

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/44/12

Title: 27th Infantry Battalion

August 1916



AWM4-23/44/12

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	VOLUME ✓	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1916				
	Aug. 1		Remained at LA BOISELLE. Some shelling by enemy. Killed 1 wounded 1		
	2		Continued work on priming off trench in front of O.G.I. Wounded, Lieut. Peltar & 2 O.R.		
	3		Work continued as before. Wounded Lieut Peltar and 7 O.R.		
	night Aug 4/5		Attached position on left of Bapaume BAPAUME RE at 9. p.m. Attached and captured two lines of trenches and strong point at windmill. Narrative attached. Casualties. Officers. Lieut Selth, killed Major Cunningham. missing Lieut. Pearce. " Capt. G. Dey. Wounded Lieut. Clyde. Poome Roue		

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			<p>Casualties Officers. Lieut. Campbell. Wounded " Judge. " " Ridge. " Other ranks. Killed 40 Wounded 289 Missing 67</p>	
	Aug 6.		<p>Relieved by 48 Bⁿ & retired to trenches at LA BOISELLE. Major Lane reorganised Bⁿ into 4 Coy's of 2 platoons each, and took over temporary command of reinforcements for 28th Bⁿ, and details of stragglers of 26th forming a composite reserve Bⁿ for 7th Bⁿ. Late in afternoon Bⁿ, under Major Lane marched to TARA HILL and bivouaced for the night. During night 6/7 Aug enemy shelled TARA HILL. Casualties. 2 wounded.</p>	
	7.		<p>Marched at 11 a.m. for BRICKFIELDS near ALBERT, & bivouaced</p>	

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	Aug 8.		Marched to WARLOY, and bivouaced in field near WARLOY - BOUZINCOURT. B ^d Remained for 2 days.	
	10		Visited by H.M. the KING. moved into billets.	
	11.		Marched at 5.30 a.m. for LA VICOONE via CONTAY, HERRISART, RUBEMPRE and bivouaced at LA VICOONE.	
			2 ^d Lieut. Pellew and 207 OR Rein ^t arrived at 6 p.m.	
	12.		Marched to FIEFFES, and bivouaced.	
	13		Commenced training.	
	14.		Continued training. Lieut Col Dalman left for Australia, handing over command to Major J.C. & Shane.	
	15		Marched into billets at marbale MONTRILET. Training continued.	
	20.		Marched into RUBEMPRE and went into billets.	
	21.		Marched to VADENCOURT, WOOD, camped in huts.	
	22		Marched to BRICKFIELDS & bivouaced.	
	23		Marched to LA BOISELLE. B ⁿ engaged in fatigue in AVOCA VALLEY.	
	24		Completed embarkment in AVOCA VALLEY.	

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	night 24/25		Dug communication trenches near FERME De MOQUET	
	27		6 pm took over A B ⁿ duties in right sector near BAPAUME R ^e . from 19 ⁿ B ⁿ .	
	31		Relieved by 1 st B ⁿ Canadians, & marched to billets at ALBERT.	
			Summary of Casualties.	
			Officers.	
Killed.	P.I.	OR 42	2 nd Lieut. N.W. Lyellth. Killed.	24/8/16
Wounded.	6.	336	Myr J.R. Cunningham Missing	"
Missing.	2.	60	Lieut. S.M. Pearce "	"
Transferred.		4	2 nd Lieut. A.K. Pellar Wounded.	3/8/16
Sick.	2	152	Capt. G. Day "	4/8/16
			Lieut. D.A. Clyde "	
			" R.H. Boorn "	
			" J.A. Rowe "	
			" A.C. Ridge "	
			W.P. Black Sick	15/8/16
			2 nd Lieut. A.B. Durdin "	22/8/16

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Lieut Col. W. Dollman, V.D. left unit to return to Australia 14/8/16.	
			Taken on strength.	
			0. O.R.	
			1 1 Capt. J. S. Malpas. from supernumerary list	2/8/16
			1 207 Recpts. Lieut. C. E. Pellew.	11/8/16
			4 from Hosp	7/8/16
			8 recpts	7/8/16
			42 Hosp details.	24/8/16
			4 Recpts.	20/8/16
			61 "	28/8/16
			1 1 Recpts. Lieut R. C. Hunter	29/8/16
			4 Hosp	30/8/16
			3 332.	
			J. S. Malpas. Capt for Col 24 th B. Coy. A.I.F.	

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APPENDIX

Australian Records Section
3rd Echelon

~~7th Inf. Bde~~

Operations, Aug 4-6, 1916

In accordance with instructions the 24th Bⁿ moved off from LA BOISELLE for the position of assembly on the afternoon of Aug 4. The first platoon moved at about 5.30 p.m.

The arrangements were for A & B Cos to occupy the jumping off trenches in front of tramline, and to form the first & second waves of the assault with O.C. 1 as objective.

D & C Cos were to form third & fourth waves in tramline trench, with special carrying parties following as a fifth wave.

Companies moved so that they would be composed of right & left half companies respectively: ~~the~~ of these 6, 5, 2, 1. formed the first wave & 8, 7, 4, 3. the second wave. The third & fourth wave were composed of 14, 13, 10, 9. as third wave, and 16, 15, 12, 11. as 4th wave.

The fifth wave of 16 men per company.

carrying tools and material.

A + B Companies advanced + assaulted
O.G. 1. Both waves easily reaching this
objective. D. Coy followed as far as
O.G. 1. but C. Coy appears to have lost
direction; + eventually mixed with
25th + 26th Bns on the left, + 18th on the
right.

A, B. + D. Coy worked hard on consolidation
of O.G. 1. throughout the night.

Capt Devonshire reports that about
4:30. a.m. on the 5th the enemy launched
a counter attack against O.G. 1, but were
repulsed by vicious M.G., Lewis gun
+ rifle fire.

The casualties to the enemy in this attack
are estimated to be 100 including 2 officers
The remainder surrendered.

Patriots were then sent out to the windmill
& O.G. 2. O.G. 2 was then occupied.
A company of 28th Bn was sent to
assist the garrison.

Lewis gun positions were selected
in advance of O.G. 2.

APPENDIX

During the day the position was heavily shelled, and enfilade fire was brought to bear from the direction of THIEPVAL.

During afternoon of Aug 5, instructions were received to hand over O.G. 1 & O.G. 2 to 48th Bⁿ, and to ~~occupy~~

J. S. Malpas. Capt.
for CO. 24th Bⁿ A.I.F.