

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/46/6

Title: Headquarters, 25th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

December 1916



AWM4-13/46/6

25. F. A. Bde.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

429

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																				
MAMETZ (F509-3)	1/12/16	6 AM	<p>Prepared to leave -</p> <p>The weather was fine and dry with a heavy fog during the morning. Reveille was at 6.30 am.</p> <p>Shelters for the men have been completed and sundry improvements in vicinity of same are being carried out. A drying shed for the Brigade is in course of construction.</p> <p>Work of laying down horse stanchions is being carried on and overhead covers will be provided when material is available.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Casualties</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personnel</td> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horses</td> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mules</td> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Material</td> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Casualties				Personnel	Nil			Horses	Nil			Mules	Nil			Material	Nil			
Casualties																								
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W. Hoonan Capt Adjt
 For Lieut - Colonel
 Bandy 25th F. A. Bde
 5 Aust. Div
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MAMETZ F509-3	2/12/16	6AM	<p>On leave in England - Reveille was at 6-30 a.m. The weather remaining fine and no rain having fallen, the works of improvement were carried on through the day without interruption.</p> <p>Casualties Personnel nil Horses nil Mules nil Material nil</p> <p>for Lieut - Colonel Commandg 25th F. A. Bde Aust. Div, a. o. l.</p>	

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MAMETZ F 5 C 9-3	3/12/16	6 AM	<p>On leave in England -</p> <p>Severe frost had set in and ground remained frozen throughout the day. Great activity was shown by our Artillery during day and into the night. Two Casualties occurred as follows -</p> <p>No 2003 GNR Beck H 60th Batty } killed in action No 2250 " Walker H " " } by Shell Fire</p> <p>Casualties Personnel Two - killed in action Horses nil Mules nil Material nil</p> <p>for Lt Colonel Commandy 25th F. S. Bde Aust Div A.O.L</p>	

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MAMETZ F509-3	4/12/16	6 AM	<p>On leave in England - Reveille at 6-30 a.m. Weather was fine during the day but rained at night. The day was uneventful.</p> <p>Casualties Personnel Nil Horses Nil Mules Nil Material Nil</p> <p>for Lt Coluan Captroady Lt - Colonel Commdy 25th A. A. Bde Subst. Div A.S.H.</p>	

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MAMETZ (F5C 9-3)	5/12/16	6am	<p>On leave in England - Rain continued to fall during the day; but cleared towards evening. The work of improving shelters and standings is steadily progressing</p> <p>Casualties Personnel No 960 Dvr Remmen S Wounded by Shell - Sent to Hospital Horses nil Mules nil Material nil</p> <p>for Lt Colonel Commandy 25th F. & Bde Aust. Div A. J. L.</p>	

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MAMETZ F. 5. 9. 3	6/2/16	6 AM	<p>On leave in England - Reveille was at 6.30 a.m. The day was fine and rain keeping off allowed work of constructing horse standings etc to be carried on without interruption.</p> <p>Casualties Personnel Nil Horses Nil Mules Nil Material Nil</p> <p>For Liaison Capt (adjt) Lt Colonel Commdg 25th F. & Bde Aust Div A.S.H.</p>	

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MAMETZ	12/16	6 AM	<p>On leave in England - The weather was good but cold. Reveille at 6.30 am The condition of Battery Wagons Lines shows much improvement. The day was uneventful</p> <p>Casualties - Personnel Nil Horses Nil Mules Nil Material Nil</p> <p>for Lt. Colonel 25th F. A. Bole Aust Div A.C.H.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAMETZ	8/12/16	6 am	<p>On leave in England - Reveille was at 6.30 a.m. Rain fell at intervals during the day. The C. R. & visited the Battery's Wagons lines and inspected them during the day</p>	
			<p>Casualties Personnel nil Horses nil Mules nil Material nil</p>	<p>Thomson Capt Adj Lt Colonel 25th L. A. Bde Aust Div A.O.L</p>

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MAMETZ F5C9-3	10/ 12/ 16	6 AM	<p>On leave in England — Reveille was at 6.30 a.m. The weather was good. The day was uneventful. Shortly after midnight enemy aircraft passed over this position and dropped bombs in the vicinity</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Casualties Personnel Horses Mules Material </p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>[Signature]</i> Jt Lieut - Colonel 25th J. A. Bde Aust Div A.O.L. </p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAMETZ F5C93	11/12/16	6 AM	<p>On leave in England. — Reveille was at 6.30 a.m. The day was fine and clear and much aircraft activity was evident. During the morning a squadron of our aeroplanes passed over into enemy territory but the extent of the damage effected could not be ascertained. Taken on strength from Remount Depot Demacourt:— 33 Horses and 7 Mules Casualties — Personnel Nil Horses Nil Mules Nil Material Nil</p>	
			<p>W. Brown Capt Adj Lt. Colonel Comdng 25th F. G. Bde Aust Divisions A.O.L.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAMETZ F5C 9-3	12/12/16	6am	<p>On leave in England -</p> <p>The weather was dull and much rain fell during the morning. Razed pathways have been laid down through the lines; broken brickwork being used for the purpose. The day was uneventful</p> <p> Casualties Personnel Nil Horses Nil Mules Nil Material Nil </p>	
			<p> Lt Colonel Commandg 25th F. A. Bde Aust Div A.O.L. </p>	

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MAMETZ F 5 c 9-3	13/ 12/ 16	6 am	<p>On leave in England — Reveille was at 6-30 a.m. The weather was dull with occasional showers. The day was quiet and without incident</p> <p>Casualties — Personnel Nil Horses Nil Mules Nil Material Nil</p>	
			<p><i>J. D. Leonard Capt Adjutant</i> for Lieut - Colonel Commandg 25th F. A. Bde Aust Div <i>A. O. H.</i></p>	

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MAMETZ F 5 C 9-3	14/ 12/ 16	6 AM	<p>On leave in England - Reveille was at 6.30 a.m. The weather was fine but dull. No incident of importance occurred during the day in the vicinity</p> <p>Casualties Personnel Horses Mules Material</p> <p>Lieut Colonel Commandg 25th F. A. Bde Aust Div</p>	

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MAMETZ F 5 C 9-3	15 /12/ 16	6 AM	<p>Returned from leave. Reveille was at 6-30 a.m. The weather continued fine but dull. Many improvements have been effected in Brigade Wagons Lines to the benefit of men and horses since the position was occupied.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>Casualties</i> <i>Personnel</i> <i>Nil</i> <i>Horses</i> <i>Nil</i> <i>Mules</i> <i>Nil</i> <i>Material</i> <i>Nil</i> </p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <i>H. J. Taylor</i> Lieut - Colonel Commandg 25th F. A Bde Aust. Div </p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
S 18 d	17/12/16	6 AM	<p>READINGS — THERMOMETER 41° BAROMETER 29.1 WIND — CALM.</p> <p>Observation was rendered difficult during the day owing to thick fog.</p> <p>Fire was directed on enemy tracks and communication trenches. Full extent of damage effected could not be ascertained.</p> <p>Action was repeated on same targets.</p> <p>An enemy Shrapnel Shell burst over 14.0's (Time burst) followed by three which failed to burst Time but exploded on Percussion. They proved to be 4.2. Magnetic bearing was 46° from S 18 d 5-2.</p> <p>Casualties - Personnel Nil Horses Nil Mules Nil Material Nil</p>	
		12.10 PM		
		2 PM. (11 AM)		

[Signature]
 Lieut - Colonel
 Commandg "M" Group
 A. F. A.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
518 d	18/13/16	6 AM 12-10 PM 2 PM	<p>READINGS - THERMOMETER 32° BAROMETER 28.8 WIND - CALM</p> <p>The weather continued misty during the greater part of the day rendering good observation impossible. Our Batteries directed fire on enemy group concentrations tracks and communication trenches at specified periods.</p> <p>Carried out a reconnaissance for the purpose of selecting a suitable position for an anti-tank gun. The best position appears to be about N 33 b 5-3. No position that I could find fulfils ideal conditions for an anti-tank gun as Infantry trenches are on forward slope of next rise.</p> <p>The position indicated however would enable a tank to be engaged by direct fire if it came over ridge N 28 Central into valley N 27 Cent. to 34 Central.</p> <p>Casualties NIL</p>	

[Signature]
Lieut Colonel
M Group
A. I. A.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices						
5 18 d	19/12/16	6 AM	<p style="text-align: center;">THERMOMETER BAROMETER WIND</p> <p style="text-align: center;">30° 28.8 LIGHT 3.5-E</p> <p>General Routine - Morning was fine. A hard frost had set in and light snow fell later in the day. Observation was fair during greater portion of the day. Enemy Artillery Fire intermittent. Several rounds burst on our front line system in vicinity of SPECTRUM and GUSTY TRENCHES also SUNKEN ROAD close to MILLER'S SON POST. Five 5.9 H.E's burst in vicinity of N 27 d 9.4 at 11 A.M.</p> <p>At four periods between these hours fire was directed at enemy communications and known targets in accordance with orders issued. Strict time was maintained throughout.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ammunition Expended</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>AX</td> <td>BX</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MIL</td> <td>328</td> <td>96</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Casualties NIL</p>	A	AX	BX	MIL	328	96	
A	AX	BX								
MIL	328	96								
		9:25 ^{PM} TO 3:30 ^{AM} 20/12/16								
			<p><i>[Signature]</i> Lieut. Colonel Commandg M. Group A. J. A.</p>							

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S 18 d	20/12/16	6 AM	<p>GENERAL ROUTINE — THERMOMETER BAROMETER WIND</p> <p>29.95 28.85 LIGHT S-E</p> <p>The weather cleared and remained fine during the day. Reports from Batteries state that observation was good and enemy aircraft fairly active</p> <p>Two Batteries (53rd and 55th) registered on barrage lines at this period.</p> <p>Fire was directed on CO-OPERATE A and Howitzer Battery on Group Concentrations</p> <p>At 3.30 P.M. a 5.9 H.E. burst on 52nd Battery Position but caused no damage. Otherwise Hostile Batteries quiet</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ammunition Expended</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>AX</td> <td>BX</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>459</td> <td>128</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Casualties</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NIL</p>	A	AX	BX	10	459	128	<p>11.30 AM</p> <p>12 NOON</p> <p>12.5 PM</p> <p style="text-align: right;">H. H. [Signature] Lieut. Colonel Command M Group A F A</p>
A	AX	BX								
10	459	128								

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S 18 d	21/12/16	6 AM	<p>GENERAL ROUTINE</p> <p>THERMOMETER 37°</p> <p>BAROMETER 28.56</p> <p>WIND STRONG S-S-W</p> <p>Light rain fell at intervals during the day and the weather was gusty towards evening and during the night.</p> <p>Our Battery fire was directed on checking lines during this period</p> <p>Fired on CO-OPERATE A and 5.05 lines at intervals during this time</p> <p>Enemy shelled front line system at Spectrum and Curly Trenches also Sunken Road. A 5.9 burst in vicinity of Hellers Son Post. Light shelling in vicinity of N 27 d 9-4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ammunition Expended</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">A</td> <td style="text-align: center;">AX</td> <td style="text-align: center;">BX</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">84</td> <td style="text-align: center;">357</td> <td style="text-align: center;">132</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">CASUALTIES NIL</p>	A	AX	BX	84	357	132	
A	AX	BX								
84	357	132								

11 AM
 AM
 11.6
 PM
 4.45
 PM
 5.18

H. H. Seymour
 Lieut. Colonel
 Commandy M Group
 A. F. A.

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
S 18 d	22/12/16	6 AM	<p>GENERAL ROUTINE — BAROMETER 28.8 THERMOMETER 41° WIND STIFF SOUTHERLY BREEZE</p> <p>The day was fine and bright and conditions were admirable for observation purposes.</p> <p>11 AM Working parties were observed engaged on trench works in enemy lines at about N17 d 9-7 to N18 c 2-6 and Howitzer Batty was immediately communicated with and parties were promptly dispersed and trenches partially destroyed</p> <p>11:30 At N24 a 8-2 in enemy territory a house was fired on by How. Batty and several direct hits secured. It had been reported that a gun had fired from this building. The latter was well fortified.</p> <p>2:30 PM Registered on S.O.S Lines</p> <p>3 PM / 5 PM 18 pdr Batteries shelled enemy tracks</p> <p>Enemy shelling less active. Several shells burst on trenches near Miller's Son Trench and Sunken Road from N34 a 1-9 to N34 b 10-9</p>	

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S 18 d	22/12/16	1. PM	<p>Contd.</p> <p>An enemy 4 Gun Battery 77 MM. was located about 013 c 5-9 = 42° 30" Right of N was again active also the 4 Gun 4.2 How. reported about 013 c 8-6 46-30" R of N</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ammunition Expended</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 20px;">A</td> <td style="padding: 0 20px;">AX</td> <td style="padding: 0 20px;">BX</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 20px;">21</td> <td style="padding: 0 20px;">27</td> <td style="padding: 0 20px;">130</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Casualties NIL</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 50px;"> <i>H. J. Taylor</i> Lieut. Colonel Commandg M Group A. F. P. </p>	A	AX	BX	21	27	130	
A	AX	BX								
21	27	130								

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5 18 d	23/12/16	6 AM	<p>GENERAL ROUTINE</p> <p>THERMOMETER 51°</p> <p>BAROMETER 28.6</p> <p>WIND HALF A GALE S-S-W</p> <p>The weather was clear with occasional sharp rain showers. Observing conditions fair.</p> <p>Our fire was directed on 5.05 lines and checking lines.</p> <p>Visited Battery Positions, and carried out Registration practice on Datum Point with 52nd Battery.</p> <p>Also fixed exact spot for anti-tank gun position in N.33.b.</p> <p>Ammunition Expended 15 A. 49. AX — BX. Casualties Nil.</p>	

[Handwritten Signature]

Lieut. Colonel.
C.O., "M" Group.

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S. 18. d.	24/12/16	6 AM	<p>General Routine :</p> <p>Thermometer 38.5. Barometer 29.35.</p> <p>9 AM Inspected all Batteries.</p> <p>Consulted with Infantry Brigadier with regard to Group matters.</p> <p>2 pm Carried out registration shoot with all Batteries on Datum Point from Group O.P. Shooting on the whole satisfactory, but it was evident that there was faulty fuze setting, or bad ammunition. Improvements in respect to the former will be insisted upon.</p> <p>Ammunition expended -</p> <p>15 A 49 AX Nil BX.</p> <p>Casualties - Nil</p>	
			<p><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>CO. 25. 4. 18. 16</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
S. 18. d	25/12/16	6 A.M.	<p>Christmas Day. General Routine as usual. Thermometer 48. Barometer 28.85.</p> <p>Light for observation was patchy - at times very bad.</p> <p>9 A.M. Visited Infantry Brigadier again in connection with Group matters. Further calibration and registration series fired by Batteries. Some of the shooting which was not good on previous day found to be due to sights being slightly out of adjustment. This has been rectified and all guns of 52nd Battery now shoot uniformly.</p> <p>11.30 AM 11.32 AM An artillery bombardment took place along the whole of the ANZAC Corps front as per "M" Group order No 6 attached.</p> <p>Heavy enemy shelling during early part of night particularly on our front line between Gusty, Support and Zenith Trenches. Also more than usual amount of shelling in the vicinity of our Artillery positions.</p> <p>Ammunition expended 408 A 635 AX 167 BX Casualties Nil.</p>	

Hot Day

Lieut. Colonel
Comdg. "M" Group

429

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S. 18. d	26/12/16	6 AM	<p>General Routine - Barometer 29.25 Thermometer 35°</p>	
		9.30 AM	<p>Battery positions inspected by Brig. General JOHNSTON, C.R.A. Front of Sector quiet. Visibility at times very good.</p>	
		2 pm.	<p>Further series of registration and calibration practice fired by 49th Battery. An unusual amount of aircraft activity on both sides observed during greater part of the day. The shelling of LESBOEUFs by enemy heavy H.E. Shells was more intense than usual. Infantry patrols report much enemy activity in vicinity of Finch Trench. An unusual number of enemy were moving about in trenches. New work was again observed in trench at N. 29 b 2.2. Ammunition expended - 243 A. 235 AX 112 BX. Casualties Nil.</p>	

[Signature]
 Lieut. Colonel
 Comdg. "M" Group

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WAR DIARY

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S. 18. d	28/12/16	6 A.M.	<p>General Routine.</p> <p>Barometer 29.65, Thermometer 31°.</p>	
		9 A.M.	<p>All Battery Commanders proceeded to front line trench (Gusty) and carried out "S.O.S" and Liaison series, correcting the minor faults which I had noticed on previous day, and they furnished me with a written report to this effect.</p>	
			<p>It is regretted that during this registration an officer of 49th Battery (Lieut. E.C.G. BROWNE) was killed by shell fire.</p>	
		2 pm.	<p>Inspected Batteries of "M" Group which had been heavily shelled by enemy during morning. Damage to material was nil, and to personnel one (i) telephonist of 49th Battery (851, Gm. H.G. LINGENBERG) was killed and No 929. Gm. A.H. RILEY also of 49th Battery was slightly wounded in arm.</p>	
		3 pm.	<p>Inspected artillery dump for engineer material and found a shortage of elephant cupolas to exist, but understand a further supply is expected shortly. Gun Pits will then be completed.</p>	
			<p>During the night "M" Group Headquarters was shelled with 5.9". No damage done to either personnel or material. Ammunition expended 181 A 100 AX 43 BX.</p>	

2353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D. D. & L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

Casualties: (1 officer & 1 other rank killed) (1 other rank wounded)

H. J. Day
Lieut. Colonel,
CO "M" Group

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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
S.18.d	29/1/16	6 a.m.	<p>General Routine: - Barometer 29.5 Thermometer 51.5</p> <p>Observation poor owing to rain. During night our Artillery actively shelled enemy front and support lines and roads and tracks in rear.</p> <p>9 a.m. TASK TABLE in connection with Artillery Group schemes for 30th and 31st inst issued to all batteries.</p> <p>2 p.m. Inspected all batteries, and supervised registrations from Group O.P. in connection with Schemes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ammunition expended 135 A 75 AX 10 BX.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Casualties Nil</p>	

H. P. Dayrol
 Lieut. Colonel,
 C.O. "M." Group.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 428

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
S. 18. d	30/12/16	6 a.m.	<p>General Routine - Barometer 29.4 Thermometer 47°</p> <p>'M' Group Artillery Schemes carried out, consisting of short bursts of fire at intervals throughout the day, on enemy trenches.</p> <p>A series of 'Aggressive Schemes' prepared on enemy trenches, roads, and tracks in accordance with latest information gained from aerial photographs and submitted to C.R.A. for approval.</p> <p>Group Headquarters shelled with 4.2" H.E. and shrapnel at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.</p> <p>No damage done to either personnel or material.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ammunition expended 239 A 147 AX 31 BX. Casualties Nil.</p>	

[Signature]
 Lieut. Colonel,
 C.O. "M" Group.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

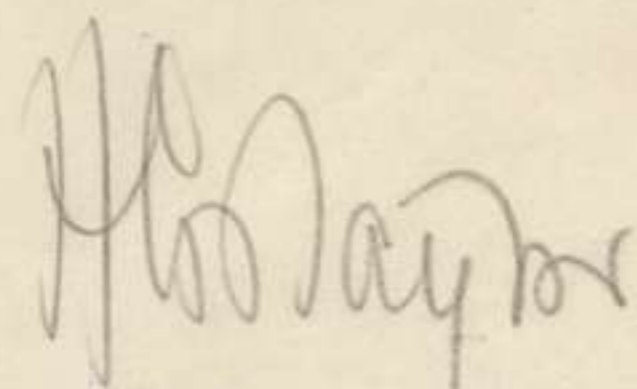
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
S. 18 d.	31/12/16	6 am.	<p>General Routine —</p> <p>Thermometer 51.5. Barometer 29.6</p> <p>9 am.</p> <p>Inspection of all Batteries of "M" Group by C.R.A.</p> <p>"M" Group Artillery Schemes, fired yesterday, were repeated today.</p> <p>Enemy Artillery was active during the night in shelling our front and support trenches.</p> <p>Work in connection with increasing intervals between gun fits in 49th, 50th and 52nd Batteries proceeding, but is much hampered by delay experienced in drawing the requisite material. Work of constructing dugouts is also hampered owing to same cause.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ammunition expended 306 A 632 AX 192 BX.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Casualties Nil</p>	

[Signature]
Lieut. Colonel.
C.O. "M" Group.

S E C R E T.

"M" GROUP ARTILLERY ORDER No. 6,Headquarters,
24th. December 1916.

1. An Artillery attack will take place to-morrow, the 25th. December 1916, along the whole of the ANZAC Corps front, in which all the available guns of the Heavy and Divisional Artilleries will take part.
2. The objectives for the "M" Group Artillery will be in accordance with attached Task Table.
3. The bombardment will begin at 11.30 a.m. and will finish at 11.32 a.m. (Group time)
46. Watches will be synchronised with "M" Group Headquarters at 11.10 a.m.
57. Acknowledge.



Lieut. Colonel,
C.O. "M" GROUP.

Issued at 6 a.m. 25/12/16 to :-

49th. Battery	Copy No.	1
50th. "		2
52nd. "		3
113th. "		4
Right Group Hdqtrs.		5
← FILE		6
WAR DIARY		7
Right Bde Infantry		8

APPENDIX

TASK TABLE.

BATTERY	TASK	AMMUNITION	RATE OF FIRE
52nd.	N 28 b 8.45 to N 28 b 85.2	50% A, 50% AX	Bty. fire 3 secs. for 2 minutes.
49th.	N 28 b 85.2 to N 29 c 05.95	do.	do.
50th.	N 29 c 05.95 to N 29 c 25.7	do.	do.
113th.	N 23 c 5.3 to N 29 a 85.9	B X	2 rds. per gun per min. for 2 minutes.

"M" GROUP MINOR OPERATION ORDER No. 2,

Headquarters,
27/12/16.

1. Firing to-night, 27th/28th. inst., will be carried out in accordance with the following TASKS and TIMETABLE:-

BATTERY	TIME	TASK	AMMUNITION	RATE OF FIRE.
52nd.	10.30 p.m.	N 23 a 2.8	25 T.S. 25 H.E.	Bty. fire 10 sec
49th.	11.15 p.m.	N 23 c 7.05	25 25	do.
50th.	12.15 a.m.	N 29 a 3.9 to N 29 a 6.7	25 25	do.
113th.	6 a.m.	N 23 a 05.5	25 BX	do.

2. Acknowledge by wire.

A. Noonan

Captain and Adjutant,
"M" GROUP.

Copies issued at 8.45 p.m. 27/12/16 to:-

Copy No.	1	G.O.C. 6th. Inf. Brigade
"	2	O.C. 52nd. Bty.
"	3	49th. "
"	4	50th. "
"	5	113th. "
"	6	WAR DIARY
"	7	FILE

"H" GROUP MINOR OPERATION ORDER No. 3.

Headquarters,
23/12/16.

1. Firing tonight 28th./29th. inst. will be carried out in accordance with the following TASK TABLE:-

BATTERY	TIME	TASK	AMMUNITION	RATE OF FIRE.	
50th.	8 p.m.	H 23 d 7.15 to H 24 c 1.00	25 T.S. 25 H.B.	843. Fire 10 sec.	
49th.	11.15 p.m.	H 23 d 05.7 to H 23 d 3.75	25	25	do.
52nd.	2 a.m.	H 23 d 7.15 to H 23 c 4.5 to H 23 c 8.8	25	25	do.

2. Acknowledge by wire.

[Signature]
Captain and Adjutant,
"H" GROUP.

Copies at 5.15 p.m. 28th. inst. to:-

- H.Q. 6th. Inf. Brigade Copy No. 1
- O.C. 49th. Battery 2
- O.C. 50th. Battery 3
- O.C. 52nd. Battery 4
- O.C. 113th. Coy. 5
- WAR DIARY 6
- FILE 7

APPENDIX

"M" GROUP ARTILLERY MINOR OPERATION ORDER No 4.

Headquarters,
29/12/16.

1. Firing to-night, 29th./30th. inst., will be carried out. In accordance with the following TASK TABLE :-

BATTERY	TIME	TASK	AMMUNITION		RATE OF FIRE
			T.S.	H.E.	
49th.	10 p.m.	From N 23 d 1.8 to N 23 b 5.2	25	25	Bty. Salvoes 30 seconds interval.
52nd.	2 a.m.	N 23 a 8.2 to N 23 d 1.8	25	25	do.
50th.	4.15 a.m.	N 23 d 7.5 to N 29 b 95.95	25	25	do.
113th.	6 a.m.	N 23 d 2.8 to N 23 c 95.5		25	do.

2. Acknowledge by wire.

[Signature]
Captain and Adjutant,
"M" GROUP.

Copies issued at 6.15 p.m. 29/12/16 to :-

H.Q., 6th. Inf. Bde.	Copy No. 1
O.C. 49th. Battery	2
O.C. 50th. "	3
O.C. 52nd. "	4
O.C. 113th. "	5
FILE	6
WAR DIARY	7

429

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SECRET,

APPENDIX

Copy No.....

"M" GROUP ORDER No. 7.

Headquarters,
29th. December 1916.

REFERENCE: GUEUDEGOURT to PHILLOY and BAPAUME, 1/10,000.

1. Minor operations to practice co-ordination and synchronization of fire in group sectors, as well as to destroy enemy's defences, will be carried out on the 30th. December 1916, by all batteries of the Right Divisional Artillery Group.
2. TASK TABLES are attached for each Group. Each scheme will be repeated at times as laid down in TASK TABLES.
3. If, at any of these periods of fire, the enemy retaliates on our trenches, the ^{3/4} Commander concerned will immediately notify this Office.

Tasks "A" or "B" will then be ordered from this Office.
4. Necessary registration should be carefully carried out to-day 29th. inst.
5. Watches will be synchronised at 6.5 a.m. on 30th. Decr. 1916.
6. Acknowledge by wire.

Captain and Adjutant,
"M" GROUP.

Copy issued at 9.30 a.m. 29/12/16 to :-

H.Q. 6th. Inf. Brigade	Copy No. 1
O.C. 49th. Battery	2
O.C. 50th. "	3
O.C. 52nd. "	4
O.C. 113th. "	5
FILE	6
WAR DIARY	7

Headquarters,
"E" GROUP,
29/12/16.

O's. C.,
All Batteries.

Reference "E" Group Order No. 7, para 4, the
C.R.A. is very anxious that the utmost endeavour is made to
secure as good a registration as possible of targets laid
down in the T&W TABLES attached.

Battery Commanders should personally register
these targets, as if possible, under the personal super-
vision of the Group Commander.

Kindly make the necessary arrangements.


Captain and Adjutant,
"E" GROUP.

429

SECRET.

"H" GROUP ARTILLERY ORDER.

Headquarters,
30/12/16.

1. "H" GROUP ARTILLERY ORDER No. 7 will be repeated tomorrow, the 31st. inst., and during the night 31st. Dec./1st. January.
2. Targets already allotted to Batteries will remain the same.
3. Times at which tasks are to be repeated are shown in TIME TABLE below.
4. Watches will be synchronised by "H" Group Headquarters at 6.30 a.m. on 31/12/16.
5. Acknowledge by wire.

[Signature]
 Captain and Adjutant,
 "H" GROUP.

TIME TABLE.

X	3.40 a.m., 10 a.m., 11.5 a.m., 5.0 p.m., 8.50 p.m., and 7 a.m.
Y	8.50 a.m., 10.10 a.m., 11.15 a.m., 5.10 p.m., 9.0 p.m. and 7.10 a.m.
Z	9 a.m., 10.20 a.m., 11.25 a.m., 5.20 p.m., 9.10 p.m., and 7.20 a.m.
A	7.10 p.m. to 7.12 p.m.

Copies issued at 4 p.m., 30th. inst. to :-

H.C., 6th. Inf. Brigade	Copy No. 1
O.C. 49th. Battery	2
O.C. 50th. "	3
O.C. 52nd. "	4
O.C. 113th. "	5
FILE	6
WAR DIARY	7

SECRET.

"M" GROUP ARTILLERY ORDER No. 3.

Headquarters,
30/12/16.

Reference :- GUEUDECOURT to THILLOY and BEAULENCOURT, 1/10,000.

1. There will be a similar demonstration carried out on the night of December 31st, 1916, to that held on Christmas Day (vide "M" Group Artillery Order No. 6 of 24/12/16).
2. Every available gun and howitzer in the Corps will be brought into action for two minutes, starting at 11.1 p.m. (one minute after German midnight).
3. The objectives for the "M" Group Artillery will be in accordance with TASK TABLE below.
4. All Groups will stand by at 12 midnight ready to repeat their tasks should the Germans attempt a similar demonstration.
5. Watches will be synchronised with "M" Group Headquarters at 10.15 p.m.
6. Acknowledge by wire.

J. A. Brown
 Captain and Adjutant,
 "M" GROUP.

T A S K T A B L E.

BATTERY	TIME	TASK	AMMUNITION	RATE OF FIRE
MOTOR and SUN TRENCHES				
52nd.	11.1p.m. to 11.3p.m.	N 23 c 3.5 to N 23 c 7.15	50% A 50% AX	B.Y.F. 3 secs.
49th.	do.	1 Section :- N 23 c 7.15 to) N 29 a 3.9)	do.	do.
51th.	do.	1 Section :- N 29 a 3.9 to) N 29 b 025.95)	do.	do.
50th.	do.	N 29 b 025.95 to N 29 b 4.7	do.	do.
113th.	do.	1 Section :- N 23 c 4.45 1 " N 23 c 575.25	B X	5 rds. per gun per minute.

Copies issued at 6.30 p.m. 30th. inst. to :-

H.Q. 6th. Inf. Brigade	Copy No. 1
O.C. 49th. Battery	2
O.C. 50th. "	3
O.C. 52nd. "	3
O.C. 113th. "	5
WAR DIARY	6
FILE	7