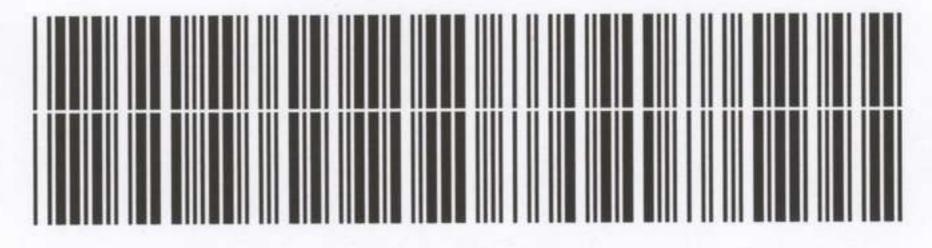
AWM4 Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/26/41

Title: 9th Infantry Battalion

May 1918



AWM4-23/26/41

18,000-12/1 -8728

CONFIDENTIAL.

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

FOR

Month of MAY

191 8.

Signature of Officer compiling

Adjutant, 9th. Battalion.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Commanding 9th. Battalion.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1003185

WAR DIARY

07

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BORRE South		. 18.	Parties left at 8 a.m. returning about 3.30 a.m. next morning. Casualties - 1 other rank wounded.	
	3.	5. 18	OWER & KNOWLES. They were to train as a self contained unit, and ration separately Arrangements were made with Divisional Baths for for bath each morning after strenuous exercises and practices.	
METEREN- STRAZER		5.	8. Lieut. GOWER explained to all officers and N.C.Os. of the Battalion the new cup discharger for No. 36 Mills Grenade and afterwards gave a short demonstration. In the afternoonas many men as possible were given instruction in the use of this grenade cup. Very close during the day but inclined to be a little misty towards evening. Enemy shelled area in which camp is situated, I other rank being wounded, owing to a shell hitting one of our huts. The 9th. Battalion relieved the 6th. Battalion in reserve position on right of PRADELLES as per Order No. 13. We are now Counter-attack Battalion for the Brigade front on right of Divisional Front. METEREN - STRAZEELE.	Order No. 132.
	5.5	.18	All officers and N.C.Os. reconneitred forward ground in accordance with Corps Defence Scheme in event of a general attack by the enemy.	
	6.5	18	Heavy rain fell during the night and made the trenches in most places unsuitable. Company commanders had most of their men in vacated houses and barns about the area. Strength of Battalion - Present with Unit - 29 Officers 625 O.Ranks. Detached - 20 " 184 "	
			(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 757,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118'14.	4

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Date Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7-5-18	Enemy apparently observed the activity of troops today, because he shelled the buildings for the first time causing one casualty.	
	8-5-18	The Battalion Moved to the left sector of Brigade Front to relieve the 11th. Battalion as per Order No. 133. Owing to the clear visibility we could not leave old position till 9.30 p.m. Enemy very quiet while we moved forward except for shelling round about our right Battalion front. Our S.O.S. was seen by us but apparently not by the artillery as none of our guns opened up.	
	9-5-18	Relief completed by 1 a.m. without anything unusual happening. After the 11th. Battalion moved out our dispositions in rear of front line were altered by "A" Company moving about 300 yards back to avoid enemy barrage line. This was done in accordance with Brigade Instructions. Battalion H.Q. now at W.18.D.1.5 Very clear day with with rather warm sun. Enemy quiet as are own guns. Received Brigade Order regarding redistribution of Battalion frontages. Our Order issued as per Order No. 134 of this date. Owing to 10th. Battalion not being able to state definite time of taking over our posts we carried on as per memo to all Companies attached (marked Memo No. 1)	
	10-5-18	New dispositions completed at 1 a.m. We straightened our line on the left by digging two new platoon posts at x20096 and X20065 Owing to the former position being previously held by an enemy garrision we considered it advisable to have consolidating done as per Order No. 135:	
	11-5-18	The party on the left of this met with opposition but after a short bomb fight dispects of the enemy taking 4 prisoners (one wounded). The night was very dark and made this move very difficult. Casualties 2 other ranks wounded. Lieut-Col. L.M. MULLEN D.S.O. rejoined from Wouned.	
		Marke	ZX 3
		(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 75 0,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Dáte	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks as references Appendice
	12-5-	18	As daylight broke a party of the enemy was observed to have been cut off. It was decided that as soon as sufficiently dark a party would move out into a position where the enemy's withdrawal would be blocked. This was done with good results. Eleven prisoners were taken. Our casualties nil. Of the second lot of prisoners only one had even been in an outpost before they being of the 1920 class. At 6 o'clock a heavy fog fell which necessitated our establishing relay S.O.S. posts from front to rear. Today very hazy which enables us to light fires by day. Troops all very pleased with comfort fund gifts of cigarettes etc. A shortage of cigarettes for past week made these much appreciated. Advance parties for relief as per Order No. 136 arrived at about midnight. Enemy had 5 battooms on Australian Frontage all day. This was very unusual as he appears very inactive here. Casualties for last 24 hours - 2 other ranks wounded.	
	13-5	-18	Early this morning Lieut. KNOWLES found another prisoner hiding in the ruins of the baths close to our new post. The prisoner stated he was sent out to join an outpost but could not find it. It was probably the post we cut off in the operation of ours of 11th. instant. By arrangement with Battalion on our left (15th. West Yorks.) a post was established in front of the baths. The left Battalion put in a post on the left of the METEREN BATKS. BECQUE thus linking up the two battalions. Liaison was established at once. We had an N.C.O. join the post on our left to keep up liaison, owing to the troops being rather young and inexperienced. This morning at about 11.30 the Divisional Commander called at Battalion H.Q. and and asked that his congratulations for the good work done by the Battalion be passed to all ranks. Battalion Strength - Present With Unit - 29 Officers and 627 Other Ranks Detached - 20 176 do Casualties during relief - 1 O.R. Killed and 7 O.Rs. wounded.	
ETEREN- PRAZEELE	14-5	-18	Relief Complete by 12.20 a.m. when the Battalion moved by Companies to new position in Divisional Reserve. Enemy planes bombed vicinity of billets apparently looking for our heavy guns. Major J. NEWMAN rejoined 11th. Battalion. (A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293-75 ,000. 1/17. D.D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.	and s

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	15/5	/18.	Weather very fine. Our 12" heavies shelled enemy positions for about two hours. Enemy opened up heavy barage in vicinity of 12" Gun position. The gun was moved back about 1000 yards but returned to old position the next day.	
	16/5	/18-	The whole morning was devoted to bathing in tubs at Company billets. We supplied 200 for Working Parties on reserve trench system on right of PRADELLES. LIEUT R.PELMAN proceeded to	
	17/5	/18	Weather still fine. Enemy aeroplanes several dropped several bombs around "D" Companys billets at ROUGE OROIX but no damage was done. The same number was supplied for working parties as yesterday.	s
	18/5	/18.	The Battalion moved to SERCUS as per order No. 137 arriving about 5.30 p.m., although the day was very hot no man fell out on the march. Battalion Strength. With Unit - 39 Offs. 729 O/rs. Detached - 7 Offs. 96 O/rs.	
	10/5	/18.	Captain T.WFARMER and LIEUTS. E.H.MEYERS & B.NICHOLLS rejoined Unit from wounded (Seconded). Brigade Church Parade was held under PADRE HAYDEN. GENERAL WALKER attended and the Brigade marched past in close column of platoons.	
	20/5	/18-	LIEUT R.PENMAN rejoined from rest Hostel ST OMER. LIEUTS R.G.HAMILTON & C.M.WRENCH rejoined from Base. CAPT R.G.BRENNAN rejoined from O.T. Battalion. Training carried out as per Syllabi attached.	
	21/5	/18.	Our A.A. Guns very active from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. against hostile aircraft. Very few bombs were dropped and none of them anywhere near the camp. Training was carried out as per syllabus during the morning Sports being held in the afternoon.	
	22/5	/18-	Erected a canteen in the camp but could not keep it supplied owing to the abundance of money in the camp. G.S. waggon went to ST OMER each day and returned full of canteen goods. Brigade Parade was held to-day. The Brigade marched past in column of half Companys.	
	23/5	/18.	The ground was very rough. Battalion Dinner. The Brigadier General, Brigade Major were present also Col ELLIOTT 12th Bn, CAPT NEW LAND 3rd A.L.T.M. Battery, and Lieut MAITLAND R.F.C. A very enjoyable even- ing was spent. Training was carried out as per syllabus. (A8004) Wt Witti/M2031 750,000 5/17 8ch.82 Forms/Coll8/14	y x (2)

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24/5	/ 18.	The Battalion worked on cable laying job near SERCUS. Excavated 31 earth and put in the cable Heavy rain fell during the morning which made the work very difficult and uncomfortable. on arriving back in camp a clean change of clot hing was issued to all the men. on the advice of the R.M.O. applications were made to Brigade for special RUM issue but this could not be procured.	e.
	25/5	18.	Ground very wet aft or heavy rain. Brigade Sports were to have been held but it was con sidered inadvisable on account of the weather, so they were postponed to a future date. The Officers entertained several Nurses at Brig ade Headquarters in the afternoon at a Concert and Cinema show. Afternoon Tea was served in a Marquee kindly lent by Y.M.C.A. We expected 8 Nurses to dinner but owing to great demand for their company from other Battalions only two arrived. In the morning Company Route Marches of 7 mile were carried out. Afternoon was devoted to preparations for the move forward on the following day. Bat talion Strength. — With Unit — 45 Offs 737 O/Rs. Bat talion Strength. — With Unit — 45 Offs 737 O/Rs.	
	26/	5/18.	The Battalion moved forward by Route March leaving present camp at 8.30 a.m. and relieved 7th.Battalion at ROUGE CROIX as per order No.138. The weather was very fine and cool which made the marching pleasant. Just as the Head of the column was moving past the Divisional Commander on the HAZEBROUCK - ST OMER road the enemy commenced shelling and wounded 2 0/Rks. The Battalion at once split up into Artillery Formation. The Divisional Commander moved further down the road to inspect the remainder of the Brigade marching Past. Arrived at new Area at mid-day with 5 men having fallen out.	
	27/5	18.	Moved forward to front line left Sector KLITE HILL as per order No.139. Just before moving out the enemy shelled some of the roads in the vicinity of ROUGE CROIX which made it necessary to alter our Route. We relieved the lat Australian Battalian, the relief being completed by 12.45.a.m. Lieuts. R.G. HAMILTON and C.M. WRENCH rejoined from Base. Capt. R.G. BRENNAN rejoined from O.T. Battalian.	
	28/	5/18.	LIEUT C O BROWN CPL TICKLE and CPL HIDE of "B" Company were wounded by Shell Fire soon after taking over from the 1st Battalion. They were at once evacuated. LIEUT BROWN died of wounds in the 2nd C.C.S. 10.20 a.m. Identification being urgently required four patrols were sent out to locate enemy posts with a view to raiding. One post was found to be occupied at a point in front centre of our line. LIEUT LITTLE wounded by machine gum bullet in the thigh was evacuated. Pte MC GUIGAN wounded by bomb and evacuated. (A7092). Wr. W12839/M1293 753,000. 1/17. D.D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.	· yel

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Place	Date	. Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	29/5	/ 18.	Very clear day. Enemy shelled R.A.p. "C" Coy "H.Q." and Battalion Headquarters for about an hour causing casualties of 2 killed and 1 wounded. Pte HUGHES and MOONEY being killed and Pte BARN Es wounded. One enemy plane came a bit lower than usual and got into difficulties with our A.A. Guns for a time, but eventually escaped. The 10th Battalion advanced their line of posts on our right about 200 yards. During the operation they had a stiff fight, with about 60 casualties.	
	30/5	/18.	Pte F J BELDEN was killed by Shell Fire and Ptes PATTERSON ALIAN, DEARDEN wounded by Shell Fire. Again very clear by day and night. Very difficult for our patrols to do any good work, owing to the clear visibility by night. Contact aeroplane picked up messages sent by our Signalling Offic er at about 11 a.m. for practice purposes. Situation very quiet all night. A few heavy H.E. and Gas Shells thrown well back by the enemy delayed rations about an hour.	
	31/	5/18.	Another very clear sunny day, all very quiet until about 5 o'clock when an enemy Battery opened up with scattered fire. At about 11 a.m. one of our men 714a pte KNIGHT .R.P. in a centre post crawled out through the crops in front of him and entered an enemy trench, which looked to be un-occupied, but proved to have about 25 Huns in it. He promptly shot the first two and ran back to his post, hotly pursued by a number of the enem y fat getting out of their trench. At 11 p.m. an inter Company relief took place. Ptes WILLIAMS & GILLIES killed by Shell Fire, LIEUT H.M.WALKER wounded by Rifle Grenade. Sgt THORLEY, Pte FONTANA wounded by machine gun bullets and evacuated.	
			Many	A.
			(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 75 1,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.	

WAR DIARY

OF.

9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

FOR

Month of MAY

191 8

LIST OF APPENDICES.

Syllabi of Training.

No.

Battalion Order No. 132.

Battalion Order No. 133

Battalion Order No. 134

Memo No. 1.

Battalion Order No. 135.

Battalion Order No. 135.

Battalion Order No. 136.

Battalion Order No. 137.

Battalion Order No. 138.

Battalion Order No. 139.

Battalion Order No. 139.

Battalion Order No. 140.

copy NO. 2.

9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 132.

Ref: Sheet 27 S.E. 1/20,000. 3rd. Hay, 1918. Sheet 36A. N.E. 1/20,000.

Battalion Headquart-rs,

(. ESS.F) molinates and Janes

- The 3rd. Aust. Infy. Bie. will relieve the 2nd. Aust. Infy. Bie. in the Right Sub-sector of the Divisional Forward Zone on the 4th. and the night 4th./5th. May. "State Clear - TS decide to formation of dens value weeks A
- 2. The line will be neld ledeled as a sag tone delege
 - ANDROE . Physosopie eng du al ... B. C. . "(a) on a two Battalion frontage, each Battalion having 3 Companies in the line and one in Reserve.
 - (b) 1 Battalion in Support.
 - (c) 1 Battalion in Reserve.
- 9th. Battalion will relieve the 6th. Battalion, at present in Reserve.
- outside Quid. Store by 5 pomerous dina dina dina 4. An advance party of 1 Officer per Company and 1 N.C.O. per platoon will proceed to and report to 6th. Battalion, tonight. They will obtain all information relative to trench stores, a munition, cooking arrangements, etc. etc. This party will not stay there but return on completion of duty, Officers reporting to Battalion H.Q. on their return. Aldelowed Terla electron as more as
- 5. The Battalion will leave present camp at 8.30 p.m. tomorrow night, 4th. instant, Companies warching independently. Officers and N.C.Os. of advance party will guide companies to their respective destinations. Company Commanders will ensure that present quarters are left in a clean and sanitary condition and certificates to this effect rendered to Battalion H.Q.
 - 6. DRESS: Fighting Order. Each man will carry 220 rounds S.A.A. also Reserve Iron Ration. Overcoats will be worn. Blanket rolled in waterproof sheet will be carried under Haversack.
 - 7. All maps, Defence Schemes, Aerial photos, etc. will be hamled over and receipts obtained.
 - 8. All guards and duties will be taken over from Unite to be relieved.
 - 9. Hain Roads will be avoided by using tracks as much as possible. The BORRE-STRAZEELE Road will not be used.
 - 10. Details of relief, not herein provided for will be arranged between Company Commanders concerned.
 - 11. Completion of Relief will be notified to Battalion H.Q. by special runner.
 - 12. Units will interchange wegon lines with their opposite numbers of the 2nd. Aust. Inf. Bde. on the 4th. instant. Rear parties will be left to hand over.
 - Brigade Supply dump will be located at La BREARDE, V.5.C.5.O.
 - 14. Quartermaster. and Transport Officer will at once proceed to recommoitre all roads to the forward area, taking note of gaps in the wire. The route selected for the delivery of rations of . this Battalion, will be notified to Battalion H.Q. at earliest.

THE AUGIERALIAN INFAMILET BATTAS CHORN NO. 132. 15. Regimental Aid Posts will be located as under:-Right Line Battalion (12th.) to be notified later. w (llth) W.19.A.4.8. Left Line Support (10th) W.28.A.2.8. Reserve " (9th.) W.22.C.O.7. A Bearer Relay Post is established at Sheet 27 - X.19.A.2.8. Hotor Ambulance Posts are located at W.22.B.5.4. and W.24.a.3.8. A.D.S. is at the Brasseria, BORRE: M.D.S. is at CAESTRE. Company Commanders will see that all ranks wash their feet and treat them with soap and powder before moving out. A quantity will also be drawn by each Company for use in the line. Officers! Valises and all packs will be stacked (in companies) 16. outside Q.M. Store by 3 p.m. tomorrow 4th. instant. 17. The 9th. Battalion will supply necessary transport for the move of Brigade wining Company forward and rear H.Qrs. Receipts for Tranch Stores handed over will be forwarded to 18. Battalion H.Q. as soon as possible after completion of relief. Lists of Stores taken over will be checked and copies sent to Battalion H.Q. within 24 hours of r-lief. and the transfer of the companies of the transfer the transfer of the transfer s all their was are tramp turesting tank company like are branch ture. Bergabier doe'lle alot of sedsoillities has moitifines wistinss the 189. to Bettenling H.Q. cals .A.A.s about 022 trues litt han float .Tries paids ed Illy deeds language and bellow sould The Battalion La . bentaddo stofesen bus . Issued at 5.30 p.m. Beverler and no acted most reven beauth of till and dubtion of the

Copy No. 2. "A" Company. To about notice of H.Q. Company. His Talled to contained all "D" Company. Transport Officer. Quartermaster. To swedgum estaboggo will Medical Officer. and selection Illy select File. nith ent no . File . Int . teun . ins ent ed IIIw arfired ter War Diary.

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appendix. 2. 10 THE AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALISM ORDER NO. 133. Buttalinn House guartorn. Tth. Hay. 1918. The 9th. Battalion will relieve the lith. Battalion on the night Sth./9th. May. 1918 in the front line. Companies will relieve the opposite numbers which will be "G" Company on left - "D" Company Centre - "B" Company on right with "A" Company in Support. 3. Company Commanders will detail the fellowing to maye forward with 24 hours rations tonight . They will make themselves thereughly acquainted with everything concerning their Company's front. 1 Officer 1 Signaller 1 Runnar 5 No.2 Lewis Gunners. As many Officers and N.O.Os as possible will recommoitre Buttelien Front Line, tonight am obtain all information regarding posts, tronch stores, cooking arrangements, etc. Companies will move ferward in the following order !-*G* Company* "B" Gampany" "D" Company" "A" Company The first Company will move at 8.30 p.m. by plateons at net loxe than los yards interval. They will move by the shortest road route to the CRUCIFIX, W.24. D.9.5. Where they will be met by maiden. 60 Receipts for trench ateres taken over will be forwarded to Battalion H.Q. as soon as possible, after relief. 74 Completion of relief will be notified to Battalian H. Q. in ondo. Markent. 9th. Buttalion. Inguesi at 7-15 Rame PISTRIBUTION. Copy No. 1. Commanding Officer. "A" Company aka Combany. *G* Company. *D* Company* Hele Compan y. Rear Hele F118* War Diary. AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1003185

appendix, 3! 3H win BEGEERT. 9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 134. Bottalion Hamiquarters. 9th. May. 1918. The following redictribution of the Battalion front will take place tonight. wgs and "Ds Companies will occupy the front line system -"B" Company in Support with Readquarters at X+19+A+8+2+ "A" Company in Reserve in present location. 34 The Battelion Right Boundary will be a line drawn through X.25.C. Centrel to W.23.C.6.6. -Battalion Left Boundary as at present. The loth. Battalion will take over Nos. 1, 2 and 3 posts from * B* Company. "De Company will take ever Now. 4 and 5 posts from "B" Company. (No. 4 post is astride the Road at X.25.C.7.5. approximately) "G" Company will take over Nos. 9 and 10 posts from "D" Company. Company Commanders concerned will make the necessary arrangemonts within the Battalion. ű. Time of relief will be notified. 70 Completionof relief will be netified to Battalion H.Q. in CODE. A/Adjubant, 9th. Battallou. Januari at 8 pame PISTRIBUTION. Copy No. 1. Commanding Officer. *A" Company. " " Company . aga Company. aba Company. Rede Companye Rear H.Q. 10th. Battalion. F110. 10/12. War Blary. CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1003185 SH

Appendix 4: 12

(SE RET)

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.



Memo No.1

Battalion Headquarters,

9th.May.1918.

Reference Battalian Order No.134.

our (3) three right posts before 11 p.m. Redistribution will therefore start from left to right. "C" Company taking over "D" Coys posts
first.

When this is completed "D" Company will take over "B" Coys posts. "B" Coys right posts will then wait for loth Battalion relief.

Company Commanders will make necessary arrangements with those concerned regarding guides, handing over of trench stores etc.

A/Adjutant 9th.Battalion.

copy No. 9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 135. Battalion Headquarters. 8th. May, 1918. The METEREN Eaths are in possession of the enemy. Recent reconnaissance revealed the fact that they are garrisoned by a detached post of approximately 12 men with a Machine Gum. A small raid carried out last night is reported to have dispersed the garrison inflicting casualties. This Battalion will capture and hold the postion which will have the effect of shortening our line and bringing our left flank into closer liakson with the Battalion on our left. 3. A party of 20 Other Ranks under Lieut. H. COWER will capture and hold the baths until relieved by the garrison of No. 14 Post. At Zero hour Sinch. Newton Trench Mortars will open a bombariment for 5 mintures on the area occupied by the baths. At Zero plus 5 minutess the party will storm the position from the Northern and South Western sides. 5. 0.C. Party will make all necessary arrangements to reconneitre and gain all possible information regarding routes, ere At zero hour plue 5 minutes, 0.C. "C" Company will push forward the garrison of No. 13 post who will establish a new posit: on the alignment between No. 12 post the South Western corner of the Batha at approximately X.20.C.8.5. 0.C. Raiding party will arrange for a guide to be sent to No. 14 Post when the Baths have been captured to guide the garris forward with the necessary tools for constructing and wiring the position. Protective screens will be provided forward during the consolidation. Raiding Party will wear white band on the left arm. Reports to Headquarters in CODE immediately the new positions have been established. A/Adjutant, 9th. Battalion. Zero hour to be notified. DISTRIBUTION. Copy No. 1. Commanding Officer. 20 3rd. A.i. Bis. "A" Company. "B" Company. 4. "C" Company. 5. "D" Company. 6. H.Q. Company. File. 9/11. War Diary. ********** 1111111111 AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1003185

applendit, 6. The 9TH . AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 136. Battelion Hesiquarters, 13th. Hay, 1918. Ref. 27 S.E. 1/20,000. 1. (a) The Brigade is being relieved by the 2nd. Aust. Inf. Bie. on the 13th. and night 13th/14th. May. (b) On relief the 3rd. Brigade will move into Divisional Support. The 5th. Battalion will relieve the 9th. Battalion, the relief being made by opposite Companies. 3. (a) On Completion of relief the Battalion will take over disposition and duties of Battalion by whom it is relieved. The Nucleus Battalion on relief will be disbanded, personnel reporting to their respective Battalions. Advance parties of 5th. Australian Infantry Battalion are moving 4. into the line on the night 12th/13th. Hay. All maps, Defence Schemes, Aerial photos, etc. will be handed over and receipts obtained. Details of relief not herein provided for will be arranged 60 mutually between C.Os. concerned. 7. (a) Trench and Area Stores will be handed over complete and receipts obtained. THREE copies will be forwarded to Battalion Headquarters on arrival in new camp. (b) Transport lines will remain in present location. The O.C. Company at Eucleus will detail 1 Officer per Company to take over from 5th. Battalion. A guide will also be detailed for each Company and will meet this Company at Cross Roads , ROUGE CROIX. Companies will move out independently after relief from Crucifix at W.24.B.8.5. to Creseroads W.17.D.1.2 - STRAZEELE -CAESTRE road to ROUGE CROIX, where guides will lead them into new positions. Panniers will be stacked at the Crucifix as the Company passes. 10. One man from each Company will remain and see them loaded. They will afterwards be dumped at new location. Lewis Guns will be carried. Rations will not be delivered tonight but not meal will be 11. ready on arrival at new camp. Completion of relief will be notified to Battalion H.Q. in CODE. 12. After relief Battalion H.Q. will be at W.8.C.8.9. 13. A/Adjutant, 9th. Battalion. ISSUED AT 1.30 a.m. DISTRIBUTION. Commanding Officer. Copy He . "A" Company. *B* Company. "C" Company. aDa Comban A. H.Q. Company. Roor H.Q. Nucleus Battalion. File. 10/12 War Diary.

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 137. Battalion Headquarters, 17th. Hay, 1918. The 9th. Battalion will be relieved by the 1st. Battalion on the 18th. instant. After relief the Battalion will move by murch route to Reserve Area SERCUS, and take over the camp previously occupied by 4th. Battalion. Fighting order. Steel helmets will be worn, and felt Drass:hats carried in packs. The route to be taken will be as follows:-CROSS ROADS at W.7.A.9.&. - W.5.C.4.1. - W.11.C.1.4. -T.16.B.2.1. - V.15.D.0.6. - V.15.D.2.3. - V.20.B.9.8. -V.21.C.1.3. - V.20.D.70.25. - V.19.D.7.5.- V.25. Central -CROSS ROADS C.6. Central to C.5.C.2.4. Lieut. BUTLER and four runners will proceed to new camp at 6.34 a.m. tomorrow to take over and act as guides for companies on arrival. The order of march will be :-500 Headquarters, "D", "A", "B" and "C" Companies - Headquarters Company to be at Starting Point, CROSS ROADS W.7.A.9.8. at 2.15 p.m. Distance of 100 yards to be maintained between companies. Officers' valises and mess gear will be dumped at 12 noon as follows:wAn, wBm and wCw Coys. at wAm Coys. Headquarters. "D" Coys. at CROSSROADS W.9.C.7.4. H.Q. " at H.Q. billet. Hacks, and blankets rolled in bundles of 10, and clearly marked with number of platoon, will be dumped by 6.30 a.m. as above. A. guard of two men per company will so with their companies blankets and be responsible for same until taken over at new camp. COOKERS will be ready to move by 2. p.m. Company Commanders will obtain receipts for stores and usual certificates for cleanliness of billets when handing over to representatives of incoming unit. The transport Officer will arrange ? removal of Brigade Mining Coy's packs and have them dumpe. The those of this Battalion at LABREADE by & a.m. He will also collect same at the JHURCH, SERCUS on arrival and deliver Hining Coy's packs with 9th. Battalion at C.11.C.5.7. Transport Officer will arrange for hacks to be at Battalion 9. Headquarters by 1.30 p.m. Marching Out States to reach this Office by 2 p.m. and Marching In States immediately on arrival at new camp. A/Adjutant, 9th. Battalion. Issued at 11 nome DISTRIBUTION. Copy No. 1. Commanding Officer. 2. Second in Command. "B" Company. "A" Company. "D" Company. "C" Company. 8. Quartemaster. H.Q. Company. 10. Medical Officer. Transport Officer 12/14. War Diamy. File 11. 3--0--0--0--0--0--0--0--0 RCDIG1003185 AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

BA SECRET.

COPY NO.

9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 138

Reference Sheet - 27 36A. 1/40:000. Battalion Headquarters, 25th. May, 1918.

- The 9th. Battalion will relieve the 7th. Battalion in Divisional support Area at W.S.C.7.9. tomorrow, 26th. instant.
- 2. The Battalion will move to support area by the following route
 Starting Point CROSS ROADS C.11.A.5.4. C.5.Cl.5. CROSS ROADS

 C.6. Central N.25. Central N.25.A.8.8. N.19.D.7.5.
 N. 20.D.70.25. N. 21.C.1.3. N.20.B.9.8. thence to Billets

 occupied by Companies on 17th. May.
- 3. The Order of Merch will be :-

Headquarters, "A", "B", "C", and "D" Coys.

Headquarters to pass CROSS ROADS C.11.A.5.4. at 8.30 a.m.

A distance of 100 yards to be maintained between Companies.

Transport to be 100 yards in rear of the last Company.

- An advance party of 1 Officer and 1 N.C.O. per Company will proceed to new area leaving this Camp at 7 a.m. They will take over all stores and see that the billets are in a clean and sanitary condition.
- Officers: valises and blankets rolled in bundles of 10 will be dumped at Battalion H.Q. by 7 a.m.

 Cookers will be ready to move at 8 a.m.

 All Lewis Guns with the exception of Anti-aircraft guns now mounted will be packed and loaded this afternoon under Company arrangements..
- 8 o'clock tonight. O.C. "C" Company will detail one man to act as guard over these packs until Battalion is relieved in the line. He will also detail a guard of 1 N.C.O. and 3 to mount guard over the same packs until the Battalion is ready to leave this camp.
- 7. A party of six will report to R.Q.M. by 7 a.m. to act as baggage party. These men will be selected by the R.M.O. in conjunction with Company Commanders.
- B.O.R. by 8 a.m.

 Marching out states and Certificates of Cleanliness will reach

 B.O.R. by 8 a.m.

 Marching in States will reach B.O.R. immediately on arrival.
 - 9. Falt hats will not be put in the pack but into bags and handed into R.Q.H. Store by 8 p.m. tonight.

Issued at 1 p.m.

Adjutant, 9th. Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No. 1. Commanding Officer.

2. Second in Command. 8. Quarternmester.

3. "A" Company. 9. Transport Officer.

4. "B" Company. 10. Medical Officer.

5. "C" Company. 11. File.

6. "D" Company. 12/14. War Diary.

7. H.Q. Company.

applendit. 9.

9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 139.

Ref. Sheets 27 SE. 1/20,000. Battalinn Headquarters, 36A No.E.

26th. Lay, 1918.

The 3rd. Australian Infantry Brigada will relieve the 1st. Australian Infantry Brigada in the line on 27th. and night 27th./28th. Hay, 1918.

9th. Battalion will relieve the 1st. Battalion in the line, LEFT SECTION on night 27th./28th. Lay, 1918.

Dispositions after relief will be :-3

> "A" Company (on the Right) - "B" Company (on the Left) - "D" Company (in Reserve). "C" Company (in Support)

Battalion Headquarters will be located at W.18.D.1.5.

4. Advance Parties of 1 Officer per Company and 1 N.C.O. per platoon will proceed to the line on the night 26th. /27th. Hay. reporting to 1st. Battalion Headquarters en route.

They will check and take over all stores, maps, documents, etc. and obtain receipts, which will be forwarded to Battalion Headquarters as soon as possible after relief.

"A" and "B" Companies will arrange guides for all front line posts.

- 5. The I.O. will get in touch with I.O. 1st. Battalion tonight and obtain all information relating to dispositions, atc. and will arrange for guides to meet Companies at (Junction Road) W.24.B.1.8.
- As many Officers and N.C.Os. as possible will reconneitre their Company positions on the night 26th. /27th. instant.
- Companies will leave present camp in a clean and sanitary condition, and will forward certificates to this effect as soon possible after relief, together with receipts (in triplicate), for stores atc. handed over to relieving unit.
- Companies will move to their rendezvous in the following order 08 tomorrow night:- "B", "A", "O", "D" and Headquarters. "B" Company moving out at 9 p.m.
- 9. DRESS Fighting Order plus blanket rolled in waterproof sheet and carried under haversack, 220 rounds of S.A.A. and 24 hours rations. Overcoat will be worn - Box Respirator to be worn at the "ALERT".
- via ROUGE CROIX Cross Roads Cross Roads W.16.C.9.4. -10. ROUTE. W.17.D.1.2 - Guidas Will mast Companies at junction of road W.24.B.1.8.
- ll. Details of relief not provided for herein will be arranged mutually between Company Commanders concerned.
- NUCLEUS BATTALION. All Officers and other ranks for Nucleus will be ready to move out by midday tomorrow under Capt. PENROSE Transport Officer will arrange to carry Officers: valises to Nucleus Battalion.
- 13. LIAISON. Capt. F.J. BIGGS will act as Liaison Officer with the Battalina on our Laft.

Completion of relief will be notified to this office in CODE. 14.

Adjutant,

appendit 10's

9TH. AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ORDER NO. 140.

Battalion Headquarters, 30th. May, 1918.



- 1. An Monter-Company relief will take place on night of 31st. May/1st. June, 1918.
- 2. Relief will be as follows:
 - sp: Company will relieve "A" Company.
 - "C" Company will relieve "B" Company.
- The Companies in front line being relieved will move to positions now occupied by their relieving companies.
- 4. Receipts for trench stores will be obtained by all Companies from Company they reliefe. Os.C. "A" and "B" Companies will send necessary Officer, N.C.Os. and guides back at dusk to take over trench stores, etc.
- 5. "C" and "D" Companies will have hot meal before moving forward.
 - "A" and "B" Companies meal will be ready when they arrive in the Reserve and Support positions respectively.
- 6. Company Commanders will arrange mutually any details not mentioned herein.
- 7. Receipts for trench stores will be forwarded to Battalion H.Q. immediately after relief is completed.
- 8. Telephones, Lewis Guns and panniers will NOT be handed over.
- 9. Incoming companies will get full particulars of working and carrying parties, A.A. Guards, Sentries, Patrols, etc. when taking over.
- 10. The two front line companies will put out a screen of 2 N.C.Ow. and 8 men to cover relief. These will be withdrawn when relief is complete.
- 11. Relief complete will be notified to Battalion H.Q. in Code.
- 12. Password for night 31st. May/1st. June will be -

PASSWORD - "SALTBUSH"

COUNTERSIGN - "KATE"

Adjutant, 9th. Battalion

Issued at 8 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. Commanding Officer.

2. "A" Company.

3. "B" Company.

4. "C" Company.

5. "D" Company.
6. H.Q. Company.

6. H.Q. C.

8. File.

9/11. War Diary.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING

SUBJECT	20 tie.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th-
Rifle Grenade	Description and method of using.	Firing with duds in open		Firing from trench with live bombs.	Live barrage.
Bombing	Description of grehades and throwing practice	Duds in open (Mills)	Duds in open(Egg)	ditto	Live barrage (Egg)
Bayonet Fighting			PROGRESSIVE		
Musketry	Muskets Rapid loading aiming and trigger pressing.	Rapid loading aiming and trigge pressing.	Indication of targets r Rapid loading and aiming.	Rapid loading and aiming.	Judging distances Rapid leading and aiming.
Leature		and Allied	Conduct of troops in rear Areas	Camouflage and its application	Construction of Constacles.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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appendix. 11.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN, INFANTRY BATTALION.

INTELLIGENCE

TRAINING

1st. Day	Meaning of Intelligence	童 1	nour
	Map reading lecture	8	151
	Patrols	1	34: Mi
	Compass Lecture and Demonstration	1	II.
2nd Day	Contours Lecture	1	th.
	Building of O.P. and use of Camouflage	1	兹
	Man enlarging	1	th.
	Road Map reading	1	tt
3rd . Day	Locations - Reverse Bearings	1	ttc
	Lecture on air Photography	1	n
	Tape Laying	1	施
	Lecture Scouting	1	54.
4th Day	Traversing	1	16
	Recognition of targets	生	16
	Night Marching	1	M
5th. Day	Lecture - Duty of observers	1	u
	Plotting	1	14
	Study of maps on ground	1	16

BA

appendit. 11.21

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALIUS_

Battalion Headquarters.

20th-May-1918.

Time table of work to be carried out as per syllabus of Training, for other than Specialists.

	7-30 - 8	8.830	8.45 - 9.15	
Rifle Grendes	A	D	C	В
Bombing	В	·	D	0
Bayonet Fighting	C	B	A	D
Musketry	D	C	В	A
Smoko and Lecture		8-30 - 8-4		

Lewis Gunners as per special syllabus ditto

Last half hour for Platoon in Attack-

BH

abbendit. 11.

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION ..

SYLLABUS	OF	TRAINING
LEWIS		GUN

From 20th.	Lay.1918.	to	26th-May.1918.
lst.Day.	hour i		Gun and principles.
2nd . Day .	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Stripping and as Gun Drill Stoppages	sembling.
3rd Day	1	Lecture on Spare Gun Drill Stoppages	Parts etc.
4th-Day-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Lecture on spare Gum Drill Stoppages	parts etc.
5th, Day.	F	lange Practices.	
6th.Day.	1 "	Resume of previo	
7th.Day.		ange Practices.	

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appendix. 11.23

NINTH AUSTRALIAN, INFANTRY, BATTALION.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING

SIGNALLING

Fro	m 20th-May-1918.	to 26th May 1918.
lst.Day.	9 - 9.30. 9.30 - 10 10 10.45. 11 - 12 2 - 4	Flag Drill Message writing Lecture Common Faults of D.J. telephone. Station work and discipline. Recreational Training.
2nd Day	9 - 10 10 - 10.45 11 - 12 2 - 4	Line repairing and erecting Message and group reading Lucas Lamp work Recreational Training.
3rd.Day.	9 - 12 - 4	Long distance staylon work Recreational Training.
4th.Day.	9 - 9.30 9.30 - 10 10 - 10:45 11 - 12 2 - 4	Flag Drill Lecture (Fullerphone) Buzzer Practice Coding and decoding messages (playfair) Recreational Training.
5th.Day.	9 - 10 10 10.45 11 - 12 2 - 4	Station Work (Flag) Buzzer Practice Map reading and compass bearings Recreational Training.
6th.Day.	9 - 12 - 4	Relay Station Recreational Training
7/bh-Day-	9 -9.30 -30 - 10 10 - 10.45 11 - 12	Semaphore Practice Message writing Lamp Practice Lecture - Writing and care of all messages) Disciplines

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applendit. 11.24

NINTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

TRAINING SYLLABUS

From 20ty	May-1918.	to 26th-May-1918.
1st.Day.	9 - 9.30	Battalion Drill Musketry (rapid loading and aiming) Plateon Drill Specialist Training Syllabus Remainder of "A" Company for cup discharger bombing etc. Recreational Training, Battalion Sports.
2nd Day	9-30 - 10	Battalion Drill Musketry (Rapid loading and aiming) Platoon Drill Specialist Syllabus Remainder of "B" Company for Cup discharger bombing etc. Recreational Training.
3rd Day	9-30 - 10	Battalion Drill Musketry(Rapid loading and aiming) Company Drill Specialist Syllabus Remainder of "C" Company for cup discharger bombing etc. Recreational Training
4th.Day.	9-30-10	Battalion Drill Musketry (Rapid loading and aiming) Platoon Drill Platoon in attack Specialist training as per attached syllabus. Remainder of "D" Company for cup discahrger bombing etc. Recreational Training.
5th.Day.	9 - 9-30	Battalion Drill Musketry(rapid loading aiming) Company Drill Platoon in attack Specialist training as per attached syllabus. Remainder of "A" Company for cup discharger bombing etc. Recreational Training
6th.Day.	9 - 9+30	Battalion Drill Musketry (judging distance) Company in attack Specialist training as per attached syllabus. Platoon in attack. Remainder of "B" Company for cup discharger bombing etc. Recreational training.