

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/41/8

Title: 24th Infantry Battalion

April 1916



AWM4-23/41/8

24 Bn. 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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In Train	MARCH 27		In train	
	28		In train - near Sens Pte Kennedy fell from train and was removed to hospital in Sens in dying condition.	
AIRE REBECQ	29	0900 1600	Arrive BERGUETTE " AIRE debarked - Marched to REBECQ arriving 1300. Billeted	
REBECQ	30	1100	In Billets Detachment ex HMT MACDALENA under Major MANNING reported viz 10 officers 306 OR also detachment ex HMT EDINBURGH CASTLE viz 21 OR and 8 horses.	
do	31.		In Billets - Company training and refitting.	
do	April 1		do do - do do.	
do	2		do do - do do.	

Crew work
at Co 24th

24 Bn AIF

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
REBECQ	April 3	8 a.m.	Remainder of party ex EDINBURGH CASTLE less 20R and 3 horses report quar provided for convoy to other battalions of 6th Bde - Company training	
		2.30 pm	Transport Section in accordance with Bde. Orders report to 21st Bn.	
		7 pm	Transport Section report back.	
do	4	8 am	Transport Section reports to 21st Bn to accompany 1st Bn on their move - Company training move order received from Bde. - Battalion to move April 7 via AIRE HAVERSQUERQUE towards FLEURBAIX. Orders Time for move altered to 11 am to enable Gen Joffre to review Bn.	
do	5		Order for review by Gen Joffre cancelled - Training - 8 stragglers from 22nd Bn and 1 from 21st Bn handed to the Bn for custody of Bde.	
do	6		Training - Bn move order issued - 1 prisoner of 21st Bn rec'd from A.P.M AIRE for custody 18 Canadian G.S. waggons report to act as our transport.	Use

Call with
Apr 24 Bn

24 Bn

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
REBECQ	April 7	12 noon	<p>Battalion moved from billets using 15 Canadian G.S. waggons to supplement the 21st Bn Transport Section which had only arrived at 11 am with horses in no condition to pull loads - 3 Canadian waggons returned to Bde marching out strength . 24 Bn 25 officers 947 OR 21st Bn (Transport Sec) 19 OR Canadian Transport 23 OR</p>	
HAVERS- QUERQUE		1.50 pm	<p>Arrived at starting point junction of AIRE-WITTES and AIRE-REBECQUE roads and joined column consisting of 23 Bn 24 Bn and 6 Field Ambulance</p>	
		2 pm	<p>March via THIENNES - TANNAY to HAVERSQUERQUE</p>	
		5.30 pm	<p>Billets</p>	
	8 ¹²	8 am	<p>Continued march to via MERVILLE - LA GORGUE - SAILLY to billets Street 36 NW G 8 9 15.</p>	
near SAILLY	9		<p>In Billets - CO. 2nd in C, OCs Coy + M.G.O visit billets FLEURBAIX</p>	<p>CO. 2nd in C a/c CO. 24 Bn</p>

24/10/11

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
N of SAILLY	APRIL 10		In Billels	
FLEURBAIX		5.45pm	Continue march to FLEURBAIX by Compas as far as Railway line, thence by platoon	
		9. pm.	Settled in billels as "C" Battalion in Bde defence scheme. Took over quads etc from 15 th Royal Scots - at CAINS POST, DURHAM POST. CENTRE KEEP - A Coy to CROIX MARECHAL as close support Coy to "A" or front line Battalion (23 rd Battalion). Ref. map Sheet 36. NW Sq H 34 a 93	
	11		In Billels FLEURBAIX - Officers reconnoitre front line	
	12	do	do do One man slightly wounded at CROIX MARECHAL	
	13	do	do do Platoon and L.M.G removed on Bde order from CAINS POST leaving only caretaker INCO 3 OR	
	14	do	do do Order received to move to front line or 'A' position on the night 13/14 April	ORDER annexed marked 'B'
	15	do	do do C Coy HQ burnt by shell fire - no casualties but some kit burnt.	
		8.15pm	Relieved 23 rd Bn in 'A' or front line position trenches 37-41 inclusive	
			Line held as follows A Coy 37 B 38 C 39 & part of 40 & remainder of 40 and 41 Hostile sniper suspected along communication trench known as WATLING ST in ruined houses near ESTAMINET.	Coy. moved approx Bn

24 Bn A.I.A.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
A position	16		In A position 37-41	
do	17		do do Bde defence scheme read.	
do	18		do do Bn defence scheme issued	
do	19		do do	
do	20		do do Orders for relief night 21/22 April recd.	
do	21		do do -	
FLEURBAIX		9.30pm	Relieved in front line by 23rd Bn returned to C position and billets FLEURBAIX B Coy in close support at CROIX MARIECHAL. No casualties during town in front line	
	22		In billets FLEURBAIX - Captain H. BUCKLEY 22nd Bn is attached to this Bn for duty temporarily	
	23		do do - Lts Hollow HOLLOWAY, PITTARD, SMYTHE and 20 O.R reported as Reinforcements - The O.R absorbed officers attached for duty temporarily	
	24		do do	
	25		do do Bataillon parties	

[Handwritten signature]
CSM

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a/c 24 Bn

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLEURBAIX	April 26		In billets - Sgt Wilson D Coy wounded	
FLEURBAIX	27	9.30am 10.15pm	do do - While Capt BUCKLEY was unloading at Bomb School a bomb exploded killing him and wounding Lieut HOLLOWAY and 10 O.R. Capt BUCKLEY was buried the same morning at Cemetery to the right of SW of WATLING ST Gas alarm. On alarm being given B Coy moved from CROIX MARECHAL to allotted position behind CONVENT WALL. D Coy moved to CROIX MARECHAL remainder of Bn stood to in Billets. Order to "stand down" arrived for Bn 11.40 pm	
FLEURBAIX	28	1am	do do All units back in ordinary positions - Officers from 7th Bn inspected billets etc.	
FLEURBAIX	29	9.30pm 12pm	do do Relieved by 7th Bn A.I.F. Bn marched to billets at L'HALLOBEAU via FORT ROMPU - BAC ST MAUR - CROIX DU BAC. MARCHING out Stab. 27 04. 895 OR In Billets L'HALLOBEAU	
FLEURBAIX	30		do do - Bn position of 2nd Aust Div Reserve Bde.	Cpl [unclear] also 24th Bn

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Secret.

B

A.I.F.

APPENDIX B

Copy No. 12

7

Operation Order No. 5
by
Lt. Col. W. Russell Watson V.D.

14/4/16

Ref. Map Sheet 36 N.W.
1/20000

- Relief. 1. The Bn. will relieve the 23rd. Bn. in Right Sub-Section trenches on the night of 15/16 April, the latter returning to Right Reserve position.
- Route. 2. Via CROIX MARECHAL, thence by guides.
- Assembly. 3. Coys. will be ready to move off at 7.30 p.m., rolls checked and numbers verified by telephone to the Adjutant at CROIX MARECHAL when reporting relief complete. No portion of the position will be vacated by 23rd. Bn. until taken over by this Bn.
- Time and Order Of March. 4. Bn. Hqrs. will move at 8 p.m. followed by A., B., C., and D. Coys. in that order at 15 minutes interval and two minutes between platoons.
- Guides. 5. One guide per platoon or detachment and One guide for Hqrs. at CROIX MARECHAL at 8.15 p.m. These guides will be detailed by 23rd. Bn.
- Relief. 6. Machine Gun Relief to be complete by 2 p.m.
Sniper's Relief " " " 2.30 p.m.
Signallers' Relief " " " 3 p.m.
(Operators to be detailed for CROIX MARECHAL and FORAY HOUSE)
Company Bombers' Relief to be complete by 4 p.m.
A.M.C. Details' Relief to be complete by 4.30 p.m.
- Advanced Parties. 7. One Officer per Coy. and ~~one~~ C.S.M. will report to their respective sections at 3 p.m. and take over Trench stores with inventory.
- Dress. 8. Full marching order --blankets will be carried.
- Company Stores and Kits. 9. Packed ready to move to Bn. Dump at ERQUINGHEM by 3 p.m.
- 10. Q.M. to issue rations at terminus of DEAD DOG tram for A and B, Coy. and at TIN BARN for C.D. and Hqrs
- Headquarters. 11. Orderly Room at CROIX MARECHAL
Tactical Hqrs. at FORAY HOUSE.

K. B. ...

Captain and Adjutant.

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Operation Order
No 4 & 5
For File

1/30000
Gen. and Staff of N.W.

Staff:

1.

The Gen. will follow the Gen. in light of...

Staff:

2.

All units...

Staff:

3.

These units will be detailed by...

Staff:

4.

Gen. will move up to...

Staff:

5.

One unit will be detailed by...

Staff:

6.

These units will be detailed by...

Staff:

7.

Gen. will follow the Gen. in light of...

Staff:

8.

These units will be detailed by...

Staff:

9.

These units will be detailed by...

Staff:

10.

Gen. will follow the Gen. in light of...

Staff:

11.

These units will be detailed by...

Gen. will follow the Gen. in light of...

Operation Order No. 2
Gen. W. Russell
1/30000

1/30000

APPENDIX B