

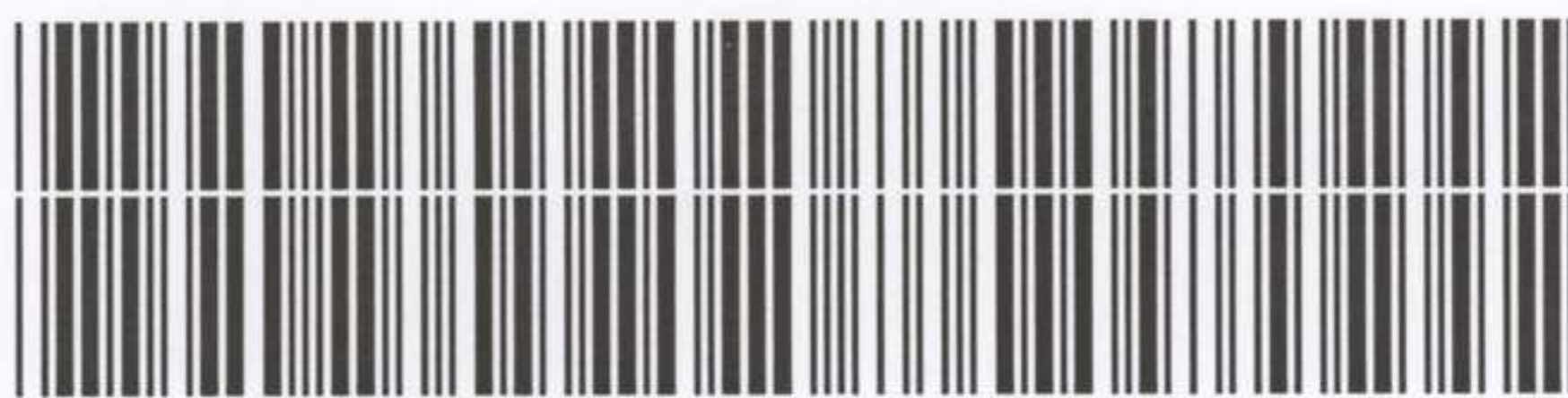
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/42/11

Title: 25th Infantry Battalion

June 1916



AWM4-23/42/11

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.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

25. 107
Army Form C. 2118

D. Dawson Hays
Co., 25th. Bn., 7th. Inf. Bde.

304
2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
RUE MARLE	June	1	Battalion in reserve at RUE MARLE. All available men employed on fatigue improving trenches, communication saps and digging trenches for telephone cables.		
	"	6			
	"	7	Relieved 27th Battalion in trenches. Relief completed at midnight. A, B and C Coy in front line and D Coy in support (8th). Enemy bombarded trenches 6.45 am. No casualties or material damage to trenches. 9th. Few shells from enemy otherwise quiet day.		
	"	10	Notification from Brigade HQ that Battalion will be relieved tomorrow night by 21st Battalion 6th Brigade. Officers from 21st Battalion shown over trenches preparatory to relief. Except for usual shelling by enemy a quiet day. Rain set in in afternoon making trenches very slippery.		
	"	11	Quiet day. Weather showery. Relief by 21st Bn completed by 10.30 am 12th and Bn returned to billets at RUE MARLE and ERQUINGHEIM as reserve Bn to front line. Casualty: 3252 Pte Williamson died of wounds received in hiding post, last night.		
	"	12	Battalion in reserve. All available men employed on fatigue. Classes established for specialists eg Bombing Instructors in Bayonet fighting etc.		
	"	15	Orders from Brigade to take over position of line opposite MESSINES. Preparation for move tomorrow morning. Necessary advance parties sent ahead. At 9.30 pm Bn addressed by Divisional Commander Hays Gen Legge C.M.G.		
	KORDEPYP	"	16	Bn left ARMENTERIES at 9.30 am and arrived at KORDEPYP at 12.30 pm and occupied tents vacated by Battalion of 73rd Brigade. 12 midnight gas attack on front line trenches but did not reach as far as our billets. Two separate clouds of gas passed over trenches on WUIBERGEM-MESSINES sector and position heavily bombarded by enemy. 5 officers and 40 other ranks of Bn were in trenches at the time. Our casualties 2 dangerously wounded - H 1562 Pte Phillips H.O. and H 1610 Pte Morrison J.J. both of whom have since died of wounds. Between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m. on the morning of 17th three Zeppelins passed over our position.	
		MESSINS	"	17	Bn relieved 7th Bn of 73rd Brigade (Northampton) in trenches opposite MESSINS. Relief completed 1 am 18th.

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.

2

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

J. Lawson Major

25th. Battn., 7th. Inf. Bde.

304

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MESSINES.	June	18.	Comparative quiet day. Capt R J Lewis of D Coy shot through head by enemy sniper at 10.30 am and died at 3.30 pm. Enemy shelled trenches 1st and 2nd No casualties and no damage to trenches. A and D Coys in front line and B & C Coys in support at BARBARY COAST FORT OSBORNE and FORBESTERRACE	
		19	Trenches 141 and 142 heavily shelled by enemy. No casualties but some small damage to parapet. Patrol under Lt AM Phillips scouted ROMANS LAND from 11 pm to 1.30 am and found no trace of enemy. A & C fire by enemy at night severe. Casualties: 2128 Pte Cameron C.E. wounded by shell, 1611 Pte Riggall P.I.D. bullet wound in head	
		20	Quiet day only few shells from enemy. Casualties: 1592 Pte Adams J.D. bullet wound in shoulder 3234 Pte Turner J.H. bullet wound thigh. 2028 Pte Hease W. bullet wound hip. Scouts under Lt AM Phillips patrolled ROMANS LAND	
		21	Front trenches and supports heavily shelled by enemy for one hour during some damage to trenches. No casualties from shelling. Scouts under Lt AM Phillips patrolled ROMANS LAND. No enemy patrols met with. Lt. Phillips severely wounded in both legs by enemy machine gun fire	
		22	Comparative quiet day. Enemy machine gun fire very active at night Gas alarms from our right at night but no gas on our front. Casualties: 1920 Pte Goodrich W. shot by enemy sniper in Romans Land at 9.30 pm while firing communication cord for listening post.	
		23	Enemy artillery very active. Bombardment in rear of front line heavily shelled during morning at 8.15 pm enemy opened intense bombardment lasting until 10.45 pm guns of all calibre and howitzers used. Casualties: killed 3236 Pte Marshall W.J. 619 Dunning J. 625 Dunlop W. Wounded 1536 Gec 9. 762 Thorsell E. 1700 Kelly J.A. 1719 McDonald J.W. 3302 Sherhouse J.	
		24	Hot day. Few heavy H.E shells from enemy on SMOLAND FARM, damage to support lines. Casualties: 1671 Pte Gwynor H.A. shrapnel wound in leg.	
		25	Heavy rain throughout the day. Except for few shells from enemy on front line trenches nothing of importance to report. Scouts under Lt Jill Brown patrolled Romans Land from 10.30 pm to 2 am. No enemy patrols met with but scouts report enemy busy in front line trenches.	

3

304

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

L. Dawson
Major
25th Batta., 7th. Inf. Bde.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MESSINS	June	26	Front lines and supports heavily shelled by enemy resulting in small damage to parapet in trenches 1141 and 1142. Battalion relieved by 24th Bn. Relief completed 1.30 am and Bn went into reserve at RED LODGE	
		27	Bn in reserve at RED LODGE. At night Bn employed on fatigue duty carrying up gas cylinders to trenches C2 and Diagonal for use in connection with rolls in enemy trenches. Casualties:- 3221 Pte Smith G. S. shell shock from premature burst of one of our shells 1602 Cpl Griffith S. bullet wound in hand.	
		28	In reserve at RED LODGE. Bn employed on fatigue duty. Raid on enemy trenches by parties from 25th and 24th Bns under command of Capt H. H. Page and Lieut J. Stewart. The raid which was preceded by intense artillery bombardment was completely successful resulting in a number of enemy being killed and 4 prisoners. Casualties:- Capt H. H. Page shrapnel wound in back 26 Sergt Bartlett G. slight wound in knee. Cpl Rlythe J. 1703 slight wound in body 1708 Pte Smith R. B. shrapnel wound in hand. Party congratulated by C.O.C. on their excellent work.	
		29	In reserve RED LODGE. All available men employed on fatigue	
		30	in and in rear of front lines	