

1914-1918
1ST DIVISION

39

XXXIX BRIGADE R.F.A.

AUG 1914 - ~~DEC 1918~~

APR 1919

B. E. F. FRANCE & FLANDERS.

1 DIVISION. TROOPS.

39 BRIGADE ROYAL
FIELD ARTILLERY

1914 AUG TO 1919 APR.

~~1248~~

1249

1st Division

39th BDE, R.F.A.

From 4th August To 31st December 1914

WAR. DIARY.

39th Brigade RFA.

121
1078

1st Division.

Volumes I & II ^{4.8}
X-29.9.14

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
7 am 25 th Aug GRAND MESNIL	Marched with 1 st Division to GRAND FAYT where we arrived about 1 pm	
4.15 am 26 th Aug GRAND FAYT	Marched with 3 rd infantry brigade to cover retirement of 4 th GUARDS brigade from LANDRECIES. The country was unpracticable for Artillery but 1 section of 54 th Battery under Lieut Blewith was posted in the advanced infantry line 500' S of LANDRECIES. The section fired at transport columns north of the village moving W. Fire was opened on them by a German battery on the high ground north + though the fire was accurate + about 60 rounds fired only one man was slightly wounded in the arm. The infantry had about ten casualties from the same fire. The fact of the section being in the infantry firing line was probably the cause of these casualties.	
4 pm " "	The brigade retired to bivouac in DISY arriving there about 8 pm.	
9 am 27 th Aug DISY	Marched with 1 st Division to BERNOT arriving at 6.30 pm. 16 miles. The 46 th Battery acted with the Welsh Regt as flank guard but did not fire.	

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
6 p.m. 4/8/14 BORDON	Order received to mobilise by telephone	
7.30 pm "	" " from 1st Div Artillery stating 5 August 1st Day of mobilization	
9/8/14 "	Personnel completed with exception of 5 fitters.	
16/8/14 "	Brigade completed mobilization on 16/8/14. Delay caused by non receipt of horses. 5 fitters still required to complete entrained at BORDON station at 4.40 AM. for SOUTHAMPTON	
18/8/14 "	and sailed in SS. WINIFREDIAN at 6 p.m.	
19/8/14 SOUTHAMPTON	Arrived HAVRE at 9 AM and reached rest camp No. I.	
11.45 pm 20/8/14 HAVRE	on the Northern Heights of HAVRE at 3.30 p.m. Entrained at HAVRE station + arrived at BUSSIGNY at H ^A Q ^{rs} + 46 th Battery at 9 pm 21 st 51 st Battery ^{Section} Ammunition Column at 1 a.m. 22 nd ^{Section Amn Col}	
8 am 22/8/14 BUSIGNY	H ^A Q ^{rs} 46 th & 51 st Batteries ^{Section Amn Col} marched to SAINT AUBIN. where they rested till 6 pm - then marched to LE PAVE where they joined the 1 st Division + marched with it to VILLERS-SIRE-NICOLE where the 54 th Battery + remainder Amn ⁿ Column joined the brigade.	
3 am 23/8/14 VILLERS-SIRE NICOLE	Brigade ready to move off - marched at 9 am to ROUVEROY	
3 am 24/8/14 ROUVEROY	marched to GIVRY to assist 6 th Infantry Brigade - but retired at 5 am to BETTIGNIES. 54 th + 51 st batteries in action at ROUVEROY to cover retirement. 54 th Battery fired about 50 rounds at infantry - result not observed. Reported afterwards by our Cavalry to be effective	
3.40 pm " BETTIGNIES	marched with 1 st Division to NEUF MESNIL + billeted there from 8 pm.	

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Hour, Date, Place

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

5 am 28th August BERTAUT

Marched with 1st Division to BERTAUT arriving at 9 pm (25 miles)
The 46th + 57th Batteries took up a position E of BRISSY to cover the retirement of the Division - A French division came from the N.E. & it was difficult even with a telescope to make out the uniforms worn by these troops - An engagement took place between the 5th Cavalry Cavalry Brigade & some German Cavalry W of BRISSY on high ground about 5500' on the flank of the division but the batteries were unable to assist effectively owing to the difficulty of distinguishing between friend & foe -

29th August BERTAUT - A rest day in bivouac - the baggage was sent off in the evening & the brigade ordered to be ready to march off early the following morning -

5 am 30th August "

Marched with 3rd Infantry Brigade as ~~an~~ ^{Rear} Guard
BRANCOURT arriving about 4 pm.

5.30 am 31st " BRANCOURT

Marched with 1st Division & arrived in bivouac at
MISSY about 2 pm.

4.30 am 1st Sept MISSY

Marched with 1st Division to VIGNOLLES arriving
5 pm -

1.30 am 2nd " VIGNOLLES

March with 3rd Infantry Brigade as rear guard to
the Division arriving in bivouac 1 mile E of MEAUX
at 6 pm -

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
3am 3 rd Sept MEAUX	marched with 1 st Guards Bde to LA FERTE SOUS JOUARRE where 57 th Battery occupied a position but no enemy was seen - from there brigade marched to PERREUSE CHATEAU & bivouacked there at 7pm	
14.45am 4 th Sept PERREUSE CHATEAU	marched with 1 st Division to MOURROUX arriving 10.30am left at 6.15am for heights S of COULOMMIERS & bivouacked there	
5am 5 th Height S of COULOMMIERS	marched with 3 rd Bde (Inf) as rear guard to ROZOY bivouacking there at 3.30pm	
7.15am 6 th ROZOY	marched with Division to VAUDOY & bivouacked there at 8pm -	
5am 7 th VAUDOY	took up position W of VAUDOY to protect bivouac if attacked but no enemy appeared - then marched with Division to CHEVRY arriving at 6pm.	
6am 8 th CHEVRY	marched with 3 rd Infantry brigade towards SABLONMERE where the 1 st Guards Brigade were shelled by a German battery - As soon as the ridge North of that village	

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
5.30 am 9 th Sept FERME DE L'ILE	had been occupied by our Cavalry the 3 rd Brigade advanced through the village of HOUDINVILLIERS and came into action 1 mile North but no Enemy was visible Bivouacked that night at FERME DE L'ILE -	
8.40 am 10 th Sept LETHIOLET	Advance Guard with 3 rd Infantry Brigade - marched to THIOLET & though Enemy reported close at hand & our Cavalry were engaged no incident occurred & the brigade bivouacked at LE THIOLET at 5.30 pm	
	Left at 8.40 am - The 2 nd Infantry Brigade was shelled on arrival on a ridge just North of COURCHAMPS & the 46 th battery was brought into action there against Enemy visible on a northern ridge - only a few rounds were fired - The brigade was ordered to rejoin the 3 rd Infantry Brigade & on the way there was informed by a Cavalry officer that the Enemy's columns could be seen	

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2.30 pm MAWBRY	<p>returning out of CHOUY - The brigade, securing some Cameron Highlanders to secure its flank came into action near MAWBRY where the Enemy's Columns were plainly visible - About 520 rounds were fired at a range of 5800 to 6000 yards + many shells appeared effective - the enemy left the village of CHOUY very hurriedly but at 5 o'clock the last appeared to have left + the brigade joined the 3rd Infantry brigade in bivouac at SOMMELANS</p>	
5.3.0a 11 th Sept SOMMELANS	<p>Marched to VILLENEUVE & bivouached there arriving about 11 a.m.</p>	
5 a.m 12 th Sept VILLENEUVE	<p>Marched via FÈRE-en-TARDENOIS to BAZOCHES where we crossed the R. ^{VESLE} OURCK - Several German & French dead were seen on the slopes N of BAZOCHES as the result of an engagement</p>	

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Hour, Date, Place

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

13th Sept
9.30 AM VAUXCHÉRE

which had taken place about 7 a.m. that day -
The 46th + 54th Batteries came into action about 4 p.m. N
of the R. ~~VAUXCHÉRE~~ to cover the advance of the Welsh Regiment
but no enemy ^{VESLE} were seen - The Brigade went into bivouac
with the 3rd Infantry Brigade at VAUXCHÉRE.

The 39th Brigade came into a position of readiness N
of VAUXCHÉRE to cover the crossing of the R. AISNE -
Long columns of Germans were seen moving in an
easterly direction on the COURTECON road but out of
range -

The R. AISNE was crossed about 6 p.m. - the brigade being
practically in rear of the whole of the 1st Division - The
brigade billeted in BOURG.

7. AM 14th Sept BOURG

9. a.m.

Marched with 3rd Infantry Bde in rear of 1st Division - On
arrival at cross roads near M of MOULINS a halt was
made as the 2nd + 1st Infantry brigades had come under
a heavy fire - The 51st Battery were ordered to select a
position between VENDRESSE and PAISSY and the 54th
Battery one on the high ground N or N.W of VENDRESSE

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
11 am 14 th Sept Cross roads N of M ^{ou} MOULINS	<p>The O.C 39th B^{de} received a ^{verbal} message from the G.O.C 3rd Infantry Brigade who had been ordered to extend the line of the 1st + 2nd Infantry B^{des} to the left that batteries were urgently required on the end of the spur just S of MEFAVAN. The O.C took the 46th Battery + asked the 113th battery which was not in action to join him there. On arrival there the Germans were seen to be attacking along the ridge running N + S to the E of BEAULNE. These batteries then came into action + bringing a very effective fire to bear on the attack, compelled the enemy to retire leaving many dead behind them.</p>	
11.40 am " " "		
12.30 pm " $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S of village of CHIVY	<p>The enemy's infantry were then seen advancing in a southerly direction from the direction of COURTECON. They also were effectively shelled + retised. Every movement of the enemy to attack was met by a heavy fire + they were always compelled to retreat. Later in the day the 54th Battery came up + were ordered into action S of the village of BEAULNE to cover the CHIVY valley but no enemy appeared from that direction. The batteries (46th, 54th + 113th) bivouacked in their positions.</p>	

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>15th Sept. $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S of CHIVY 10 am</p>	<p>Batteries (46th 54th + 113th) in action in their positions of the previous day - An conv attack by German infantry on the spur W of BEAULNE was dealt with by the 46th Battery. At the first shrapnel the enemy retired + several shells were seen to burst among them as they retired - Several of the enemy's shells fell in the 113th battery + about 3 men were killed + 15 wounded. The 54th battery moved to a position about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile E of their previous one as several shells were falling close to them + they could do no useful work -</p>	
<p>16th 17th + 18th "</p>	<p>The batteries remained in their positions + shelled the enemy's troops when seen + searched for batteries that had been located by the map - The enemy fired a large number of high explosive shells all over this area + some fell close to the batteries - but very little damage was done + I do not think that the enemy could observe his fire on our batteries with the exception of the fire directed on the 54th Battery on the 19th -</p>	
<p>19th Sept "</p>	<p>A certain number of the enemy's shells (shrapnel and high explosive) fell near the 113th Battery + about 6 men were killed + 9 wounded. The 54th Battery</p>	

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Hour, Date, Place

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

19th Sept
(Cont) $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S of
CHIVY

Came under a heavy fire of Shrapnel from 10 am to dark - but as they were well entrenched & were from the battery was not required only two men were slightly wounded - The enemy again fired a great quantity of high Explosive shell & one shell fell about 5 pm in a farm where the 3rd Bde staff were located - killing 4 men & 4 horses - The 113th battery also lost several horses making their total loss in horses during the six days to about 25 -

20th Sept 1

The 113th battery moved to a position about 200 yds rear of its former position & the 54th Battery did the same - The 46th Battery came under a fairly heavy fire & lost 1 killed & 6 wounded but I do not think the enemy could observe the effect of their shell or their fire would have been more effective & continuous -

1 am 21st Sept "

An order was received to move the batteries to positions about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile South on the COURTONNE ridge as the Welsh & S.W. B regts were being withdrawn

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
21 st Sept 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S (Cont) of CHIVY	from their forward trenches to a line in rear. A section of the 54 th Battery was brought into action on the ridge N of the V in Vendresse - the remainder of the battery entrenched on the edge of the COURTONNE ridge to deal with ^{possible} advance of the enemy down the CHIVY valley. The 46 th + 113 th batteries were brought into action behind cover to deal with the enemy on the ridge W of BEAULNE + to cover the CHIVY valley. During the day the area allotted to batteries was searched for the enemy's batteries which had been located on the map. The batteries bronacked this evening on their guns.	
22 nd Sept COURTONNE ridge	The enemy had constructed fresh trenches during the night + these were shelled by the batteries from their positions of the previous day - also the ground N of COURTECON ridge was searched for the enemy's artillery.	

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
23 rd to 29 th September CROTONNE Ridge	<p>During this period the batteries remained in the same positions - Aeroplane reconnaissance was made use of to locate the enemy's batteries & to observe the fire of our batteries on them - The method is to order certain batteries to fire at gun targets at a certain rate at a definite time for aeroplane observation - The result has been on the whole satisfactory - On the nights of the 26/27-27/28 28/29 preparations were made for night firing by the guns in the event of the enemy attacking - The lines of fire were laid out by means of a lantern on the roads in rear of the enemy's position to bring fire, if possible to bear on any reserves that might be coming up - There have been several night attacks but not sufficiently heavy or not in the zone of the batteries except at 2.30 am on night of 28/29 when the 113th Battery opened fire on the northern slopes of the CHIVY valley as the attack appeared to come from that direction - There has been very little fire of enemy's artillery on this ridge making it appear probable that they have not located the batteries on this ridge - Some shells however have fallen on a farm in rear & caused</p>	

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>23rd to 29th September (Contd) CROTONNE RIDGE</p>	<p>Several casualties amongst the horses of the Brigade Staff which were near the farm during the day - on the 29th no shell fell on the ridge -</p>	<p>W. Parry at CURTH</p>

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18th Division

89th Brigade R.F.A.

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39th Brigade R.F.A



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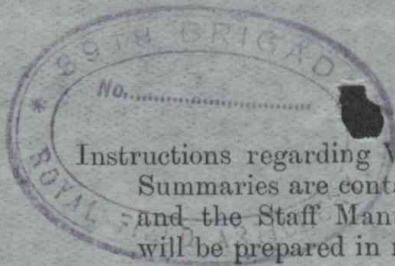
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>23rd to 29th September (Contd) CROTONNE ridge 29th September to 15th October CROTONNE ridge</p>	<p>Several casualties amongst the horses of the Brigade staff which were near the farm during the day. On the 29th one shell fell on the ridge -</p> <p>The brigade (46th, 54th & 113th batteries (attached) remained in practically the same positions during this period - Large scale maps were issued showing the positions of the German batteries & these were altered as the positions were observed to be changed by aeroplane observation - Fire was directed on the German batteries from these maps & wireless aeroplane observation was made use of on most clear days - The German batteries constantly changed positions, having many alternative entrenched emplacements - The position of the batteries of the brigade were presumably never located as fire was never regularly directed on them - Occasionally fire was directed on the ridge by the German guns for a limited period but there would be whole days without a shell falling on the ridge - Consequently there were very few casualties -</p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i> Lt Col R.H. 39th Bde R.F.A</p>

39th Brigade R.F.A.

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Hour, Date, Place

Summary of Events and Information

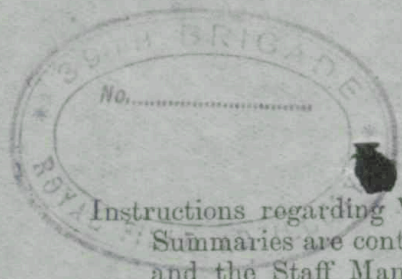
Remarks and references to Appendices

15th October
6 p. m.
CROTONNE rdic

Lines of fire were laid out at night on the German batteries and on the main lines of approach to the German trenches and fire was opened when attacks were made on our lines by night.

The 18th division was relieved by a French division on the position. The brigade began to move at dusk & at 8 p.m. the 46th & 54th batteries descended the hill to close to BOURG village. The 113th battery remained to cover the retirement & afterwards rejoined its own brigade (25th). The 51st battery rejoined the 39th Bde at BOURG & at 11 p.m. the brigade moved across the R. AISNE and marched via LONGUEVAL - VAUXCÉRE - BAZOCHES - LOUPEIGNE to SAPIGNY - (18 miles) - ^{Bde}

Owing to a block of the 2nd infantry transport on the steep & slippery hill by LONGUEVAL the 39th Bde was delayed for 3 hours but with the assistance of the gunners this transport was enabled to reach the Summit & the Brigade did not arrive at SAPIGNY till 10 a.m. - 16th October



39th Brigade R.F.A.

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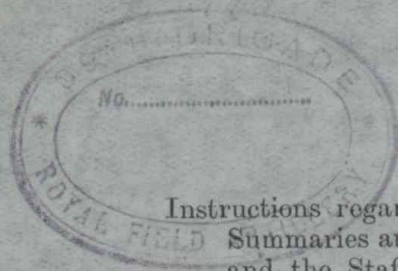
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
<p>16th October 1 pm SAPIGNY</p>	<p>The Bde Hd Q^rs + 46th battery marched to the station at FERE-EN-TARDENOIS + entrained there. The times of departure of the various trains were as follows.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1. 39th Bde Hd Q^rs + 46th Battery</td> <td>5.15 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. 57th</td> <td>8.15 "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. 54th</td> <td>11.15 "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Bde Amⁿ Column</td> <td>2.15 am</td> </tr> </table>	1. 39 th Bde Hd Q ^r s + 46 th Battery	5.15 pm	2. 57 th	8.15 "	3. 54 th	11.15 "	4. Bde Am ⁿ Column	2.15 am	
1. 39 th Bde Hd Q ^r s + 46 th Battery	5.15 pm									
2. 57 th	8.15 "									
3. 54 th	11.15 "									
4. Bde Am ⁿ Column	2.15 am									
<p>17th October 18th October</p>	<p>The first two trains were stopped at ST. OMER where detrainment took place on the night of the 17th-18th -</p> <p>The 46th + 57th batteries stayed the remainder of the night (17th-18th) in the barracks & marched on the 18th to HONDECHEM (12 1/2 miles) where they arrived in billets about 1. pm -</p>									
<p>19th October</p>	<p>The 54th battery + Bde Ammunition Column</p>									



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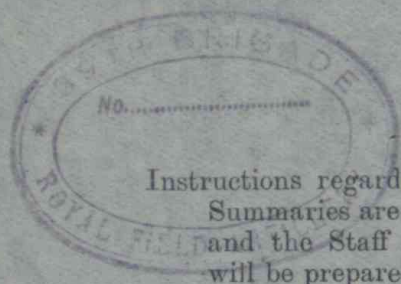
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
19 th October HONDEGHEM	having detrained at HAZEBROUCK late on the night 18-19 th on the latter date marched 4 miles to HONDEGHEM where they joined the remainder of the brigade in billets -	
20 th October 7.45 a.m. HONDEGHEM	The brigade marched with the 3 rd infantry brigade to about 1 mile beyond the town of POPERINCHE where the brigade billeted in the 3 rd infantry Bde Area - Time of arrival 4.30 p.m. distance about 15 miles.	
21 st October 3 AM	The 51 st battery with the 40 th (How ^r) Battery + 39 th Bde Hd Q ^r s marched with 3 battalions of the 3 rd infantry brigade as advanced guard toward the village of LANGEMARCK where the Germans were encountered, entrenched on the N.E. side of the village -	
10 am	The village 3 rd Bde started to attack + the 40 th + 51 st Batteries were brought into action to support it - the 40 th battery on the N side of the BOESINCHE-LANGEMARCK road about 1/2 mile from LANGEMARCK Sta - the 51 st Battery about 1/2 S of the same road - the country is very flat there are quantities of bees with the result that the batteries had to fire chiefly at	



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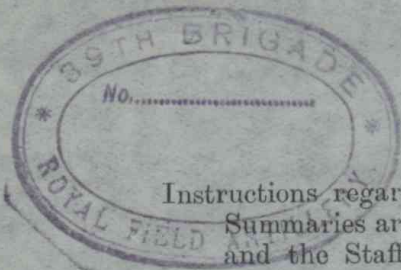
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>LANGEMARCK 21st October (cont) 12 noon</p>	<p>almost entirely from the map - The 54th Battery was brought into action about 400^x north of the 51st Battery + the 46th Battery was brought into action by order of the C.R.A. 1st Division at JNA about 2 miles N of PILKEM and during the afternoon did some useful work in repelling a German attack from the direction of MANGELAARE, firing down to a range of 1100 yards. The 51st, 54th + 46th Batteries sent out observing officers to a house on the Eastern edge of LANGEMARCK where a view of about 800 yards could be obtained + a successful fire was directed on the German infantry seen to be moving in that area. Night lines were laid out on the principal approaches to the German trenches.</p>	
<p>22nd October LANGEMARCK</p>	<p>The 46th Battery had been withdrawn from its position at dark on the evening of the 21st + for the morning of 22nd remained in reserve near road junction $\frac{1}{4}$ mile E of M of PILKEM, where the H^d Q^{rs} of the 3rd Infantry Bde + the 39th Bde were established - 40th - 51st + 54th batteries remained in their same positions with observing officers as before - Some of the enemy's batteries were located by aeroplane + some by flashes of previous night + fall of shell + picked up fuses +</p>	



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39th Brigade R.F.A

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18

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
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LANGEMARCK

3 pm

These batteries were severally searched for - fire being detected by means of the mks as for reasons stated above, there could be no direct observation -

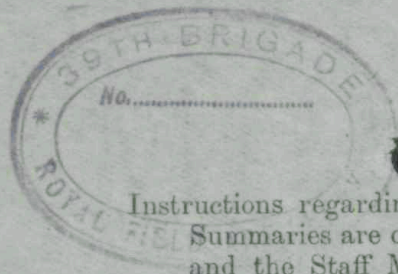
About this time the 46th Battery was brought into action in the edge of a wood about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile S E of Bde H^q Q^{rs} to fire on the enemy's batteries in the neighbourhood of KOLKHUIT and MANGELHIRE -

The 54th battery was considerably shelled by the enemy's field Howitzers which found their range but there were practically no casualties as the detachments were well entrenched - At dusk the battery was brought out of action & occupied a fresh position about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile E of Bde H^q Q^{rs} where a section of the 40th Battery had previously been brought into action - A section of the 54th was brought into action about 200 yds NE of the remainder

The batteries remained in their positions with observer officers as before & fire was detected during the day on the enemy's batteries & on areas known to be occupied by the German infantry & on infantry attacking our

23rd October

LANGEMARCK



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WAR DIARY

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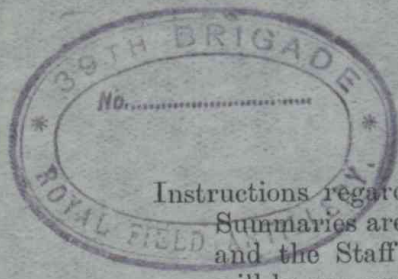
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39th Brigade R.F.A.

Army Form C. 2118

19

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
23 rd October (cont) LANBEMARCK	Trenches from the NORTH near LANBEMARCK station. Our infantry stated that the results of the fire of the 7 th Divisional Artillery on these targets met with considerable success.	
24 th October LANBEMARCK	Night lines were laid out as before but only a few rounds were fired by the 51 st Battery.	
6 pm	Batteries in position as on previous days. The Enemy was much quieter in our front & the guns of this section were used chiefly to fire on German guns which were bringing a heavy fire to bear on a French Division which was attacking on our right. French officers came to 39 th Bde Hd Qrs & kept the D.C. informed of the situation & stated where he wished fire to be brought to bear. In the evening the batteries were relieved by French guns, the 7 th Division being relieved by a French Territorial Division. The 40 th Battery rejoined their own brigade.	



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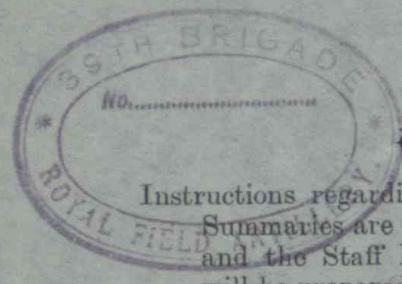
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39th Brigade R.F.A.

Army Form C. 2118.

20

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>24th October (cont) LANGEMARCK</p>	<p>and at 7 pm the 46th + 54th Batteries came out of action + shortly afterwards moved with the Bde A.C. under the orders of Major Peel -</p>	
<p>9 pm</p>	<p>The 57th Battery remained in position till a French battery was actually in action + then moved to Bde H^d Q^{rs} where it waited till the 3rd infantry brigade had been relieved in their trenches by the French + this division not completed till 4.45 when the 39th Bde H^d Q^{rs} with 57th Battery followed the 46th + 54th Batteries to the 3rd infantry brigade billeting area about 1 mile East of YPRES arriving there about 8 am -</p>	
<p>25th October 1 mile E of YPRES near ZILLEBEKE</p>	<p>The 1st Division remained in its billets during the day, acting as Corps Reserve</p>	



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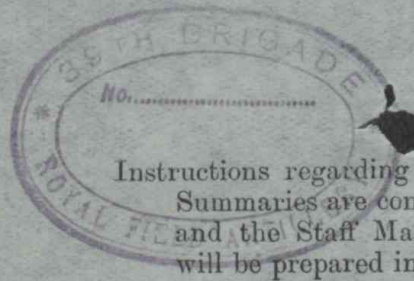
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39th Brigade R.F.A.

Army Form C. 2118

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
26 th October 7 a.m. 1 mile S.E. of YPRES near ZILBEKE	The 39 th Brigade marched with the 3 rd infantry brigade off the main YPRES MENIN road to attack the enemy in the direction of GHELIVELT. The brigade remained in reserve close to the village of HOOGE for the whole day but 1 section of the 54 th Bde was brought into action just after dusk about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S.W. of 5 K Stone & fired a few rounds on night lines.	
27 th October n ^r HOOGE	The 54 th & 46 th batteries came into action in the woods about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S.W. of 5 K Stone to support an attack on the enemy entrenched S.W. of the village of GHELIVELT where the infantry of the 3 rd Brigade were checked. The 51 st battery remained in reserve near HOOGE all day.	
28 th October 9 a.m. 7.30 a.m.	The 54 th Battery moved to a position just S of the K of VELDHOEK and fired during the day on the enemy's trenches & batteries between REUTEL and POESELHOEK. The 46 th Battery as before fired on enemy's trenches & batteries near KRUISEIK. The 57 th Battery came into action S of K of EKSTERNEST and fired at the village & batteries in BECELAERE.	
29 th October	The enemy attacked along the front of the 1 st & 3 rd Bdes & the batteries were used in repelling these attacks. 46 th & 54 th as before - two sections of the 51 st battery at 1 pm were brought into action N & S of the main YPRES MENIN road near VELDHOEK but were withdrawn at dusk to a position in reserve about 1 mile W of VELDHOEK.	
30 th October	The enemy again attacked on the same front - 46 th & 54 th Batteries as before. 4 guns 51 st moved into action in a small wood just S of P of POESELHOEK with a forward observing officer in the village of GHELIVELT. The fire of 51 st & 54 th batteries directed on enemy's infantry advancing while 46 th Battery fired in the direction of KRUISEIK.	
31 st October	All the batteries as before - The enemy attacked in force and the batteries fired on the attacking infantry. The fire of the 51 st battery was much assisted by the forward observation of Lieut G. D. Shaw at GHELIVELT - at one time he had to withdraw but returned again & remained there till he was wounded.	



39th Brigade R.F.A.
Army Form C. 2118.

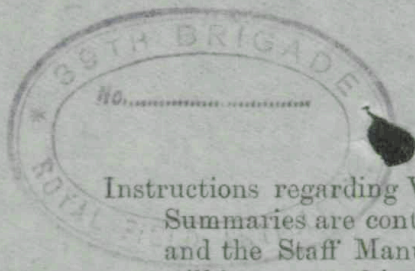
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
31 st October	<p>About 3 pm when our line was being pushed back Lieut R. Blewitt brought one gun of the 54th battery into action on the main road between VELDHOEK and GHELIVELT and knocked out with high explosive shell a gun which the Germans had brought up just W of the village of GHELIVELT - The other guns of the 54th Battery were able to fire on Germans advancing at a range of 900 yds - Major Peel of the 54th battery was wounded.</p>	
4 pm	<p>About 4 pm the 46th Battery was withdrawn & came into action near N.E. Corner of BELLEWAARDE-VYVER lake</p>	
	<p>At dusk the 51st & 54th batteries were withdrawn and came into action as follows -</p>	
	<p>51st battery near road junction just W of S.K. stone</p>	
	<p>54th " in Edge of wood about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile N.W. of V. of VELDHOEK</p>	
1 st November	<p>The batteries were now co-operating with the 1st Guards brigade & fire was brought to bear on areas in front of the line held by them - Lieut A.F.O.'Brien 51st Bty was killed whilst observing forward in the village of VELDHOEK - He had done most useful work & was a very great loss to his battery & brigade - In the evening about 4 pm Lieut Osmaston brought 1 gun of the 54th Battery into the open to shell some houses in VELDHOEK occupied by the enemy's snipers - This gun came under a heavy fire & all the detachment except the No 1 were wounded - The latter & Lieut Osmaston, wounded in the leg continued to serve the gun till dark.</p>	<p>Gallantry A.P. 1918 39th Bde</p>
2 nd November	<p>The 51st battery were accurately ranged on by a German battery & under a heavy fire all day but the detachments being well dug in, there were very few casualties - The 46th battery were also under a heavy fire most of the day</p> <p>46th battery ^{had} moved before dawn to a new position $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.E. of its previous one</p> <p>51st battery ^{had} moved before dawn to a position in a wood close to the 46th battery</p> <p>54th Battery as before</p>	



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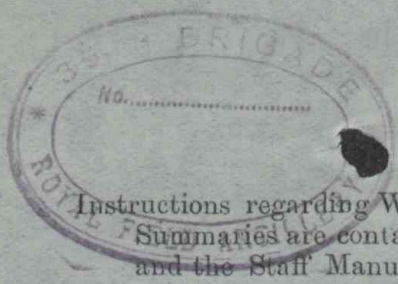
39th Brigade R.F.A.
Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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23

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 nd - 3 rd + 4 th November	<p>The 46th, 51st Batteries as before. Before dawn on the 3rd November the 54th battery moved to a position $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.W. of their previous one. During this period fire was directed on the ground in front of the trenches of the 1st + 3rd Brigades.</p>	
5 th + 6 th November	<p>Before dawn on the 5th the 51st battery moved to a position in the edge of a wood about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S.W. of 5 Km stone + fire was directed on the same zones as before - During the afternoon as the result of an attack by the enemy on the extreme right of our line on the French left the 46th battery moved across to the south of the YPRES-MENIN road to bring fire to bear in a southerly direction on KLEIN ZILLIEBEKE but returned to its former position the next morning - The 51st battery worked in cooperation with the 6th Cavalry Brigade which occupied the trenches vacated by 3rd infantry Bde. These trenches extended from VELDHOEK cross roads to a point about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S of it.</p>	
7 th November	<p>Batteries as before - but cooperation was arranged as follows: 54th Battery with 1st infantry Bde 51st " " 7th " " 46th " " 9th " " Brigade HQ Qrs as before with 1st infantry brigade. Fire arranged over fronts of different brigades but fire could also be</p>	

39th Brigade R.F.A.

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 7 th	<p>moved from the front of one brigade to that of another by orders of RA 1st Divⁿ.</p> <p>Forwarding observing officers were regularly employed in the trenches & their work was extremely useful. Unfortunately out of 9 subbattalions only 4 were present with their batteries - one having been killed, two wounded & two invalided.</p>	
November 8 th 9 th & 10 th	<p>The batteries remained in the same positions & still covered the same fronts - H^d Q^rs remaining with the 1st Infantry brigade - Fire was directed on the houses in VELDHOEK to eject enemy's snipers & machine guns -</p>	
November 11 th	<p>Headquarters and batteries as before - At 6 am the Germans opened a very heavy bombardment on the trenches of the 1st Infantry brigade, which lasted for more than 2 hours - The German infantry then advanced & entered the wood immediately N of main road and S of the V of VELDHOEK & a certain number also entered the wood northern portion of the wood in which was 1st Infantry brigade H^d Q^rs - Some snipers advanced to a farm W of the latter wood & killed all the horses of two ammunition wagons which were coming up to replenish ammunition for the 54th battery - The fire of 46th & 54th were brought to bear on the woods mentioned above and the German infantry were ejected from them - A night attack by the infantry to recover</p>	



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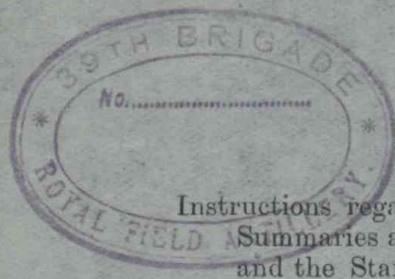
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39th Brigade R.F.A

Army Form C. 2118.

25

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 11 th (cont)	a portion of their trenches which had been lost was less successful. This attack was not supported by artillery fire as it was to be in the nature of a surprise.	
November 12 th	As our advanced trenches had been withdrawn some 300 yards, Bde Hdqrs moved at dawn to a position $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.W. of the road junction on main YPRES-MENIN road 1000 ⁴ yds W E of HOOGE. At the same time the 54 th Battery moved to a position about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile North of the 46 th Battery and near the second A of BELLEWAARDE. The fire of the brigade was to cover the fronts of the 2 nd Brigade now occupying the line vacated by 1 st Bde North of main road - of the 9 th + 7 th Bdes occupying the line South of the road - The fire was arranged as follows - 57 th Battery to cover front of 7 th Bde to which was added the next day the front of 15 th Bde which was between the 9 th + 7 th Bdes - the 46 th + 54 th with one section each on the front of the 9 th Bde and the two remaining sections on front of 2 nd Bde -	
Nov 13 th + 14 th	Hd Qrs + Batteries as before - The 46 th + 54 th Batteries had forward observing officers near the trenches of the 2 nd Bde whose forward observation was possible and brought fire to bear on the area in front of our trenches + also shelled the houses in VELDHOEK to prevent the enemy's snipers and	



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39th Brigade R.F.A.
Army Form C. 2118.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Nov 13 th & 14 th (Continued)	observing from coming too close to our trenches - I think that the reduction in intensity of the German artillery fire on the 2 nd Bde trenches during these two days may have been due to this fire of our artillery	
Nov 15 th	On the evening of the 14 th the Germans had captured an advanced trench & stable of the chateau $\frac{1}{4}$ mile N.W. of G of GHELUVELT and an order was received from 1 st Corps that it was to be recaptured the same night - A gun of the 54 th Battery under Lieut Cottrell was brought up about 5 a.m. to within 70 yards of the stable by hand under the fire of snipers from the stable and 4 rounds were rapidly fired at the stable, the first being seen to hit it - our infantry then advanced with cheers & captured the trench and stable - The gun was then withdrawn by hand under a heavy rifle fire but returned to the battery without any casualties - Batteries & H ^d Q ^{rs} as before - Fire of the batteries were directed on areas in which the Germans were believed to be massing but the enemy made no attacks on the front covered by the fire of 3 rd Bde.	
Nov 16 th & 17 th		
Nov 18 th	About 12 noon H ^d Q ^{rs} moved to a position about 600 yards N of the 2 nd O in HOOGE owing to the ground round their present having been heavily shelled	



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39th Brigade R.F.A.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Nov 18 th (Cont)	The 46 th Battery also came under a heavy shell fire + the O.C. Major G. Baillie was killed + Captain A. D. Addison wounded - The 46 th Battery moved at dusk + went to the neighbourhood of METEREN to refit	
Nov 19 th	No special incident	
Nov 20 th	At dusk the positions held by the British were taken over by the French - The guns of the 51 st + 54 th batteries were withdrawn at 6 pm (each battery leaving one section in action till dawn) + marched during the night to the neighbourhood of METEREN - During the day the wood in the edge of which the 51 st Battery were in action was shelled + the battery lost 12 killed + 15 wounded among the former being the major of the battery Major H. B. Smith Rewse	
Nov 21 st to Dec 22 nd	The brigade remained during this period near METEREN and refitting was carried - The personnel in officers' men + horses was brought up to strength + equipment + clothing were gradually made up - officers were granted 5 days leave + a limited number of N.C.O.'s received the same privilege	<p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i> <i>[Handwritten signature]</i> Gen 3rd Lt B. B. R. H.</p>

39th Brigade R.F.A.

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
December 23 rd near METEREN	The 15 th Division was taking over the ground occupied by the Lahore Division in the district of LA BASSEE. The Infantry of the division had moved there during the night of the 20 th & 21 st . The 39 th Bde marched at 9 am to BETHUNE where it billeted for the night.	
December 24 th BETHUNE	The brigade marched at 5 am & took up the positions occupied by the Hd Q ^r & batteries of the 18 th R. LA Brigade. Their positions were as follows - From right to left 46 th , 57 th & 54 th on the straight portion of road South of the E of LOISNE with brigade Hd Q ^r near the western end of that road - The batteries zones were from the cross roads 400 yards SW of the E of LA QUINQUE RUE to a point about 400 yards South of the 2 nd E of FESTUBERT - the ground was held by the 3 rd infantry brigade with which the 39 th Bde was in co operation.	
December 25 th to 31 st	These days were spent by the batteries in registering the new German trenches etc - observation officers (one from each battery) were in the village of FESTUBERT in co operation with battalion Commanders at their	



39th Brigade R.F.A.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dec 25 th to 31 st Cont	report centres - During these days there was practically no movement on the part of the enemy's infantry but there was a certain amount of sniping at night. At the request of the infantry commanders a certain few rounds were fired at night on the enemy's trenches to keep down the sniping fire -	<p> <i>[Handwritten signatures and initials]</i> Lt Col R.F.A. Coy 29th Bde R.A. </p>

1st Division

46th Battery R.F.A.

From 1st October To 28th November 1914

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46th Battery R.F.A.

187 Division

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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46th

P. T. A.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
October 1 st 1914 Courtonne Ridge	Two shell in wagon line in afternoon - One man killed 3 wounded. 1 horse killed - Nothing of interest.	
2 nd		
3 rd	Moved 4 guns onto crest to replace those of 24 th Bty. to deal with close attack - 1 section in action under cover near farm - 9 horses killed by shell in evening.	
4 th	Wagon body destroyed by shell - a few shell near observation station. 14 reinforcements arrived.	
5 th	Nothing of interest.	
6 th	Took the place of 22 nd Bty in evening to cover	
7 th	BEAULNE Ridge - Gun sent to TROYON Ridge to blow in barricade - result not known.	
	Nothing of interest.	
8 th	Nothing of interest.	
9 th	do	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
October 10 th	Attack on TROYON Ridge 9.15 pm.	
11 th	Nothing of interest	
12.	Opened fire at 4.30 am to avert advance of French on our Right - 7 remounts arrived -	
13.	Observation stations on front crest of hill shelled all morning by about 2 sections of enemy's Artillery - 4 men with watercart in wagon line wounded - 1 horse killed 3 wounded - 19 remounts arrived -	
14.	Attacks at night on TROYON ridge & BEAULME Ridge - fired on latter twice -	
15.	Position reconnoitred by French Artillery officers - Withdrew from position 6 pm. & marched all night by BOURG to STAPONAY. Wet foggy night, roads in very bad condition	

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Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
October 13 th	Hill from LONGUEVAL to VAUCERES blocked by infantry cookers. a wagon body stuck in ditch & had to be abandoned - Arrived at	
16.	S'ATONAY at 11 am. 16. 10. 14. after a most trying march - received observation wagon intrained at 2 pm.	
17.	Passed ETAPLES about 5 am. but owing to a block on the line due to an accident did not reach CALAIS till about 7.30 pm. Detrained at St. OMER about midnight & billeted in Artillery Barracks -	
18.	Marched to HONDEBHEM, arriving 1 pm.	
19.	Rested -	

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WAR DIARY
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1914 October 20.	Moved off at 4.30 am via ELVERDINGDE and BOESINGHE to LANGHEMARKE. - came into action about one mile South of BIXSHOOTE as left flank guard with one battalion Cameron Highlanders. Repulsed sharp German attack, which approached to within 1200 yards of the battery. A great many bullets came into the battery wounding one man slightly. bivouaced in adjacent farm.	
" 21 st	The battery was withdrawn at dawn to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile South of BOESINGHE - LANGHEMARCKE road. The Camerons were again attacked, but being without artillery support, were driven back - the battery did not come into action - bivouaced in same place.	
" 22 nd	Came into action about noon at edge of wood firing on zone KOCKUITA FARM - KORTEBECK.	
23 rd	nothing of interest relieved by French troops at 6 pm. Marched to billets North of ZILIEBEKE etang	
24 th	Rested	
25 th	Rested.	
26 th	Moved off at dawn towards GHELUVELT, halted in a field all day, and bivouaced for the night about 300 ⁺ EAST of Ovel Crossing.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1914 Oct 27 th	Came into action North of StOOGE ferrying in direction of ZANDVORDE.	
28 th	In Same position - nothing of interest.	
29	In same position - nothing of interest	
30.	Our infantry evacuated ZANDVORDE - B. Seryt Major Skinner wounded in the arm.	
31 st	Germans made a violent attack from ZANDVORDE and artillery was withdrawn from high ground South of YPRES-MENIN road. The battery retired under heavy fire without any casualties. At 4 pm came into action just South of H in HOOGE.	

nil

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46th Batty: R F A.

1st Division

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46th Battery
39 Bde 1st Air Army Form C. 2118.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st November	<p>The battery moved at dawn to a position N of NE corner of CHATEAU HOOGE. Fixed by map on zone ZANDVOORDE-GHELUVVULTE.</p> <p>A large howitzer shell burst directly behind No 3 gun killing G. Smille wounding Sgt Lynch, G. Hershey, Cox and Coomber. Bombed on position.</p>	
2nd	<p>Moved at 6 AM to a position in a hedgerow about 400' NE of previous position. A small howitzer shell destroyed No 5 gun wagon timber but with no casualties. Bombed in farm.</p>	
3rd	<p>Same position. Fired a few rounds by the map. In the evening Lt Paul went sick and was sent away by doctor for an operation.</p>	
4th	<p>Same position. B.S.M. Edwards probed to the battery. A spy disguised as a British Officer caught in the wagon line where he was making engines by Sgt Holt. Fired a few rounds.</p>	
5th	<p>Same position. Very little firing.</p>	
6th	<p>Same position. Nothing of note. At 6 PM we moved to a position $\frac{3}{4}$ mile W from covering HOLLEBEKE where the line had been temporarily broken.</p>	
7th	<p>Returned to same position as morning of 6th.</p>	
8th	<p>Same position. A forward observing officer sent to HERONTAGE CHATEAU in case of night attack.</p>	
9th	<p>Same position. Impossible to run out telephone to forward trenches in HERONTAGE CHATEAU.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
Nov 10 th	Very misty. Lt Landon posted to battery. Very little firing	
11 th	Lt Landon wounded whilst in HERONTAGE CHATEAU wood	
12 th	An observation station in fringe of wood N of YPRES MENIN road for observing fire on VELDHOEK.	
13 th	Nothing of note.	
14 th	B. Ser. Edwards wounded in head. Gt Walker wounded in arm.	
15 th	Nothing of note.	
16 th	Nothing of note.	
17 th	The French relieved infantry the battery was covering, N of HOOGE MENIN road.	
18 th	About 3 P.M. Major Baillie killed, Capt Addison and 5 men wounded by H.E. mortar shell. Received orders at 6 P.M. to move into billets at BAILLEUL. Moved via VLAMERTINGHE - YPRES - WESTOUTRE	
19 th	LOCRE - BAILLEUL to billets in a farm 1 mile S of METEREN. Arrived in billets about 11 AM on the 19 th . Sun in the afternoon	
20 th 21 st 22 nd 23 rd 24 th 25 th 26 th 27 th 28 th	Rest. 2Lt A.P. Hodges posted to battery. Major ^{posted} Horton takes command of battery. 2Lt E.C. Purchas posted to battery.	

1st Division

54th Battery R.F.A.

From 5th August, To 30th Nov 1914

121
512

WAR DIARY.

121
512

Sec 4 M.T. 2

54th Batty. RFA.

(1st Infantry Division)

Volume I 5-31, 8.14

WAR DIARY

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Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

54th Batt. A.F.A. 1st Inf Division

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bordon 5 th Aug 1914	Mobilized.	
" 18 th " "	Left Bordon.	
" 19 th " "	Arrived at rest camp Havres.	
France 21 st " "	Entrained & detrained.	
" 22 nd " "	at Hautmont & joined 2 nd Brigade 1 st Div ⁿ	
" 23 rd " "	Early morning moved out of Havres, Valleres-Fize-Nichole	
" 24 th " "	took up an entrenched position supporting 3 rd B ^{de}	
" 24 th " "	Retired with Division having covered retirement	
" 24 th " "	by firing on enemy's advancing infantry lines.	
" 24 th " "	& reached B Neu Mesnil	
" 24 th " "	withdrew to Le grand Fayt,	
" 25 th " "	in conjunction with 3 rd Inf. B ^{de} covered retirement	
" 26 th " "	of 1 st Div ⁿ & a Div ⁿ . Right section in action 1 wounded. - by Harper	
" 27 th " "	retired to Bernot	
" 28 th " "	" " Allied successes reported in	
" 29 th " "	a 1 st Divisional Report. Very encouraging. French	
" 30 th " "	army looks now ready for forward movement.	
" 30 th " "	retired to Braucourt	
" 31 st " "	" " Messy-aux-Bois	

1st Sept 1914

2nd August 1914

[Signature]
Major P. J. S.
Comd. 54th Battalion P. J. S.

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WAR DIARY $\frac{121}{1078}$

54th Battery RFA. XXXIX. RFA
1st Division.

Volume II . 1-30.9.14

54/RS 4

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.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1st Sept 1914	Marched through Villiers Cottret to Bournville	
2nd "	Started 2 AM marched to Meaux	
3rd "	Marched east to La Ferte Sous Jouarre were in ob-	
4th "	servation of the line of River Marne for 3 hours &	
5th "	battled at Perrenne Chateau. O.C took dispatch of	
6th "	troop boxes for an attack & roused the officers	
7th "	In conjunction with Queens' covered withdrawal of their	
8th "	outposts from River line across which a body of the enemy	
9th "	crossed in the mist but did not follow us up.	
10th "	Marched north to 2 sites S of Mouroux	
11th "	Marched at dawn & battled at Rozoy	
12th "	Advanced to Vandres, many empty bottles were seen on road	
13th "	" NE. to Choisy-en-Brie	
14th "	" through Sablonnières across Marne to Hondewilliers	
15th "	Crossed R. Marne at Nogent bivouacked at Thiolet	
16th "	Advanced to Couchant & pushed on & fired on columns	
17th "	retiring NE through Chony bivouacked at Sommelans	
18th "	Moved E to Ville neuve.	
19th "	" NE to Vaucere.	
20th "	Crossed Aisne & battled at Bourg, long delay for repairs	
21st "	& crossing of canal & river bridges.	
22nd "	Moved through Vendresse & came into contact with enemy	
23rd "	in strength entrenched on heights N of this place, supported	
24th "	our 1st Brigade also part of 3rd Bde who lost heavily from	
25th "	shell fire but established themselves on S of ridge. Fighting	
26th "	rounding air factory at Troyon very heavy all day, bivouacked	
27th "	behind Vendresse.	
28th "	Moved to a position to cover Chivy valley between 1st &	
29th "	2nd Divisions, were heavily shelled.	

G. W. Peal
Major R. S. St. B. Baker
Commanding 54th Bde

54/R5A

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
16 th Sept	Remained in action again under heavy fire B.S.M. Brannan unfortunately killed, a very great loss to the battery. He was an exceptionally good soldier & gallant man. Moved to a position E. better to command the Beaulne ridge. Fighting continued all down the line.	
17 th	" " " " " " " " " " " "	
18 th	" " " " " " " " " " " "	
19 th	Enemy's forward observer was able to direct a very heavy shrapnel fire on the battery, who were well entrenched & only suffered 4 casualties. In the night moved back a few hundred yards.	
20 th	Were not located & were able to keep a useful fire to bear.	
21 st	Retired with some of the rest of the Div ^l Artillery to the Courtonne Woody ridge, to a position of observation left section came into action on Verdresse ridge.	
22 nd	Remained in observation to guard Chivy valley.	
23 rd	" " " " " " " " " " " "	
24 th	" " " " " " " " " " " "	
25 th	" " " " " " " " " " " "	
26 th	" " " " " " " " " " " "	
27 th	Total casualties up to now 3 killed 11 wounded & 9 horses killed.	
28 th , 29 th & 30 th	Left section relieved by two & horses of right section. Osmaison reports heavy attack the night & morning before on S.W. Borders. They lost 203 killed & wounded but here we suffered very much more. They got into the quarry. No change but right section lost 12 horses from one shell on 29 th .	

W. Peal
Commanding 54th Battery R.F.A.
Major R.F.A.

121
1965

54th Battery R.F.A.

1st Division

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nothing for M.T. 2

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or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

54th Bty R.A.M.

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.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct 1 st Groton Hill	Remained in observation of West Slopes of CHIVY Valley.	
" 2 nd	1 Section remained in observation remainder of battery went into a position behind the wood, and engaged enemy's guns and trenches in a zone embracing TROYON and MAEVALE Farm & were relieved by French on the night of 15/16.	
" 3 rd		
to		
" 15 th		
" 16 th	Arrived at 9-30 AM at SAPONAY and entrained at 8-30 PM at FERE-en-TARDENOIS.	
" 17 th	In train via AMIENS, ETAPLES, BOULOGNE, CALAIS	
" 18 th	Detrained & billeted at HAZEBROUKE.	
" 19 th	Marched to HONDEGHEM	
" 20 th	" " POPERINGHE	
" 21 st	" " in advanced guard into 3 rd Div B ^{de} to LANGEMARCK	
" 22 nd to 23 rd	I came into action SE of this village, covering infantry advance. Remained in action & moved to first position south on 24 th .	
" 24 th	Withdrawn being relieved by French 17 th Div ^{on} to billets east of YPRES.	
" 25 th	Remained in billets	
" 26 th	March down YPRES-MENIN road; in observation near 5 th kilometre stone at dusk.	
" 27 th	In action firing at German Trenches -	
" 28 th	move to new position 900 ⁺ W of GHELUVELT. firing at German Trenches.	
" 29 th	Continue action in same position.	
" 30 th	Continue action in same position	
" 31 st	Continue action in same position. Shell GHELUVELT and woods just S of village at 900 ⁺ range. withdrawn at night to new position in woods 800 ⁺ N of VELDOEK	

L. Robson
Capt R.A.M. in Bty
Comd 52 R.A.M.

incl.

1st Division.

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all

54th Batty. RFA.

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

54th Bty R.F.A.

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.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 1 st	In action all day: Firing at German Trenches and at Battery near POLDERHOEK	
November 2 nd	Remain in action. Shelling same targets as yesterday. Left one gun under USMaston who was wounded detached to shell houses in VELDOEK 2 men killed 10 wounded. Move at night to new position 400 yards to N.E. Detach 1 section to S.W. corner of POLYBONE wood	
November 3 rd	In action; firing at German Batteries	
November 4 th	Remain in action. Detach right section to a position 500 yards in rear to shell the houses of VELDOEK.	
" 5 th	Remain in action; engaging same targets as previously. 2 men wounded.	
6 th	Remain in action; hearing fire to hear on ground in front of our trenches.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

54th Bty R.A.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 7 th	Concentrate battery in position occupied by right section. Engage German batteries and sweep ground in front of 3 rd Brigade trenches.	
November 8 th	Very heavy attack by Germans in front of 3 rd Brigade. The very rapid rate of fire to repulse it. 2 men killed & 2 wounded.	
November 9 th	Move battery to new position 500' due N. Shell Germans out of their trenches just E of VELDOEK and afterwards at shell houses of VELDOEK.	
November 10 th	Major F. G. West R.A. takes over command of battery.	
November 11 th	Heavy bombardment by Germans from day break to 10 AM followed by big attack of Prussian Guard. The attack was pressed home & the Germans got into NONNE BOSCH WOOD about 400' to front of battery. There was considerable firing from here & three	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 11 th	wayons bringin' of ammunition had their teams shot down. 15 th arty fired all day on trenches captured by Germans. One 14 th Co killed 5 men wounded.	
November 12 th	Changed position early this morning to position close to track leadin' W from WESTHOEK + about 700' from latter place. Covered the front of our trenches between CHATEAU WOOD and NONNE BOSCH WOOD	
November 13	remained in above position zone was extended	
November 14 th	to wood SW of VELDHOEK	
November 15 th	Same position + zone. Lt Cottrell took a gun up on night of 14/15 + put four shell into house in CHATEAU WOOD, which had been captured by Germans. This enabled our infantry to recapture house + trenches	
November 16 th	Same position + zone	
November 17 th	Same position + zone. 2 French guns came into action alongside battery preparatory to taking over our zone	
November 18 th	Same position + zone	

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WAR DIARY

or

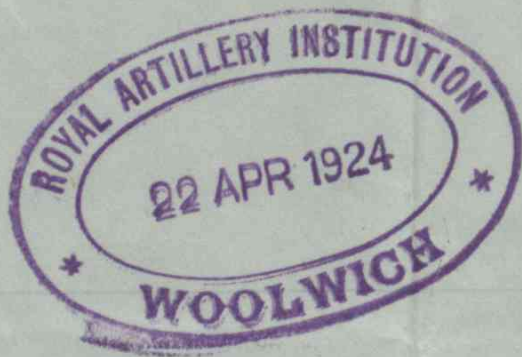
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 19 th	Same position + some 2 men wounded while repairing line.	
November 20 th	Remainder of french battery came up at daylight + took over position. Battery moved to position in small wood about half a mile due W of former position + close to YPRES-ROOLERS railway. Zone CHATEAU WOOD south of VELDHOEK.	
November	Brigade was ordered to withdraw to billets near METEREN on this night. Marched all night + arrived in billets about 12 noon 21 st .	
21 st - 30 th	In billets. Officers allowed 120 hours leave to England. Battery refitting. Strength of battery on leaving YPRES Officers 4 NCOs + men 154 Horses 121	



April 20th

54 RFA
XXXIX RFA

54 Battery RFA.

Fruham Barracks

Newcastle-on-Tyne.

15th DIV

Oct.

1914

Dear Sir

With reference to Secretary's notes in the R.A. Regt. News for April 1924.

The 54th Battery RFA mobilized with 15th Division (39th Bde RFA) and was engaged in the fighting round Ypres at the end of October with that Division.

The following incidents recorded in the War Diary may have reference to the query raised in your notes.

October 31st Lieut. R. Blewitt brought 1 gun into action on the main road between VELDHOEK and GHELUVELT about 3pm and knocked out with H.E. a hostile gun which had been brought up just W. of GHELUVELT. (No. 1. Sgt. T.W. Hovess)

The remainder of the battery was in action at a range of 900^x on hostile infantry advancing.

The battery Commander Major E.J.R. Peel was wounded and was relieved by Major F.G. West.

At dusk the battery went into action on the edge of a wood $\frac{3}{4}$ N.W. of VELDHOEK.

November 1st About 4.0pm Lieut. U.E. Osmaston brought one gun into action in the open to shell some houses in VELDHOEK occupied by enemy snipers. This gun came under a heavy fire and all the

detachment except the N^o.1 were wounded ~~and~~.

Lieut. Osmaaston and the N^o.1 continued to serve the gun until dark.
(I think the name of this N^o.1 could be obtained. The present
Sergeant Major of this battery was at that time a ~~junior N.C.O. in~~
Sergeant in the battery)

Nov. 12th At dawn a fresh position was occupied near BELLEWARDE

-do- 15th About 3.0 am one gun was brought up to within 20 yds.
of some buildings occupied by the enemy. Four rounds were
fired rapidly while the team waited in rear of the gun.

The buildings were then rushed by our infantry.

Lieut. A.F. ^{B.}Cottrell was in charge with Sergeant H.C. Keating (now
B.S.M. 54th Bli.) N^o.1

It seems possible that one of these incidents may furnish the
information you require.

If desired I shall be delighted to find out any further details
that he may remember from B.S.M. Keating.

Yours faithfully

R.H. Johnson Major & D. Lieut. CA RFA

Cmdy 54 Bli. RFA

The Secretary R.A.I.

R. H. JOHNSON

1st Division

39th BDE, R.F.A. AMMN. COL.

From 4th August To 30th Nov. 1914.

39 Brigade R.F.A. $\frac{121}{357}$
ammunition column

1st Division

4 - ³¹~~20~~ . 8 . 14

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

39th Brigade R.F.A.
Ammunition Column.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
6.0 p.m. 4/8/14 Bordon	Order to mobilize received	
7.0 p.m. 4/8/14 ..	Information received from 1 st D.A. saying 5/8/14 to be 1 st Day of Mobilization.	
3.0. p.m. 5/8/14 (1 st Day)	Lieut G. Landon arrived and starting taking over stores. 36 men from Sheffield arrived and were posted to Amm ⁿ Column.	
6. 8. 14 (2 nd Day)	Harness and stores issued and sorted. Captain A. K. G. White arrived 4. p.m. and took over command.	
7. 8. 14. (3 rd Day)	All the Harness was marked and arranged by sub-sections	
8. 8. 14 (4 th Day)	72 men Regular Reservists arrived in the morning and were posted to Column.	
9. 8. 14. (5 th Day)	201 Horses were taken over by 8 p.m. Teaming of 100 horses. Finished Teaming horses. Horses with harness on, exercised.	
10. 8. 14 (6 th Day)	Establishment of Drivers and gunners completed.	
11. 8. 14 (7 th Day)	Drill order. All teams and wagons on parade. Horses numbered. Gun Drill for Reservist Gunners.	
	Field Service marching order parade. Route march about 8 miles. Teams much steadier. Gun Drill as on 10 th .	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
12. 8. 14 (8 th Day)	Field Service marching order parade. Gun Drill.	
13. 8. 14 (9 th Day)	Field Service marching order. Drill over rough ground. Gun Drill.	
14. 8. 14 (10 th Day)	Marching order - Route march Testing teams up & down steep hills.	
15. 8. 14 (11 th Day)	Exercising order. Pay Books A B 64 issued to men. Identity Discs issued. Loin kitchen letter handed to men.	
16. 8. 14 (12 th Day)	40 Horses given to Bothers - Selected 40 more - & teamed again.	
17. 8. 14 (13 th Day)	All Horses in draft at 6 AM. All wagons packed - Harness put together. Surplus Details handed over - 14 horses lame exchanged.	
18. 8. 14 (14 th Day)	The Column embarked at Bordon station early morning. Arrived Southampton noon. All on board by 2 pm. Boat left at 6.30. King Message read to men. Transport "Winifredian" conveyed troops across. Voyage	
19. 8. 14 (15 th Day)	very smooth. Arrived Havre & starting disembarking at 9.00. Rest Camp 4 miles out of town reached about 4.30 pm. No casualties on voyage.	
20. 8. 14 (16 th Day)	Remained in Rest Camp all day. Changed one horse.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
21. 8. 14 (17 th Day)	Entrained at HAYRE and moved off up Country at 3.30 pm. Water and Coffee for men arranged by French H.Q. at ROUEN. Good arrangements no delay. One man left behind on journey absent.	
22. 8. 14 (18 th Day)	Travelled via AMIENS - BUSIGNY to HAUTMONT. Arrived 9 AM and detrained - remained in HAUTMONT till 3 pm. Ordered to bivouac at FONTAIN. Settled in bivouac 5.30 pm. Ordered to do night march and moved about 6.30 pm. Marched via MAUBEUGE to VILLERS - SIRE - NICOLE. Arrived about 2 AM on 23 rd .	
23. 8. 14 (19 th Day)	Harnessed up ready to move at 4 AM. Remained in position at VILLERS - SIRE - NICOLE till about 11 AM. Moved forward to ROUVEROY until about 6.30 pm. Supplied Infantry with all S.A.A in Column. Bivouaced at X roads at NOIRE BOUTEILLE.	
24. 8. 14 (20 th Day)	Ready to move at 2.30 AM. moved to position near GIVRY then retired back via NOIRE BOUTEILLE to BETTIGNIES where infantry were supplied with 3 S.A.A carts amm ⁿ . Retired via LE BAS VENTS to NEUF - MESNIL where the Column bivouacked. Serjt French was trampled on & broke his leg.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. The pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
25 th 8. 14. (21 st Day)	Moved off from NEUF MESMIL at 6 A.M. Twenty minutes warning.	
26 th 8. 14 (22 nd Day)	Mew and Horses not fed. Retired back to bivouac at le G ^d FAYT. 2 horses lost lost - 2 mew absent - 1 sergeant sick - Surprise ^{Canaly} attack about 6 p.m. Harnessed up ready.	
27 th 8. 14 (23 rd Day)	Harnessed up 2 A.M. moved off at 4.15 and fought a rear-guard action moving through WATERLIN, via ZOBEAU, CAMBRESIS, to OISEY, when the column bivouaced. German infantry were at WASSIGNY about two miles to S.W. These small parties of enemy near places where column is to encamp was a daily occurrence. The Column opened fire at an aeroplane. The 1 st Division were grouped together and marched from OISEY through GUISE to BERNOT. fighting a rear guard action. This march seemed very well conducted. The Column was hard pressed	
28 th 8. 14. (24 th Day)	A twenty-two mile march from BERNOT to BERTAUCOURT fighting a rear-guard action all the way. This completes the period of delay necessary for French Troops to get into position.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
29 th 8 14 (25 th Day)	<p>The following report was issued from H.Q. 1st Army Corps.</p> <p>A telegramme has been sent to England by France stating that by the action of the British Army during the last few days, France has been saved and that France has incurred a debt of gratitude to the British Nation that she can never repay.</p> <p>A days rest given to troops at BERTAUCOURT.</p>	
30 th 8 14 (26 th Day)	<p>Left BERTAUCOURT at 3.15 AM. marching in rear guard formation via S^t GOBAIN. SEPTVAUX - to BRANCOURT where we bivouaced.</p>	
31 st 8 14 (27 th Day)	<p>Left BRANCOURT about 5 AM. marching in rear guard formation through SOISSONS to bivouac at MISSEY-AUX-BOIS. A ^{GERMAN} GER Cavalry Division is reported to be in the vicinity on our right front.</p>	

~~BRANCOURT~~ MISSEY-AUX-BOIS.

(9 29 6) W 3332-1107 100,000 10/13 H W V Forms/C. 2118/10.

31. 8. 14

W. White
Captain R.A.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

39th Brigade

R.F.A

ammunition column

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.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
6 pm 4.8.14 Bordon	Order to mobilize received Information received from 1 st D. A. saying 5.8.14 to be	
7 pm - - - - -	1 st day of Mobilization	
3 pm 5.8.14 (1 st day)	Lieut. G. Landon arrived and starting taking over stores.	
6.8.14 (2 nd day)	36 men from Sheffield arrived and were posted to Amtn. Column Harness & stores issued and sorted. Capt. A. K. G. White arrived 4 pm and took over command	
4.8.14 (3 rd day)	all the harness was marked and arranged by subsection	
8.8.14 (4 th day)	42 men Regular Reservists arrived in the morning and were posted to Column	
9.8.14 (5 th day)	201 horses were taken over by 8 pm. Teaming of 100 horses	
10.8.14 (6 th day)	finished teaming horses. Horses with harness exercised Establishment of Drivers and Gunners completed. Drill order. all teams and wagons on parade. Horses	
11.8.14 (7 th day)	numbered. Gun drill for Reservist Gunners. Field service marching order parade. Route march about 8 miles. Teams much steadier Gun drill as on 10 th .	

WAR DIARY

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
12.8.14 (8 th day)	Field Service marching Order parade. Gun drill	
13.8.14 (9 th day)	Field service marching Order. Drill over rough ground Gun drill	
14.8.14 (10 th day)	Marching Order. Route march. Testing teams up & down steep hills.	
15.8.14 (11 th day)	Exercising Order. Pay books & B 64 issued to men. Indenture discs issued. Lord Kitchener's letter handed to men.	
16.8.14 (12 th day)	40 horses given to Batteries all wagons packed. Harness put together. Surplus details handed over. 14 horses lame exchanged.	
17.8.14 (13 th day)	The Column entrained at Bordon Station early morning arrived Southampton noon. All on board by 2pm. Boat left at 6.30pm.	
19.8.14 (15 th day)	Kings message read to men. Transport "Winifredian" conveyed troops across. Voyage very smooth. arrived Harwey & started disembarking at 9.00. Rest Camp 4 miles out of Crown reached about 4.30pm. No casualties on voyage.	
20.8.14 (16 th Day)	Remained in Rest Camp all day. Changed one horse	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
21. 8. 14 (17 th Day)	Entrained at HAYRE and moved off up Country at 3.30 pm. Water and coffee for men arranged by French HQ at ROUEN. Good arrangements - no delay. One man left behind on journey about.	
22. 8. 14 (18 th Day)	Travelled via AMIENS - BUSIGNY to HAUTMONT. Arrived 9 AM and detrained. Remained in HAUTMONT till 3 pm. Ordered to bivouac at FONTAIN. Settled in bivouac 5.30 pm. Ordered to do night march and moved about 6.30 pm. Marched via MAUBEUGE to VILLERS-SIRE-NICOLE. Arrived about 2 AM on 23 rd .	
23. 8. 14 (19 th Day)	Harnessed up ready to move at 4 AM. Remained in position at VILLERS-SIRE-NICOLE till about 11 AM. Moved forward to ROUYEROY until about 6.30 pm. Supplied Infantry with all SAA in Column. Bivouaced at X roads at NOIRE BOUVILLE.	
24. 8. 14 (20 th Day)	Ready to move at 2.30 AM. Moved to position near GIVRY then retired back via NOIRE BOUTEILLE to BETTIGMIES where infantry were supplied with 3 SAA carts each. Retired via LE BAS VENTS to NEUF-MESNIL where the Column bivouacked. Supt. French was trampled on & broke his leg.	

WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
25 th 8. 14. (21 st Day)	Moved off from NEUF MESMIL at 6 AM. Twenty minutes warning. Men and horses not fed. Retired back to bivouacs at le G ^d FAYT.	
26 th 8. 14. (22 nd Day)	2 horses lost lost - 2 men absent - 1 sergeant sick - Surprise ^{Cambresis} attack about 6 pm. Harnessed up ready.	
27 th 8. 14. (23 rd Day)	Harnessed up 2 AM. moved off at 4:15 and fought a rear guard action moving through WATERLIN via ZOBEAU CAMBRESIS to OISEY where the column bivouaced. German infantry were at WASSIGNY about two miles to SW. These small parties of enemy near places where column is to encamp was a daily occurrence. The Column opened fire at an aeroplane. The 1 st Division were grouped together and marched from OISEY through GUISE to BERNOT fighting a rear guard action. This march seemed very well conducted. The Column was hard pressed.	
28 th 8. 14. (24 th Day)	A hard two mile march from BERNOT to BERTAUCOURT fighting a rear guard action all the way. This completes the period of delay necessary for French Troops to get into position.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
29 th 8 14 (25 th Day)	<p>The following report was issued from H.Q. 1st Army Corps. A telegram has been sent to England by France stating that by the action of the British Army during the last few days, France has been saved and that France has incurred a debt of gratitude to the British Nation that she can never repay. A day rest given to troops at BERTAUCOURT.</p>	
30 th 8 14 (26 th Day)	<p>Left BERTAUCOURT at 3.15 AM marching in rear guard formation via ST. GOBAIN. SEPTVAUX to BRANCOURT where we bivouaced.</p>	
31 st 8 14 (27 th Day)	<p>Left BRANCOURT about 5 AM marching in rear guard formation through SOISSONS to bivouac at MISSEY-AUX-BOIS. A ^{GERMAN} cavalry Division is reported to be in the vicinity on our right front.</p>	

~~BRIT~~ MISSEY-AUX-BOIS

W. H. White
Captain R.A.C.

WAR DIARY.

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39th Brigade RFA. Am^u Column.

— 1st Division

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.39th Brigade Ammunition Column R. F. A.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1 st September (28 th Day)	Marched from MISSY-AUX-BOIS through VILLERS-COTTERETS - LAFERTE - MILON to BOURNEVILLE. Very hot long march - pressed by enemy at VILLERS - COTTERETS.	
2 nd September (29 th Day)	Left BOURNEVILLE about 9 pm on 1 st and marched all night in Kar of Train via NEUFHELLES - VARREDES to MEAUX. The Troops got a great reception on entering MEAUX. The Column stayed here 24 hours.	
3 rd September (30 th Day)	Left MEAUX about 6.30 AM and moved via BOUTIGNY - SANCY - la HAUTE-MAISON - PIERRE-LEVEE to MONTEBISE CHATEAU - The 39 th Brigade were in action to the North on the Hills S of SAMMENON. The Column joined up with the Brigade again at this point and bivouaced at PERREUSE CHATEAU.	
4 th September (31 st Day)	Moved from PERREUSE CHATEAU via FRINGALE - COULOMMIERS to MOROUX where we stayed the Day. Moved about 6 pm and took up position of Redoubts on the hills S of COULOMMIERS. At Vigorous firing taking place as we moved out of MOROUX. A German aeroplane hovering over camp fired at.	
5 th September (32 nd Day)	Position of Redoubts occupies till Dawn. Batteries 46 th , 67 th + 54 th came into action but did not fire. Column moved back to near S ^t AUGUSTIN. March continued SW. via PEZARCHES - ORMEAUX to ROZOY, where Column bivouaced.	The Column are now about 14 hours short of establishment. Several were fired to 51 st Battery. Horses rather weary.

WAR DIARY

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39th Brigade Ammunition Column

Hour, Date, Place

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

6th September (33rd Day)

Left ROZOY at 6 AM and moved to COURPALAY, remained in position of readiness till about 4 pm. when we moved via la Chapelle-Iger-le Jarriel to VAUDOY which was reached after dark.

This was the 1st day since we arrived in the Country that we advanced. We have retired back from GIVRY covering a distance of 202 miles in 14 days.

At VAUDOY owing to the length of the Brigade Amm: Column - 1st Division Artillery ordered all Brigade Amm: Cols to be divided up into two Echelons. The 1st Echelon to go with the Brigade - consisting of 9 Ammunition Wagons, 7 S.A.A carts, Technical Stores Wagon and Baggage Wagon - The 2nd Echelon consisting of the remainder. This splitting up of the B^{de} Amm Cols makes the 1st Echelon much more mobile.

Moved out of bivouac at VAUDOY about 5 AM and remained about one mile S of town in readiness. At 12.30 pm. via AMILLIS - CHEVRU to CHOISY where we stayed night.

7th September (34th Day)

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39th Brigade R.F.A. Ammunition Column

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
8 th September (35 th Day)	Left CHOISY at daybreak and marched via JOUY-SUR-MORIN SABLONNIERES - HONDEVILLIERS to "Farm de l'Ile" about a mile S of BASSEVELLE. As we passed SABLONNIERES it was evident that the enemy were retreating very rapidly - Horses and wagons being left about. The 5 th D. G's had two officers killed.	
9 th September (36 th Day)	We continued our ^{advance} N via BASSEVELLE - BOIS DE LA H ^{te} BORNE - crossing the River MARIVE at NOGENT L'ARTAUD - SAULCHERY - to bivouac at le THIOLET which was reached about 6.30 p.m.	
10 th September (37 th Day)	We left le THIOLET at 7 A.M. and marched via TORCY to COURCHAMPS where the enemy were encountered. The Essex Regiment lost a few men. Gen' Findlay commanding 1 st Division Artillery was killed here. Gen' Horne took over his command about 1 p.m. We advanced to near PRIEZ. The 39 th Brigade came into action near SOMMELANS, where we bivouaced the night.	

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39th Brigade Ammⁿ Column

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
11 th September (38 th Day)	Left SOMMELANS about 6 A.M. and advanced in an Easterly direction through GRISOLLES - ROCOURT - COINCY - to VILLENEUVE which was reached about 12 p.m. when we bivouaced. We had our first rain since the War started.	
12 th September (39 th Day)	Left VILLENEUVE and marched via FERE - TARDENOIS - LOUPEIGNE - MONT-NOTRE-DAME to VAUXCERE - Raining hard.	
13 th September (40 th Day)	Left VAUXCERE at 6 AM. - Had two very long waits while we made good the Bridges across the River AISNE - Got across about 6 pm. German guns were shelling the ground S of River all day. Bivouaced at BOURG which was reached about 8 pm.	
14 th September (41 st Day)	Advanced from BOURG and had a very sharp fight to gain the Village of VENDRESSE and afterwards high ground to the North. The Amm ⁿ Column was ordered up to VENDRESSE about 11 AM. when they remained till dark. They came in for a good deal of shelling all day. The Column supplied ammunition to 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd Infantry Brigades. 1273 rounds of 18 ^{lb} Amm ⁿ was and 93,000 rounds of S.A.A were supplied by the 39 th Brigade Amm ⁿ Column today. The Column bivouaced just to the E of VENDRESSE.	

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Army Form C. 2118.

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39th Brigade R.F.A. Ammunition Column.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
15 th September (42 nd Day)	<p>Moved out of bivouac near VENDRESSE to X roads 500^x S of Village, and afterwards moved back to a position about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S of N in MOULINS, owing to being heavily shelled by the German Siege Guns. We remained in this central position all day.</p>	
16 th September (43 rd Day)	<p>The Batteries of the 39th Brigade R.F.A. occupied positions - 51st Battery on the slopes just to E of MOULINS with one section forward N of VENDRESSE - 46th and 54th Batteries to the West of VENDRESSE South of CHIVY. Corporal Wilson orderly to 54th Battery was wounded slightly. Supplied 380 rounds of 18^{pr} Ammⁿ and 64,000 rounds of S.A.A. The Germans made three desperate Counter attacks, but they were all repulsed. Remained in the same position as yesterday just South of MOULINS. The Batteries remained in their same positions. The Column supplied 1046 rounds of 18^{pr} Ammⁿ today.</p>	
17 th September (44 th Day)	<p>The fourth Day of the Battle since we crossed the River AISNE. Position of Column + Batteries the same as yesterday. Supplied 836 rounds of 18^{pr} Ammⁿ + 16,000 rounds of S.A.A.</p>	
18 th September (45 th Day)	<p>Position of Column + Batteries the same, ammunition supplied 18^{pr} 708 rounds, S.A.A 29,000 rounds, 1 wheel, 1 wagon body 6 horses, 3 Drivers, 1 limber -</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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39th Brigade RFA Ammunition Column

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
15 th September (42 nd Day)	<p>Moved out of houses near VENDRESSE to X road 500^m S of Village, road afterwards moved back to a position about 1/2 mile S of N in MOULINS, owing to being heavily shelled by the German Siege Guns. We remained in this central position all day.</p>	
16 th September (43 rd Day)	<p>The Batteries of the 39th Brigade RFA occupied positions - 51st Battery on the slopes just to E of MOULINS with one section forward N of VENDRESSE - 46th and 54th Batteries to the West of VENDRESSE south of CHIVE. Corporal Wilson orderly to 54th Battery was wounded slightly. Supplied 350 rounds of 18^{pr} Ammⁿ and 64,000 rounds of S.A.A. The Germans made three desperate counter attacks but they were all repulsed. Remained in the same position as yesterday just South of MOULINS. The Batteries remained in their same positions. The Column supplied 1046 rounds of 18^{pr} Ammⁿ today.</p>	
17 th September (44 th Day)	<p>The fourth day of the Battle since we crossed the River AISE. Position of Column + Batteries the same as yesterday. Supplied 836 rounds of 18^{pr} Ammⁿ + 16,000 rounds of S.A.A.</p>	
18 th September (45 th Day)	<p>Position of Column + Batteries the same, ammunition supplied 10^{pr} 708 rounds, S.A.A 29,000 rounds, 1 wheel, 1 wagon body, 6 horses, 3 Drivers, 1 linker -</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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39th Brigade R.F.A. Amm^t Column.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
19 th September (46 th Day)	Positions of 46 th , 51 st and 54 th Batteries the same. Column supplied 497 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t .	
20 th September (47 th Day)	Position of Batteries + Amm ^t Column the same. Many German Aeroplanes about. Trenches reported taken near PAISSY about 3 pm. They were retaken again by British immediately. 600 rds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t and 96,000 S.A.A. supplied today.	
21 st September (48 th Day)	The 46 th + 54 th Batteries moved to position on hill immediately N of BOURG. 51 st Battery moved to PARGNAN. The Amm ^t Column remained in its position N of all Three Batteries	
22 nd September (49 th Day)	near MOULINS. Only 150 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t supplied today. 32,000 rds of S.A.A.	
23 rd September (50 th Day)	9 th Day of Battle - Positions of Brigade R.F.A. the same - 288 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t supplied	
24 th September (51 st Day)	10 th Day of Battle - Positions of 39 th Brigade R.F.A. the same - 515 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t supplied	
25 th September (52 nd Day)	Many Aeroplanes about morning and evening - Positions the same - 608 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t supplied.	
26 th September (53 rd Day)	12 th Day of Battle - supplied 1,213 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t and 8,000 rds of S.A.A.	
27 th September (54 th Day)	13 th Day of Battle - supplied 1,064 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t and 16,000 rds of S.A.A.	
28 th September (55 th Day)	The Amm ^t Column came in for a good deal of shelling today.	
29 th September (56 th Day)	14 th Day of Battle - supplied 472 rounds of 18 ^{pr} Amm ^t .	
30 th September (57 th Day)	15 th Day of Battle - supplied 304 " " "	
	16 th Day of Battle - supplied 183 " " "	
	17 th Day of Battle - Position of Batteries + Amm ^t Column the same. The Amm ^t Column are now 44 horses short of establishment.	

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39th Bde RFA. Ammunition Column

18th Division.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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39th Brigade R.F.A.
Amm: Column.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1 st October (58 th Day) 1/2 m. S. of <u>Min MOULINS</u> on R. Aisne	Supplied 152 rds. 18 pr. ammunition	
2 nd (59 th Day)	Supplied 42 rds. 18 pr. amm. and 46,000 rds S.A.A	
3 rd (60 th Day)	do 76 do do do	
4 th (61 st day)	- 380 - - -	
5 th (62 nd day)	- 228 - - -	One case entore, 1
6 th (63 rd day)	- 104 - - -	
7 th (64 th day)	- 456 - - -	
8 th (65 th day)	- 453 - - -	
9 th (66 th day)	- 836 - - -	
10 th (67 th day)	- 903 - - -	
11 th (68 th day)	- 478 - - -	and 32,000 rds S.A.A.
12 th (69 th day)	- 1518 - - -	
13 th (70 th day)	- 608 - - -	
14 th (71 st day)	- 456 - - -	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
15 th Oct. 72 nd Day. VILLERS	1 st Echelon joined up with 2 nd at dawn. Complete A.C. marched out at 9 p.m.	
16 th Oct. SAPONAY (73 rd Day)	Arrived here at 8.0 a.m. Entrained at FERE-EN-TARDENOIS at 11 p.m.	
17 th Oct. In the Train (74 th Day)	Left FERE-EN-TARDENOIS at 2.15 a.m. Arrived BOULOGNE 11 p.m.	
18 th Oct. In the Train (75 th Day)	Delayed at BOULOGNE till 5 p.m.	
19 th Oct. (76 th Day) HONDEGHEM	Arrived ST. OMER at 2.30 A.M. Detrained 4.30 a.m. Marched to here arriving 1.30 p.m.	
20 th Oct. (77 th Day) 1 M. N.E. of ROPERINGHE	Marched at 7.30 a.m. to here arriving 4.45 p.m. Capt White posted to 114 th Battery R.F.A. Lieut. G. de L. Landron took command of column.	
21 st Oct. (78 th Day) PILKEM	Marched at 4.15 a.m. Halted here all day. Supplied 1216 rds. 18 pr. and 80,000 rds. S.A.A. Spent night at PILKEM.	
22 nd Oct. (79 th Day) FARM. 1 Kil. S of M in PILKEM	Moved here at 11.0 A.M. Supplied 532 rds. 18 pr. and 64,000 S.A.A.	
23 rd Oct. (80 th Day) do. do.	Supplied 1518 rds. 18 pr. and 16,000 rds S.A.A. Moved at 8 p.m. and marched to ZILLEBEKE with 54 th and 46 th Batteries left 6 18pr wagons and 4 S.A.A. carts to follow with 51 st who remained in action.	
24 th Oct. (81 st Day) ZILLEBEKE	Rested the whole day. Party detached last night came in with 51 st at 7.30 a.m. Filled up batteries with 276 rds. of which 52 were H.E.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>25th Oct (82nd Day) 3rd R. Stone YPRES-GHELVELT Road 7:15 a.m. 9:0 a.m.</p>	<p>Moved out of bivouac Turned into field here. Remained here all day. No orders. Remained hooked in for night. 54th Battery went into action at 3 p.m.</p>	
<p>26th Oct (83rd Day) O of 2130 ZILLEBEKE 9 a.m. 11 a.m.</p>	<p>46th Battery went into action. Selected position for the column here. Column arrived here. Supplied 387 rds. 18 pr to day.</p>	
<p>27th Oct (84th Day) O of 2130 ZILLEBEKE 12:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>As two of the batteries had advanced moved column forward to 5th R. Stone YPRES-GHELVELT road. Came under shell fire, lost three men wounded. Under instructions from Major came back here for the night. Ammunition Supplied — 52 rds. 18 pr</p>	
<p>28th Oct (85th Day) O of 2130 ZILLEBEKE</p>	<p>Remained here all day. Supplied 298 rds. 18 pr</p>	
<p>29th Oct (86th Day) O of 2130 ZILLEBEKE</p>	<p>Supplied 1244 rds. 18 pr</p>	
<p>30th Oct (87th Day) O of 2130 ZILLEBEKE</p>	<p>Supplied 211 rds. 18 pr</p>	
<p>31st Oct (88th Day) Level crossing $\frac{1}{2}$ k S. of Y in YPRES</p>	<p>1:30 p.m. Heard that troops were returning along YPRES-GHELVELT Road. Got Column ready to move. Sent Lt. Purchas for orders. 2:0 p.m. Advised by Staff Officer to move, so moved to HALTE $\frac{1}{2}$ k E of Y in YPRES and then along main road to YPRES. Turned into field at R of YPRES. Filled up from D.A.C.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>31st Oct. (88th Day) Continued 4.30 p.m. Level crossing $\frac{1}{2}$ k S. of YPRES</p>	<p>Empty of Ammunition 18 pr. Indented for 1000 rds. Under orders from 1st D.A. moved to here. Filled up completely at 8 p.m. Ammunition supplied to day - <u>1766 rds 18 pr</u></p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p>
	<p><i>[Signature]</i> Comd'g 39th Bde H.C.</p>	

18th Division.

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39th Bde R + A. Ann^u Col^l

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39th Brigade RFA. Ammunition Column
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Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sunday, 1 st November 1914	Position: - level crossing Sof YPRES. The Column had moved to this position, from a position just E of ZILLEBEKE, on account of a very strong attack by the Germans in force. Issued 1182 rds 18pr Q.F., and 48,000 rds SAA 17K III.	
2 nd November.	At 8 am we moved to a position at the level crossing 1 mile E of YPRES. Issued, 1500 rds of 18pr Q.F. + 46,000 rds SAA.	
3 rd November.	Same position; batteries in action about 1/2 m W of VELDOKK. Issued 214 rds 18pr Q.F. + 23,000 SAA. At 5 pm column moved to a position 1/2 mile Sof P in POT 1525.	
4 th November.	Same position. Issued 46 rds of 18pr Q.F.	
5 th November.	Same position. Issued 456 rds of 18pr Q.F.	
6 th November.	Same position. Issued 443 rds of 18pr Q.F.	
7 th November.	Same position. Issued 380 rds of 18pr Q.F. + 14,500 rds SAA.	
8 th November.	Same position. Issued 1254 rds of 18pr Q.F. + 12,945 rds SAA.	
9 th November.	Same position. Issued 446 rds of 18pr Q.F. + 96,600 rds SAA.	
10 th November.	Column made complete in vehicles by the arrival of 4 18pr wagons and one water cart. Lieut Gordon posted to 46 th battery RFA. Lieut J. Puchos RFA in command. Lieut Davie RFA joined the column. Same position. Issued 600 rds of 18pr Q.F. + 142,000 rds of SAA.	
11 th November.	Same position. Issued 1382 rds of 18pr Q.F. + 48,000 rds of SAA.	
12 th November.	Same position. Lieut Davie RFA posted to 51 st Battery RFA. Lieut Driscoll joins column from 1 st B.A.C. Issued 912 rds of 18pr Q.F. + 146,000 rds of SAA.	

39th Brigade R.A. Ammunition Column

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 13 th November 14 th November 15 th	Same position. Issued 1140 rds of 18 pr Q.F. + 64,000 rds of SAA. Same position. Issued 456 rds of 18 pr Q.F. + 100,000 rds of SAA. Started at 5.30 am. Marched back to a position 1 mile due S of grd E in VLAMERTINGHE. 9 wagons 18 pr join the column (3 from each battery) + SAA carts sent to 25 th Bde AC to remain at POTIJZE.	
November 16 th November 17 th November 18 th November 19 th November 20 th	Issued 646 rds of 18 pr Q.F. + 80,000 SAA. Same position. Issued 912 rds of 18 pr Q.F. + 64,000 SAA. Same position. 46 th Battery goes back to billeting area W of BAILLEUL. Same position + situation unchanged. Same position. 8 wagons from 26 th Bde sent to join the column. Marched out at 4.30 pm. moved back to billeting area W of BAILLEUL, 1 kilo S of 3 rd E in METELEN, which was reached at 4 am. on Nov 21 st , great difficulty being experienced owing to the frozen condition of the roads.	
November 21 st	Reached billets at 4.30 am. The whole of the 39 th Brigade came into billets close together.	
November 22 nd	Lieut R.P. Puchas R.A. granted 120 hours leave from 9 am 22 nd Nov. Lieut Duacole left in temporary command.	
November 23 rd	Column resting in billets.	
November 24 th	Column resting in billets.	
November 25 th	Column resting in billets.	
November 26 th	Column resting in billets. Captain Wemyss R.A. posted to ammunition column in command. Issued 608 rds of 18 pr Q.F. and 133,350 rds of SAA.	

39th Brigade R.A. Ammunition Column
WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November 27 th	Column resting in billets. Lieut Parsons R.A. posted to column from base depot. Lieut R. P. Pugh R.A. posted to 46 th Battery R.A. Lieut Dunsdale R.A. granted 120 hrs leave of absence.	
November 28 th	Resting in billets. Issued 64,000 rds of S.A.A.	
November 29 th	Resting in billets.	
November 30 th	Route march from 8.45 am till 1 pm; inspected by General Vandeweyer, C.A. 1st Division.	