

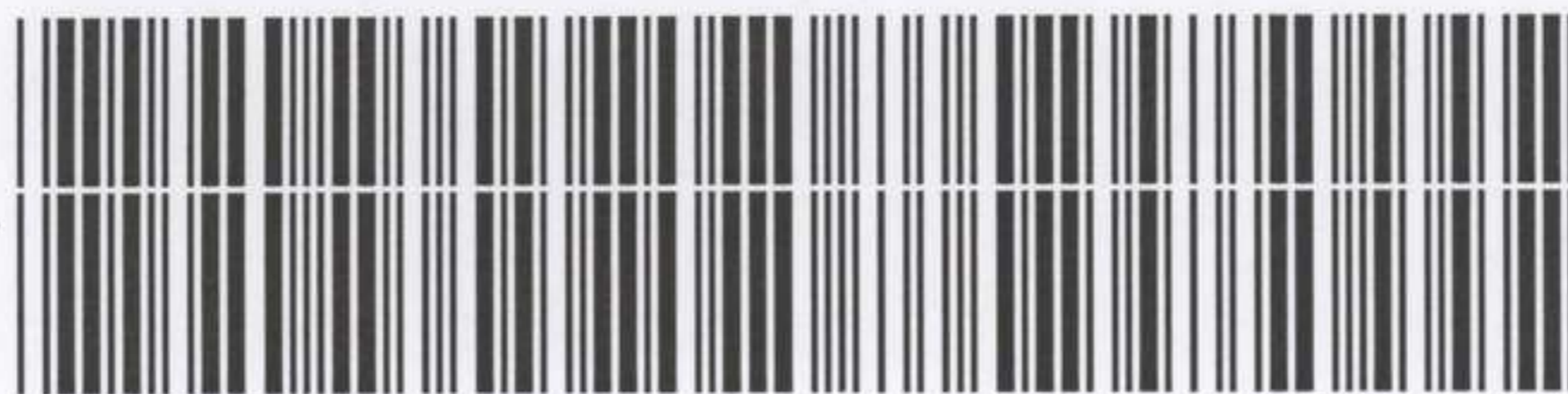
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/41/31

Title: 24th Infantry Battalion

April 1918



AWM4-23/41/31

18,000-12/1 -8723

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

24th Battalion AIF.

FOR

April 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

[Handwritten Signature]

Captain & Adjutant

Signature of Officer Commanding

[Handwritten Signature]
CO 24th Battalion AIF.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Strazeele	2.4.15.		<p>At 10 a.m. the Bn. embussed at Neuve Eglise in a fleet of motor lorries and proceeded via Locre Flétre and Caestre to Strazeele from where the Bn. marched to billets in a little village nearby. The trip was most enjoyable the day being a beautiful sunny. The green of the hedges and trees and the sprouting crops showed that spring had come. The passage over the Scherpenberg the chain of hills that practically dominates Belgium was most striking. A magnificent panorama view was obtained - east of the battlefield near Vrooc and Wyl's chateau; North the war spoiled country near Reninghelst and Poperinge and South the well cultivated fields surrounding Baillent, thickly dotted with prosperous little villages. The contrast between North and East and South and West was most marked - the one battle scarred and an armed camp the other a picture of industry and peacefulness.</p> <p>A arrival in billets rest in the eve of the day.</p>	
	3.4.15	9.45-12	Reorganization of companies & the taking of stores and unserviceable clothing and equipment	
		2 P.M.	The Bn. paraded on a green field and was inspected by the C.O. who afterwards gave a short address expressing his keen appreciation of the good and interesting work performed by all ranks during the recent long term of duty in the front line. The band or suitable military played several excellent selections.	
	4.4.15	10-12.	Day Parade organization and exchange of unserviceable clothing. The remainder of the day was devoted to rest, preparing to move.	

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or

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Strazeele	5.4.18	3.30 a.m.	<p>The Bn. proceeded to Strazeele Station and embarked in the motor trucks. Departed at 5 a.m. for the beach passing on route Calais and Boulogne. At the former place the train stopped and the band seized the opportunity of entertaining the Bn. and a crowd of W.A.D.C.s who were lying near by. Hardly had they commenced to play when the train moved off much to the chagrin of the Bandmen. The Bn. Dismounted just managing to get a board the last truck. The journey was slow but sure and at 5.30 p.m. the Bn. disembarked at Hangest-sur-Somme, from which place the Bn. started on a weary 17 kilo march to Vaux-en-Amiens. At 9 p.m. the Bn. halted for an hour when hot tea was served from the cooks and was much appreciated. Proceeding on the Bn. crossed the Somme at Ailly and eventually reached Vaux at 1 a.m.</p>	
Vaux	6.4.18	6 a.m. - 12 m.n.	<p>Reveille at 4 a.m. and after breakfast the Bn. marched 4 miles to Bertingles where motor buses were waiting. The Bn. embarked and proceeded via Amiens, Quiennion and Pont Nogelles to a point on the Albert Road. From this point the Bn. commenced to march to Baizieux where billets were to be occupied. At 12 noon dinner - dry ration was taken in the road out of Franvillers and the vicinity several Battalion were seen digging and moving the new Amiens Defences. Baizieux was reached at 3 p.m. when old orders were cancelled and the Bn. ordered to occupy trenches in the vicinity. Later these orders were again cancelled and this time the Bn. had to go into support trenches near Lavoiville. Reconnaissance was made but again fresh orders were issued and eventually the Bn. proceeded at 9 p.m. to go and take up shelter at Millencourt.</p>	

A7092). Wt. W12819/M129 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Millencourt.	7.4.18	12.1.0.A	<p>Raining hard and the blackness of the night lit at intervals by the flashes of our guns and the burst of occasional shells. Companies in the dark found their correct map reference but unfortunately the trench and shelter were occupied and there was no room for a Platoon let alone a Battalion so the four companies got out with few sheets and bivouacs for the night in a copse. At dawn the Bn. went to a gully on the outskirts of Millencourt and started to dig in. Wood was obtained from the ruined houses in the village and by night all ranks had good shelter and slept soundly and comfortably on good clean straw.</p>	
	8.4.18		<p>The day was spent resting and in the improvement of shelter. The men visited the village which had been heavily evacuated by the inhabitants. All their possessions were left behind but as the place had been heavily bombarded practically everything was ruined. Some furniture and a good deal of wheat, oats and coffee beans were salvaged and sent to the French Mission which greatly appreciated their act. In one place a piano undamaged was found and an impromptu concert began. However the piano was punctured by shells and at last the piano had to be heavily abandoned. The piano was afterwards rescued and sent to the rear.</p>	
	9.4.18.		<p>Revs. Tubs of all descriptions were collected, fire lighters and matches sent and the Bn. bathed in comparative luxury. Clean clothes were available and the food and charge were greatly appreciated.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Millencourt	10.4.18		<p>The day was mainly devoted to rest but everybody worked to improve the shelters and make them more comfortable and shell proof. Very little shelling in the proximity of latter part of area is occasionally heavily shelled and we have unfortunately had severe casualties. Parties worked salvaging timber and iron to send forward for the construction of dug outs.</p>	
	11.4.18		<p>Day quiet. No news and organization preparatory to taking over the line at night. At 8 P.M. Battalion moved off and by 10 P.M. the 23rd Bn. had been relieved. The relief was completed without incident. A Coy. was in contact; C + D in Pioneer Trench and B in Support.</p>	
Puisie	12.4.18		<p>When dawn broke the Bn. found itself 1500 yards west of Albert the famous "leaning berg" looking down on the sorely battered and then occupied town which formed on 11.4. for the some offensive. We had mixed feelings that no serious Albert and the ridge east behind which lies Pozieres and many of our dead. Unfortunately we were not present to defend the ground we had so hardy won. The day was quiet. The trenches were improved and the construction of dug outs commenced. A Recounting Party searched our front but nothing was made.</p>	

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dun.	13.4.18.		<p>The day was cloudy and was quiet except for light shelling of our area - no damage was done. Work on trench and shelter was continued and good progress made. Some of the former posts were protected by "concrete" wire. Some of the practice S.O.C. shells by the Artillery were sent forward. Enemy sniper were active but caused no casualties.</p>	
"	14.4.18		<p>At 12.45 a.m. Lieut. Locknell and 20 of rank including Dennis Lee attempted to cut out a post on the right Br. sector. The night was very dark and the party creeps to within 50 yards of the objective. They had a severe hand fight 200 yards to the right the enemy were vigilant and it was discovered that the enemy post was protected by three M.G. which fired continuously. Several attempts were made to enter the enemy line but the opposition was too great & the party withdrew. One of our men was badly wounded by M.G. fire. The day was again quiet. The enemy is so far away from us that no offensive action can be taken. An Bangalore Sniper was active and our men firing by section obtained absolute mastery of fire making it quite safe to walk in front of our line in safety if necessary. Much work was done. Pioneer Trench was deepened. 15' cut of communication was erected. R.A.P. completed and Br. H.Q. floored.</p>	
"	15.4.18.		<p>Activities were usual - the enemy apparently listless. In S.O.C. line - no damage to us. At night the 28" Br. took over the Relief being completed at 10.15 P.M. Some of our snipers were heavily shelled and six of our men were wounded. The Br. again occupied shelter near Millen court.</p>	

CR

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Millencourt.	16.4.18		Day devoted to rest. Feet were washed and treated and soon changed. A splendid gift of tobacco cigarettes biscuits - new Amtrader - and milk from the V.R.C. was distributed and found very acceptable - especially the biscuits which were greatly relished.	
"	17.4.18.		Rest and organization. Reinforcement were posted to companies. Much work was done in the afternoon salvaging timber & iron to send forward. At night a party of 1 officer - 30 O/R. erected 150 yards of double apron wire in front of the Lavioville defenses.	
-	18.4.18		A very quiet day in which the sun was enjoyed by all ranks to the fullest extent.	
-	19.4.18		Rest and organization preparatory to taking over the line at night. The barrage was shelled at 5 o'clock and several casualties were caused to us. At night the Bn. relieved the 23 rd in the line. Relief completed by 9.30 P.M. without incident. 18 coils of ^{barbed} wire erected on outpost line.	
Line	20.4.18		Rather active day - on artillery fire several destructive shoots which must have considerably harassed the enemy. His reply was fairly heavy and a special area shot was made on rear of Pioneer Trench and near B.A.A. No damage was done as yet as casualties inflicted - as usually shot killing an engine was Reg. Bpt. dugger whose loss will be greatly felt. Work at night consisted of deepening and furthering Pioneer Trench and thickening wire in front. Since our last hour the 'leaning tower' on Albert's batteries has been knocked down by shell fire thus removing perhaps the most notable landmark of the war.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Line	21.4.18.		Quiet day generally, although our artillery was active. Retaliation did not offer us. At midnight you were noticed apparently driven from the N. by the wind. No ill effect was felt as Respiration was at once used. At night two parties of 1 Off and 40 O/R each commenced digging a trench to connect outposts. 100 yards deep. Work was hampered by the gas.	
"	22.4.18.		Less quiet than usual. Outposts and Pioneer Trench were shelled but very little damage was done and only 5 casualties caused. Considerable work was done. Additional shells were made in Pioneer and Reserve Trenches which were also deepened & improved. 4 Coy. H.Q. were dug and completed.	
"	23.4.18.		A fairly lively day owing to frequent but not severe shelling. At 3.45 a.m. the vicinity of Br. H.Q. was heavily bombarded with 10.5 c.m shells which had sleeping gas mixed with the H.E. Shelling ceased at 6 a.m. Respiration was worn for 30 minutes. No ill effects were felt. At 7 P.M. a plane with British markings flying fairly low flew over Br. H.Q. firing its M.G. bullets falling within a few feet of the C.O. One bullet was dug up and found to be German. This is another proof that the Germans use our planes. Good work was done at night. 2 parties each of 1 Off. & 50 O/R. continued digging the connecting trench between the Outposts.	
"	24.4.18		A quiet day once more. At night our parties saw parties of the enemy working. In return our artillery was informed and did a shoot. More dug-outs were constructed in Reserve Trench. 2 parties each of 1 Off. & 50 O/R. continued digging on the Outpost line.	

A7092). Wt. W12839/M1297 750,000. 1/17. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Paris.	25.4.18		<p>Our week day in but the much expected relief came at night when the 23rd Bn. once more took over from us. After relief the Bn. again occupied shelter near Millencourt.</p> <p>In celebration of Anzac Day the Band which is billeted during our tour formed at Montigny near by train to Abbeville and played at the 2nd Australian C.C.S. where Sports were held. Patients and visitors much appreciated the fine program rendered so well by our band.</p>	
Millencourt	26.4.18		<p>Cleaning clothing and equipment and rest after the long tour in the line. At night 2 Off. + 60 o/r. erected 400 yards of Double Apron fence in front of the Lavierville Defences. 1 W.C. + 24 o/r. commenced tunneling by shifts a new B.H.W. in V23 C. 3.6</p>	
"	27.4.18		<p>Rest. Foot washing commenced. As Bn. is in Div. Reserve reconnaissance of the whole Div. front was made by Officers. At night 1 Officer + 60 o/r. dug strong post in rear of Pioneer Trench. 2 Off. + 60 o/r. working Lavierville Defences. 150 yards.</p>	
"	28.4.18		<p>A quiet day. A and C Coy went to new shelter in the field N. of Millencourt. The hour of sunshine was availed of to play cricket. Two new Coy H.Q. now built on the new site.</p>	
"	29.4.18		<p>Another quiet day but at 7 o'clock at night the enemy began an area shoot on batteries in rear of Millencourt which continued for an hour. Our shelter in the vicinity now evacuated and we had no casualties. At night 2 Off. + 60 o/r. raised 250 yards of Lavierville Defences the necessary R.L. material being carried from dump to the work.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Millencourt	30.4.18		Foot washing completed and change of clothing made. Weather fine. The country is becoming beautiful again after the winter. Everything is now green and the flowers are beginning to bloom. Birds are plentiful also game. Despite orders it is dangerous to roam the fields for despite orders to the contrary the troops persist in endeavouring to reap the daily stem with a fat game or hare. At night 2 Hqs. & 60 o/p. mined 2nd gate & completed protection of Lavieville Defences.	
"	1.5.18		May day and all quiet on front. Preparation made for a move to the rear tomorrow.	
"	2.5.18		At 10 a.m. the Bn. moved off by Bapaume on a march to the back areas. Passed Henencourt and Warloy where the friends among the inhabitants turned out to greet us. Lunch was served at Contay. Trenches are being dug in this area & we made a perfect maze. The industry & optimistic hopefulness of the villagers is very striking. They are still to be seen ploughing and cultivating in front of the defences & in many cases under shell fire. Continuing after lunch Montigny was reached and on road joined us here and marched the Bn. through Frechen court to Pont Noyelles where billets were taken up in the pretty though now dirty & practically deserted village through which runs the little Rive Hallue where good swimmers can be had. All ranks now plan to go back to comparative civilization after a strenuous term of fighting this day in the former area.	

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WAR DIARY

OF

24th Battalion AIF

FOR

April

1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Operation Order No. 77 dated 1/4/18.
2.	" " No. 79 " 11/4/18.
3.	" " No. 81 " 15/4/18.
4.	Provisional Defence Scheme 2 nd Rn 16/4/18.
5.	Operation Order No. 82 dated 18/4/18.
6.	" " No. 83 " 24/4/18.
7.	" " No. 84 " 25/4/18.
8.	" " No. 85 " 1/5/18.
9.	Preliminary Defence Order No. 1 2/5/18.

Re: ~~SECRET~~Sheet 98. 1/40,000.
Fleegsteert 1/40,000.

1st April 1918.

1. The 84th A.I. Bn (line left) will be relieved by the 1st WILTSHIRE REGIMENT to-night 1/3 April. On completion of relief Bn will entrain at RACING DUMP for ROMARIN SIDING when guides will meet each Coy - moving to billets at T.L.D.P.A. Lieut. H. Baxter will act as entraining Officer.
2. Subject to the terms of this order all details of the relief will be arranged direct between C.O.'s Coys.
3. Nucleus personnel of the 84th A.I. Bn will rejoin Bn in new area to-night. The Coy of the 93rd Bn attached to 84th Bn, will, on relief come under the orders of the C.O. 93rd Bn.
4. No defences will be vacated until properly handed over to the relieving unit. "B" Coy will leave 3 Lewis Guns and "C" Coy 3 Lewis Guns with two gunners per gun, in the line until dawn to-morrow and April. "B" Coy will detail 1 M.C.O. to collect these men and report direct to 1st A.I. Bn (CATALANES) who will arrange to accommodate them, bathe them, and transport guns until arrival at the staging camp area. Signallers remaining behind till dawn will comply with the above.
5. One covering patrol on each flank will cover the relief. Lieut. R.G. Nichols M.E. will arrange.
6. Advance parties of incoming units will come into the trenches this afternoon.
7. All defence schemes, maps, air photos, trench and area stores will be handed over on relief and receipts in duplicate forwarded to Bn Hqrs by 10 a.m. and April.
8. "D" Coy will provide three guides for each of the three incoming Companies, under an Officer reporting to HQDR PARA CORNER at 8 p.m. to-day. Guides for posts will assemble at Bn Hqrs at 8.30 p.m. to-day.
9. Lieut. O.J. Sweetland with one M.C.O. per Coy provided from details at ANTRIM LINES, will report to Capt. ROAD at 3 p.m. at NEUVE ECLISE.
10. Transport section will move under the orders of the Bde T.O.
11. Completion of relief will be notified to Bn Hqrs by wire in code.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued by runner at 12.10 p.m.

J. Phelick
Captain & Adjutant.

Charters

Every

document

XIB990

DISTRIBUTION.

- No. 1 War Diary
- 2. File
- 3 6th A.I. Bde
- 4 C.O.
- 5 Adjutant.
- 6. "B" Coy.
- 7 "C" "
- 8 "D" "

- No. 9 Nucleus Coy.
- 10. 6th Gloucesters.
- 11 2nd Bn. A.I.F.
- 12 "B" Coy. 3rd Bn.
- 13 R.M.O.
- 14 R.Q.M.
- 15 T.O.
- 16 S.O.

Secret

24th A.I. Bn order NO 81

Copy No

Ref map sheet 62 D NE 1/20000 15 April 18

1. The 24th A.I. Bn will be relieved in the left sub-sector (line) of the DSE on the night 15/16th April.
2. Relief will be carried out as below

A Coy 23 rd Bn	relieved	B Coy 24 th Bn
B " 23	"	A " 24
C " 23	"	C " 24
D " 23	"	D " 24
3. Defence schemes, trench stores, local information and intelligence will be handed over and receipts in duplicate forwarded to Bn Hqs by 10 am on 16th inst.
4. Two covering patrols from Bn Scouts will cover the relief.
5. Guides at 8.30 pm at junction of PIONEER TRENCH and AMIENS - ALBERT ROAD E 7 6 55.40

(cont)

- A Coy 1 Guide per 3 posts
- C Coy 1 Guide per platoon and 1 for forward post
- D Coy 1 " " " " " " " " " " " "

6. No defences will be vacated until properly taken over by incoming Coy
7. On relief companies will move into C Bns area bivouacs in V 29 C each man carrying 2 bombs + 220 lbs SAA
8. Other arrangements will be made mutually between O.Cs Coy
9. Completion of relief will be wired to Bn Hqs employing code word WRIGLEY when relief is complete

10. Acknowledge

Issued by runner at 10 am
 Distribution
 1 file 8 A Coy
 2 wardairy 9 B
 3 6th AT BDE 10 C
 4 23rd Bn 11 D
 5 15 Helik. 12 S.O.
 6 C.O. 13 22nd Bn
 7 adjt 14 Spand

Phelluk.
 Capt-adjt

SECRET.

~~SECRET.~~

COPY No. 2

Provisional Defence Scheme No.1 "C" Bn.

Ref. Map	Sheets	62 D. N.E.	1/20,000	
		57 D. S.E.	1/20,000.	16th April 1918.

1. The Brigade boundaries

<u>North.</u>	Line through	D.4. cent.	D.5. cent.	D.6. cent.
		E.1. "	E.2. "	E.3. "
<u>South.</u>	Line through	D.10.a.6.4.	D.11.b.6.3.	D.12. cent.
		E.7.c.2.8.	E.13.d.9.1.	E.20.b.4.5.

2. Dispositions are

"A" Bn.	Front line	RIGHT.
"B" "	" "	LEFT.
"C" "	SUPPORT BN.	Bivouacs V.29.c.
"D" "	RESERVE BN.	LAVIEVILLE LINE.
		D.11.c.0.0. to D.5.a.0.0.
		and one Coy between ALBERT &
		AMIENS Road and quarry-D.6.c.2.7.

3. The lines of advance on which the enemy would concentrate, in view of recent fighting, are the valley running north from BUIRE and the valley between ALBERT AND MILLENCOURT.

4. To combat an enemy advance up the latter valley "C" Bn would be used moving to the counter-attack either in a south easterly or easterly direction according to the situation. In addition the reserve Coy of "B" Bn (left line Bn) would, depending on the weight of the enemy's frontal attack, possibly be available under the Bn Commanders orders to attack in a northerly direction the flank of the enemy's troops in the valley. Should the enemy make progress up the valley from BUIRE.

5. "C" Bn may be ordered to support either "A" or "B" Bns or to counter-attack and re-establish the SUPPORT LINE if it is lost.

6. ASSEMBLY POINT.

Bn in artillery formation west of MILLENCOURT - LAVIEVILLE road

"A" Coy.	Right
"B" "	Left
"C" "	in rear of "A" Coy.
"D" "	in " " "B" "

Centre point and point of direction will rest on the last tree in row of trees MILLENCOURT - LAVIEVILLE Road
D.5.a.3.5.
Frontage of Bn will be 250 yds.

7. Officers and N.C.O.'s will make an early reconnaissance forward from present positions to the point of ASSEMBLY.

8. When an S.O.S. signal goes up our front or is notified to Coys from Bn Hqrs all ranks will "Stand to" at the Coy alarm post.

(2)

4

- 8. Each Coy will send two runners to Bn Hqrs. No troops will (contd) be moved forward until the situation develops, but each Coy Commander will keep himself in touch with the situation by means of observers.
- 9. Coys will be prepared to move forward within fifteen minutes of receipt of the order to "Stand to".
 Dress :- Fighting order - blankets to be dumped at Coy Hqrs under a guard.
 170 rounds S.A.A.
 2 bombs.
 Water bottles filled.
 Unconsumed portion 24 hours rations and Iron ~~XXXX~~ rations.
- 10. The following method will be adopted forthwith by aeroplanes of the Corps squadron on this line. The aeroplanes will fly towards the direction of the impending attack sounding the KLAXON HORN and throw out in the same direction a white parachute flare which will remain in the air about 2 minutes - the usual S.O.S. call will be sent down to the artillery.
- 11. Artillery. The Bde is covered by left group artillery consisting of two Field Artillery Brigades.
- 12. Medical arrangements
 R.A.P. MILLENCOURT V.29.c.95.45.
 Bearer Relay Post. D.17.b.3.0.
 Adv. Dressing station. HENENCOURT.
 Walking wounded. HENENCOURT.
- 13. Battle Straggler Posts.
 ROAD JUNCTION, HENENCOURT CHATEAU.
 BAZIEUX.
 FRANVILLERS.
- 14. Prisoners of War.
 Cage is situated at BAZIEUX at which location prisoners will be handed over to A.P.M.
- 15. Bde Hqrs. HENENCOURT CHATEAU.
- 16. Bde Dump. HENENCOURT WOOD.
- 17. Bn Hqrs. V.29.d.0.2.
- 18. ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. Miller

Captain & Adjutant.

<u>Distribution</u>	
No. 1	File.
2	War Diary
3	6th A.I. Bde.
4	L.flank Bn. 114 Bde.
5	C.O.
6	"A" Coy.
7	"C" "
No. 8	"D" Coy.
9	"A" Bn.
10	"B" Bn.
11	"D" Bn.
12	Major Ellwood M.C.
13	"B" Coy.
14	Adjutant.

SECRET.

COEY NO. 2

5

24th Australian Infantry Battalion Order No. 82

Ref. Map

Sheet 62 D. N.E. 1/20,000.

18th April 1918.

1. The 24th A.I. Bn will relieve the 23rd A.I. Bn in the left sub-sector of the front line on the night 19/20 April.
2. Relief will be carried out as below

"A" Coy.	24th Bn.	relieves	"A" Coy.	23rd Bn.
"B" "	"	"	"B" "	"
"C" "	"	"	"C" "	"
"D" "	"	"	"D" "	"
3. On relief disposition of 24th A.I. Bn will be

Outpost Coy.	"B" Coy.
PIONEER TRENCH RIGHT	"C" "
LEFT	"D" "
RESERVE TRENCH	"A" "
4. Dress. Fighting Order plus one blanket, 170 rounds S.A.A. 3 bombs per man, Water bottles filled, 24 hours rations and iron ration.
5. Route. Bivouacs V.20.c. - MILLENCOURT - ALBERT ROAD to DEAD HORSE CORNER D.6.d.3.4. - communication trench to RESERVE line and PIONEER TRENCH.
6. Coy. guides from 23rd A.I. Bn will meet relieving Companies at D.6.d.3.4. at 8.45.p.m. Guides for the outpost system will be at Outpost Coy. Hqrs. Movement from bivouacs will commence at 8 p.m. on 19th April - platoons in file at 50 yds interval in order "A", "B", "C" & "D" Coys.
7. Defence schemes, trench stores, local information and intelligence will be carefully taken over and receipts in duplicate forwarded to Bn Hqrs by 10 a.m. on 20th April.
8. O.C's Coys will arrange any details not covered by this order.
9. Bn Hqrs - D.12.b.5.1.
10. R.A.P. # D.12.b.5.1.
11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. H. Ellwood

Captain & Adjutant.

Distribution			
No. 1	File	No. 8	"A" Coy.
2.	War Diary	9	"B" "
3.	6th A.I. Bde.	10.	"C" "
4	23rd A.I. Bn	11	"D" "
5	21st A.I. Bn	12	R.M.O.
6	C.O.	13	Major W.H. Ellwood M.C.
7	Adjutant.	14	Spare.

Issued by runner at.....p.m.

6000

24th A.I. Bn order No 83.

Cop

Ref map 62 DNE 1/20000
57 D SE 1/20000

24th A.I.

1. The 24th A.I. Bn will be relieved
the line by 22nd Bn and part of
Coy 23rd Bn on the night 24/25
inter Bn boundary being an E.
line through E 2 C.O.S. BDE bow
are SOUTH E.W. line through E 7 a
NORTH E.W. line through W 26.

2. Coy's will be relieved as follows

B Coy posts 1-8 and 11 and 1;
by B Coy 22nd A.I. Bn

Posts 9-10 13-14 by A Coy 23rd A.I.

B Coy PIONEER TRENCH by C Coy 22nd A.I.

D Coy PIONEER TRENCH by D Coy 22nd A.I.
and A Coy 23rd A.I.

A Coy RESERVE TRENCH by A Coy 22nd A.I.

3. On relief Coy's will move to V 29
to bivouacs

4. Guides will be provided for as
below.

Spot Coy. Guides per post for A Coy 22nd A.I.
to be at junction of AMIENS - ALBEI
ROAD and PIONEER TRENCH at 117

Coy PIONEER TRENCH 2 Guides per post
at place as above at 11 post

5. No defence system is to be
vacated until the relief is complete
6. O.C.s Coy's will mutually arrange
any details not covered by this order

7. All maps, intelligence, area stores
and general information will be
handed over and receipts in
duplicate forwarded to Bn HQ's
by 10 am 25th April.

8. all S.O.S. pockets are to be brought
out on relief.

9. Completion of relief to be wired
in Code to Bn HQ's.

10. Acknowledge
R. H. H. H.
Capt. Adj.

Distribution

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | File | 12 | R.M.D. |
| 2 | war diary | 13 | Major Ellwood Mc |
| 3 | 6 th A.I. BDE | 14 | Spore. |
| 4 | 22 nd A.I. Bn | | |
| 5 | 23 rd A.I. Bn | | |
| 6 | 15 th Welsh Regt | | |
| 7 | A Coy | | |
| 8 | B Coy | | |
| 9 | C Coy | | |
| 10 | D Coy | | |
| 11 | CO | | |

Secret

24th A1 Bn order No 84

Copy No 1

Ref map 62 D NE 1/20000
59 D S.E. 1/20000

25th April 19

- The 24th A1 Bn will be relieved on the line by 23rd A1 Bn on the night 24/25th April
- Relief will be carried out as below
Out post lines
A Coy 23rd Bn relieves B Coy 24th A1 Bn
Pioneer Trench
C Coy 23rd Bn relieves C Coy 24th A1 Bn
Reserve Trench
D Coy 23rd Bn relieves D Coy 24th A1 Bn
B Coy 23rd Bn relieves A Coy 24th A1 Bn
- Two covering patrols from Bn Hqs scouts will cover the relief
- One guide per post under an officer from B Coy will assemble at junction of communication trench and PIONEER TRENCH at 9 pm. No further guides will be required.

- No defence system is to be vacated until the relief is complete
- B Coy will mutually arrange any details not covered by this order
 - On relief companies will move to bivouacs in V 29 C
A further allotment of Coy areas will take place on 26th April
 - All maps intelligence and area stores will be handed over and receipts in duplicate forwarded to Bn Hqs by 10 am 26th April
 - Completion of relief will be wired in code to Bn Hqs
 - to acknowledge

Issued by runner at 4 pm
Distribution
Phelan
Capt + adj

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | File | |
| 2 | Wai Mairi | 8 |
| 3 | 6 th A1 Bde | 9 |
| 4 | 22 nd A1 Bn | 10 |
| 5 | 23 rd A1 Bn | 11 |
| 6 | 75 th Welsh Lt | 12 |
| 7 | A.O. | 13 |
| | | 14 |
| | | A Coy |
| | | B " |
| | | C " |
| | | D " |
| | | Major Ellwood MC |
| | | RMO |
| | | Spere |

94

SECRET.

COPY NO.

24th Australian Infantry Battalion Order No. 85

Appendix 19

Ref. Map

Sheet 57d 1/40,000
62d 1/40,000.

1st May 1918.

1. The 2nd AUST. DIVISION is moving into CORPS RESERVE, the 6th A.I. Bde group to the QUERRIEU - DACOURS AREA.
2. The 24th A.I. Bn will move from present bivouacs at 9.30 a.m. 2nd May by march route to the QUERRIEU - DACOURS AREA passing the starting point U.23.d.9.5. at 10.45 a.m.
Order of march :- "D", "B", Bn Hq Details, "C" & "A".
3. Route :- HENENCOURT - WARLOY - (U.23.d.9.5.) CONTAY - BEAUCOURT - MONTIGNY - BEHENCOURT - PONT NOYELLES.
4. Cookers will accompany Coys on the march, Lewis Gun limbers in rear of Bn under the transport N.C.O.
5. The following minimum distances will be maintained on the march.

Between Bns	500 yds.
Coys	100 "
Unit & its transport	100 "
Transport sections	100 "
Each group of 6 vehicles	25 "
6. Clock halts will be observed. The mid-day halt will be from 11.45 a.m. to 1 P.M.
7. Dress :- Fighting Order plus one blanket rolled on web waist belt. Greatcoat rolled in W.P. Sheet to be carried bandolier fashion. 120 rounds S.A.A. Water bottles filled. Iron rations. Unexpended portion 24 hrs. rations.
8. A billeting party consisting of Lieut. A.E. Middleton and 1 N.C.O per Coy and Bn Hq. will report to STAFF CAPTAIN at the TOWN MAJOR's office QUERRIEU at 11 a.m. on 2nd May.
9. Bn Transport Section will move under orders of the Brigade Transport Officer.
10. O.C's Coys will render a marching out state, also certificate of cleanliness of the Coy area to Bn Hqrs by 8.30 a.m. on 2nd May.
11. Watches will be synchronised by the Bn Sig. Officer before 9 a.m. on 2nd May.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

J.P. Seller

Captain & Adjutant.

Issued by runner at *4/10 PM*

Distribution

- | | | | |
|-------|--------------|-------|-------------------------|
| No. 1 | File | No. 7 | "B" Coy. |
| 2 | War Diary | 8 | "C" " |
| 3 | 6th A.I. Bde | 9 | "D" " |
| 4 | C.O. | 10 | Major W.H. Ellwood M.C. |
| 5 | Adjutant | 11 | Spare |
| 6 | "A" Coy. | | |

SECRET.

84th A.I. BATTN. PRELIMINARY DEFENCE ORDER No. 1.

COPY No. 29

REF. Map Sheet 63.D. 1/40,000.

2nd May 1918.

Appendix 9

1. While the 2nd Aust. Divn. is in Corps Reserve it will probably, if called upon, be employed offensively for the maintenance of the forward positions within the Corps boundaries.
2. In the event of an enemy attack South of the SOMME the Division may be employed for prompt counter attack. An attack on VILLERS BRETTONEUX would probably come from the east or south east. Our counter attack would then be delivered in an easterly direction from a forming up place along the CACHY FOUILLOY Road in O.27. b., O.22., and O.16. c - or in a south easterly direction from a forming up place approximately O.16. d., O.17. c. & b.
3. A position of readiness for the Brigade has been selected in O.7. d., and O.13. b. Bn. positions will be notified later.
4. Routes to the position of readiness :-
 - (a) Road from QUERRIEU to BUSSY then across country to any of the emergency bridges which cross the SOMME between LAMOTTE and BLANGY TRONVILLE, then via BLANGY TRONVILLE.
 - (b) PONT NOYELLES through H.24. H.30. I.31. and across bridge in O.1. c.

The better route is the former as the area BUSSY - DAOURS VECQUEMONT and the ground to the East as well as the crossings of the SOMME is liable to heavy shelling.
5. Should the Divn. not be employed offensively its role will be to check the enemy in the line of the HALLUE defences (VECQUEMONT - QUERRIEU - FRECHENCOURT).
6. O.C's Coys. will assemble at Bn. Hqrs. at 9.15 a.m. on 3rd May to reconnoitre the position of readiness, forming up places, and routes to them.
7. While in the QUERRIEU area each Coy. will hold itself in readiness to move at two hours notice. Men will have 220 rounds S.A.A. and bombs to the number of two per man will be held ready for immediate issue.
8. While in the QUERRIEU area each Coy. will keep one Lewis Gun mounted and ready to engage hostile aircraft.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.


Captain and Adjutant.
DISTRIBUTION.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1. File | 5. "A" Coy. |
| 2. War Diary | 6. "B" Coy. |
| 3. 6th A.I. Bde. | 7. "C" Coy. |
| 4. C. O. | 8. "D" Coy. |

Issued by Runner at 11. p.m.