

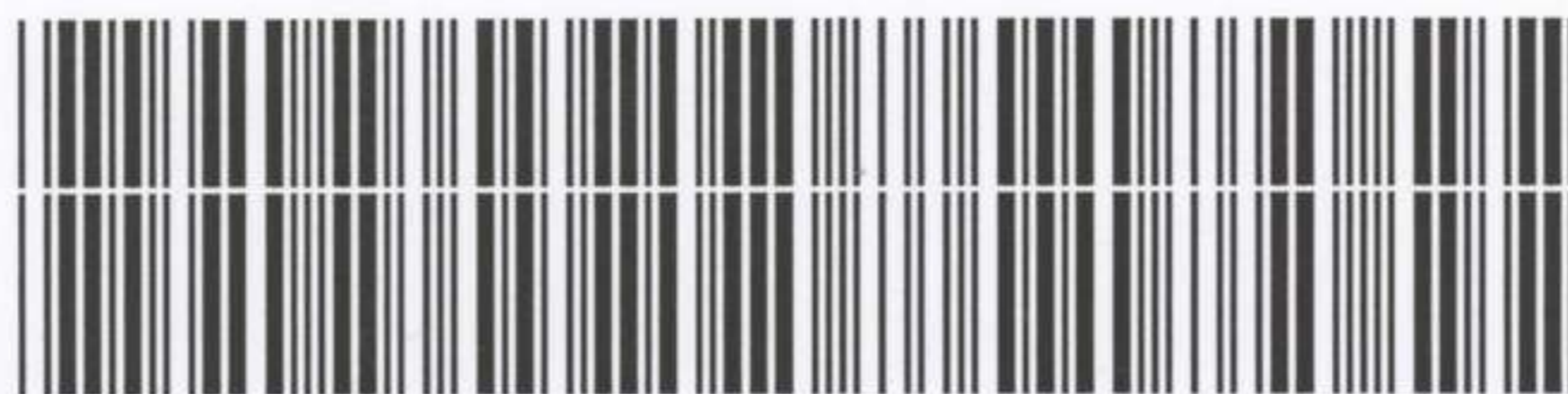
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/46/30

Title: 29th Infantry Battalion

January 1918



AWM4-23/46/30

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
	1918			
	1st Jan		} Holiday - much snow on ground	
	2nd			
	3rd	9.30 am to 1. pm	Route march towards SAMER.	
	4th	9 am to 1 pm	Gas Drill, Physical Training, Musketry, Close Order Drill, Bayonet Fighting, Lecture on Gas Shells, Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, stretcher Bearer Observers and P.B.Cs. - Light fall of snow.	
	5th	8.30 am to 11.30 am	Musketry, Close Order Drill Gas Drill, Bayonet Fighting, Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, Observers and P.B.Cs. Remainder of morning - football. Rain and snow fell during night.	
	6th		Divine Service. About 4" snow fell during night.	
	7th	8.30 am to 10.30 am	Physical Training, Gas Drill, Close Order Drill; Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers and P.B.Cs., Remainder of morning - football. Snow fell during night.	
	8th	9 am to 1 pm	Physical Training, Close Order Drill, Rifle Exercises, Gas Drill, Fire Discipline & Assault Training. Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, P.B.Cs and Bombers.	
	9th		Physical Training & Bayonet Fighting, Fire and Shrapnel, Dummy Bomb Throwing, Close Order Drill. Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, Observers, Bombers and P.B.Cs. Snow fell during day. M.P.	

DESUVRES

(A7092) Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 256

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	10th Jan	9.30 am to 12.25 pm	Route March towards LOTTINGEN. Owing to frost, ground very slippery.	
	11th "	9 am to 1 pm	Gas Drill, P. T., & B. F., Judging Distance, Dummy Bomb Throwing, Inspection of S. B. Rs and P. H. Helmets; special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, Observers, Stretcher Bearers, Bombers,	
	12th "	9 am to 1 pm	Gas Drill, P. T. & B. F., Fire and Movement, Dummy Bomb Throwing; Close Order Drill; Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, Observers, Stretcher Bearers, Bombers and C.P.C.s.	
	13th "		Rain & slight snow during day and night. Sunday - Owing to bad weather, only voluntary church service held. Snow fell during night.	
	14th "		Brigade Sports all day. - Rained during night.	
	15th "	9 am to 1 pm	Gas Drill, Dummy Bomb Throwing, Close Order Drill, P. T. & B. F. Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, Observers, Stretcher Bearers, Bombers and C.P.C.s. - Inspection of S. B. Rs. Rain set in early morning and continued practically all day - strong, cold wind	

RESERVES

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 256

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DES VRES	16/1/18		During to weather conditions (rain & light snow) very little training done - some close order drill, gas drill and physical training carried out between showers.	
	17/1/18	9 am to 1 pm	Gas drill, close order drill, extended order drill, artillery formations, dummy bomb throwing. Special classes for Signallers, Observers, Stretcher Bearers, Rifle Bombers & Lewis Gunners.	
	18/1/18	"	"B" & "C" boys exercised on Bullet & Bayonet Range by Platoons. "A" & "D" carried out Route March. Special classes for Signallers & Observers.	
	19/1/18	"	"A" Coy. - Musketry & Range Practice.	
	"	"	"C" & "D" boys, - Gas Drill, Coy. Training, Dummy Bomb Throwing, Extended Order Drill, Artillery Formation. Special classes for Lewis Gunners, Signallers, Stretcher Bearers, Observers, and Bombers.	
	"	1 pm to 5 pm	"B" Coy., - Range Practice & Musketry Instruction	
	20/1/18		Sunday - Light rain fell at intervals during morning, but nevertheless "A" & "D" boys, were exercised by platoons on Bullet and Bayonet Range.	
	21/1/18	7.50 am to 11.50 am	Eliminating test for best Platoon on Bullet and Bayonet Range.	
	"	12 noon to 2 pm	to 12.30 pm & light rain - otherwise weather fine. Coy's Commander presented ribbons of recently-won decorations	M.B.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	22/1/18	9 am. to 12 noon	Gas Drill, Close Order Drill, Rifle Exercises, Firing Positions, Rapid Manipulation of Bolts, Normal Attack Formations.	
			Special classes for Signallers, Stretcher Bearers and Observers. Light rain early morning.	
		2 pm	Presentation of Ribbons of recently won decorations by Coy's Commander.	
	23/1/18	10 am	Battn. marched past Coy's Commander, and carried out bathing during afternoon.	
	24/1/18	9 am to 1 pm	Company Attack Schemes	
	25/1/18	"	Gas Drill, Inspection of S.B.R., Equipment etc., Bombing, Bayonet Fighting. Special classes and range practice for Lewis Gunners; Live Bombing; and Special classes for Signallers and Observers.	
	26/1/18	9 am to 10.30 am	Special classes for Signallers and Observers.	
		9 am to 10.45 am	Inspection, Gas and Coy. Drill.	
		11 am to 12.30 pm	Battn. Muster Parade for Inspection by C.O.	
	27/1/18	9 am.	Divine Service.	
	28/1/18	9 am to 1 pm	Coy. placed at Coy. Commander's disposal for inspection and training in subjects considered most necessary.	

DES VRES

M. Pruser. Lt.-Col.

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DESURES	29/4/18		Pls training - Coy, inspected - Billets cleaned etc,	
"	30/4/18		Left DESURES at 2.30am and marched to SAMER (about 5 1/2 miles) - weather mild - road generally good but muddy in parts.	
SAMER	"	4.40am	Battn, arrived - very cold. Owing to engine running off line, did not start entraining till 10am.	
"	"	10.45am	Entraining completed, left at 11.10am and travelled via BOULOGNE, CALAIS and ST POMER.	
DE XEMVEBRY	"		Arrived about 6pm, finished detraining at 6.15pm and marched to SHANKHILL HUTS - settled down by 4.30pm	
VEUVE EGLISE	31/4/18	2.45pm	Left SHANKHILL HUTS and relieved 9th Pon A.S.F. in line S.E. of OOSTAVERNE - relief completed by 8.29pm. Heavy fog and frost all day and night.	
"	"		For details of operations see copy of Intelligence Summary "A"	

M.B.

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Casualties etc, during month ended 31-1-18.

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other Ranks</u>
To Hospital (sick)	3	61
Transferred to Other Units		5
To 8th Training Bn.	1	7
" Seconded List	3	
" Supernumerary List	8	
" Base Depot		4
From Hospital		61
" 8th Training Bn.		2
" Seconded List		3
" Reinforcements		5

Daily Intelligence Summary
From 6 AM. 31.1.18 to 6 PM. 1.2.18

Map. WYTSCHAETE. 1:10,000.

A

1. OPERATIONS. The 29th Pns. relieved the 9th Pns. in the line. Relief complete by 8.29 P.M. No casualties.

(a) Artillery. 6 AM. 27 rds. 18 pds. 0 24 c
6.15 AM. 19 rds., 4.55 P.M. 20 rds., 5.15
to 5.45 P.M. 50 rds. all vicinity of same target 0 24 c.

8 to 9 P.M. 30 rds. Heavy rear of line opposite sector.

9.30 to 10 P.M. 150 rds. 18 pds. along front of sector.

Remainder of period: Nil.

(b) Patrols. Owing to dense mist advanced L.P. pushed out along front line. Liaison patrols of 1 N.C.O. + 2 men kept touch with units on both flanks. No enemy encountered. Support Coy. obtained connection with units on flanks by patrols.

(c) Machine Guns. Fairly active throughout night + between 8 + 1.30 AM. against aircraft.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS. Nil

3. ENEMY SHELLING. Very quiet throughout period
8.45 AM. 10 rds. 4.2 Right of sector.
12.5 PM. 4 " " 0 19 c.
Between 12.45 + 1 AM. a few rounds from howitzers on right of our sector + will back.

4. ENEMY ATTITUDE. Very quiet.
~~5. ENEMY DEFENCES~~ Machine Guns

Enemy machine gun firing inter-mittently on 1 22 c 2.8. from 9.15 P.M. to 10 P.M. Firing from right of sector.

1/2 midnight to 1 AM. active on vicinity of Pill Box at 0 22 c 2.8.

1 AM. to 2 AM. Sweeping support Coy. positions at intervals.

(c) Enemy Trench Mortars. Nil.

5. ENEMY DEFENCES. Enemy M.G. position located at RIFLE F². 0 23 d 1.9. In action from 8 P.M. at intervals throughout night.

6. HOSTILE AERIAL ACTIVITY. 7.10 AM. 1 plane over front line driven off by AA + M.G. fire.

7. ENEMY MOVEMENT. Nil

APPENDIX

Page 3.

8. SIGNALLING. Still

9. MISCELLANEOUS. Heavy mist throughout period rendered observation of enemy line & to rear impossible.

Ground still partly frozen but muddy.

Garrison front line working on improvement of trench.

Geo. S. Harris
a NO ACTIVE.

By runner
5-50 A.M.

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TRANSPORT

Transport (less 4 Cookers, 1 G.S. Limber, 1 Water Cart and 1 Officers Mess Cart) proceeded by road as under:-

Left DESVRES	7 a.m. on 28-1-18.
Arrived ELNES	3 p.m. on 28-1-18;
Left ELNES	9 a.m. on 29-1-18.
Arrived RENESCURE	3 p.m. on 29-1-18.
Left RENESCURE	9 a.m. on 30-1-18.
Arrived STRAZELLE	2 p.m. on 30-1-18.
Left STRAZELLE	9 a.m. on 31-1-18.
Arrived KEMMEL	1.30 p.m. on 31-1-18.

4 Cookers, 1 G.S. Limber, 1 Water Cart and 1 Officers Mess Cart entrained and left DESVRES at 9.30 a.m. on 30-1-18, arrived at BAILLEUL at 3 p.m. on 30-1-18 and joined Battalion at NEUVE EGLISE at 4.30 p.m. on same date.

C. Busser

Lieut. Colonel.
C.O. 29th. Battalion.