

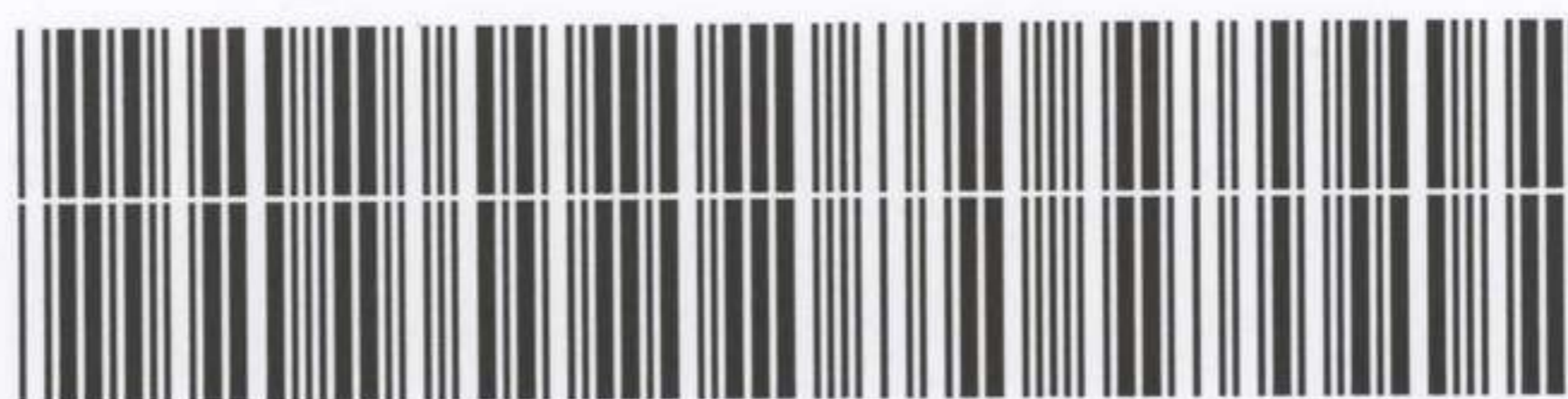
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/37/16

**Title:** 20th Infantry Battalion

November 1916



AWM4-23/37/16



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 |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| <del>RIBEMONT</del> | <del>2-11-16</del> |          | <del>In billets at Ribemont. A detail of reinforcements from Camp to be detached to 2nd Div.</del>  |                                      |
| RIBEMONT            | 1-11-16            |          | In billets at Ribemont.   |                                      |
| RIBEMONT            | 2-11-16            |          | Street at Ribemont. A scheme of attack was commenced by 5th Brigade in conjunction with 3rd Squadron R.F.C. but was stopped by rain before units in position.                 |                                      |
| "                   | "                  | 3-11-16  | The attack scheme was carried out, for which during today casualties were - 502 from F.P. Camp. from hospital 2102. from reinforcements 56. To hospital 202, transferred 202. |                                      |
| "                   | "                  | 4-11-16  | March out to MAMETZ CAMP. ROAD 5 in very heavy condition owing to rain.   |                                      |
| MAMETZ              | 5-11-16            |          | Working at MAMETZ to make up Cape Parker. known to seconded list. 202 transferred.  |                                      |
| "                   | "                  | 6-11-16  | Batt marches to MONTAUBAN and on the night 6/7 move on to SWITCH Trench. Rain heavy and men begin to suffer from cold. Our artillery active.                                  |                                      |
| SWITCH TRENCH       | 7-11-16            |          | In reserve in SWITCH TRENCH. Lieut Daly evacuated.  |                                      |
| "                   | 8-11-16            |          | In reserve in SWITCH TRENCH. Lieut Portman injured + evacuated.   |                                      |
| FRONT LINE          | 9-11-16            |          | On the night 9/10 we relieve 15th Batt in front line. Mud is waist high and we have a large number of sick. Capt. Roper leaves, sick. Relief complete 9.45 pm.                |                                      |
| "                   | "                  | 10-11-16 | Ornith. day, during night alarm of German attack but nothing ventilated, we were surprised dropping off trench. 2 Lieut Jordan fatally wounded.                               |                                      |

T2134. Wt. W708-776. 500000. 4/15. Sir J. C. & S.



## WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 14

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| Place          | Date     | Hour     | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------|----------|----------|---|--------------------------------------|
| FRONT LINE     | 11-11-16 |          | Quiet day. Our pioneers buried 38 bodies but no discs were found. Capt Hutchinson A.M.C. returns from leave.  |                                      |
| "              | "        | 12-11-16 | Quiet day. At 7.30 pm enemy put up a heavy barrage on our front and Support lines. We asked for retaliation. At 7.48 killer grenades were heard on our front; meanwhile enemy planes were active <del>and</del> at 7.46 pm. enemy fire began to die down. By 8 pm his artillery had stopped. We were relieved by 25th A.I.F. Relief completed 12.30 a.m. 13th, we move to CARLTON TRENCH. |                                      |
| CARLTON TRENCH | 13-11-16 |          | Quiet day in Camp. Men in very poor state. <del>At</del> At 2 a.m. 14-11-16 we move back to Support trench near Bon Hq. for attack by 5th Bde on German line.   |                                      |
| SUPPORT TRENCH | 14-11-16 |          | Attack starts 6.45 a.m. 19th Bn on left, 25th Centre, 26th Right. At 8 a.m. wounded began to arrive back & stated the 2nd objective had been taken. At 8.30 we sent A Coy to reinforce 26th & B Coy was also warned to place itself under the orders of the 26th. At noon we sent up the remaining Coy. & bombers & h. 9's.   |                                      |
| "              | "        | 15-11-16 | 2/Lt. BAIN arrives from reinforcements. Relieved night 15/16. Casualties for period from 6th to 14th killed 15% 20 or. wounded 55 or. from hospital 10 or.  |                                      |



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| Place           | Date      | Hour  | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------|-----------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| SUPPORT TRENCH. | 15-11-16  | (cont)  | We march out to MONTAUBAN on night 15/16. Front line taken over by 27 <sup>th</sup> + 28 <sup>th</sup> . Casualties from 14 to 15/16 :- killed 3 officers (Capt. H. R. RUSH, 2/Lieut CHARLISLE 2/Lt. DUFFY), 15 or. wounded 5 officers (Lieut J. L. SHAW, 2/Lt. CAMERON 2/Lt. GUARD 2/Lt. DUNBAR (since died) wounds) 2/Lt. EVATT) 29 or. MISSING 17 or. 4 officers to F. A.M.B. (Capt. H. B. BOTT, Capt. MCDONALD, Lt. BYRNE 2/Lt. ROSS). |                                      |
| MONTAUBAN.      | 16-11-16  |   | Quiet day, resting.  |                                      |
| "               | "         | 17-11-16  | Quiet day, resting. Casualties K. 1 or. M. 2 or. Hospital 2 or.  |                                      |
| "               | "         | 15 or from hospital, 14 or from reinforcements. |  |                                      |
| "               | "         | 18-11-16  | March out at 2 pm to Switch Trench again.  |                                      |
| SWITCH TRENCH   | 19-11-16  |   | Batt on fatigue work.  |                                      |
| "               | "         | 20-11-16  | Batt on fatigue.   |                                      |
| "               | "         | 21-11-16  | 10 am move to FRICOURT the Brigade having been relieved by 2nd British Inf. Bde.   |                                      |
| FRICOURT.       | 22-11-16. |   | At 10 am Batt moved to RIBEMONT. More complete 5.50 pm. Cas. Nil   |                                      |
| RIBEMONT        | 23-11-16. |   | Resting at Ribemont. 1 or K. 10 or W. from 53 <sup>rd</sup> B <sup>n</sup> . 1 or.   |                                      |
| "               | "         | 24-11-16  | Reorganising Battalion, men in positions. 56 or to hosp. perhaps 4 or.   |                                      |



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| RIBEMONT | 25-11-16. |      | Resting. Special Alexander from Secunder.   |                                      |
| "        | 26-11-16  |      | Resting. From hospital 1 or. Troop from 19th 1 or.  |                                      |
|          | 27-11-16  |      | Resting. Casualties nil   |                                      |
|          | 28-11-16. |      | Resting. From reinforcement 3 or from hospital 16.  |                                      |
|          | 29-11-16  |      | Resting. 10 or to hospital 1 or from hospital   |                                      |
|          | 30-11-16. |      | Marched out from RIBEMONT to COISY via HEILLY, PONT NOYELLES, ALLONVILLE and CHARDONNETTE. 20 or to hospital<br>home completed 4.30pm |                                      |