

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/24/26

**Title:** 7th Infantry Battalion

April 1917



AWM4-23/24/26

WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

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.

Reference Map.  
1/40,000

(Erase heading not required.) ALBERT (Combined sheet)

556

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BUIRE	Apl. 1st. 1917	0100 1400 0900	<p>Proposed syllabus sent to BDE. for week ending 7th. April.</p> <p>AZB 75 from BDE.. 2 Officers 150 O.Rs. to go to DESTREMENT FARM. M 26 B 1.8 for road construction. 2 Officers and 150 O.Rs. under Capt. W. B. CAMPBELL proceeded to DESTREMENT FARM as per AZB 75</p> <p>Copy of BDE. syllabus of training for week ending attached.</p> <p>BDE. Church Parade held R. Cs. in Church at 1030. Bn. made full use of BUIRE baths to-day.</p> <p>STRENGTH. 40 Officers, 894 O.Rs.. (4) O.Rs. to Hospital. (1) O.R. transferred to 65th. Bn.. (4) O.Rs. hosp. Struck off strength. (1) O.R. Rft.. 2/Lt. G. HEATON reported for duty, Rft. (11) O.Rs. from Hospital.</p>	<p>✓ Corr. D. 1. Corr. D. 1a Corr. D. 1b</p>
BUIRE.	Apl. 2nd. 1917		<p>Bde. Order No. 18 and 1st. Div. Order No. 15 received, re proposed inspection of Bde. by Div. Commander at 1000 on 3rd. inst.. Training as per Bde. syllabus carried out.</p> <p>STRENGTH. 40 Officers, 894 O.Rs.. (2) O.Rs. to and (1) from Hosp.. Lt. A. J. G. Cox, Lt. O. G. Reynolds and 2/Lt. A. J. O'Connor and (11) O.Rs. to Dst. Aust. Div. School. 2/Lt. A. P. Meyer and (2) O.Rs. returned from 5th. Army Sniping School. Lieuts. F. G. Kitchen and F. J. Smedley and 12 O.Rs. returned from 1st. Aust. Div. School.. Col. W. J. Walker and Pte. J. H. Broderick to Cadet class, 1st. Aust. Div. Schl.</p>	<p>Corr. D 2&amp;3</p>
BUIRE	Apl. 3rd. 1917.		<p>Inspection by DIV. Commander cancelled. Bde. Order No. 19 received; Bnn to move on 5th. inst. to BDE. CAMP at MONTAUBAN.</p> <p>STRENGTH. 39 Officers, 889 O.Rs.. (3) O.Rs. to and (1) from Hosp. Lt. F. J. Smedley to ETAPLES as Instructor. 2/Lt. W. R. Booth granted 10 days leave to England. Capt. J. F. Bowtell-Harris MC, Lt. C. G. Shuttleworth and 2/Lt. D. C. Mackinnon evacuated to Hosp. sick England are struck off strength. L/Col. C. R. Anderson and n3449 Sgt. D. G. Phillips promoted to commissioned rank. (4) O.Rs. hospital struck off strength.</p>	<p>Corr. D. 4</p>
BUIRE	Apl. 4th.		<p>Bn. Operation Order No. 62 issued. Bn. to move to MONTAUBAN on 5th. inst..</p> <p>STRENGTH. 39 Officers, 894 O.Rs.. (4) O.Rs. to and (5) O.Rs. from Hosp.. (1) O.R. to Corps Farm.</p>	<p>✓ Corr. D. 5</p>

*H. Bastin Capt.*  
*Adj. 7th Bn A.I.F.*

WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Reference Map.

ALBERT (Combined sheet)  
1/40,000.

5509

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BUIRE. MONTAUBAN	Apr. 5th. 1917.	0840 1320 1743 2140 2150	As per Bn. Order No. 62. Bn. moved with Bde. group to MONTAUBAN arriving there at 1320. The march was very good. 5 stragglers only. AZB 119 from Bde.. 2 Officers and 100 O.Rs. to go to LE SARS for Road construction. G.R. 5,000 to O.C. "A" Coy.. (2) Officers, 100 O.Rs. to go to LE SARS as per Bde. AZB 119 on 6th. inst.. Bde. Order No. 20 received. Mining Platoon of 30 O.Rs. under Lieut. KITCHEN to move with 6th. Bn. to VILLERS-AU-FLOS on 6th. inst.. Day very fine. STRENGTH 39 Officers 889 O.Rs.. (1) O.R. transferred to 1st. A. D. B. D .. 2/Lt. V. R. Dickinson and (3) O.Rs. to 5th. Army Sniping School.	Corr. D. 6. ✓ Corr. D. 7. Corr. D. 8
MONTAUBAN.	Apr. 6th. 1917	0815 0830 1500	Mining Platoon moved off as per Bde. Order No. 20. "A" Coys. party under Capt. F. R. Tubb MC moved off as per G.R. 5000. Voluntary Church parades held. Protestants at 1500. R. Cs. at 1900.	
"Good Friday"		2300	Day spent in cleaning camp, constructing latrines etc.. Day wet ; it rained all night. Message from Bde. stating (4) Officers to move forward and reconnoitre VILLERS-AU-FLOS in morning. STRENGTH. 39 Officers 889 O.Rs.. (7) O.Rs. to Hosp and (1) from Hosp. Lieut. A. F. Phillips returned from Hospital. Nos 195 Pte. M. Phillips and 949 Pte. G. Newbound granted 10 days leave to England. 1623 Pte. A. Tonks to Corps Sig. School..	
MONTAUBAN.	Apr. 7th 1917.	1030 1900 1830	Adjutant and O.C. "B" and "D" Coys. went forward to reconnoitre VILLERS-AU-FLOS ; party arrived back at 1900. Bde. Order No. 21 received Bn. to move on 8th. inst. to VILLERS-AU-FLOS. Bn. Operation Order No. 63 issued. Bn. to move as per Bde. Order No. 21. Day very cold, no rain. "A" and "C" Coys. still on Road Construction at LE SARS. Remainder Bn. to-day engaged on GAS helmet fitting, bomb throwing and general smartening up work. STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 890 O.Rs.. (6) O.Rs. to and (1) O.R. from Hospital. 2/Lt. C. L. Dobbin returned from leave, England.	Corr. D. 9 ✓ Corr. D. 10

*H. B. Bastin Capt*  
*Adj 7th Bn A.I.F.*

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Reference Map.

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ALBERT (Combined sheet) 1/40,000 &amp; 57c N.W.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MONTAUBAN VILLERS-AU- FLOS. RESERVE BN. 1st. DIV.	Apr. 9th. 1917	0830 1300	Battalion moved as per Bn. Order No. 63 from MONTAUBAN to VILLERS-AU-FLOS arriving there at 1300. The billets taken over were in a very shattered condition owing to all the houses and roads leading to same being blown up by the enemy. The Bn. made themselves fairly comfortable by night fall. The Battalion until further notice will be reserve Bn. to 1st. AUST. DIV.. STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 890 O.Rs.. No. 744 Dvr. J. McConnell granted 10 days leave to England. (2) O.Rs. to Hospital.	
VILLERS-AU- FLOS.	Apr. 9th. 1917.	1555 2000	The whole Battalion engaged on Road and billet construction. Two Coyss employed on roads N.E. FREMICOURT. Urgent AZB 917 from Bde.. Two. Coys. to move up at once, in support 3rd. Bde.. Adjutant went forward and made arrangement "B" and "D" Coys. moved forward and occupied CORPS MAIN LINE of defence. "B" Coy. in I 20. B.O. "D" Coy. in Sq. I 14. Coys. were in occupation by 2000. Bn. Hqrs. less two Coys. ordered to move up morning and occupy position in CORPS MAIN LINE. Snow fell during the night of 9/10th. inst.. STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 890 O.Rs. (4) O.Rs. to Hospital.	Corr. D. 11
VILLERS-AU- FLOS & CORPS MAIN LINE. FREMICOURT.	Apr. 10th. 1917.	1100 1200 1800 1830 1900	Bn. Hqrs. less "A" and "C" Coys. moved up and occupied position in CORPS MAIN LINE at I 20 B N.E. of FREMICOURT. Bn. ordered verbally by G.O.C. to move back into FREMICOURT. 1830 6th Bn. relieved Coys. and Bn. Hqrs. in CORPS MAIN LINE. Bn. arrived back in FREMICOURT at about 1900, and with great difficulty secured shelter for the Bn. in the ruined houses and cellars of the village. 10/1242 received from 1st. ANZAC. "A" and "C" Coys. at LE SARS to be relieved. Coys. ordered to report to Bn. at FREMICOURT. It snowed the whole day. STRENGTH. 39 Officers 914 O.Rs.. (3) O.Rs. to and 24 from Hosp.. 2/Lt A. Deane granted 10 days leave to England. No. 2379 Sgt. F. Laird returned from Instructional duties at ETAPLES.	
FREMICOURT VILLERS-AU- FLOS.	Apr. 11th. 1917.	0900 1305 1430 1630	Bn. engaged on improving billets. Message sent to "A" and "C" Coys. at LE SARS instructing them to report to VILLERS-AU-FLOS as there is no room at FREMICOURT. AZB 965 from Bde.. Bn. to move back to VILLERS-AU-FLOS and to be clear FREMICOURT at 1430. Bn. moved from FREMICOURT at 1430 and arrived at VILLERS-AU-FLOS at 1600. Bn. took over billets previously occupied by them. "A" and "C" Coys. reported from LE SARS at 1630. STRENGTH. 39 Officers 895 O.Rs.. (4) O.Rs. to Hosp.. 19 O.Rs. Hospital, struck off strength. No. 1490 Pte. J. Elvins to 5th. Army School, Cookery.	

*McConnell left  
Apr 17 Mon A.I.F.*

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WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

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Reference Map. 57c

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VILLERS-AU- FLOS.	-Aprl. 12th. 1917.		"C" and "D" Coys. engaged on Road construction on roads N.E. FREMICOURT. Remainder Bn. constructing stables, billets and roads in the village. STRENGTH. 39 Officers 902 O.Rs.. (2) O.Rs. to Hosp.. (6) O.Rs. from Hosp. No. 2857 Pte. T.B. Hansen taken on strength from 2nd. Aust. Field Ambulance.	
VILLERS-AU- FLOS.	-Aprl 13th. 1917.		"A" and "B" Coys. engaged on road construction on road N.E. FREMICOURT. Remainder Bn. on road construction also repairing billets. STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 901 O.Rs.. (2) O.Rs. to Hosp.. (2) O.Rs. Hosp. struck off strength. No. 5482 Pte. C. D. Saunders transferred to Div. Salvage Coy.. 10 days leave to England granted to No. 9 Dvr. P. Anderson.	
VILLERS-AU- FLOS.	-Aprl. 14th 1917.		"C" and "D" Coys. on road construction on roads N.E. FREMICOURT. Remainder Bn. on road and billet construction. STRENGTH. 39 Officers 904 O.Rs.. (1) O.R. to and (10) from Hosp.. (7) O.Rs. hospital, struck off strength. No. 670 Sgt. R. Nicholson to 1st. Aust. Div. School. 2/Lts. D.G. Phillips and C.R. Anderson returned from 1st. Aust. Div. School. 10 days leave to England granted to 2039 Pte. H. Thomson.	
VILLERS-AU- FLOS.	-Aprl. 15th. 1917.	0650 0800	AZB — from Bde. ordering Bn. to move at once to FREMICOURT and on arrival there Bn. to come under the orders of G.O.C. 3rd. Aust. Inf. Bde.. Bn. moved out of village in full marching order with M.G. limbers and S.A.A. packs behind each Coy.	
FREMICOURT		0900	Bn. arrived at FREMICOURT. The C.O. rode ahead and got in touch with 3rd Aust. Inf. Bde. at MORCHIES. Bn. ordered to bivouac in FREMICOURT and be ready to move at a moment's notice as enemy had made a heavy counter attack on 3rd. Bde. front this morning, had gained a footing but had been driven back with heavy losses. O.C. Coys. went forward and reconnoitred all routes to F. line	
		1100	Message from 1st. Aust. DIV. received. Bn. to move to and relieve 29th. Bn. A.I.F. attached to and in reserve to 1st. Aust. Inf. Bde., BEAUMETZ. Adjutant and I.O. went forward and made necessary arrangements with 1st. Bde. and 29th. Bn.. I.O. remained behind to make final arrangements. Adjutant arrived back at FREMICOURT 1600. Orders issued for Bn. to move at 1700.	
		1430	Bn. moved out of village and arrived at BEAUMETZ without any casualties; relief was completed by 1930. During march C.O. was instructed to go forward with I.O. and make arrangements for relieving 10th. Bn. and part of 12th. Bn. on the night of 16/17th. inst.	
BEAUMETZ		1600 1710 1930		Corr. D. 12

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Continued.

*McBastin Capt*  
*20/17/17 inst. 9.15*

WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

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Reference Map. 57c

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Continued. BEAUMETZ	Apl. 15th. 1917	2030 2350	2nd. i/c made arrangements with G.O.C. 1st. A.I. Bde. as to Bns. plan off action in case of attack. Code message AZB 36 from 2nd. A.I. Bde. instructing Bn. to arrange for taking over F line from 10th. Bn. and part of 12th. Bn.. C.O. and I.O. arrived back from F line after making arrangements for taking over. This day very wet. STRENGTH 39 Officers. 904 O.Rs.. (1) O.R. to Hospital. No. 2841b Col. W. Gow granted 10 days leave to England.	
BEAUMETZ  CENTRE SUB-SECTOR L. BDE., 1st. DIV. S. PRONVILLE.	Apl. 16th. 1917	0725 1715 1715 1930 2200	Bde. Order No. 22 received from Bde.. Bn. Operation Order No. 64 issued. Bn. to relieve 10th. Bn and part of 12th. Bn. in the centre SUB SECTOR of BDE'S front on the night of 16/17th. inst.. All necessary arrangement such as guides, ration parties etc. were completed by 1715. Bn. moved off by various routes, but owing to the dense blackness of the night, the guides soon lost their way. "A" and "C" Coys. and Bn. Hqrs. were in position by 2200, but "B" and "D" Coys. relief was not complete until 0430 on the morning of 17th. inst.. Two casualties occurred during relief. It rained heavily all night. STRENGTH 39 Officers. 904 O.Rs.. (12) O.Rs. to Hosp.. 2/Lt. H.F. O'Neill returned from Hospital.	Corr. D. 13 Corr. D. 14
TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE 1st. DIV.	Apl. 17th. 1917.	0430 1915 1920	Relief complete wired through in Code. Last night relief was very trying on the men, but all ranks were quite normal before daylight. Exact disposition of Bn. not yet known but Bn. is distributed as follows :- "D", "B" and "C" Coys. in front line, location not exactly known. "A" Coy. in SUPPORTS along SUNKEN ROAD from D 26. C 5.0. to D 26 C 0.4 .. Bn. Hqrs. is located at D 19. C. 5.0.. Patrols during the night kept in touch with 6th. Bn. on the Right and 8th. Bn. on the Left. Bde. Order No. 23 defining boundary between 1st. and 2nd. Aust. Divns. received. G/1923 received from Bde. giving list of PASS WORDS to be used by Bde.. Bn. defence scheme submitted to Bde. as instructed. Day very misty, bad for observation - S. A. A. expended 200 rounds. Flares - Nil. STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 903 O.Rs.. (1) Transferred to 23rd. Bn. A.I.F.. 2/Lt. V. R. Dickinson and (3) O.Rs. returned from 5th. Army Sniping School. No. 3086 Pte. G. Maddams granted 10 days leave to England.	Corr. D. 15. Corr. D. 16 Corr. D. 17.

*Handwritten notes:*  
H.B. Butler call  
obj. 1/7 mon. A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Reference Map. 57c.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE. 1st. DIV.	Apr. 18th. 1917.		<p>The line held by the Bn. is a system of out-post and picquet line. The picquet line runs approximately from D 20. A 4.9. to D 28 A 4.7. as shown on sketch attached. The majority of outposts that have been pushed out from the picquet line are day outposts. Three Coys. are holding the front line. "C" on the right, "D" on the left, "B" Coy. centre. "A" Coy. are in Support., Bn. H. Qrs. being located at D 19. C 5.09.. Coy. H. Qrs. as follows - "A" Coy. D 26. C 3.2.. "B" Coy. D 27. A 4.5.. "C" Coy. D.27. B 4.4.. "D" Coy. D 25. A 6.9.. The whole of the day was spent in consolidating picquet lines where it was possible to work unobserved. During the night of the 17/18th. inst. outposts were improved and new ones constructed. "B" Coy. reconnoitred position in front of their posts with a view of straightening out the V in their line. Good communication was kept on both flanks of Bns. by patrols. Enemy very active with artillery and air-craft throughout the day. PASS WORD for night of 18/19th. insts. is DUCKBOARDS. Day fine but showery. S.A.A. expended 400 rounds. STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 894 O.Rs. (2) O.Rs. to Hosp.. (1) O.R. killed. (4) O.Rs. wounded, (1) O.R. acc. Injured. (10) O.Rs from Hospital. (11) O.Rs. hosp., struck off strength..</p>	<p>Corr. D. 18</p>
TRENCHES. S. PRONVILLE CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE. 1st. AUST. DIV.	Apr. 19th. 1917	0430 1200	<p>Usual flank patrols maintained connection with Bn. on both flanks. Reconnoitring patrols examined whole of No-man's-land in front of Bn's Sector; no enemy were encountered, all patrols returned safely. Bn. disposition unchanged, but C.O's. 7th. and 8th. Bns. ordered by Bde. to mutually arrange taking over small portion of 7th. Bn. front. G/1927 from Bde. containing instructions, re establishing outpost positions. G/1946 from Bde. asking if Bn. fit to do 16 days in F line. G.O.C. stating that it would be very difficult to consider inter-Battalion reliefs. C.O. replied that Bn. could do 16 days in F line without impairing health of men providing fine weather prevailed.</p> <p>1159 Our artillery very inactive throughout the whole day. At 1159 verbal message from 8th. Bn. on our left reported that enemy coming over ridge in front of their sector in artillery formation. Warned G.O.C. Bde. and all Coys.. Bn. stood to arms. Bn. stood down 1230 as it was proved that enemy apparently came over a far distant ridge with the intention of relieving their own troops in the HINDENBURG LINE. Our artillery very slow in finding their targets. Enemy artillery very active; he intermittently throughout the day shelled our our outpost line, -and support and Bn. Hqrs. SUNKEN ROADS. S.A.A. expended rounds.</p> <p>1159 STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 928 O.Rs. (2) O.Rs. to and (6) O.Rs. from Hospital. (31) O.Rs. rfts.</p>	<p>Corr. D. 19 Corr. D. 20</p> <p><i>Handwritten:</i> 1st. AUST. A.I.F. 17/19/17</p>

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

n. Battalion A. 1.

Reference Map.

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Army Form C. 2118.

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TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE. 1st. DIV.	ApI . 20th. 1917	1245	<p>During the night of 19/20th. inst. L. Bn. (8th. Bn.) took over portion off our line from D 20 A.4.9. to D 20 Central. R. Coy. ("C" Coy.) pushed its outpost line forward approx. 800 yds. to D 22. C 8.4. - D 22. C.1.3. - D 21. D 6.2.. "B" Coy. (Centre) pushed forward to D 21. D 5.4 approx. on its R. flank advancing approx. 600 yards, and also advanced its general line in conformity with its Right. L. flank Centre Coy. now resting about D 21. C 3.4.. "D" Coy. (L. Coy.) advanced its right flank to D 20. D 7.4. - D 20 Central. Bn. Left flank is now D 20. D 2.9. (3) front line Coys. are now in close touch with each other owing to the shortening of our front. Our patrols kept in touch with both flanks, and thoroughly reconnoitred No-man's-land in front of Bn. sector. All patrols reported back safely. No enemy were seen. Reported that dead bodies of 1 M.C.O. of 10th. Bn. A.I.F. and (4) privates of 12th. Bn. A.I.F. found in post at D 27. B 8.3.. All identifications missing except one.</p> <p>Enemy activity - Air-craft, snipers and artillery very active throughout the day. (6) lachrymatory shells landed at D 22. C.5.6..</p> <p>Our activity.- Sniping brisk, but air-craft and artillery very inactive.</p> <p>Bde. Order No.24 received. GAS to be released in front of BDE's. L. SUB - SECTOR on the night of 20/21st. at 0300 if wind favourable. <i>S.A.A expended. 200 rounds. Flares - Nil.</i></p> <p>STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 917 O.Rs.. (10) O.Rs. to and (1) O.R from Hospital. (2) O.Rs. wounded. 10 O.Rs. in hosp. struck off strength. Pte. G. E. Miller returned from L. M.G. School. No. 2648b Pte. R. J. Evans granted 10 days leave to England.</p>	Corr. D.21.
TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE. 1st. DIV.	APL. 21st 1917	0015 0016 0015 0530  1230 1230 1600	<p>AZB 331. Action in Bde. Order 24 postponed 24 hours.</p> <p>HEB 21 sent to all Coys. postponing Bde. Order 24 hours.</p> <p>Enemy shelled Bn. area with gas shells. Bde. and all Coys. were warned. GAS ALERT. No casualties occurred. G/1957 from Bde. Preliminary Order No.1. 7th. Bn. to be relieved by Bn. of an Imperial Division on the night of 22nd./23rd. inst. also Bn. will have to take over portion of Front line from 8th. Bn. on night of 21st./22nd. so as to make the IIV boundary on the night of 22/23rd. at approx. D 14. C.8.0..</p> <p>G/1959 from Bde. re recognition of aircraft by night.</p> <p>Bde. Order No.25. GAS to be projected against enemy's lines at 0300 on 22inst. from 8th. Bns. Front if wind favourable.</p> <p>Bn. Operation Order No.65 issued re GAS action on front of 8th. Bn..</p>	Corr. D.22.  Corr. D.23 Corr. D.24 Corr. D.25

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

Contd.

*McBastin Capt.  
Adj 7th Bn. A.I.F.*



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Reference Map. 57c.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Contd. TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE. CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE 1st. DIV.	April .21st.	1703 2255	<p>AZB 327 from Bde. stating NO ACTION re Bde. Order No.25. Message repeated on to all Coys.</p> <p>HEB 32 to Bde. stating Bn. had completed taking over from 8th.Bn. at 2215</p> <p>Usual patrols went out during night of 20th./21st. inst.. Enemy's posts were discovered at D 15 C. (in Copse) and D 21 D 45.50. One patrol was fired on but all returned safely.</p> <p>Artillery very active throughout the whole day. Our artillery quiet, also our air-craft.</p> <p>Sniping on both sides brisk.</p> <p>2359 HEB 33 sent to "B" and "D" Coys.. "B" Coy. to send out fighting patrol tonight of at least (1) Officer and (12) O.Rs. to raid enemy's post at COPSE at D 15. C 8.4.. "D" Coy. to clear and hold CROSS ROADS at D 21. A 2.8. ½ hour before zero time, which was arranged mutually between O.C. "B" and "D" Coys..</p> <p>STRENGTH. 39 Officers. 915 O.Rs.. (4) O.Rs. to and (2) from Hospital. (4) O.Rs. wounded.</p> <p>No. 1965 Pte.L.James granted leave to England, 10 days.</p>	Corr. D. 26
TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE. .1st. DIV.	April -22nd.	0130 0200 0500 0505 0530 1200 1200 1300 1400	<p>As per HEB 33 CROSS ROADS at D 21. A 2.8. cleared and held.</p> <p>Party went out but met enemy post at D 21 B 55 which it successfully bombed and made enemy and made enemy evacuate same. As our casualties were (1) Officer and (3) O.Rs. party could not push on to its objective. Enemy casualties unknown. Our party returned with all its casualties. Urgent verbal message from 8th. Bn. asking for bombs, tools and stretchers bearers to go out to S.P. which they had captured during the night, 8th.Bn. suffering heavy casualties.</p> <p>0505 HEB 34a to "D" Coy. instructing them to send bombs tools and stretcher bearers to 8th.Bn. newly captured S.P.. This was done immediately. O.C."D" Coy. reports 8th.Bn. front being shelled heavily, our left flank O.K. but shelling is fairly heavy.</p> <p>0530 Bde. Preliminary No.2 received. Previous Preliminary Order slightly altered.</p> <p>1200 Bn. Preliminary Order No.1 issued for relief on night of 23rd./24th. inst..</p> <p>1200 Bde. Order No.26 received. 5th.Bn. to relieve 8th.Bn. in line on night of 22nd./23rd. inst.</p> <p>1300 Enemy put extremely heavy barrage on our left flank and on newly captured Strong post of 8th.Bn. and forced the latter to withdraw. There was no infantry action. Bn. stood to during bombardment, awaiting developments, but nothing else happened other than barrage on 8th.Bn..</p> <p>Throughout the day our artillery bombarded enemy's positions very heavily. Aircraft throughout day very active on both sides. G/1965 from Bde. giving list of pass words.</p>	<p>Corr. D. 27</p> <p>Corr. D 28</p> <p>Corr. D. 29</p> <p>Corr. D 30</p>

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Contd.  
HEB Bastin Capt  
Adj 7th BN A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Reference Map. 57c.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Contd. TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE. CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE. 1st. DIV.	April 22nd. 1917.	2200	Bde. Order No. 27 received. Bn. to be relieved on night of 23rd./24th inst.. S. A. A. expended 500 rounds. Flares - Nil.. STRENGTH. 37 Officers. 892 O.Rs.. (1) O.R. to Hosp. sick. (8) O.Rs. wounded. (3) O.Rs. killed 2/Lts. H. Buggy and G. Heaton wounded. (12) O.Rs. in hosp. struck off strength. 2/Lt. A. Dean returned from leave England.	Corr. D 31.
TRENCHES S. PRONVILLE CENTRE SUB- SECTOR, L. BDE. 1st. DIV.	April 23rd. 1917.	0100	Bn. Operation Order No. 66 issued. Bn. to be relieved on night of 23 rd./24th. inst. by 6th. Bn. BORDER Regt.. On completion of relief, Bn. to move back to and occupy SUNKEN ROADS in C29 & 30. During night usual patrols went out. No patrols of enemy were encountered. All our patrols returned safely. Each Coy. equalized their fronts for the handing over. Throughout the day Artilleries and Air-craft on both sides very active indeed.	Corr. D 32
		1315	AZB 681 from Bde. re CORPS COMMDR, that all casualties be identified and buried in CORPS	
		1630	AREA. This request was sent to all Coys. by HQB 681, and was carried out.	
		2200	Relief commenced, shelling very light, night dark.	
		2400	Three Coys. reported relieved. "C" Coy. on right flank having trouble owing to the relieving Coy. being disconnected. S. A. A. expended 400 rounds. Flares - Nil. STRENGTH 36 Officers 882 O.Rs.. (4) O.Rs. to Hosp. sick. (8) O.Rs. wounded. (2) O.Rs. killed. 2/Lt. F. B. Gaulton, sick, evacuated to England is struck off strength.	
RESERVE POSITION. S. W. LAGNACOURT. SUPPORT LINE R. BDE. SUB-SECTOR. S. PRONVILLE.	April 24th. 1917.	0105	Relief completed wired in Code to Bde.. Everything was satisfactorily handed over. Our patrols went out with new patrols. No enemy encountered during the night.. Bn. settled down as comfortably as possible, but the accommodation very limited. Disposition of Bn.- Bn. Hqrs. D 29. A 4.2.. "A" Coy. D 29. D 7.2. - D 29 D 7.6.. "B" Coy. 2 Platoons D 29. D 4.2.. (1) Platoon D 29. D 7.6.. (1) Platoon D 29. B 9.5.. "C" Coy. D 29. B 9.6. "D" Coy. D 29. A 4.2..	
		1700	Enemy shelled Bn. Hqrs. with 8" and 5.9". no casualties occurred.	
		1135	Bde. Order No. 28 received Bn. to relieve 8th. Bn. in SUPPORT LINE of BDE's. R. SUB-SECTOR on	Corr. D 33
		1600	the night of 24th./25th. inst.. Bn. Operation Order No. 67 issued. Bn. to take over from 8th. Bn. as per Bde. Order No. 28.	Corr. D 34
		2030	Bn. took over without any incident. Relief complete wired through in Code to Bde. 2030	

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Contd.

*H. B. Bastin Capt.*  
*Adj. 7th BN. A.I.F.*

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WAR DIARY

h. Battalion A.I.F.

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.

Reference Map. 57c 1/40,000.

(Erase heading not required.)

559

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Contd. SUPPORT LINE R. BDE. SUB-SECTOR. S. PRONVILLE.	Apr. 24th. 1917.		STRENGTH 36 Officers. 877 O.Rs.. (4) O.Rs. to hosp.. (5) O.Rs. wounded. No. 4172 Pte. H. Chetkett granted 10 days leave to England.	
S. PRONVILLE. SUPPORT LINE R. BDE. SUB-SECTOR. S. PRONVILLE.	Apr. 25th. 1917.	0900 1400	From 0900 2nd. Aust. Inf. Bde. comes under command G.O.C. 2nd. Aust. Division. Message from 1st. Aust. Div.. GEN. WALKER sends greeting to all UNITS who participated in historic landing at ANZAC 25th. April, 1915 etc., etc.. Disposition of Bn. - Bn. H. Qrs. at C 29. D. 7. 3.. "A" Coy. in STRONG POST at (2). C 30. A 2.9. (1) Platoon C 24. D 2.9.. (1) Platoon C 24 D 1.5.. "D" Coy. C 29 D. 7. 3. to C 29 D 8.9.. "B" Coy. C 29. B 8.5. to C 29. B 9.9.. "C" Coy. position remained unchanged. Day fine. Artillery active throughout the whole 24 hours on both sides. Air-craft also very active during day. STRENGTH. 36 Officers 871 O.Rs.. (2) O.Rs. to Hosp. sick. (1) O.R. wounded. 1799 Pte. H. Nash to Base Prison, is struck off strength. (2) O.Rs. returned from leave, England. Captain A. Oates D.S.O. to 2nd. Training Bn. England.	Corr. D 35
SUPPORT LINE R. BDE. SUB-SECTOR. S. PRONVILLE.	Apr. 26th. 1917.		This day very fine. Enemy's artillery very active indeed, also our Air-craft. The men are in better spirit owing to the fine weather. Report furnished to Bde, re identification and burying of all dead bodies of men belonging to A.I.F.. G/1983 received from Bde.. PASS WORD tonight is APPLE, this was sent to all Coys. in Code. STRENGTH 36 Officers. 871 O.Rs.. L/Cpl. C.F. Grimble granted 10 days leave to England. Lieut. A.F. Phillips promoted Captain vice F.R. Tubb MC. Suby. List. 27/3/17. Lieut. R.I. Hillard promoted Captain F.H. Tubb VC. promoted 27/3/17.. Q.M. and Hon. Lieut. J.E. Scholes promoted to Q.M. and Hon. Captain. 28/1/17.	
SUPPORT LINE R. BDE. SUB-SECTOR. S. PRONVILLE.	Apr. 27th. 1917.	2010 2020 2200	Day fine. Enemy artillery fairly active on our positions. Our artillery and air-craft very active indeed. All ranks are feeling the benefit of the dry weather and are in excellent spirits. AZB 500 from Bde. stating that Gas to be discharged at 0100 on 28th. inst. in front of 5th. Bns. sector. HEB 711 sent to Coys. to be on the alert and stand to at 0045 in case of emergency. GAS sentry caused false gas alarm by releasing claxton horns Enemy's artillery endeavoured to locate claxton horn by firing a few rounds of 5.9" at it.. STRENGTH. 36 Officers 869 O.Rs. (1) O.R. wounded. (1) O.R. killed..	

*McArthur Capt.*  
*April 27th 1917 A.I.F.*

WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

Army Form C. 1.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Reference Map. 57c 1/40,000.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SUPPORT LINE R. BDE. SUB-SECTOR S. PRONVILLE	Apr. 29th. 1917.	1030 1830	<p>Day fine. Our Air-craft very active indeed, and by all appearances we are again gaining the complete mastery of the air. Enemy artillery very active in whole of B n . area; he shelled all roads with 77mm. 4.5" and 5.9" intermittently throughout the whole night and day. Bde. Order No.29 received. 6th. Bn. to relieve 8th.Bn. in front line on night of 28th./29th. inst.. G/1990 from Bde. "SOS" signal to be used in 5th.Army. GREEN LIGHTS fired in quick succession, the signal to be repeated until the Artillery comply. Bn. engaged on improving accomodation etc..</p> <p>STRENGTH. 36 Officers. 859 O.Rs.. (3) O.Rs. to Hosp. sick. (10) O.Rs. in hosp., struck off strength. No.2839 Sig. A.Ford granted 10 days leave to England. No.2752 L/Cpl. Renfrey to L.M.G. School.</p>	Corr. D 36 Corr. D. 37
SUPPORT TRENCHES. SUB-SECTOR R. BDE S. PRONVILLE	April 29th. 1917.		<p>Day very fine indeed, almost a summer's day. Air-craft on both sides very active. 3 of our planes were forced to descend after having a fight with 3 enemy planes.</p> <p>Artillery on both sides very active. Enemy paid great attention to sunken roads occupied by Bn. Bn. carried out under many difficulties polling for the Federal elections of Australia. The majority of the votes were recorded, expect to complete tomorrow 30th. inst..</p> <p>STRENGTH. 36 Officers. 860 O.Rs.. (1) O.R. wd. but remained on duty. No.3443 Cpl. A.K.O'Donohoo reported for duty from Anzac Section, 3rd. Echelon.</p>	
SUPPORT LINE. R. BDE.	April 30th. 1917.	1000 1705 2035 1500 1600 1705 1705 1705	<p>Day very fine. Polling for the Federal elections completed.</p> <p>Bde. Order No.30 received. Bangalore torpedoes to be discharged in enemy's wire opposite Bde. front. on the night of 30th. April/1st. May.</p> <p>Amendment re Bde. Order No.30 received all times added two hours to zero time.</p> <p>HEB 742 sent to all Coys. explaining intention of Bde. Order No.30 also its amendment.</p> <p>Bn. Operation Order No.68 issued. "A" and "B" Coys. to interchange positions; remainder Bn. to remain in its present location.</p> <p>Bde. Order No.31 received. Bn. to relieve 5th. Bn. in F line on the night of 1st/2nd. May, 1917.</p> <p>G/1983 from Bde. giving list of pass words from 30th. April to 3rd. May.</p> <p>G/2015 from Bde. instructing Bns. to construct Dummy trenches with a view of misleading the enemy. AZB 930 from Bde.. GAS to be discharged into enemy's line at 0100 on 1st. May 1917. from trenches on left of Bde. sector..</p>	Corr. D 38 Corr. D. 39. Corr. D 40 Corr. D 41 Corr. D 42 Corr. D. 43 Corr. D 44

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Continued.

*HEB Bastin Capt  
Adj 7*

WAR DIARY

7th. Battalion A.I.F.

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.

Reference Map. 57c 1/40,000

(Erase heading not required.)

559

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SUPPORT LINE, R. BDE.	April 23 <sup>00</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup> . 1917		<p>Bn. Operation Order No. 69 issued. Bn. to relieve 5th. Bn. in Front line on night of 1st./2nd. May 1917.</p> <p>Enemy heavily shelled MORCHIES with 8" shells, he also paid great attention to all sunken roads-in Bn. area. Air-craft on both sides very active.</p> <p>STRENGTH 36 Officers. 860 P. Rs.. (3) O. Rs. to Hosp. sick.. No. 2857b L/Cpl. T. B. Hanson and 5783 Pte. A. B. Fraser to Cadet Course, 1st. Aust. Div. School.. 2687a Pte. T. Kinross granted 10 days leave to England..</p> <p><i>Weekly returns of officers in order of seniority on strength of unit for weeks ending 6<sup>th</sup> April 13<sup>th</sup> April 20<sup>th</sup> April 27<sup>th</sup> April 1917</i></p>	<p>Corr. D 45</p> <p>Corr D 46 ABX C.</p>
<p><i>W. E. Bastin Capt.</i> <i>Adj. 7th BN A.I.F.</i></p>				

## 7th. BATTALION A.I.F..

## TRAINING SYLLABUS.

Apr D1

From 1st. to 7th. April 1917.

Day & Date.	Forenoon	Afternoon	Lectures.
Sunday 1st. April.	1000 - 1100 Church Parade. 1100 - 1200 Route March.		
Monday 2nd. April	Company in attack. Trench to Trench. (one objective) consolidation.	Company in attack. Consolidation. Trench Tactics. Thinning out.	
Tuesday. 3rd. April.	Battalion in attack. Trench to trench. One objective.	Battalion in attack. Trench to trench. Two objectives.	
Wednesday. 4th. April.	Battalion in attack. Semi open warfare.	Football Match. Inter Company.	
Thursday. 5th. April.	Battalion Drill. Battalion in attack. (open warfare and using patrols, 2 objectives). Advancing through barrage.	Battalion attack. (four objectives) Battalion drill	Discussion on day's work.
Friday. 6th. April.	Battalion in attack on Village. Semi open warfare system.	Taking up Outpost Positions after capture of Village.	
Saturday. 7th. April	Battalion and Company Drill. General smartening up.	Route March, 2 hours.	

*W. P. Bastin* ..... Captain.

Adjutant 7th. Battalion A.I.F..

7th BATTALION A.I.F. OPERATION ORDER No. 62. COPY No...

by 4/1/37

*bar D5*

MAJOR C.H. SWIFT

Tempty. Commanding.

Reference Map. ALBERT (Combined sheet) 1/40,000

- PARA. 1. MOVE. The Bn. will move with BDE. group to MONTAUBAN BDE. CAMP. S. 26 D. DEBANCOURT - MEAULTE - PRICOURT. Bn. will follow 6th. Bn. in BDE. Order of march.
- PARA. 2. TIME of STARTING. Head of column will pass starting point at 0840.
- PARA. 3. STARTING POINT. Cross roads E. end BUIRE. D. 30 A. 3.4.
- PARA. 4. BN. ORDER of MARCH. "B", "A", "D" Coy. Specialists in usual places.
- PARA. 5. DRESS. Usual full marching order, particular attention to be paid to P.O. 319 re dress. W.P. sheet to be carried under flaps.
- PARA. 6. DISTANCES. to be maintained -
  - 100 yards between Coys.
  - 200 " " Bns.
  - 200 " " Transport and Troops.
- PARA. 7. HALTS. of 10 minutes at 10 minutes to each clock hour. No man will fall out of line of march without chit from an officer.
- PARA. 8. Bn. Standing Order No. 2. to be adhered to. Each Coy. will send (4) (O.Rs. to Report to Bn. O.O. as rear party at 0830. Bn. O.O. will obtain certificate as to cleanliness from Town Major. Officers valises and office kits will beat Bn. Mess at 0730.
- PARA. 9. MEDICAL. R.M.O. will arrange to have all men who are unable to march at 8th. Bn. H/Qrs. at 0830.
- PARA. 10. Acknowledge.

*H.B. Bastin* ..... Captain.

Adjutant 7th. Battalion A.I.F.

- Copies to
- 1. File. Time 2100.
  - 2. War. Diary.
  - 3. C.O. & Adjt.
  - 4. "A" Coy.
  - 5. "B" "
  - 6. "C" "
  - 7. "D" "
  - 8. C.M. & T.O.
  - 9. Specialists Officers
  - 10. Spare.

(62)

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.215
(in pads of 100).
No. of Message

Prefix Code m. Words Charge
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.
This message is on a/c of:
Recd. at m.
Date
From
By (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { DC A Coy.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number.
\* GR. 5000 5-4-17. A A A

you will please detail 2 OFF.
and 100 ORS. to relieve similar
party of 1st BN. AIF camped
at M. 15 C. tomorrow 6th inst. AAA
Party will report daily to
OC B Coy 11th BERKS. LABOUR Bx
at M. 16 B. 4. 6. for road
construction AAA your party
will be camped at M. 15 C.
LE SARR AAA.
The above party will have
at 0830 and will move
in nearest route to LE SARR.
AAA hooker and (17 GS numbered
waggon will report to A Coy
at 0815. in morning AAA.

From 7th BN.
Place
Time 2140

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.
(Z) M. Bastard Capt 4th/1
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.
750,000. W 2186-M509. H. W. & V., Ltd. 6/16.



7th BATTALION A.I.F. OPERATION ORDER No. 27. COPY No. 1.

by

7/4/17.

MAJOR C. H. SWIFT.

Tenny. Commanding.

REFERENCE MAP. Sheet 57c 1/40,000.

- See D. 10*
- PARA. 1. 7th Bn. less "A" and "C" Coys. at LESARS will move by road to VILLERS-AUL-FLORS on 8th. inst. via LONGUEVAL - FLERS - GUEUDECOURT - BRAULENCOURT.
- PARA. 2. STARTING POINT. Corner CAMP Corduroy road and main MONTAUBAN - ERICOURT road.
- PARA. 3. TIME of STARTING. Head of column will pass starting point at 0830.
- PARA. 4. DRESS. Usual full marching order, felt hats to be worn.
- PARA. 5. DISTANCES. 50 yds. between platoons.  
100 " " Companies.  
200 " " transport and troops.
- PARA. 6. TRANSPORT. 5th Bn. will place at disposal of Bn. 4 or the March - 4 draught horses be harnessed with extension chains.
- PARA. 7. Advance party of 1 Officer and 1 N.C.O. from "B" and "D" Coy. and 1 N.C.O. from remainder of "A" Coy. will move forward at 0715.
- PARA. 8. Bn. Standing Order No. 2. to be adhered to. Officers Valises and office stores will be at O.M.'s. stores at 0730.
- PARA. 9. Acknowledge.

..... *H. Bastin* ..... Captain.

Adjutant 7th. Battalion A.I.F.

Copies to Time 2200

1. File.
2. War Diary.
3. C.O. and Adjt.
4. "A" Coy.
5. "B" "
6. "C" "
7. "D" "
8. O.M. & T.O.
9. Bn. Orderly Officer.

(63)

Appendix No. D11

Ref/Map 570 N.W.

9/4/17.

To C.O. 7th Bn.

We are to hand two  
Coys. over to 6th Bn. BN HQ<sup>s</sup> will remain  
where it is.

The two boys will have to move  
immediately on receipt of this message

The boys are to occupy the Corp<sup>s</sup> N.M.N.

LINE. B Coy will occupy ~~from~~ I. 21 C. 98.

~~Along line of trench of I 20~~ positions in  
I. 20. B & D. D Coy will occupy positions  
in I. 14.

The two officers that have come forward  
will meet boys at D. 2. A. 8. 6. If these  
officers are not there Lt Perrock will guide  
boys to 6th Bn HQ<sup>s</sup>.

All ranks will have to wear steel hats.  
Cookers and (1) water cart to be brought  
forward.

I will remain here until everything is  
fixed up.

H. B. Basher Capt.

C.O. 7th Bn.

1730

7th Bn (less 2 comp anys.)  
 will proceed to FREMINGTON  
 (not two companies only)

15 4 16

O.C. Coys. Q1117 TO bar D12  
 BN will move  
 from FRENCHCOURT to BEAUMIETZ, starting 15<sup>th</sup> mid

Time of starting 1700 O.C. Coys to report  
 when ready to move

bar D12 Starting Point BN HQRS  
 Order of march BN HQRS A.B. C & D Coys.  
 Dress, full marching order.

L.M.C. sections will carry their guns, S.A.H.  
 parts will move via slip road route.

TRANSPORT, will remain here, until  
 further notice. All necessary transport for  
 move tonight will move via main  
 DIPAUME - COMBAI ROAD.

DISTANCES - 150 yards between platoons  
 and boys.

W. Bastin Capt  
 Adj 7 M.B.V.

7th. BATTALION A.I.F. OPERATION ORDER No. 64. COPY No. ....

by

16/4/17.

MAJOR C.H. SWIFT.

Tempy. Commanding.

*Cor D 14*

REFERENCE MAP. 57c 1/40,000

- PARA. 1. (a) MOVE. The Bn. will move from BEAUMETZ and will relieve 10th. Bn. A.I.F. and part of 12th. Bn. A.I.F. in the front line of the left DIV. sub-sector on the night of 16/17th..
- (b) 6th. Bn. will be on our Right flank.
- 8th. Bn. - - - Left "
- (c) Coy. positions in the line will be - "C" Coy. on right, "B" Coy. centre, "D" Coy. on left, "A" Coy. Support. Bn. H.Qrs. will be situated at D 19. C 5.0.
- (d) The line taken over will be held at all costs and on the system as explained by C.O. to O.C. Coys. last night 15th. inst..
- PARA. 2. TIME of STARTING. 1930. O.C. Coys. will report as soon as rations have been issued and they are ready to move.
- PARA. 3. STARTING POINT. Battalion Headquarters.
- PARA. 4. ROUTE. Coys. will move by routes selected by O.C. Coys. this afternoon.
- PARA. 5. DRESS. Fighting order, blanket to be rolled sausage fashion. W.P. sheet around blanket. Great coats carried rolled and strapped on waist-belt with pack-supporting straps. Water bottle to be filled, 220 rounds S.A.A. and two bombs per man to be carried.
- PARA. 6. TRANSPORT. will be parked at FREMICOURT. Cookers and water carts will return there to-night and move up to line each night from there.

..... *H.E. Bastin* ..... Captain.

Adjutant 7th. Battalion A.I.F..

- Copies to Time 1715.
- 1. File
  - 2. War Diary.
  - 3. C.O. & Adjt..
  - 4. "A" Coy.
  - 5. "B" "
  - 6. "C" "
  - 7. "D" "
  - 8. Q.M. & T.O..
  - 9. Spare..

*64*

~~D17~~ 7<sup>TH</sup> BN. A.I.F. DEFENCE SCHEME.

1. The front line will be held at all costs. 17/11/17

" 2. In the event of enemy attack the sentry groups will hold out, and will be reinforced by the picquets.

(2002 D17) If the enemy happens to drive the sentry groups back, before being reinforced they will muster with their picquets, and go no account with the picquets move.

" 3. The SUPPORT Coy. and H.QRS details, will immediately move to FRONS, and be ready to move up and support any part of the line. They must move by the shortest route. The

" 4. above Coy and details will be held off into carrying parties for S.H.A. & Bombs.

" 4. The S.O.S. signal will be sent up as soon as enemy attack is noticed. The signal will be repeated by Coy & H.QRS.

" 5. All the officers and senior NCOs will make themselves thoroughly acquainted with all routes to Coys in the line.

6. Dumps are situated at BN. H.QRS at D.19.C.50. and SUPPORT Coy. H.QRS at D.26.C.3.3.

Mel Gaston Capt Staff  
7<sup>TH</sup> BN. A.I.F.



SECRET

Copy No 2

7th BN. Operation Order etc

21-4-17.

Ref: 57c.

by Major C. H. SWIFT.

Temp Commanding

PAR. 1 Gas projectors will be used against the enemy on the night of 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> April 1917, should the wind be favourable. A South Westerly wind is required for the operation.

Bar D 25

The projectors will be fired from D. 13. C (5<sup>th</sup> BN<sup>s</sup> SECTOR)

2. Zero hour will be 0300 on 22<sup>nd</sup> INST.

3. All troops will wear GAS HELMETS in the ALERT position from 1100 21<sup>st</sup> INST to dawn 22<sup>nd</sup> INST.

4. All arrangements for the discharging the gas are under C.O. 8<sup>th</sup> BN and JOC/Z. SPECIUM Coy. R.E.

5. Should conditions not be favourable for discharge of GAS, a priority wire "No Action" will be sent from BN HQ to all Coys.

6. Acknowledge, and destroy order when read.

COPIES	TO:	TIME
1.	FILE.	1800
2.	WMA Dinky.	"
3.	A Coy	"
4.	B "	"
5.	C "	"
6.	D "	"

McBastin left.

copy 7th BN. AIF.



"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.2121 (in pads of 100). No. of Message

Prefix .....	Code .....	m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions:			Sent			Service.
.....			At.....m.		From.....	
.....			To.....		By.....	
.....			By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO *Baro 26* O.C. B & D Coys.

Sender's Number. \* *450-33* Day of Month. *21-4-17* In reply to Number. *AAA*

*B Coy will send out a fighting patrol of at least (4) OFF-12-ORC. The patrol sent at D-13-C-8-14. The time will be as arranged with O.C.D. Coy. O.C.D. Coy is responsible for the clearance of and the holding of the CROSS. Bonus at 10-21-17-28. This will be carried out at least 1/2 hour before the zero hour. The object of the fighting patrol of B Coy is to enter COPSE, overcome obstacles, obtain identification and return to own series before daylight.*

From *7th Bn* Place *7th Bn* Time *13-59*

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z) *McBastin Capt* Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.

22. 11. 17.

## PRELIMINARY ORDER No 1.

APP 1. The BN will be relieved by an ~~immediate~~  
 Bot. on the night of 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>, and

Coy 2F

1. The present front now occupied by Coys. will be straightened up and equalized as much as possible tonight. D Coy will not have to move, but B Coy will take over 200 yards from C Coy. All necessary arrangements for the extending of B Coy's front to be arranged mutually between D C B & C Coys.

3 Guides for the incoming unit will be arranged as follows. The I.O. will be responsible for guiding incoming Coys to Coy HQ's. From Coy HQ's D C Coys will be responsible for guiding platoons to their respective Out post and Request lines.

4 Stores, all stores now on hand including bandages shelters but excluding (2) H.Q. Field Containers for Coy will be signalled down and receipts obtained.

5 Ben Operations Order following

W. B. Ashurst aff.

24/11/17 7.00 AM A.I.F.

7<sup>TH</sup> Bn. OPERATION. ORDER N<sup>o</sup> 66

Ref. Chap 57c  
 by MAJOR J. C. H. SWIFT. 23.4.17.  
 Temp. commanding

PARA 1. The Bn. will be relieved by 6<sup>TH</sup> Bn. BORDER REG. on the night of 23<sup>RD</sup>/24<sup>TH</sup> inst. On completion of relief Bn. will move back and occupy BUNKERS, BARRS. in C.29.4.

2 (a). GUIDES for incoming UNIT. J. D. will be responsible for having guides at J. 3. A. 3. 2. at 2000 on 23<sup>RD</sup> inst. These guides will guide Coys and HQRS details to their respective HQRS. From Coy HQRS OC Coys will be responsible for guiding platoons to their respective Off-post and Recruit lines.  
 (b). GUIDES for outgoing Coys. Each Coy will have 1 Lt per platoon at Bn. HQRS at 0500 on 23<sup>RD</sup> inst. These men under Sgt. O. HARRIS will reconnoitre all routes from Coy HQRS to C.29. A. and will report back to their OC at 2000 ready to guide their respective Coys out of the line.

3. STORES. French stores as explained in Preliminary Order etc. will be adhered to. The (2) Hot Food CONTAINERS per Coy will be sent down with guides this morning if possible. Receipts for all T.S. will be completed in before 2000 on 23<sup>RD</sup> inst. P.T.D.

(2)

PARA 4: "SUPPORT" will report at usual time on night of 23<sup>RD</sup> incl OC Coy. will have all material for transport at SUPPORT Coy. DUMP, not later than 2100 T.O. will arrange to move contents of dump to new location.

5. RATIONS will be brought direct to new location
6. Completion of relief will be wired in CODE to BN HQ
7. acknowledge by wire

W. Baster Capt.

Adj. 7<sup>TH</sup> BN. A.I.F.

Copy	To	Time
1	FILE	D100
2	WAR DIARY	
3	C.O.	
4	A Coy.	
5	B Coy.	
6	C Coy.	
7	D Coy.	
8	COMM T.O.	

On the night of 24<sup>TH</sup>/25<sup>TH</sup> incl BN will relieve 4<sup>TH</sup> BN in SUPPORT. to 5<sup>TH</sup> BN.

W. Baster Capt.

Copy No 1

7<sup>th</sup> BN OPERATION ORDER No 67

Order No 34 by Major C. H. SWIFT 24/4/17

Reference Map 57C Temp Commanding

- 1. The BN will relieve 8<sup>th</sup> BN A.I.F. in the SUPPORT LINE of BDE'S R SUB SECTOR on the night of 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> inst
- 2. Each Coy less C Coy will send forward 1. OFF and 1. NCO to take over from Coys as follows  
 A Coy 7<sup>th</sup> BN will take over from B Coy 8<sup>th</sup> BN  
 B Coy 7<sup>th</sup> BN " " " " " " A Coy " "  
 D Coy 7<sup>th</sup> BN " " " " " " D Coy " "  
 C Coy 7<sup>th</sup> BN will remain in its present location.
- 3. All stores etc, will be taken over by the advanced officers, and a copy of the receipt obtained, and forwarded to BN HQ.
- 4. On completion of relief Coys will wire through in CODE to BN HQ.
- 5. Acknowledge

M. Bastin Capt  
of 7<sup>th</sup> BN A.I.F.

COPIES	TO	TIME
1	FILE	1600
2	WAR DIARY	"
3	A Coy	"
4	B	"
5	C	"
6	D	"



7th Bn Operations Order No 69 <sup>copy etc</sup>  
 by  
 MAJOR C. H. SWIFT. 30-4-17

Ref Map 57c Temp Commanding

PARA 1. Bn will relieve 5<sup>th</sup> Bn in the front line  
 on the night of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> May 1917.  
 C Coy will relieve LEFT Coy F LINE 5<sup>th</sup> Bn.  
 D Coy " " RIGHT " F LINE " "  
 B Coy " " SUPPORT Coy 5<sup>th</sup> Bn  
 A Coy will be distributed as follows  
 2 PLATOONS to C Coy (1) PLATOON to D Coy  
 A Coy HQRS and its remaining PLATOONS will take  
 over from 5<sup>th</sup> Bn's Coy similarly distributed.

PARA 2. Advanced parties from A, C, D Coys will  
 proceed to F. Line as already instructed and  
 will remain in the line all night. B Coy  
 will arrange mutually during daylight  
 tomorrow 1<sup>st</sup> May.

PARA 3. 5<sup>th</sup> Bn will have (1) guide per platoon at  
 5<sup>th</sup> Bn HQRS at 2230. Rations will be issued  
 to all ranks before commencement of reliefs  
 of Coys reporting by wire when they receive  
 and will move off immediately after  
 reporting rations O.K.

P.T.O.

2.

PARA 4 All stores, maps, etc, will be taken over by the advanced officers and copy of receipt forwarded to Bn HQs by field HQs.

PARA 5. Completion of relief will be wired in book to Bn HQs.

PARA 6 Acknowledge by wire.

198 Bastard Capt.  
Adjutant 7th Bn AIF

Copies	To	Amount
1	WRE	2300
2	WAR DIARY	"
3	A Coy.	"
4	B. "	"
5	C "	"
6	D "	"



RETURN of OFFICERS in ORDER of SENIORITY on STRENGTH of UNIT

at 1800 on Friday 6th. <sup>April</sup>~~March~~ 1917

559

Officers actually present with Unit.				Officers absent from Unit.			
Order Se nty.	Rank	Name	Remarks	Order Senty.	Rank	Name	Remarks
2.	Major	Swift	C.H. Tempy. Commanding.	1.	Lt. Col.	Jess "D. S.O."	C.H. Duty, England.
3.	Major	Tubb "V. C."	F.H. a/g 2/ Command.	7.	Captain	Stewart R. McG. F.	Div. Musketry Instr.
4.	Captain	Bastin	H.E. Adjutant.	11.	Lieut.	Phillips A.F.	Hosp. Sick.
5.	"	Oates "D. S.O."	A. O.C. "D" Coy.	13.	"	D'Altera W.R.	Hosp. Sick.
6.	"	Campbell	W.B. O.C. "C" Coy.	15.	"	Cox A.J.G.	1st. Aust. Div. School.
8.	"	Tubb "M. C."	F.R. O.C. "A" Coy.	17.	"	Reynolds O.G.	" " " "
9.	Lieut.	Kitchen	F.G. O.C. Mining Platoon.	19.	"	Smedley F.J.	Instructor, Etaples.
10.	"	Scholes	J.E. Q.M.	20.	"	Purbrick K.M.	5th. Army Inf. School
12.	"	Hillard	R.I. Tempy. O.C. "B" Coy.	21.	2/Lt.	O'Connor A.J.	1st. Div. School.
14.	"	Kelly	L.H. 2nd. Command "A" Coy.	25.	"	Dickinson V.R.	5th. Army Sniping School
16.	"	Fewler	J. Tempy. 2nd. Command B Coy.	27.	"	Booth W.R.	Leave, England.
18.	"	Gordon	J.H.G.	28.	"	O'Neil H.F.	Hosp. Sick.
22.	2/Lieut	Heaton	G.	34.	"	Dobbin C.L.	Leave, England.
23.	"	Buggy	R.	35.	"	Gaulton F.B.	Hosp. Sick.
24.	"	Gandon	P.G.	38.	"	Phillips D.G.	1st. Aust. Div. School.
26.	"	Lane	W.E.	39.	"	Anderson C.R.	1st. Aust. Div. School
29.	"	Hooker	F.H. Transport Officer.				
30.	"	Anderson	G.				
31.	"	Graham	R.J.				
32.	"	Harris	O.J.E.				
33.	"	Pollock	W.G. Bomb and L.M.G. Officer				
36.	"	Dean	A.				
37.	"	Meyer	A.P.				

..... *H.E. Bastin* ..... Captain  
Adjutant 7th. Battalion A I F.

*Apr 6 1917*

Appendix No D/46  
31

RETURN of OFFICERS in ORDER of SENIORITY & STRENGTH OF UNIT.

at 1800 on Friday 13th. April 1917.

559

Officers actually present with Unit.

Officers absentt from Unit.

Order Senty.	Rank.	Name.	Remarks.	Order Senty.	Rank.	Name	Remarks.
2	Major	Swift	C.H. Tempy. Commanding.	1	Lt. Col.	Jess D.S.O. C.H.	Duty, England.
3	"	Tubb V.C.	F.H. a/g 2nd. Command.	7	Capt.	Stewart R.McG.F.	Div. Instructor. (Musketry).
4	Captain	Bastin	H.E. Adjutant.	13	Lieut.	D'Altera. W.R.	Hosp. Sick.
5	"	Oates D.S.O.	A. O.C. "D" Coy.	15	"	Cox A.J.G.	1st. Aust. Divnl. School.
6	"	Campbell	W.B. O.C. "C" "	17	"	Reynolds O.G.	do
8	"	Tubb M.C.	F.R. O.C. "A" "	19	"	Smedley F.J.	Instructor, Etaples .
9	Lieut.	Kitchen	F.G. O.C. Mining Platoon.	20	"	Purbrick K.M.	5th. Army Shool.
10	"	Scholes	J.E. Q.M..	21	2/Lt.	O'Connor A.J.	1st. Aust. Div. School.
11	"	Phillips	A.F. 2nd. Command "D" Coy.	25	"	Dickinson V.R.	5th. Army Sniping School.
12	"	Hillard	R.I. O.C. "B" Coy.	27	"	Booth W.R.	Leave, England.
14	"	Kelly	L.H. 2nd. Command "A" Coy.	28	"	O'Neil H.F.	Hosp. Sick.
16	"	Fowler	J. 2nd. Command "B" Coy.	35	"	Gaulton F.B.	Hospital.
18	"	Gordon	J.H.G.	36	"	Dean A.	Leave, England.
22	2/Lt.	Heaton	G.	38.	"	Phillips D.G.	1st. Aust. Div. School.
23	"	Buggy	R.	39.	"	Anderson C.R.	do.
24	"	Gandon	P.G.				
26	"	Lane	W.E.				
29	"	Hooker	F.H. Transport Officer.				
30	"	Anderson	G.				
31	"	Graham	R.J.				
32	"	Harris	O.J.E.				
33	"	Pollock	W.G. Bomb. and L.M.G. Officer.				
34	"	Dobbin	C.L.				
37	"	Meyer	A.P.				

*60046A*

(Sgd.) H.E. Bastin. Captain

Adjuta nt 7th. Battalion AIF.

Appendix No. 46(a) 32

RETURN of OFFICERS in ORDER of SENIORITY on STRENGTH of UNIT.

at 1800 on Friday 20th. APRIL 1917.

550

Officers Actually present with Unit.

Officers Absent from Unit.

Order Senty.	Rank.	Name		Remark	Order Senty.	Rank.	Name		Remark.
2	Major	Swift	C.H.	Tempy. Commanding.	1	Lt-Col.	Jess "D. S.O."	C.H.	Duty, England.
3	"	Tubb "V. C."	F.H.	a/g 8nd. Command.	7	Captain	Stewart	R. McG. F.	Div. Musketry Instr.
4	Captain	Bastin	H. E.	Adjutant.	13	Lieut.	D'Altera	W. R.	Hosp. Sick
5	"	Oates "D. S.O."	A	O/C "D" Coy.	15	"	Cox	A. J. G.	1st. Aust. Div. School.
6	"	Campbell	W. B.	O. C. "C" Coy.	17	"	Reynolds	O. G.	do
8	"	Tubb "M. C."	F. R.	O. C. "A" Coy.	19	"	Smedley	F. J.	Instructor, Staples.
9.	Lieut.	Kitchen	F. G.		20	"	Purbrick	K. M.	5th. Army School.
10.	"	Scholes	J. E.	Q. M.	21	2/Lt.	O'Connor	A. J.	1st. Aust. Div. School.
11.	"	Phillips	A. F.	2nd. Command "D" Coy.	35	"	Gaulton	F. B.	Hosp. Sick.
12	"	Hillard	R. I.	O. C. "B" Coy.	36	"	Dean	A.	Leave, England.
14	"	Kelly	L. H.	2nd. Command "A" Coy.					
16	"	Fowler	J.	2nd. Command "B" Coy.					
18	"	Gordon	J. H. G.						
22	2/Lt.	Heaton	G.						
23	"	Buggy	R.						
24	"	Gandon	P. G.						
25	"	Dickinson	V. R.	Intelligence Officer,					
26	"	Lane	W. E.						
27	"	Booth	W. R.						
28	"	O'Neil	H. F.	Signalling Officer.					
29	"	Hooker	F. H.	Transport Officer.					
30	"	Anderson	G.						
31	"	Graham	R. J.						
322	"	Harris	O. J. E.						
33	"	Pollock	W. G.	L. M. G. & Bomb Off.					
34	"	Dobbin	C. L.						
37	"	Meyer	A. P.						
38	"	Phillips	D. G.						
39	"	Anderson	C. R.						

*Serial 468.*

(Signed) H. E. Bastin. Captain.  
Adjutant 7th. Battalion A. I.F.

Appendix No D46(4)

RETURN of OFFICERS in ORDER of SENIORITY on STRENGTH of UNIT

at 1900 on Friday 27th. April 1917.

Officers Actually present with Unit.

Officers Absent from Unit.

Order Senty.	Rank.	Name.	Remarks.	Order Senty.	Rank.	Name.	Remarks.
2	Major	Swift	C.H. Tempy. Commanding.	1	Lt.-Col.	Jess "D.S.O."	C.H. Duty, England.
3	"	Tubb "V.C."	F.H. a/g 2nd. Command.	5	Captain	Oates "D.S.O."	A. 2nd. Tg. Bn. England.
4	Captain	Bastin	H.E. Adjutant	7.	"	Stewart	R.McG.F. Div. Musketry. Instr.
5	"	Cambell	W.B. O.C. "C" Coy.	13.	Lieut.	D'Altera	W.R. Hosp. Sick.
8	"	Tubb "M.C."	F.R. O.C. "A" Coy.	15.	"	Cox	A.J.G. 1st. Aust. Div. School.
9	"	Scholes	J.E. Q.M.	17.	"	Reynolds	O.G. do.
10	"	Phillips	A.P. O.C. "D" Coy.	19.	"	Smedley	F.J. Instructor, Etaples.
11	"	Hillard	R.I. O.C. "B" Coy.	20.	"	Purbrick	K.M. 5th. Army School.
12	Lieut.	Kitchen	F.G.	21.	2/Lt.	O'Connor	A.J. 1st. Aust. Div. School.
14	"	Kelly	L.H. 2nd. Command "A" Coy.				
16	"	Fowler	J. 2nd. Command "B" Coy.				
18	"	Gordon	J.H.G.				
22	2/Lt.	Gandon	P.G.				
23	"	Dickinson	V.R. Intelligence Officer.				
24	"	Lane	W.E.				
25	"	Booth	W.R.				
26	"	O'Neil	H.F. Signalling Officer.				
27	"	Hooker	F.H. Transport Officer.				
28	"	Anderson	G.				
29	"	Graham	R.J.				
30	"	Harris	O.J.E.				
31	"	Pollock	W.G. L.M.G. and Bomb Off.				
32	"	Dobbin	C.L.				
33	"	Dean	A.				
34	"	Meyer	A.P.				
35	"	Phillips	D.G.				
36	"	Anderson	C.R.				

*Handwritten note:* hand 46c

(Signed) H.E. Bastin. Captain.  
Adjutant 7th. Battalion A.I.F..

Appendix No. D46(c)  
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