ...  
D.T.M.O. 1st A.I.S. DIV.  
CAPTAIN



1st  
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

To  
1st Aust Div Only

No.

Date

F.11.R.56  
25/4/18

Reference Operation Order N° 11 Series 2  
dated 23<sup>rd</sup> inst.

A reconnaissance has been made of  
front occupied by this Unit and following  
positions (approximate) have been  
selected:

N°1. - Position E.4.D.7.6  
Arcs of Fire E.12.A.2.4 to E.6.A.4.4  
Zero Line 94° True

with an alternative position from which  
SOS for N°1 will be fired & other good targets  
engaged at

E.4.D.25.25

Arcs of fire E.11.D.80.95 to E.6.C.02.80  
Zero Line 99 True

This alternative position is slightly over  
our Boundary shown on map but covers  
our own Outposts there.

N°2. - Position W.29.D.55.30  
Arcs of Fire E.11.B.98.20 to E.6.D.65.00  
Zero Line 152° True

N°2.

Alternative position at  
W.29.D.70.35  
Arcs of Fire E.12.B.40.75 to E.6.A.40.40  
Zero Line 122° True

N°3 Position at W.30.B.60.05  
Arcs of Fire F.1.C.55.10 to F.1.B.98.30  
Zero Line 140° True

Alternative Position

W.30.B.70.05  
Arcs of Fire ~~E.12.B.40.80 to E.6.A.40.40~~  
F.1.B.90.15 to X.26.A.40.30  
Zero Line 106° True

N°4. - Position X.19.D.60.90  
Arcs of Fire X.26.D.30.70 to X.21.C.30.30  
Zero Line 122°

Particulars of reserve positions are not yet in  
hand but will be forwarded for tomorrow.  
As soon as guns are all in position  
and registered - accurate particulars  
will be submitted.

*R. A. [Signature]* ..... CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O., 1st AUS. DIV.



Firing Return Report No 54

1st Aust. Div Medium T.M. Batteries From 10 AM <sup>25/4/18</sup> To 10 AM <sup>26/4/18</sup>

Batteries	Time of Firing	Target	No of Rounds	Report
2nd Lt M.T.M.B.C.	4-15 AM	E.H.B. 7.6 15 E.12.A. 3.9	10	Harassing fire on enemy's known lines between two banks shows
	5-14.5 AM	E.6.C. 3.6 E.6.C. 6.3	2 3	Registration of new bed OK entering strong post. One direct hit observed
	6 AM	E.6.C. 00.30	5	One farm house known to be destroyed also sniper post. Mist too thick for good observation.
	"	E.6.C. 60.20	10	Known locality where enemy masses. Observation poor owing to mist.
Total			30	

APPENDIX N° - I4 - WAR DIARY

APRIL 1918

APPENDIX N° I4

*S. A. Howland*

CAPTAIN

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



-APPENDIX N°- 15 - WAR Diary -

To -APRIL 1918-

1st Aust Div Order

59 T.M.R.  
29/4/18

Reference my N° T.M.R. 56 dated 25th  
inst. - the following are the Reserve  
positions selected:-

Point	Position	Area of Zone	Zero Line True
N°1	W. 26. D. 6. 3	E. 4. A. 35. 70 1/2 E 3. D. 35. 00	120°
N°2	W. 26. D. 6. 4	W. 28. A. 12. 75. 1/2 E. 4. A. 20. 55	82°
N°3	W. 15. D. 25. 20 W. 28. A. 65. 75 <i>W. 28. A. 28. 1/2 see 62</i>	W. 22. B. 87. 20 1/2	130°
N°4	W. 15. D. 4. 3 <i>W. 22. B. 28. 1/2 see 62</i>	W. 17. A. 20. 17 1/2 W. 22. B. 98. 15	93°

D.T.M.O.,  
1st  
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION  
No.....  
Date.....

*S. A. Howland*  
CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.



Living Return & Report No 60

1st Aust Dwe Medium T.M. Bties - From 6 AM 27/4/18 To 6 AM 28/4/18

Battery

Time of Firing

Target

No of Rounds

Report

No 2 Aust M T M Bty 27.4.18

4 P.M.

X 20 D. 05.05

3

Registration on cross roads

X 26 B. 35.55

3

" " Buildings

8.15

E. 6. C. 2. 6

4

On enemy snipers post

1 direct hit

8.30

E. 6. C. 6 3

4

On enemy stronghold and

massing point - all direct hits

28.4.18

4.15 AM

E 11 B 7. 6 6

13

Harassing fire over enemy

known haunts and occupied

farm henges.

27.4.18

7.30 P.M

E. 6. A. 6. 2

10

Mangel heap known to be

enemy stronghold. Excellent

results. Numbers of enemy

running for cover dealt with by infantry.

S.A. Howland

CAPTAIN

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.

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WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918

APPENDIX No I6

Living Return & Report No 60 (Contd)

1st Aust Dwe M T M Bties - From 6 AM 27/4/18 To 6 AM 28/4/18

Battery

Time of Firing

Target

No of Rounds

Report

No 2 Aust M T M Bty 6 AM 28/4/18

6 AM

E. 6 D centre

11

Harassing fire on road

known channel of

communication. Direct

hits were observed

E 6 A. 6. 2

10

Mangel heap. Several hits

obtained, but position had

apparently been evacuated.

Registration on cross roads

F. 1. A. 8. 3

14

" " large farm

F. 1. B. 7. 25

"

" " cross roads

F. 1. B. 7. 1

"

" " road

X 25. C. 7. 5

"

Total

72

S.A. Howland

CAPTAIN

D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.

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APRIL 1918

APPENDIX No I6



APPENDIX N° 17 - WAR DIARY - APRIL 1918

To  
15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Div. (A.C.)

D.T.M.O.,  
1st  
AUSTRALIAN DIVISION  
No.  
Date.

W.R. 62  
28/4/18

Reference my N° 63 dated 27<sup>th</sup> inst.:-

The Battery Commander reports today:-

"It was found necessary in account  
of an 15<sup>th</sup> Pde Bty taking up a position  
- 1/6 across slightly N°s 3 & 4 positions  
(Reserve). Particulars of the new  
positions selected are:-

Gun	Position	Area of Fire	Zero Time
N° 3	W 2.1.B.4.99	W. 23. C. 10. 99k W. 28. A. 85. 50	130°
N° 4	W. 15. D. 62. 05	W. 17. A. 20. 20 W. 23. A. 25. 20	88°

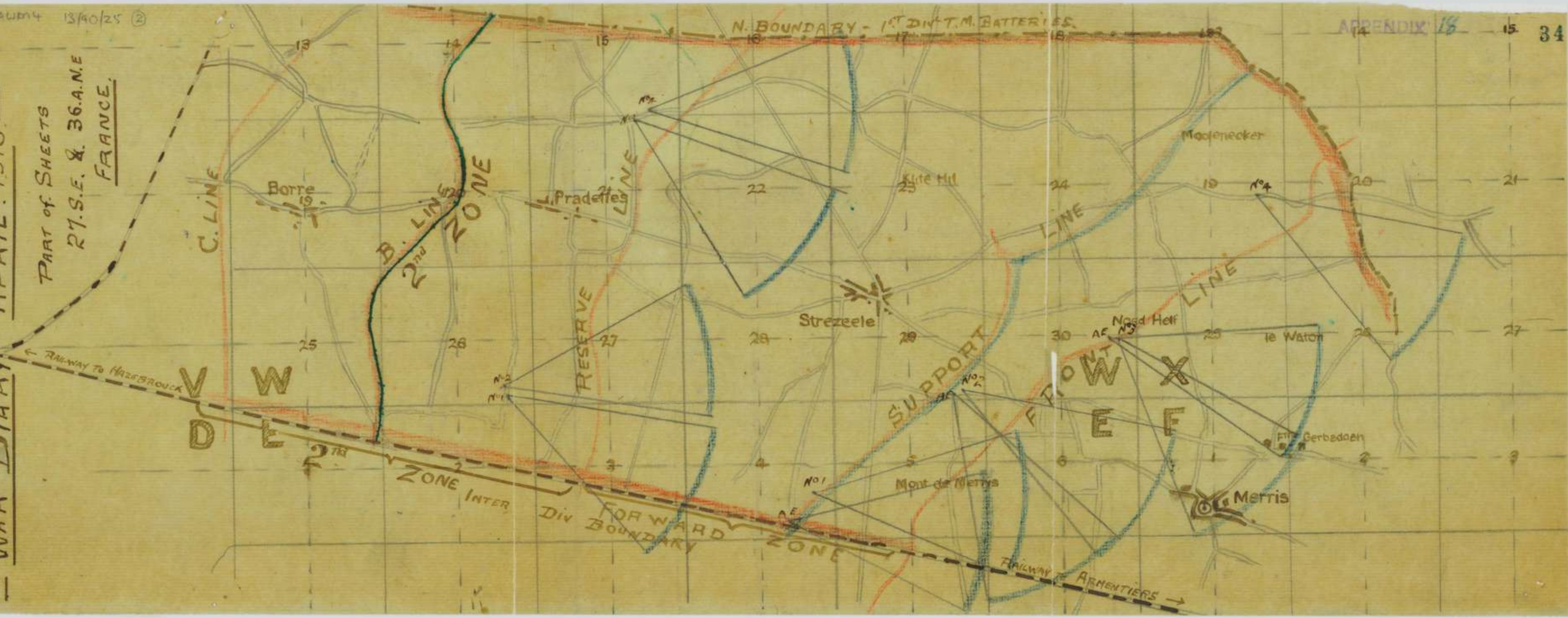
*A. H. ...* CAPTAIN  
D.T.M.O., 1st AUS. DIV.



PART OF SHEETS  
27.S.E. & 36.A.N.E  
FRANCE.

15

AWM 4 13/40/25 (2)





During Return Report No 66

1st Aust Dwe Medium Trench Mortar Blys From 6 AM 30/4 To 6 AM 1/5/18

Battery	Time of Firing	Target	No of Rounds	Report
1st Aust M.T.M.Bly	30.4.18	House		
	11.30 A.M.	X 20. D. 09. 09	10	3 direct hits
	2.45 P.M.	"	5	1 " " } Good shooting
	7.30 .	Houses		
		X 26. B. 3. 5.	9	2 " "
	2.35 .	Post		
		X 20. C. 80. 35	6	Direct hit - 5 men observed to leave fallen, wounded carried away.
	6.30 to 6 P.M.	2 am E. 6. D central	30	Corner of house blown off - 4 am direct hits.
	do	On registered targets from No 2 Bly (E 5) Blys house at E. 6. = 5. 9.	21	4 direct hits on house which is now burnt to the ground.

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 PAGE 2

H. A. Howland  
 CAPTAIN  
 D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.

During Return Report No 67 (Contd.)

1st Aust Dwe Medium T.M. Blys From 6 AM 30/4 To 6 AM 1/5/18

Battery	Time of Firing	Target	No of Rounds	Report
1st Aust M.T.M.Bly	30.4.18	on road		
	5. P.M.	Targets + 505 LINE	27	Satisfactory - Direct hit on house at E. 11. B. 6. 9.
	1.5.18	Farms at	15	Considerable damage to buildings -
	5.30 AM	F I B 70. 75		

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General

In all 123 rounds expended. Harassing fire on various strong points & occupied farm houses with good results. much damage being done.

Activity Report

An exceptionally quiet day.

H. A. Howland  
 CAPTAIN  
 D.T.M.O. 1st AUS. DIV.