

**AWM4**

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

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/111/5

**Title:** 7th Australian Medium Trench Mortar  
Battery

June 1918



AWM4-13/111/5



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

191

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

7<sup>th</sup> Aust. M.T.M. B.S.

FOR

JUNE 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

W. Smith baird

Signature of Officer Commanding

W. Smith baird

7<sup>th</sup> Aust. M.T.M. B.S.



7<sup>th</sup> Aust. M.T.M. Bty.

JUNE 1918.

## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

191

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N 24 b. 20.60 (62° SW. 1/20000)	1-6/18		Battery personnel at reserve dugouts at French mortar 17.9.	W. P. M. C. B. A. P.
	2-6/18		Received by 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div. T.M.'s. to whom all guns were handed over.	W. P. M. C. B. A. P.
EAUCOURT-SUR-SOMME (MAP REF ABBEVILLE 14 - 1/100,000)	3-6/18		Personnel & stores travelled by motor lorries to EAUCOURT-SUR-SOMME, via GLISSY, AMIENS, AILLY-SUR-SOMME, MOUFLEURS and BOLLANCOURT.	W. P. M. C. B. A. P.
	4/19		Look over billets vacated by 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div. T.M.'s, in EAUCOURT.	W. P. M. C. B. A. P.
	4/19		Training carried on as per syllabus attached, till 11 <sup>th</sup> June, and thereafter physical exercises & gun-drill daily.	
	4/19		Ten per cent of personnel granted leave to visit ABBEVILLE every day.	
	4/19		Divisional & 10 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> A. Bty. Raw Meetings Reports were held on 12 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> respectively.	
	9/6/18		Inspection & Review of 4 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Div. Artillery, by General Birdwood. French mortar Batteries took part in the march past.	W. P. M. C. B. A. P.



7<sup>th</sup> Aust. M.T.M. B5.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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<p>LA NEUVILLE (CORBIE) (Sheet 62 D 1/40,000)</p>	<p>20-6/18</p>		<p>Left EAUCOURT and moved by motor lorries to LA NEUVILLE, via PONT REMY, LIERCOURT, SOREL, AIRAINES, SOUES, PICQUIENY, AILLY-SUR-SOMME, DREUIL, AMIENS, PONT NOYELLES. Took over billets from 5<sup>th</sup> Gas Div. T.M's at LA NEUVILLE.</p> <p>7<sup>th</sup> Bty took over from 10<sup>th</sup> Bty. two 6" mortars in the line - no 1 at P 8 00.15 and no 2 at P 8 05.35 - and two anti-tank guns 15 lbs B.L.C. - no 1 at P 14 35.95, no 2 at P 19 10.85. These guns were taken over at 9 pm by Lt. Chaloner Lt. Fullerton &amp; 15 O/R.</p> <p>At 12.30 am the enemy opened fire on mortar positions with 5.9's and medium minewepfers. The 14<sup>th</sup> round struck the ammunition recess exploding 45 rounds of 6" bombs. The explosion blew in the dugouts and buried all the men. No casualties resulted, though it took 5 or 10 minutes digging to extricate some of the men. The bed of no 1 mortar was completely destroyed and</p>	<p>Woman bay</p> <p>Sheet France 62° SE. 1/20,000</p> <p>Woman bay</p> <p>2</p>
	<p>21-6/18</p>			



7th Aust. M.T.M.B.S.

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LA NEUVILLE (CORBIÈ)	21-6/18		all the guys broken. The piece was thrown 50 yards. Lt. Chalones collected his men and took them into the infantry trench for temporary shelter. The party had to remain there all day as it is impossible to enter or leave the trench in daylight. In the dusk Lt. Chalones + Cpl. Buckley left the trench and crawled back to find a new position for the mortars. A position at P 82 50.40 (Sht. France 62° SE. 1/20,000) was decided on	W.F. Underbarn
	22-6/18		work commenced on two new mortar emplacements and dug-outs. Sig. Cowrie, W.F., No. 1553, wounded under right arm.	W.F. Underbarn
	23-6/18		Work continued. Position reconnoitred for No. 2 A-T gun.	W.F. Underbarn
	24-6/18		Lt. G. C. Garvin, Lt. Remington and 15 O.P.R. relieved Lt. Chalones + Fullerton + party - the latter coming down to billets at LA NEUVILLE.	W.F. Underbarn
	26-6/18		15 rounds fired on target P 92 99 (62° SE. 1/20,000).	W.F. Underbarn E

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16.



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LA NEUVILLE (CORBIE)	28-6/18		Lts Chaloner & Remington & 15 OPR relieved Lt. Garvin's party in the line.	W. J. M. B. B. / W. J. M. B. B.
	29-6/18 30		Time spent in preparing gun emplacements & dugouts and generally strengthening position. No 2 anti-tank gun damaged by 4 2 shells - wheels damaged and several holes in buffercase. This gun temporarily out of action.	
W. J. M. B. B. of 7 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Med. I. M. Bty				4



Fourth Aust. Div. Trench Mortars

Itinerary of training for 7 days (cont.)

Date	9-45 am	10-15-10-30 am	10-30-11-30 am	11-30-12-30 am	2-2-30 am	2-45-4 pm
4-6-18	Physical drill	Inspection	Inspection by D.T.M.O. Squad drill	Rifle Drill	Lecture on Sanitation (R.C. Remington)	Kit Inspection
5-6-18	Physical drill	Inspection	Section and Saluting drill	Battery drill	Recreation	Recreation
6-6-18	Physical drill	Inspection	Section and Saluting drill	Battery drill with rifle	Lecture on Passports - rules & the necessity for them (D.T.M.O.)	Gun drill
7-6-18	Physical drill	Inspection	Gun drill	Laying tests	Lecture on Ammunition (Lt. Grant)	Gun drill. Laying tests
8-6-18	Physical drill	Inspection	Gun drill & constructing sub-beds	Tests on getting into action quickly	Recreation	Recreation
9-6-18	Nil	Inspection	Church Parade			
10-6-18	Physical drill	Inspection by D.T.M.O.	Brigade Parade & drill	Brigade Parade & drill	Lecture - Esprit de Corps (D.T.M.O.)	Short Route March
11-6-18	Physical drill	Inspection	Musketry	Musketry	Lecture on Discipline (D.T.M.O.)	Visual Training