

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/32/31

**Title:** 15th Infantry Battalion

October 1917



AWM4-23/32/31



# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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
STEENVOORDE	1 <sup>st</sup> Oct 1917		Busy clearing up & checking shortages.	
	2/10/17		Company and Specialists training. Building rifle & L.G range.	
	3/10/17		Btn through baths at Steenwoorde in morning	
			Afternoon Btn through gas to test respirators, a good many found to be useless and were collected for exchange	
	4/10/17		Company training. Range in use F. Coy and L. Gunners shooting.	
	5/10/17		Specialists training B. Coy on range. shooting fair.	
	6/10/17		L. Gunners. shooting good. boys improved with each shoot	
	9/10/17		Full marching order inspection by company's and general cleaning up	
	10/10/17		Marched out from billets at 7.45 am. full marching order carried. arrived at HALIFAX CAMP. near VLAMERTINGHE. at 3 PM. accomodation very good.	
	12/10/17		8 am. Marched out of camp. arrived at the Ramparts	Sheet 28

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YPRES	12/10/17		at YPRES at 10 am. Camped in tunnels at Esplanade cut.	
	13/10/17		Company officers and scouts visited front line, and gained a good deal of information about sector. Battalion were going to occupy 4 pm. Bat: moved forward to WESTHAEK RIDGE. J. I. D. Shet 28. bivouaced in the open.	
	14/10/17		Batn moved forward to support line at ZONNEBEKE. D. 22. C. Batt H. Q. D. 22. D. 4. 6. 8 pm. F and D. boys moved forward to close support in. F. Coy D. 16. D. D. Coy D. 17. D. move complete at 9.15. pm.	Shet 28
	15/10/17		C.O. and boys officers visited. Batt in line and made all arrangements for relief. Enemy shelling support line at ZONNEBEKE throughout day. Between 12 midnight and 2 am. Shelled supports with gas shells a good number of men affected with it. and 12 men had to be evacuated. It was found that it had a delayed action some not being affected until 24 hours later. Makes the eyes water and causes irritation of the throat.	

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 201

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	16.10/17		Fairly quiet during day. enemy did very little shelling. 6 p.m. relieved 14 <sup>th</sup> Btn in front line. relief complete by 8.45 p.m. no casualties. B.H.Q. 7.16. D7.2. Front line from D.23. B.4.5 to D17. B.4.2.	Shut 28.
	17/10/17		6 a.m. enemy shelled our left support Coy very heavily causing a good many casualties. During night our right Coy connected up with 52 <sup>nd</sup> Bat on our right. patrols sent out. got in touch with 39 <sup>th</sup> Batt. on north of railway. no sign of enemy. seen or heard.	
	18/10/17		A quiet day. at 5.30 p.m. 13 <sup>th</sup> Batt started relief. same complete by 6.45. Batt moved back to RAILWAY WOOD dug-outs. I.P.B. no casualties during relief.	
	19/10/17		Resting and cleaning up.	
	20/10/17		Supplied 200 men for working parties carrying R.E. material forward. our position shelled. causing a few casualties.	
	21/10/17		Supplied 2 small fatigue parties for work at Brigade	

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Reserve line	21/10/17		4.30 p.m. Batt moved forward to reserve line at WESTHOEK. RIDGE, J. I. D. Shot 28. Enemy shelled position with H.E. and gas shell during night, no casualties.	
	22/10/17		Supplied 80 men for working parties working around area. Salvaging and duck-boarding.	
YPRES	23/10/17		Relieved by the 8 <sup>th</sup> Batt. and moved back to Ramparts at YPRES. relief complete 11.45 a.m.	
RENNINGHELST	24/10/17		Embussed for camp near RENNINGHELST. G. 28. C. arrived at 2 p.m. Reserves from CASTRE joined up same night.	Sheet 28.
	25/10/17		Cleaning up. and getting list of shortages. an issue of 15 extra blanket. and clean underclothes. weather very cold	
	26/10/17		Transport moved to CREPY. weather raining heavily.	
	27/10/17		8am marched out from camp to BRANDHOEK. where Batt entrained at 10.30 a.m. for WILERNE. Sheet. HAZEBROUCK. 5.A arrived at 2 p.m. Bivouaced near station until 8.30 p.m.	

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	27/10/17		when Batt. embussed for CREPY. arrived at 2 am 28/10/17.	
CREPY	28/10/17		Billetid at CREPY. accomodation. fair billets close together.	
	29/10/17		Company parades. reorganising platoons. Specialist's training. Most of men fitted out with clothing and boots.	
	30/10/17			
	31/10/17		L. Gunners shooting. A. & B. boys shooting on rifle range. Shooting not too good. most men seem to be a bit gun shy. All Batt. gas respirators inspected by. Div. gas N.C.O.	



*Tom Sharpy*, Lieutenant-Colonel,  
 Commanding 4th. Battalion  
 4th. Infantry Brigadc. A.I.F.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Cross heading not required.)

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Remarks and references to Appendices	Summary of Events and Information	Hour	Date	Place
	<p><i>(Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page)</i></p> <p>... for 6 REPY. ...</p> <p>... for 6 REPY. ...</p> <p>... shooting ...</p> <p>... 11.0 ...</p>			

Lieutenant Colonel  
 Commanding Officer  
 4th Infantry Brigade, I.P.

*(Signature)*



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SECRET

*S* Copy No. 1

15th Battalion ORDER No, 8

Reference Sheets No. 27 & 28

9/10/17.

1. The 15th. Battalion will march to Halifax Camp on 11th instant.
2. Battalion will pass starting point Church Steenvoorde at 8.20 a.m. in the following order:- A. B. C. D. Companys. Cookers in rear of Companys.
3. The following intervals will be observed
  - 800 yards between Battalions
  - 200 yards between Companies
  - 400 yards between Transport
- 4- Halt will be made for mid-day meal about one mile west of Reninghelst. Transport will move direct to camp.
5. Category "C" Personnel will rendezvous at X roads near Windmill at 7 a.m. on the 11th instant and will move under command of Lieut. E. M. Bradley to Caestre.
6. All blankets and valises are to be loaded by 7.30 a.m. Companies will supply loading and unloading parties.

*B. Bachman*  
 .....Captain.  
ADJUTANT 15th BATTALION.

- Copy No. 1 War Diary  
 2 "A" Company  
 3 "B" "  
 4 "C" "  
 5 "D" "  
 6 File  
 7 T. O.