

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/31/26

Title: 14th Infantry Battalion

December 1916



AWM4-23/31/26

337.

Date.	Place and Time.	14 th Battalion A.I.F.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1/12/16	GOUDECOURT	<p>Strength: - 29 Officers & 12 other ranks. D Coy moved out at 4.30 AM and relieved C Coy left Coy front line. Relief complete by 6.30 AM without casualties. Bombardment by our heavy artillery arranged to take place from 10 AM to noon and front line withdrawn. Weather too dull and bombardment cancelled. Field Guns ranged in front of our sector from noon to 3 p.m. Sample Bde. Op. Order. lost with missing runner and loss reported to Bde. Hd. Qrs. Enemy artillery active from 6 P.M. to 8.30 p.m.</p>	wounded 6 OR

D.398/9.14.—C.11056.

338.

Date.	Place and Time.	14 th Battalion A.I.F.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
2/12/16	Goudecourt.	<p>Strength:- 29 Officers & 12 other ranks. Com saps now mostly cleaned out and duckboarded. Front line now clear and duckboarded opposite posts. Right Coy sector still requires much work. PETROL LAKE still impassable. Heavies arranged to bombard from 10 AM to noon and front line withdrawn. weather too dull and bombardment cancelled. Field Guns ranged from noon to 3 P.M. Lt Col. C.M.M. D ARED.S.O. Handed over Command of 14 Bn to MAJOR N.D. FETHERS at 3 P.M. and reported to Bde. Hd. Qrs for Court of Enquiry</p>	<p>Killed 2 OR Wounded 2 OR</p>

D.398/9.14.—C.11056.

339.

Date.	Place and Time.	14 th Battalion A.I.F.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
2/12/16	GIDECOURT	Capt. A. Henry also handed over command of B Coy to Capt. Wadsworth.	
3/12/16	"	<p>Strength: - 29 officers 779 other ranks. B and C Coys. 16th Battalion relieved C Coy in Support-line, BULL ROAD. C Coy moved back to SWITCH. Trench. Relief completed by 12 noon. No casualties during relief. Work on front line and communication trenches continued between 3 and 4 pm enemy. Artillery heavily bombarded front-line, especially left sector</p>	<p>Killed 3 OR. Wounded 3 OR. Missing 1 OR</p>

C.11056.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
3-12-16	GOUDECourt	<p>which was badly smashed in also GIRD Communication Trench which was also smashed in D Coy relieved by D Coy 16th Batta. B " " " A " 16th " Relief completed by 10 pm No casualties during relief. D Coy moved back to Switch Trench B Coy to GAP Trench. A Coy attached to 16th Batta.</p>	
4-12-16	"	<p>Strength 27 Officers 770 O.R. Improvement work on SWITCH Trench FLERS ALLEY and in carrying</p>	

C.11056.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
4-12-16		material to Battalion in front-line. 1 officer 50 O.R employed improvement of COCOALANE	Killed 2 O.R. Wounded 6 O.R.
5-12-16		Strength Officers 26 O.R 766 Continued improvement work on SWITCH Trench. FLERS ALLEY and COCOALANE also carrying material for Battalion in front-line	
6-12-16		Strength 27 Officer 758 O.R. Continue improvement work on Switch Trench. FLERS ALLEY and COCOALANE. also carrying	

C.11056.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
6.12.16	GUIDENCOURT	<p>material for battn front line. took R. Guard at 1 pm. Battalion relieved by 3 Coy. and Hqs 7th Battn, relief completed by 9 pm. No Casualties during relief. Companies marched out independently to QUARRY SIDING.</p>	
7.12.16	QUARRY Siding.	<p>Strength Officer 28 OR 788 Detained at QUARRY Siding 3 a.m. Detained MEAULTE 5 a.m. proceeded by march route to RIBEMONT arriving there.</p>	

C.11056.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
7-12-16		at 8.30 a.m. All billeted by 9.30 a.m. Bathing and cleaning of clothing and equipment carried out during remainder of day.	
8-12-16	RIBEMONT.	Strength Officer 28 OR 790 Inspection of equipment - clothing and personnel. Bathing, cleaning of clothing.	

C.11056.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
9. 12. 16	RIBEMONT.	Strength Officer 26. OR 785. Boy Training. Overhauling of equipment.	
10. 12. 16	RIBEMONT.	Strength Officer 26 OR 794. Boy Training forenoon. Route March afternoon.	
11. 12. 16	RIBEMONT.	Strength Officer 26 25 OR 787. Boy training. fitting of new boots and clothing. Afternoon Route March. Major N D Fethers. handed over command of Battalion to Major O C W. Fuhrman on proceeding on leave.	

G.11066.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
12-19-16	RIBEMONT	Strength Officers 26 OR 783 Coy Training forenoon. Route March Afternoon	
13-12-16	RIBEMONT	Strength Officers 26 OR 763 Coy Training Route March Inspection of Arms and equipments	
14-12-16	RIBEMONT	Strength Officers 26 OR 789 Major J. N. Peck joined Battr and takes over command of Battr from Major O. W. Fulkerson Forenoon. Coy Training. Afternoon Route March	

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
15-12-16	RIBEMONT	Strength Officers 24. OR 792 Regade parade forenoon. Coy Training ^{at length} Route march.	
16-12-16	RIBEMONT	Strength Officers 24. OR 785. Proceeded by March Route to RAINNEVILLE. arrived 6 pm. all billeted by 7 pm.	
17-12-16	RAINNEVILLE	Strength Officers 23. OR 739 Improvement of billets; cleaning of equipment and clothing	
18-12-16	"	Strength Officers 20. OR 733. Bathing, cleaning of equipment. Coy Training	

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
19.12.16	RAINNEVILLE	Strength 20 Officers 731. OR. Musketry (30 yds. range. Physical Training. Platoon Training and Route Marching	
20.12.16	-do-	Strength Officers 20. OR: 787 Musketry. 30 yds. Range. platoon training. Route marching Training of Specialists	
21-12.16	-a-	Training as per attached Syllabus appendix 1	Appendix 1
25 th Decr 16		Battalion Sports.	
26 th Decr		Training as per syllabus attached marked appendix 2	Appendix 2

C.11066.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
29/12/16		Foot : Regimental Tour	
28/12/16		conducted by Sir H.V. Cox	
28/12/16		Training as per syllabus	
28/12/16		Training as per syllabus	
29/30		Regimental Tour. conducted by	
31/12/16		General C.H. Grand D.S.O.	
31/12/16		Training as per syllabus	
31/12/16		Church parade.	
31/12/16		General in the Burwood	
31/12/16		distributed medal ribbon	
31/12/16		to WYNLISS D.S.O. and	
31/12/16		No. 1512 of the TAYLOR J.P.	

J. H. [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]

C.11056.

CO 19th

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

EVACUATIONS.

Period 6th - 14th December 1916

13th Battn. 14th Battn. 15th Battn. 16th Battn. 4th M.G. Coy. 4th T.M. Battery.

6/7th Decr.	-	3	3	2	-	-
7/8th "	12	1	2	-	-	-
8/9th "	7	5	-	7	-	1
9/10th "	-	5	-	3	1	-
10/11th "	6	1	3	1	1	-
11/12th "	2	6	1	-	-	-
12/13th "	1	12	-	-	-	-
13th/14th "	-	8	1	1	-	-
Total.	28	41	10	14	2	1

C.O.
ALL UNITS.

The above is forwarded for your information.

War diary file [Signature]

Chief Clerk Major.
Brigade Major.
4th Aust Inf Brigade.

APPENDIX

Copy No. ².....

14th BATTALION OPERATION ORDER NO 34.
BY, MAJOR H.J. ECK, COMMANDING.

15/12/16.
SECRET.

MOVE.

RAINXVILLE

The Battalion will ~~move~~ to ~~crossroads~~ tomorrow passing the Brigade starting point at Cross roads at 9 a.m.

ORDER OF MARCH.

Battalion Hd Qrs, D.C.A.B, Bombing Platoon, Transport less cooks which will march in rear of their Coys. Battalion will be formed up in Church Street. Head of Battn 300 yards past Church. Time to be formed up 8.50 a.m. An interval of 50 yards will be kept between companies. Transport will be ^{considered} as a company.

DRESSES.

Full marching order, one blanket per man and water proof sheet to be carried folded ~~in~~ round pack.

2nd BLANKET & STORES.

The 2nd blanket rolled in bundles of 20, securely tied and properly labelled will be stacked against west side of Church by 7.30 a.m. All stores will be at same place at this time. "A" Coy will provide loading party of 1 N.C.O. and 12 men to report to Transport Officer at 7.30 a.m.

MID-DAY MEAL.

Mid-day meal will be at Tea which will be made on the march will be issued ~~at~~ then.

MEN UNABLE TO MARCH.

All men unable to march (vide Sick report) will assemble at RIBEMONT Church at 9 a.m. on 16th inst.

BILLET S.

Certificates re Billets (Platoon Commanders) will be handed to Adjutant at 8.55. a.m.

ROUTINE.

Breakfast will be at 7 a.m.
Sick parade will be at 7.30 a.m.

Copies to:-

1. G.O.
2. File.
3. O.C. "A" Coy.
4. O.C. "B" Coy.
5. O.C. "C" Coy.
6. O.C. "D" Coy.
7. Bombing Officer.
8. Sign Officer.
9. Q.M.
10. Transport Officer.
11. M.O.
12. Pioneers.
13. Sgt Cook.

AR Blainey

.....Captain.
Adjutant 14th Battalion. A.I.F.

14th BATTALION. A.I.F.
TRAINING PROGRAMME FROM 18/12/16 to 23/12/16.

DAY AND DATE.	FORENOON. 9 a.m. to 12 noon.	AFTERNOON. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	EVENING.
MONDAY 18/12/16.	Bathing, inspection of feet, arms and equipment, improvement of billeting accommodation.	As for morning with addition that squad drill with arms will be carried out in preparation for Ceremonial parade.	Lecture to Officers "Training" C.S. Debation 30 minutes.
TUESDAY 19/12/16.	Ceremonial Parade, and Presentation of Cards by the Divisional Commander (Sir H.V. Cox K.C.M.G., C.B., C.S.I.) <i>owing to indisposition of Sir H.V. COX the cards will be presented by General R.H. Bland D.S.O.</i>	Saluting drill Bayonet fighting.	Free and easy debate for Officers at Bn H.C. - Subject The present Battn organization - How to use it to get full value & how to improve on it.
WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY 20/23/12/16.	(1) Physical training, games. (2) MUSKETRY. 30 yards range practices. Corrective musketry instruction. Rapid loading practice. Trigger pressing. Muscle exercises. (3) Bayonet fighting. (4) Saluting and smart squad drill. (5) Squad drill with arms. (6) Platoon drill. (7) Guard and sentry duties.	Route marching - Varying distances combined with advanced guard work.	WEDNESDAY. Lecture - "Advanced guards" Major Fuhrman. THURSDAY. Free and easy debate - Subject - "Outposts." FRIDAY. Lecture - "The Coy in attack on the enemys trenches" Capt Williamson. FRIDAY. Free and easy debate - Subject "Tactical use of Lewis guns"

- NOTE** 1. Dress for parade other than route marches - fighting order.
Dress for route marches - marching order.
2. Lectures will be held in the Officers' mess and will be attended by all officers.
Debates will be attended by all officers in camp.

A.R. Blaney
.....Captain.
Adjutant 14th Battalion.

14th BATTALION. A.I.F.

TRAINING PROGRAMME - SPECIALISTS.

DAY AND DATE.	FORENOON. 9 a.m. - 12 noon.	AFTERNOON. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	EVENING.
Every day except Tuesday when special parade is to be held.	<p><u>SIGNALLERS.</u> (1) Physical training & games. (2) Buzzer work. (3) Visual signalling. (4) Station work. (5) Telephoning. (6) Lamp and Helio signalling. (7) Map reading.</p> <p><u>ROUNTERS</u>) <u>PIGBONERS</u>) (1) Physical training & games. (2) Semaphore signalling. (3) Transmission of verbal messages. (4) Message writing. (5) Musketry & Bayonet fighting. (6) Map reading. (7) Names & positions of officers and nature of badges etc.</p>	Same as FORENOON except when otherwise ordered.	Lecture to H.C.O's and men as necessary.
	<p><u>LEWIS GUNNERS.</u> (1) Physical training & games. (2) Stripping and assembling of gun. (3) Care of gun. (4) Range practices. (5) Practice in handling of gun under different conditions (6) Map reading. (7) Practice of ammunition supply. (8) Bayonet fighting</p>		
	<p><u>BOMBERS.</u> (1) Physical training & games. (2) Care of bombs. (3) Use of bombs (a) "ours" (b) "theirs" (theory) (4) Throwing with (a) dummy bombs. (b) Live bombs. (5) Conduct of bombing parties under different conditions. (6) Musketry. (7) Bayonet fighting. (8) Use of rifle grenades. (9) Practice of bomb supply.</p>		

APPENDIX

TRAINING PROGRAMME - SPECIALISTS. (Continued)

NO. DAY.	FORENOON. 9 a/m. - 12 noon.	AFTERNOON. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	<u>EVENING.</u>
Every day except Tuesday when special parade is to be held.	<p><u>PIONEERS.</u> (1) Instruction in sanitation in trenches or billets and on the march-to be carried out in conjunction with daily routine work by Regimental M.O.</p> <p><u>STRETCHER BEARERS.</u> (1) Physical training & games. (2) Instruction necessary for open warfare conditions to be given by Regimental M.O.</p>	<p>Same as FORENOON except when otherwise ordered..</p>	

A.R. Blainey
.....Captain.
Adjutant 14th Battalion.

APPENDIX

14th BATTALION A.I.F.
TRAINING PROGRAMME FROM 26/12/16 to 30/12/16.

DAY AND DATE.	FORENOON. 9 a.m. to 12 noon.	AFTERNOON. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	EVENING. 7 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
TUESDAY. 26/12/16.	<p>(1) Musketry, COISY Range. (a) "B" Coy 9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. "D" Coy 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. "A" Coy 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. practices 1 to 3 of Brigade special course issued herewith except "A" coy which will fire 6 practices. Grouping on 50 yds range Last draft of Reinforcements.</p>	<p>(1) Route marching and Advanced guards. (2) Inspection by C.O. of:- Signallers. Runners and pigeoneers. Bombers. Stretcher bearers. Lewis gunners. Transport. Pioneers and other H.Q. units, in accordance with Brigade circular No 7259 at 1 p.m. PLACE Brickfields, except transport who will be inspected near their lines at 2 p.m.</p>	<p>Lecture - Coy Administration. CAPT R.W. ORR. Place Officers mess.</p>
WEDNESDAY. 27/12/16.	<p>(1) Bayonet fighting. (2) Corrective musketry instruction. (3) Rapid loading. (4) Trigger pressing. (5) Platoon drill. (6) Training of wire cutting and laying specialists. (7) Guard and sentry duties and ceremonial.</p>	<p>Inspection of "A" coy at 2 p.m. and "C" coy at 3 p.m. in accordance with brigade circular No 7259. PLACE BRICKFIELDS.</p>	<p>Lecture.- Training of N.C.O.'s CAPT HANSEN. Place Officers mess.</p>
THURSDAY. 28/12/16.	<p>musketry COISY Range. "D" Coy 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. "B" Coy 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Specialists 11 a.m. to 12 noon. "C" Coy 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. All fire remainder of practices of brigade special course except "C" coy which will fire 6.</p>	<p><i>Scheme under GOC brigade</i> Inspection by C.O. of "B" Coy at 2 p.m. "D" Coy at 4 p.m. in accordance with Brigade circular No 7259. PLACE BRICKFIELDS.</p>	<p>Lecture to N.C.O.'s by Company officers Duties of N.C.O.'s Place officers mess.</p>

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APPENDIX

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DAY AND DATE.	FORENOON. 9 a.m to 12 noon.	AFTERNOON. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	EVENING. 7 to 7.30 p.m.
FRIDAY 29/12/16.	Practice in organizing xxxxxxxxxxxx coys for attack and attacking lines indicated in G.S. Circular issued.	Practice in organizing battalions for attack on lines indicated by Brigade circular.	General discussion for Officers. <u>Place Officers</u> mess.
SATURDAY. 30/12/16.	BATTALION ROUTE MARCH.		

NOTE. Except where notified by this syllabus the specialists training will
be carried on as laid down in last weeks syllabus.

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Harold S. Paulin
.....Lieut.
A/Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX