

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/41/5

**Title:** Headquarters, 14th Australian Field  
Artillery Brigade

November 1916



AWM4-13/41/5

14th A.F.A. Brigade

WAR DIARY

November 1916

Army Form C. 2118.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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YOLI. Page 31.

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
Brigade Headquarters 9.22.1-8	31st Oct.		Distribution of Brigade remains the same as from 22nd to 30th Oct.	
Sheet 36 1/10,000	9th Nov.		Brigade assembled at Vieux Baguin prior to commencing route march.	
	9th		Brigade moved from Vieux Baguin and billeted at Busnes for the night.	
	10th		March was resumed leaving Busnes at 9.30 am and arriving at Kesthus and Eps at 1 pm	
	11th		Left Kesthus-Eps area at 7.45 am and arrived at Etreu-Wamin at 2 pm.	
	12th		For 24 hours the brigade rested at Etreu-Wamin time was devoted to cleaning up harness etc.	
	13th		March continued left Etreu-Wamin at 8.30 and arrived at Villers-Bocage at 3.30 pm.	
	14th		Advance parties moved up into line and commenced the taking over. Brigade moved to Bouvray under the Adjutant	

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14<sup>th</sup> F.A. Bde

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BONNAY	14 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup>	8AM.	leaving at 9am arriving at 12-30 pm March continued to Artillery area K3a arrived at noon.	off
K3A	16 <sup>th</sup>	1AM.	March continued to Wagon Lines at F5d58 arriving at 4-30 am.	off
F5d58		8AM.	Personnel moved up and took over positions of 3 <sup>rd</sup> F.A Bde 53 <sup>rd</sup> Sect at M36c 4-3 & 1 Sect at SB-56a8.6 54 <sup>th</sup> Bty M36c 3-3 55 <sup>th</sup> Bty M36c 2-2½ and 114 <sup>th</sup> Bty SBa6.6 Brigade Head Quarters at S10b4r. The Brigade with the 52 <sup>nd</sup> - 56 <sup>th</sup> & 60 <sup>th</sup> Batteries formed the 14 <sup>th</sup> Artillery Brigade Group control was resumed at 4 pm. Normal Barrage was maintained	off

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14<sup>th</sup> FA B'de

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
S10642 Sheet 57c	17 <sup>th</sup>		During the day the normal barrage was maintained. Nothing unusual occurred.	off
	18 <sup>th</sup>		Normal barrage maintained during the day and night. Nothing unusual occurred.	off
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Normal barrage was maintained during the 24 hours. Orders were received to <del>take</del> withdraw and take over the positions of the 14 <sup>th</sup> RFA B'de	off
	20 <sup>th</sup>		Normal barrage maintained. At 6 pm to 8 pm the Barrage was quickened & ground searched back as a German relief was in progress. One gun per Battery was withdrawn to the Wagon line during the night.	off

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14<sup>th</sup> AFA Brigade

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
14 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Group H.Q. S. 10 & 4. 2.	21 <sup>st</sup>		Nothing unusual occurred. 1 gun per battery withdrawn to the wagon lines during the night.	
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Everything quiet. Bombardment barrage kept going. the remaining 2 guns per battery withdrawn to wagon lines, B.A.B. then moved to the wagon line also.	off
	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Brigade rested in wagon lines all day.	off
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Still resting at 2 pm one section from each battery moved into the line at approximately 11.30 and began taking over from <del>14<sup>th</sup> AFA</del> Brigade.	off
	25 <sup>th</sup>		Brigade B. Ours and remaining portion of batteries moved up to complete the taking over.	off
M. Group H.Q. T. 801-0	26 <sup>th</sup>		at 8 am. Brigade (M. Group) completely taken over from <del>14<sup>th</sup> AFA</del> Brigade R.F.A.	off

14<sup>th</sup> A.F.A. Brigade

WAR DIARY

for November 1916

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
M. Group Hd. Qtrs. T8C1-0 Sheet 57c	27 <sup>th</sup>		Nothing unusual occurred operation orders filed copies hereunder. Map location of Btys as follows: 52 <sup>nd</sup> (T8A7-0) 53 <sup>rd</sup> (T7d 6-9) 55 <sup>th</sup> (T7d 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -9) & 114 <sup>th</sup> Bn (T8d 5-8). The 54 <sup>th</sup> Bty has been divided between 53 <sup>rd</sup> & 55 <sup>th</sup> Btys one section of the 60 <sup>th</sup> Bty is attached to the 52 <sup>nd</sup> Bty this makes all 18 per Bty in this group up to 6 gun Btys. A London of 53 <sup>rd</sup> Bty wounded by shell fire. During night 200 Rds per Bty fired on C.T.s & roads in N73C+D - N79A+B	app. 30.
	28 <sup>th</sup>		Usual allowance of ammunition fired at open trench damaged our front line and C.T.s. We retaliated with 50 rounds per Bty. Wnt Barron of 114 <sup>th</sup> Bty evacuated sick. During night 200 Rds per Bty fired on C.T.s & roads in N73C+D - N79A+B.	off
	29 <sup>th</sup>		Observation bad - Searching Rds fired during day in N73C+D - N79A+B - During night 200 Rds per Bty fired on C.T.s & roads in N73C+D - N79A+B.	app. 31 off

# WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>"M" Group Hd. Quarters. T. 8. c 1-0 Sheet 57 c</p>	<p>30th Nove.</p>		<p>During the night 29/30 all Roads, tracks and C.T's were searched in the vicinity N 23 c d and N 29 a &amp; b. During the day the batteries occasionally opened with a searching fire. Observation bad. An O.P. is being established on LARKHILL N 28 d. <u>Enemy action.</u> A few 4.2 and 5.9 in vicinity of batteries. No damage or casualties. Operation Order herewith.</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">(The original of above appears on the same sheet as entries for subsequent month and will be found with the diary for that month).</p>	<p>App. 32.</p>

14<sup>th</sup> F.A. Bde. Order No. 1.

Apr 20

26-11-16

1. The 14<sup>th</sup> F.A. Bde plus the 52<sup>nd</sup> Bty and 1/2 the 60<sup>th</sup> Bty forming the left Group of the Right Sector and will be known as M. Group.

2. The Group Boundary is N 28 b 1 1/2. 8 to N 28 d 8. 9.

### 3. ZONES.

Zones are allotted as under

52<sup>nd</sup> Bty N 28 b 1 1/2. 8 to N 28 b 3 1/2. 5

55<sup>th</sup> .. N 28 b 3 1/2. 5 to N 28 b 5 1/2

53<sup>rd</sup> .. N 28 b 5 1/2. 2 to N 28 d 8. 9.

114<sup>th</sup> .. will cover the Group Zones.

### 4. S.O.S. lines

The S.O.S. lines will be on the zones as in Para 3 and on that frontage indicated. The S.O.S. line of the

114<sup>th</sup> Bty will be -

N 23 c 8. 8.

N 23 d 0. 5 1/2

N 23 d 1. 5

N 23 d 2. 4.

5. A F.O.O. will be detailed daily from the 52<sup>nd</sup>, 53<sup>rd</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> Bty in turn starting with the 52<sup>nd</sup> Bty on the 27<sup>th</sup> inst and thence in turn. He will visit Battalion and Company Commanders daily in the Group and will enquire the result of Patrolling work, points requiring bombardment, hostile wire etc, reporting the result daily to Group H.Q.

### 6. Night Firings

Allotment of ammunition is 200 rounds per Battery. Batteries will expend the above during the night on all tracks in their ZONE leading up to the TRANSLOY - BAPAUME road with the occasional bursts in the hollow.

All unseen ground will be searched during the day.

Whehan. Lieut  
Adjutant



14 FA Bgde M Group Order No 2

1. Communication forward The O.P of 52<sup>nd</sup> Battery is in communication with Battalion H.Q.
2. This line will be kept up in turn by the unit finding the F.O.O and will be responsible for it for 24 hours from 8 am to 8 am. This unit will find the detail to work forward end of it.
3. The F.O.O. will be on duty for 24 hours and will be relieved at Battalion H.Q together with the above party at 8 am daily.
4. S.O.S Procedure On receipt of an S.O.S message or on observation of S.O.S Signals fire will be opened as under on barrage line.
 

<u>18 pro</u>	3 rds per gun	per minute	for 10 minutes
	2 rds per gun	per minute	for 5 minutes
	1 rd per gun	per minute	for 5 minutes
4. Smoke Nois 1 rd per How per minute for 2.0 minutes. Then stop unless other orders are received from Group Head-Quarters.  
 Any unit receiving an S.O.S will act at once, communicate to Front Batteries and then report to Group H.Q.
5. Ammunition allotment is 50 rds per gun or how 18 pro will not use more than 25% A. This amount will be kept above establishment to be maintained at Guns.
6. Should the enemy open a bombardment on the Group front Batteries will at once open on enemy communications at 1 rd per gun per minute and maintain it all enemy fire ceases. a careful watch will be kept for an S.O.S Signal. The best S.O.S signal is rifle and MG. fire in the section this will at once be treated as such.
7. Batteries will at once communicate to one another and then to Group to one another and then to Group H.Q.

*M. L. L. L.* Lieut  
 Adjutant.

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> 1916"M" Operation memo. no 1

1. Action in case Right Infantry Bde is attacked: -  
Open fire on S.O.S. Lines i.e. ordinary S.O.S. Call.

2. Action in case Left Infantry Bde is attacked: -  
Stand by to open fire as under and on receipt of: -

CALL CO-OPERATE "A" open fire: -

52<sup>nd</sup> Bty N 28 b 4 1/2 8 to N 28 b 7.5

53<sup>rd</sup> " N 28 b 7.5 to N 29 c 1.8

55<sup>th</sup> " N 29 c 1.8 to N 29 c 4.3

Rate of fire S.O.S. rates on receipt of call.

3. In the event of an attack on the Division on our Right: -  
CALL CO-OPERATE "RIGHT"

The Barrage as under will be established: -

52<sup>nd</sup> Bty N 35 a 4.9 to N 35 a 6.6

53<sup>rd</sup> " N 35 a 6.6 to N 35 a 8.3

55<sup>th</sup> " N 35 a 8.3 to N 35 b 0.0

Two Raper gun per minute for ten minutes

One Raper gun per minute for ten minutes

114<sup>th</sup> Bty - ROAD N 35 b 4.9 to N 29 d 8.2

Two raper How per minute for ten minutes

One raper How per minute for ten minutes

W. L. L. L. Lieut

Adjutant "M" Group