

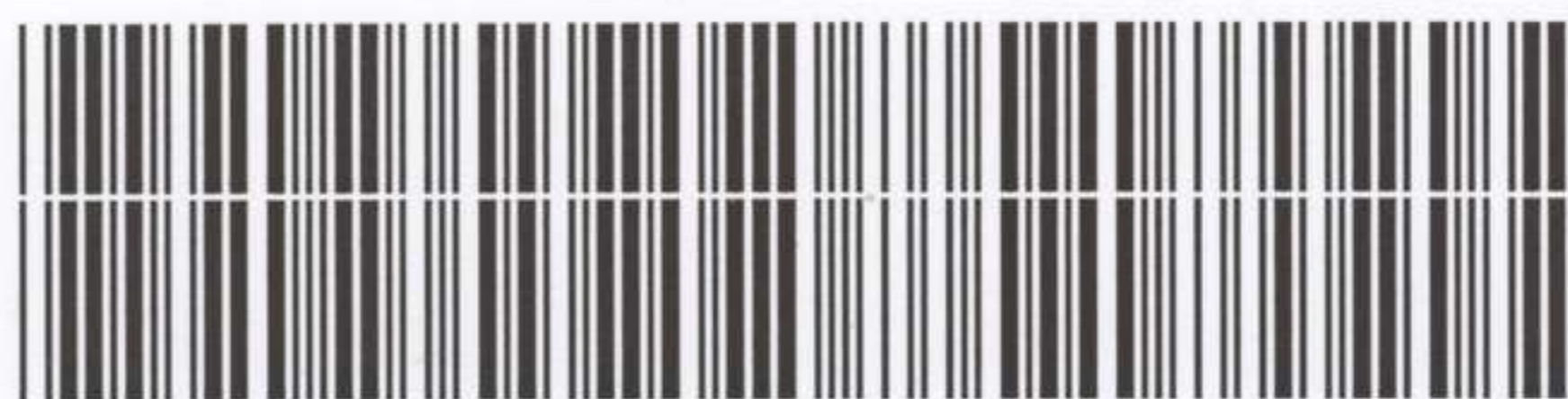
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/46/15

**Title:** 29th Infantry Battalion

October 1916



AWM4-23/46/15



Confidential

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ORIGINAL  
~~DUPLICATE~~  
~~TRIPPLICATE~~

Australian Imperial Force

WAR DIARY

<sup>of</sup>  
29<sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F.

October 1916

Officer Compiling: -

Anderson Lt.

Anderson Lt. for C.O.

Place Date Hour

Summary of Events and Information

References to  
Appendices and  
Remarks

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
summaries are contained in F. S. Regs. Part II  
and the Manual respectively. The pages  
will be prepared in manuscript  
format.

(Language for general use)

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

OR

WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM C 3112



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
HOOP LINES (ARMENTIERES)	1916 Oct 14		<p>Bn. holding the line - 2 Coys in front line, 1 Coy. in Support and 1 Coy. in Reserve. The Reserve Coys work was to supply fatigue and working parties both day and night to Engineers for the work of the upkeep of the trench system.</p> <p>Patrolling and wiring was actively carried out by the front line Coys. and throughout control of "No man's land" was kept.</p> <p>Front line Coys. also carried out a great deal of work in keeping the line in repair.</p> <p>Bathing parades held by Reserve Coys in turn at Corps Baths.</p> <p>Rations were regular and good. Coys. cooked their own meals in the line.</p> <p>Weather for this period was fine.</p> <p>Both the enemy's and our artillery were active throughout, the enemy being particularly active with his <u>minenwerfer</u> fire.</p> <p>Gas was successfully discharged by us on several occasions - a feature being the ringing of enemy gas alarms.</p>	
ARMENTIERES STRAZELLE	14		<p>Bn. relieved by New Zealanders and marched with full kit and blankets to ARMENTIERES. and embussed in motor lorries via BAILLEUL to STRAZELLE where comfortable billets were provided.</p>	
	15		<p>One Coy attended Bde. parade at which Gen. Godley presented decorations won by Officers and men of the Bde.</p> <p>Weather - fine</p>	

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-or-  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
STRAZELLE	1916 Oct. 16		P.N. left STRAZELLE at midnight per march route to BAILLEUL.	
BAILLEUL & LONGPRE BUSSUS	17		Entrained at BAILLEUL in the early morning for LONGPRE, which was reached in the evening. After detraining marched with full kits and blankets to BUSSUS. This was a particularly tiring march as all ranks were very tired before commencing owing to the absence of sleep the previous night and the long train journey. In addition <u>heavy rain</u> fell during the march which made the roads very heavy. Many men fell out en route.	
	18		Coy. Parades. Inspection arms, equipment and gas helmets. Each Coy. was addressed by the C.O. <u>Heavy rain</u> again fell. A very pretty <u>French wedding</u> was celebrated in the local Church which was well attended by all ranks. Rice in abundance was thrown at the happy couple. The latter incident will well be remembered owing to a subsequent <u>Orderly Room</u> case in connection with the disappearance of rice from the R.M. Store.	
	19		Coy. Parades. Physical Training and Bayonet Fighting Inspection Arms, equipment and gas helmets. <u>Conscription Vote</u> . All ranks voted "Yes" or "No" in connection with the Australian election. <u>Weather</u> Showery.	

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<u>BUSSUS</u>  <u>BUIRE</u>	1916 Oct. 20	07.30	Left <u>BUSSUS</u> per march route to main <u>AMIENS</u> Road and here embussed in motor lorries and moved via <u>FLEXICOURT</u> and <u>AMIENS</u> to <u>BUIRE-SUR-ANCRE</u> , and billeted for the night.  Weather. Frosty and cold wind.	
<u>MAMETZ</u> <u>WOOD</u>	21		Marched in marching order to <u>MAMETZ WOOD</u> and bivouaced. There was very little material available with which to construct shelter and a very shivering night was spent.  Rain had fallen heavily and the roads, owing mainly to the continuous extremely heavy traffic of wheeled and mule transport were in a very bad state.	
<u>FLERS</u>	22		A & B Coys went forward into front line in front of <u>FLERS</u> and C and D Coys went into <u>CREST TRENCH</u> in support - the Bn. relieving English troops in the sector.  Rain continued and the trenches were in an awful condition. The communication trench ( <u>FISH ALLEY</u> ) will long be remembered, as it was knee deep in mud, and it took the front line Coys. 5 hours to reach the front line.  Both the enemy's and our own artillery was very active at night. The English troops who had had some very heavy fighting were very glad to be relieved.	<p style="text-align: right;">B.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">W</p>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLERS	1916 <del>1919</del> Oct. 23		<p>At dawn signs of the recent heavy fighting were plainly to be seen as enemy dead, as well as English, were thickly scattered over the whole area.</p> <p>Rations and water did not arrive - the only water available was from shell holes.</p> <p>Owing to a very heavy enemy bombardment it was found necessary to remove the bulk of the front line garrison to the support line in the afternoon - the garrison returning at dusk.</p> <p>Heavy rain continued and the conditions were very trying indeed.</p>	
		24	<p>A and B. were relieved in the front line by 31<sup>st</sup> Bn and the whole Bn. concentrated in CREST TRENCH in the vicinity of HIGH WOOD to be ready for the attack which it was found necessary to postpone owing to the very bad weather conditions.</p>	
		25	<p>Rations &amp; water did not arrive until late in the day and latter was almost undrinkable owing to being in near petrol tins.</p> <p>Bn. remained in this position performing all necessary fatigues such as carrying parties and digging a trench in connection with laying a cable to the advanced Bn. H.Q.</p> <p>Enemy artillery fire was almost continuous while we held this position and our casualties were numerous.</p>	
		31	<p>Weather conditions did not improve and the rain was practically continuous. Rations (dry only) and water arrived regularly <sup>from</sup> after 25<sup>th</sup> inst.</p> <p>Relief took place - the 7<sup>th</sup> Bde. relieving the 8<sup>th</sup> Bde. Bn. bivouaced vicinity NAMETZ.</p>	

NAMETZ

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