

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/44/12

Title: 27th Infantry Battalion

August 1916



AWM4-23/44/12

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.

27 Bm

Vol 1

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VOLUME 1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1916			
	Aug. 1		Remained at LA BOISELLE. Some shelling by enemy. Killed 1 wounded 1	
	2		Continued work on improving off trench in front of O.G.I. Wounded, Lieut. Pellar & 2 O.R.	
	3		Work continued as before. Wounded Lieut Pellar and 7 O.R.	
	night Aug 4/5		Attached position on left of Bapaume BAPAUME RE at 9. p.m. Attached and captured two lines of trenches and strong point at windmill. Narrative attached. Casualties. Officers. Lieut Selth, killed Major Cunningham. missing Lieut Pearce. " Capt. G. Day. Wounded Lieut. Clyde. Boorne Boorne	

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			Cumathas Officers. Lieut. Campbell. Wounded " Judge " Ridge Other ranks. Killed 40 Wounded 289 Missing 67	
	Aug 6.		Relieved by 48 Bⁿ & retired to trenches at LA BOISELLE. Major Lane reorganised Bⁿ into 4 C^os of 2 platoons each, and took over temporary command of reinforcements for 28 Bⁿ, and details of stragglers of 26th forming a composite reserve Bⁿ for 7th B^{de}. Late in afternoon Bⁿ, under Major Lane marched to TARA HILL and bivouaced for the night. During night 6/7 Aug enemy shelled TARA HILL. Casualties. 2 wounded.	
	7.		Marched at 11 a.m. for BRICKFIELD S. near ALBERT, & bivouaced.	

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	Aug 8.		Marched to WARLOY, and bivouacked in field near WARLOY— BOUZINCOURT. B ^d . Remained for 2 days.	
	10		Visited by H.M. the KING. moved into billets.	
	11.		Marched at 5.30 a.m. for LA VICOONE via CONTAY, HERRISART, RUBEMPRE and bivouacked at LA VICOONE. 2 ^d Lieut. Pellew and 207 OR Reinf. arrived at 6 p.m.	
	12.		Marched to FIEFFES, and bivouacked.	
	13		Commenced training.	
	14.		Continued training. Lieut Col. Delman left for Australia, handing over command to Major J.C. & Lane.	
	15		Marched into billets at Montrelet MONTRELET. Training continued.	
	20.		Marched into RUBEMPRE and went into billets.	
	21.		Marched to VADENCOURT, WOOD, camped in huts.	
	22		Marched to BRICKFIELDS & bivouacked.	
	23		Marched to LA BOISELLE. B ⁿ engaged on fatigue in AVOCA VALLEY.	
	24.		Completed entrenchment in AVOCA VALLEY.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	night 24/25		Dug communication trenches near FERME DE MOQUET	
	27		6 pm took over A B ⁿ duties in night sector near BAPAUME R ^e . from 19 th B ⁿ .	
	31		Relieved by 1 st B. Canadians, & marched to billets at ALBERT.	
			Summary of Casualties.	
			Killed. 91 ^{OR} 42	
			Wounded. 6. 336	
			Missing. 2. 60	
			Transferred. 4	
			Sick. 2. 152	
			Officers.	
			2 nd Lieut. N. W. G. Selth. Killed.	24/8/16
			Maj. J. R. Cunningham. Missing.	"
			Lieut. S. M. Pearce. "	"
			2 nd Lieut. A. K. Pillar. Wounded.	3/8/16
			Capt. G. Day. "	4/8/16
			Lieut. L. A. Clyde. "	"
			" R. H. Boorn. "	"
			" J. A. Rowe. "	"
			" R. C. Ridge. "	"
			" W. P. Black. Sick	15/8/16
			2 nd Lieut. A. B. Durdin. "	22/8/16

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Lieut Col. W. Dollman, V.D. left unit to return to Australia 14/8/16.	
			Taken on Strength.	
			O. O.R.	
			1 1 Capt. J. S. Malpas. from supernumerary list	2/8/16
			1 207 Rempts. Lieut. C. E. Pellew.	11/8/16
			4 from Harp	7/8/16
			8 rempts	7/8/16
			42 Harp details.	24/8/16
			4 Rempts.	20/8/16
			61 "	28/8/16
			1 1 Rempts. Lieut R. C. Hunter	25/8/16
			4 Harp.	30/8/16
			3 332.	
			J. S. Malpas. Capt	
			For Co. 24th Bn. A.I.F.	

APPENDIX

Australian Records Section

3rd Echelon

~~7th Inf. Bde~~

Operations: Aug 4-6, 1916

In accordance with instructions the 27th Bn moved off from LA BOISSELLE for the position of assembly on the afternoon of Aug 4. The first platoon moved at about 5.30 p.m.

The arrangements were for A & B Cos to occupy the jumping off trenches in front of tramline, and to form the first & second waves of the assault with O.G. 1 as objective.

D & C Cos were to form third & fourth waves in tramline trench, with special carrying parties following as a fifth wave.

Companies moved so that they would be composed of right & left half companies respectively: ~~the~~ of these 6, 5, 2, 1. formed the first wave & 8, 7, 4, 3. the second wave. The third & fourth wave were composed of 14, 13, 10, 9. as third wave, and 16, 15, 12, 11. as 4th wave.

The fifth wave of 16 men per company.

carrying tools and material.

A + B. Companies advanced + assaulted
O.G. 1. Both waves easily reaching this
objective. D. Coy followed as far as
O.G. 1. but C. Coy appears to have lost
direction; + eventually mixed with
25th + 26th Bns on the left, + 18th on the
right.

A, B. + D. Coy. worked hard on consolidation
of O.G. 1. throughout the night.

Capt Devonshire reports that about
4.30. a.m. on the 5th the enemy launched
a counter attack against O.G. 1, but were
repulsed by vicious M.G., Lewis gun
+ rifle fire.

The casualties to the enemy in this attack
are estimated to be 100 including 2 officers.
The remainder surrendered.

Patrols were then sent out to the westward
+ O.G. 2. O.G. 2 was then occupied.
A company of 28th Bn was sent to
assist the garrison.

Lewis gun positions were selected
in advance of O.G. 2.

APPENDIX

During the day the position was heavily shelled, and enfilade fire was brought to bear from the direction of THIEPVAL.

During afternoon of Aug 5, instructions were received to hand over O.G. 1 & O.G. 2 to 48th Bn, and to ~~occupy~~

J. S. Malpas. Capt.
for CO. 24th Bn A.I.F.

AWM4
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27th Batt^y A.S.F.

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WAR DIARY
or
VOLUME
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1916			
DERHAMCOURT	1900		In Battle. Training and completing equipment	
MONTAUBAN	2	pm	Marched out of DERHAMCOURT 6pm. Arrived MONTAUBAN 10pm	
	3		Relieved 53 rd Batt ^y in front line 2 inches fronting LE BARQUE. (Right Batt ^y Sector. Left Brigade)	
	5		Attacked Enemy position in BAYONNET TRENCH the right hand portion of which was held for 1 1/2 hours when a withdrawal was necessary, no reinforcements being available and both of our flanks being in the air	
			Casualties Killed 5 officers 72 other ranks	
			Wounded 5 " 136 " "	
			Missing 75 " "	
			Names of Officers killed :- Capt Warren	
			Lt. Soumerville	
			Pliphant	
			Massey	
			W. by Brown	

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WAR DIARY, 27th Batt^{le} A.I.F.
or 10th Div
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
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MONTAUGAN	1916 Nov 6		Relieved in front line by 17 th Batt ^{le} at 10.30 p.m. and march to MONTAUGAN	
"	7/14		Remain in Rest Camp. Improving line and General Fatigue	
"	14		Major S. J. Shillington, 6 th L.H. Regt attached for duty	
"	15	from 8	Relieve 26 th Batt ^{le} in front line to trench near the M.A.T.E. facing L.E. BAQUE	
	16		Improving position. D Coy detached to support 28 th Batt ^{le} on our left. Lt Goodwin wounded. Lt Campbell wounded, subsequently died of wounds.	
	17		Continued improvements to trenches, and during the night made a new trench cutting out 28 th Battalion in front of the M.A.T.E. Also, during the night the 24 th Batt ^{le} relieved us and we moved laterally to our left relieving the 28 th Batt ^{le} .	
	18		Relieved by 17 th Batt ^{le} 11 p.m. March to FRISLEY Camp. Lt FORWOOD wounded (subsequently died of wounds).	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAIRCOURT	1916		Resting and refitting at FAIRCOURT CAMP.	
BUIRE	19-20	pm	March to BUIRE - SUR. L'ANCRE	
	21	1	Improving Ditch, Equipping and Training	
	27/6		Inspection by G. O.C. 3rd Div	
	27		Training	
ST VAAST	28/9	pm	Embark for ST VAAST 1 p.m. Arrive 9 p.m.	
	30	9	Taken on strength during month Nov. Struck off strength during month Nov.	
			Officers OR 1 Officers OR	
			From Hospital 3 28 To Hospital 7 166	
			" Details 1 32 Killed 7 80	
			" Accidents 71 Wounded 6 165	
			Attached 1 Missing 77	
			5 131 Detached 2 4	
			22 492	
			* Major Jeffery; Capt Mackay R.M.C.	