

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/34/35

Title: 17th Infantry Battalion

June 1918



AWM4-23/34/35

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

17th Bn A.I.F.

FOR

June 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

G.M. Pheasant
V.O.

Signature of Officer Commanding

R.M. Sade & Col

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WAR DIARY

~~INTELLIGENCE~~ SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

17th Bn
Original Jan

Army Form 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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Near VAUX SUR SOMME	1/6/18	-	Bn. still in Reserve. Gully shelled at intervals with 4.2s. 1 O.R. wded. Lt. Col. Sadler M.C returned from Nucleus Bn, also Lts. V. J. Sullivan M.C & C.R. Maynard Working party of 200 O.R. supplied for work in Close Support area as usual.	4RM.
	2/6/18		Quiet. Capt. Ronald, & Lt. R. Willard left for Nucleus Bn. Working party at night as usual.	4RM.
	3/6/18		Quiet. Work as usual.	4RM.
	4/6/18		Quiet. Operation order No 71 issued	Alpha I
	5/6/18	11.15 p.m.	Relief by 26 th Bn. A.I. 7 complete. Bn. moved to trenches in front of FRANVILLERS	4RM. 4RM.
FRANVILLERS	6/6/18		Disposition Report attached. Bn to be available for move to any part of Divl. Area, with exception of "B" Coy detailed as Nucleus Garrison for part of the "ANCRE DEFENCES". 90 O.R. detailed for permanent work as tunnellers, Dump Guards etc. 200 O.R. bathed at LA HOUSOYE. At night a Working party of 250 O.R. supplied for cable laying between Front Line Bn. H. Qs. 2 O.R.s wded.	Appx 2 4RM.
	7/6/18		200 O.R. bathed. Officers proceeded to reconnoitre Left Bde Area	

WAR DIARY

Army Form G 2118.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7/6/18		Bn. stood to at 9.45 p.m. & again at 2 a.m. (8/6/18) on account of attack by 7 th A. I. Bde.	ERM.
	8/6/18		Quiet. Cable laying party (250 OR) in heavy gas shell bombardment, wore S. B. Rs for about 2 hrs. (Division congratulated on small number of casualties)	ERM.
	9/6/18		Quiet. Bn. issued with 3 1914 Pattern Snipers Rifles. Lt. Col. Sadler M.C. left for C.O.s school. Major S. A. Middleton in command. Cable laying party as usual.	ERM.
	10/6/18		Quiet. Bn made use of spell in cleaning up generally. Lt. F. Harries rejoined from 19 th Bde.	ERM.
	11/6/18		Quiet. Few H.V. shells in vicinity "A" Coys trenches.	ERM.
	12/6/18		Quiet & fine.	ERM.
	13/6/18		Quiet. Bde order to move to GLISY received	ERM.
	14/6/18	2 a.m.	Order No 72 issued Bn. left FRANVILLERS at 8 a.m. and marched to a point about 1 Kilo S. of PONT NOVELLES, embussing at 10 a.m., debussing at LAMOTTE BREBIERE, saving a march of 2 kilos. Marched to GLISY. Bn now forward Bn of the Bde. Officers commenced to reconnoitre	Appx 3

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GLISY	14/6/18		reconnoitre forward areas, and positions of readiness in event of Bn. being required to counter attack, more particularly in event of capture of VILLERS BRETONNEUX by the enemy. Also included trench system known as NICOLAS SUPPORT in event of it being necessary to support the FRENCH troops on our right.	GRM.
	15/6/18		Disposition report attached. Men took advantage of RIVER SOMME for bathing etc. Bn. resting, Nucleus Bn personnel rejoins, including Capt J. B. Ronald D.S.O. Lt. R. Pettit, G. Small M.C., F. Warner, Phelps, W. J. Ham, + 2/Lt Croft. (from Cadet Bn). Capt. E. J. Manfield rejoins, also 2/Lt. C. Warburton from Cadet Bn.	Appx 4
	16/6/18		Orders re training issued Syllabus for training issued Lt. Col. Sadler M.C. returned from school.	GRM. Appx 5 " 6
	17/6/18		Bn. training. Order issued re guides etc for BLANGY System, in order to facilitate quick manning of trenches if required. 2/Lt. Massey M.M. rejoined from Cadet Bn.	Appx 7. GRM.
	18/6/18		Training continues. Rt. Half Bn. bathed at RIVERY.	GRM
	19/6/18		" " " Left " " " " " "	GRM
	20/6/18		H. Q. Company formed Lt. W. R. Haigh M.C. O/c.	

(A9475) Wt W235/P360 600,000 12/17 D. D. & L. Sch. 52a. Forms/C118/15.

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GLISY	20/6/18		Following decorations awarded (for operation 14/5/18) Bar to M.M. No 1370 Pte S. Edwards MM M.M. No. 6103 Pte A. Makin. No. 1041 Pte W.A. Walsh, No 522 L/Cpl. L. Clarke, No. 3880 Pte A.J. McCaffrey, No 6341, Pte H. S. Murrell, No. 722 Cpl. C. Williams, No 5877 Pte J. J. Gregory, No 840 Pte H. J. Compton, & No. 1601 L/Cpl. S. H. Taylor.	REM.
	21/6/18		Training continues	
	22/6/18		Bn. Swimming Carnival held in SOMME RIVER. Programme attached Lt C. Healy (19 th Bn A.S.F.) gave exhibition swim. Starting Pontoon sank owing to crowding to watch exciting finish of sculling race, & caused the C.O. & a number of other officers to be completely immersed. The starter Lt. C.R. Maynard losing his revolver. This happened after last item on programme.	Appx 9 REM.
			Syllabus of training issued Major S.A. Middleton left to command 19 th Bn. A.S.F.	Appx 10 REM.
	23/6/18		Training continues 2/pts B. E. Hembrow & J. L. Richardson rejoined from Cadet Bn. & Lt. E. H. McCulloch from 2 nd I. B. Lt. C. Blackford attached 18 th Bn as Sig. Off.	REM.
	24/6/18		Training. Order received that Bde to relieve 9 th A.S. Bde in line, 17 th Bn to relieve Front Line Bn on night 28/29 th June.	REM.

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
GLISY	25/6/18		Bn. Training. Officers commenced to reconnoitre Front line	92M
	26/6/18		do do	92M
	27/6/18		do. Order No 73 issued.	92M
	28/6/18		Bn left GLISY at 6 p.m. + marched to line, tea being supplied by cooks en route.	92M
			Bn was exceptionally fortunate on march in, as enemy put down a sharp barage, right edge of which just touched the route selected, Bn was able to sheer to right & avoid casualties. I. O.R. wdcd.	92M
Left of VILERS	29/6/18	11.5 a.m.	Relief of 35 th Bn. A.I.F.	
BRETTONEUX		3.30 a.m.	Situation quiet Disposition report attached	Appx 12
		6 a.m.	Intelligence Summary attached	" 13
		3.30 p.m.	Situation quiet.	
		4 p.m.	Operation memo issued (This operation did not take place - wind unfavorable)	Appx 14
			Patrol programme issued. Long crops hampered observation from front line	92M " 15
	30/6/18	3.30 a.m.	Situation quiet.	
		8 a.m.	Intelligence Summary attached	Appx 16
		3.30 p.m.	Situation quiet.	92M

WAR DIARY

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OF
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	30/4/18		<p>Patrol programme attacked.</p> <p><u>General</u> :- Fine weather prevailed during month. While at GLISY, the photos of the Bn Officers & also Bn N.C.Os were taken under Bde arrangements.</p> <p>Report by C. O. " " J. O. " " Q. M.</p>	<p>Appx 17. Q.M.</p> <p>Q.M.</p> <p>Appx 18 " 19 " 20</p> <p>Q.M.</p>

WAR DIARY

OF

17th Bn. A. I. F.

FOR

June 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Order No. 71
2	Disposition Report. 6/6/18.
3	Order No. 72
4	Disposition report. 15/6/18
5	Orders re training
6	Syllabds for "
7	Order re guides 17/6/18.
849	Programmes of Swimming Carnival
10	Syllabus of training.
11	Order No 73.
12	Disposition Report 29/6/18.
13	Intelligence Summary "
14	Operation memo. "
15	Patrol programme "
16	Intelligence Summary 30/6/18.
17	Patrol programme "
18	C.O.s reports.
19	I.Os "
20	Q.Ms "

17th BATTALION A.I.F.
OPERATION ORDER NO. 71

Appoc I

Copy ~~SECRET~~
Copy No. 7.....

Reference Map.
Sheet 62 D. 1/40,000.

Battalion Headquarters
4th June 1918.

1. The 17th Battalion A.I.F. will be relieved by the 26th Battalion A.I.F. on the night 5/6th inst.
2. On relief, the Battalion will take up the position previously occupied by 26th Bn. with Battalion Headquarters at C.29.d.3.7.
3. Each Coy. will detail an advance party of 1 Officer and 2 N.C.Os. to report to 26th Bn. Hdqrs. by 12 Noon to-morrow, and Coys. will take over the positions occupied by similar Coys. in that Bn.
These N.C.Os. will act as guides to their Coys. and will meet them at HEILLY RAILWAY STATION at 10.30 p.m.
4. All trench stores etc. will be handed over and receipts obtained which will be forwarded to Bn. Headquarters by 9 a.m. on the 6th inst.
5. Transport Officer will arrange to collect Headquarters gear, tools echelon and kitchens and convey them to new position.
6. Evening meal will be eaten before moving off.
7. Completion of relief and occupation of new position will be notified to Bn. Hdqrs. by runner.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued by runner at 9 p.m.

J. J. Barrett
Capt.
Adjutant 17th Battalion A.I.F.

Distribution.

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. "A" Co. | 5. Q.M. |
| 2. "B" Co. | 6. T.O. |
| 3. "C" Co. | 7. War Diary |
| 4. "D" Co. | 10. Spare. |

APPENDIX.

Appendix 2

Disposition Report.

Sheet 62d NE 17th Bn A.I.F.
 1:20,000. +
 CONTAY. Ed. 2. 1:20,000.

Bn is occupying part of
 CREST sector sheet. C. 29 b + d.

Bn. H. Q. in trench at approse
 C 29 d 2.8.
 Garrison occupying trench
 from C 29 b 4.2 to 29 d 2.6.

8 off. 68 OR.

"A" Coy. C.H. Q. at approse
 C. 29 b 35.35.
 Garrison in trenches from
 approse C 29 b 5.6 to 29 b 5.1.

5 off 146 OR.

"B" Coy. C.H. Q. approse C 29 b 50.00.
 Garrison in shelters (dugouts)
 along Road from C 29 b 50.05
 to C 29 d 4.7.

50 off 109 OR.

2

"C" Coy. C.H.Q. at C 29d 6535
 Garrison along road
 from C 29d 46 to C 29d 6.3.
 6 off 105 OR.

"D" Coy. C.H.Q. C 29d 6020
 Garrison in trench from
 C 29d 6025 to C 29d 3000.
 5 off 137 OR.

Total garrison
 29 off. 565 OR.

A.A.L.Gs mounted as follows

2	at approx	C 29d 2.7.
1	" "	C 29b 3535
1	" "	C 29b 5000
1	" "	C 29d 6535
1	" "	C 29d 6020

So H.Q.
 5 A.I. Pods
 the BRSS. 12.5am. $\frac{6}{10}$.

J.O.

17TH BATTALION. A.I.F.14/6/18.Reference Map:-

Sheet 62.D., 1/40,000.

1. The FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE will move by busses to CAMON-RIVERY to-day. The 17TH BATTALION will be in the vicinity of GLISY.
2. Embussing Point will be at H.23.d.8 5., and Debussing Point at N.2.c.2.8.
3. Lieut. C. BLACKFORD will be Embussing Officer, and will report to Battalion Headquarters at 7.30 a.m. 14th instant for instructions.
4. The Battalion will be told off into parties of 25 before reaching Embussing Point.
5. Companies will be ready to move off by platoons at 2 minutes' interval, commencing with "A" Company at 8 a.m., "B", "C" and "D" Companies following.
6. Officers' Baggage, etc., will be ready for Transport by 7 a.m.
7. Lewis Guns will be loaded on Limbers by 7 a.m.
8. Transport will be Brigaded under Brigade Transport Officer, but will rejoin Units on completion of move.
9. Refilling Point for 14th instant will be G.32.c.9.0. Supply Wagons will deliver to Units. Refilling time 5 p.m. On the 15th instant and et sequi - Refilling Point will be at Crossroads G.30.a.45.10. Supply Wagons will deliver to Units. Refilling time 10 a.m.
10. Mid-day meal for 14th instant will be carried on the man.
11. Full echelon of S.A.A., Grenades, and Tools, will be carried.
12. The two bombs per man, and the extra 100 rounds of S.A.A., will be dumped at Company Headquarters, and the amounts dumped forwarded to Battalion Headquarters by 7 a.m.
13. An Advance Party of 2 N.C.O's. per Company will report to Lieut. F. W. TINDALE at 7 a.m. at Battalion Headquarters. This party will meet Companies at N.20.b.2.0 from 12 noon onwards.
14. All Trench Stores, Maps, etc., will be taken over, and receipts forwarded to Battalion Headquarters by 4 p.m. on the 14th instant.
15. A C K N O W L E D G E.

J. B. Barrett
Captain.
Adjutant 17th Battalion A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. File.
2. "A" Company.
3. "B" "
4. "C" "
5. "D" "
6. R. Q. M.
7. Transport Officer.
8. H. Q. Officer.
- 9/11. War Diary.
12. Spare.

80
 12
 1st Lt 67th $\frac{1}{100,000}$ - Disposition Report - AMs 4 1946 R.F. AIF.
 156-18

Population is dispersed in vicinity of GLISY.

B.H.Q's at N20d 0.5 in GLISY also R.A.P.

Personnel billeted in street from N20d 0.5 to
 N20c 8.5. (Includes Band & M. Staff etc)

12 Officers 148 O.R's

A Coy in shelters in WOOD in N20d

Coy H.Q's at N20d 8.8

10 Officers 157 O.R's

Position of Wardens and Guides for BLANGY
 SYSTEM at N23a 8.5

B Coy in shelters in WOOD in N20d

Coy H.Q's at N20d 8.8

9 Officers 136 O.R's

Position of Wardens and Guides for
 BLANGY SYSTEM at N35a 2.7

D Coy in shelters in WOOD in N 31b
 Coy H.Q.s at N 31b 7.8
 6 officers 160 ORs

"C" Coy in trenches from N 26c 2.2 to
 N 32/a 4.5
 Coy H.Q.s in WOOD at N 31b 7.7
 7 officers 144 ORs

Position of weapons and Guides for BLANCK
 SYSTEM at 5a 7.4

Total 44 off 745 ORs

A.A.I.G.s 4 in vicinity of N 20c 95.45
 2 " " " N 20d 95.80
 1 " " " N 31b 8.7
 1 " " " N 31b 70.85

Lewis Gun Range in vicinity N 12d 6.1
 Rifle Range " " N 13d 6.1
 Practice Bombing Grounds in N 21c

20 H.Q.s
 5th A.I. Bde
 per

G. O. Lt

appx 5

Hd. Qrs. 17th Battalion A.I.F.,
16th June 1918.

All Companies and
Lieut. E. W. Dark, M.C.

TRAINING OF LEWIS GUNNERS.

1. There will be an issue of 2 more Lewis Guns per Company to-morrow. This will necessitate the training of more Gunners.

2. Each Company will detail 20 men to report to Lieut. E. W. DARK, M.C. at Battalion Headquarters, at 10 a.m. daily.

Three Lewis Guns per Company, and three spare parts bags will be brought. Magazines and ammunition will be supplied by Battalion Headquarters.

3. "C" and "D" Companies will arrange for their men to bring mid-day meal, and tea and sugar. Tea will be made at Battalion Headquarters.

4. The following N.C.O. Instructors will also parade:-

"A" Company - Cpl. Rogers.
L/Cpl. Hanley.
" Whalen.

"B" Company - Sgt. Davies, D.C.M.
Cpl. Whitehead.

"C" Company - Sgt. Shipley.
Cpl. Russell.
" Naylor.

"D" Company - Cpl. Kelly.
L/Cpl. Roy.

5. Dress will be Drill Order.

3 Copies to War Diary.

Captain.
Adjutant 17th Battalion A. I. F.

SYLLABUS of TRAINING.

17TH BATTALION. A.I.F.

For Week Ending 22nd June 1918.

Appendix 6

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Date	9 - 9.30 a.m.	9.30-10.30 a.m	10.30-..130 a.m.	1.30 - 2.30 pm	2.30-3.30 p.m.	Place of Parade	Remarks
17/6/18	Company Inspection and Box Respirator Inspection.	Musketry.Rapid Loading & Bolt Manipulation.	Organised Games Platoon Drill. Close & Extended Order Drill. Gas Drill.	Company Route Marches.		N.20.d.7.5. N.31.b.	Dress for Route March Drill Order
18/6/18	do	"A" Coy.Inspection of Rifles & L.G.By Armourer."B"C"&"D"Cys Platoon Drill	"B"Coy.Inspection of rifles & L.G.by Armourer "A"Q"&"D" Coys. Musketry(wearing S. B. R.	"C"Coy.Inspection of rifles & L.G.by Armourer "A"B"&"D" Coys. Bombing & Organised Games.	"D"Coy.Inspection of rifles & L.G.by Armourer "A"B"&"C" Coys. Route March.	do	
19/6/18	do	Company Drill & Organised Games	Bombing (wearing S. B. R.	Battalion Tactical Scheme		do and N.26.d;N.27.c	Attack on Strong Points
20/6/18	do	Musketry. Range Practice.	Platoon in counter attack.	Company Route March. Organised Games (swimming).		T.1.b.5.7. & N.19.b.4.5.	S.B.R.to be worn during part of Musketry Training
21/6/18	do	do	Company in attack	Bombing and Gas Drill.	Company Route March	do	Dress for Route March Full Mch. Order
22/6/18	do	Battalion Tactical Scheme.		Half Holiday.			

Classes for Junior Officers and N.C.O's.
Lewis Gunners, Signallers, Scouts & Observers, parade under their respective officers.

J. Barnett for Major.
T/Commanding 17th Battalion A. I. F.

APPENDIX.

6.15

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appsc 7

Hd. Qrs. 17th Battalion A.I.F.,
17th June 1918.

All Companies.

Reference Brigade Memo. INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEFENSIVE No.18

In compliance with Instructions in the above Order para.1 - one warden and two guides will be detailed by each Company to live in the following Sectors, viz:-

- "A" Coy. Sector - N.29.o.0.0. to BLANGY TRONVILLE.
- "B" " " - N.35.o.7.0. to N.29.o.0.0.
- "C" " " - T.4.central to N.35.o.7.0.
- "D" " " - N.9.a.7.7. to T.4.central.

The wardens will, if possible, be Lance-Corporals, and will report on the condition of their Sector (depth of trenches; wire; S.A.A.; etc. etc).

Companies will report compliance by 9 am 18/6/18.

J. Barnett Captain.
Adjutant 17th Battalion A.I.F.

3 copies to War Diary.

APPENDIX 7

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17TH BATTALION. A.I.F.S W I M M I N GC A R N I V A L.

Saturday 22nd June 1918 - Commencing at 2 p.m.

<u>E V E N T S.</u>	<u>PRIZES.</u>		
	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>
1. 50 Yards Championship	Fr. 25	15	10
2. 100 " "	25	15	10
3. 220 " "	25	15	10
4. 200 " Relay Championship - 4 men in Team - One from each Company & Headquarters	60	-	-
5. 50 " Breaststroke	25	15	10
6. 50 " Backstroke	25	15	10
7. 50 " Officers' Race	Packet of "Woodbines"		
8. Diving Championship (Stand; Running; Fancy)	Fr. 25	15	10
9. Diving for Objects	15	-	-
10. Long Dive	15	-	-
11. Greasy Pole	15	-	-
12. Sculling Championship (Each man to provide his own Aquatic turnout) Prize for Most Original Design	20 5	-	-
13. Four Oar Race (One team from each Coy & Hd.Qrs)	40	-	-
14. Chasing the Bellman	10	-	-
15. Musical Life Buoy	10	-	-
16. All Comers Race - 100 yards	20	15	10

17TH BATTALION, A.I.F.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Saturday 22nd June 1918.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

- 2 p.m. 50 Yards Championship - Heats
- 2.10 p.m. Long Dive
- Greasy Pole
- 2.30 p.m. 100 Yards Championship - Heats.
- 2.35 p.m. Diving Championship
- 2.55 p.m. Relay Race - 200 Yards
- 3 p.m. Breaststroke Championship - Heats - 50 Yards
- 3.10 p.m. Chasing the Bellman
- 3.15 p.m. 220 Yards Championship
- 3.25 p.m. Officers' Race - 50 Yards Championship
- 3.30 p.m. Musical Life Buoy
- 3.45 p.m. Final - 50 Yards Championship
- 3.50 p.m. Diving for Objects
- 4 p.m. Backstroke Championship - 50 Yards
- 4.5 p.m. Four Oar Race
- 4.10 p.m. Final - 100 Yards Championship
- 4.15 p.m. All Comers Race-~~1~~ 100 Yards
- 4.25 p.m. Final - Breaststroke Championship
- 4.30 p.m. Sculling Championship

NOTE.

- (1) Competitors will swim WITHOUT Costume -
 The previous arrangement is cancelled.
- (2) Competitors in Event "Chasing the Bellman"
 will provide their own handkerchiefs.
- (3) Competitors must be in readiness for
 events.
 No consideration will be given for
 lateness.

SYLLABUS of TRAINING.

17TH BATTALION, A.I.F.

For Week Ending 29th June 1918. *10*

Date	9-9.30 a.m.	9.30 - 10.30 a.m.	10.30-11.30am	1.30-2.30 p.m.	2.30-3.30	Place of Parade	Remarks
24/6/18	Company Inspection	"A" Company Musketry. Rapid Loading and Bolt Manipulation.	on Rifle Platoon Drill Close & Extended Order. Gas Drill.	Rifle Range Company Route March. Organised Games (swimming).		N.14.c.7.2. N.20.d and N.31.b.	SBR to be worn during part of Musketry. Route March to and from Range.
25/6/18	do	"C" Company Platoon in Attack on Strong Point. Artillery Formation, wearing SBR. Taking up Assembly Position. Method of Attack when Flank held up. Skeleton enemy to be employed.	on Rifle Bombing.	Rifle Range Bombing	Company Route March and Swim.	N.14.c.7.2. N.31.b and N.20.d.	do
26/6/18	do	"D" Company Company Drill, and Organised Games.	on Rifle Bombing. SBR to be worn	Rifle Range Rapid Loading and Bolt Manipulation. Gas Drill.	do	N.14.c.7.2. N.31.b and N.20.d.	do
27/6/18	do	Musketry. Bolt Manipulation & Rapid Loading. Gas Drill.	Company Drill & Organised Games.		Battalion Tactical Scheme	N.31.b and d.	Battalion in Brigade Counter-attack.
28/6/18	do	Platoons and Scouts exercised as Raiding Platoons, Moving through Crop on to Trench Line.	Platoon, Company and Gas Drill. Organised Games.		Company Route March and Swim.	N.31.b and N.20.d.	
29/6/18	do	Battalion Tactical Scheme.		Half Holiday.			Counter-attack without Artillery preparation. Covering fire L.G., S.M., and Grenades.

Classes for Junior Officers and N.C.O's. Special Classes on Lewis Gun, for Officers. L.M.Gunners, Signallers, Scouts and Observers, parade under their respective Officers.

J. Baugh Lieut.-Colonel.
T/Commanding 17th Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX 10
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17TH BATTALION. A.I.F.

27/6/18.

Reference map:-

Sheet 62.D., 1/40,000.

1. (a) The FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE, less the 19th Battalion, will relieve the 9th Australian Infantry Brigade in the Left Brigade Sub-Sector of "A" Divisional Front on night 28/29th June 1918.

(b) The 17TH BATTALION will relieve the 35th Battalion in the Front Line.

"B" Company will be on the Right.

"A" Company will be in the Centre.

"D" Company will be on the Left.

"C" Company will be in Support.

2. Air Photos., Trench Maps, Defence Schemes, and all information regarding the new front, Works Policies, Trench Stores, including S. O. S. Signal Rockets, and Area Stores, will be taken over, and receipts forwarded to Battalion Headquarters by 6 a.m. on 29th instant.

3. Advance Parties of 1 Officer per Company, and 1 N.C.O. per Platoon, and an Officer's Patrol from "A" Company, will be sent forward on night 27/28th instant.

4. No movement will take place forward of Ridge in O.26 before 9.30 p.m. on the night of relief.

5. Administrative Instructions will be issued separately.

6. Companies will fall in ready to move off from their present billets at 6.15 p.m. on 28th instant, and head of Battalion will pass crossroads N.27.d.1.4 in the following order:-

Headquarters.

"D" Company.

"A" Company.

"B" Company.

"C" Company.

7. One guide per Platoon will meet Companies at road junction O.27.b.

8. Transport Officer will arrange for Limbers for Company and Battalion Headquarters Lewis Guns, and one for Battalion Headquarters gear, to report at 5.30 p.m. on the 28th instant.

9. Completion of relief will be notified to Battalion Headquarters by wiring the code word "TOMMY".

10. Battalion Headquarters and R. A. P. will be at O.24.c.3.3.

11. A C K N O W L E D G E.

J. H. Barrett
Adjutant 17th Battalion A. I. F.

Captain.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. File.
2. Hd. Qrs. Company.
3. "A" Company.
4. "B" Company.
5. "C" Company.
6. "D" Company.
7. R. Q. M.
8. Transport Officer.
9. 35th Battalion A.I.F.
- 10/12. War Diary.

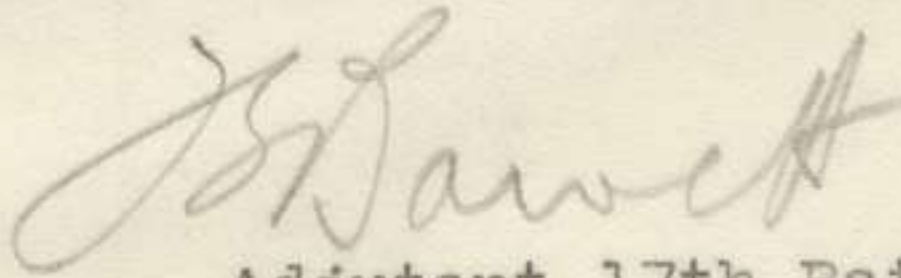
17TH BATTALION. A.I.F.

27/6/18.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

(Issued in conjunction with Battalion Operation Order 73).

- TRANSPORT LINES. Transport Lines for Brigade Headquarters and Battalions will be in M.17.b and M.18.a. Battalions will arrange to take over Transport Lines from outgoing Units.
- Q. M. STORES. Q. M. Stores will be situated in BLANGY-TRONVILLE, Battalions taking over from outgoing Units. Two limbers per Battalion will be retained at Q. M. Stores for delivering rations to respective Companies. D.A.D.O.S. Refilling Point - Church at BLANGY-TRONVILLE.
- BAGGAGE. Baggage Wagons will report to Battalion on the night of 27th June 1918.
All packs will be dumped near Company Headquarters by 10 a.m.
Blankets will be rolled in bundles, by sections, marked, and stacked at Company Headquarters at 10 a.m.
Officers' Baggage will be stacked at Company Headquarters by 12 noon.
Quarter Master will arrange to convey packs, blankets and Officers' valises, to Brigade Kit Store at M.17.b.7.5 before 6 p.m. on the 28th instant.
All hats will be clearly marked with Owners' name, and will be stacked at Company Headquarters by 12 noon. Quarter Master will arrange to collect them, and store them in boxes.
- WATER. Transport Officer will notify Battalion Headquarters by 12 noon on the 28th instant, location of Horse Watering Point used by him.
- RATIONS. Rations for the 29th instant will be taken forward by transport, and dumped at ration dump. Companies will carry forward their own rations from there on the night 28/29th June 1918.

 Captain.
Adjutant 17th Battalion A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. File.
2. Hd. Qrs. Company.
3. "A" Company.
4. "B" Company.
5. "C" Company.
6. "D" Company.
7. R. Q. M.
8. Transport Officer.
9. 35th Battalion A.I.F.
- 10/12. War Diary.

Sheet 62d.

Appra 12

Disposition Report. 17th Bn A.I.F.

Bn is now holding FRONT LINE.
System in P19c+d and 25a+b in
series of defended localities.

Bn. H. Q in deep dugout at O 24c 2530
Personnel (HQ L. Sumner, Runners) in
trenches in vicinity and along bank
in vicinity O 23d 9.4.

R.A.P. O 24c 2.2

O.P. P 19c 15.95.

8 Off. 80 OR.

"B" Coy. Right Coy.

Coy H Q at

P 25a 8.2

Sector from P 25c 90 to P 25b 4560

Garrison (includes 20 O.R. from
"C" (Support) Coy)5 off 84 O.R.

"A" Coy.

Centre Coy H.Q. P 19d 6.2.

3 Ptns in Front Line

1 " " Close Support.

Garrison 3 off 59 O.R. Front.

2 " 41 " Supports.

2

"D" Coy. Left Coy
 C.H.Q. P19d 90.45
 3 Ptns in front line
 1 " " Close Support.
 Garrison 5 off 127 O.R.

"C" Coy. Support Coy
 C.H.Q. P19c 25.20
 Garrison occupy posts in
 DIGGERS. SUPPORT LINE
 5 off 79 O.R.
 does not include 20 OR with Rt. Coy.

S.O.S. Relays.
 5 Front Line Posts (1 in each
 defended locality).
 All Coy. H.Q. + Message Rockets.
 O.P. (P19c 1595)
 Br. H.Q. + Power buzzer.

Visual Station: Rt Coy. H.Q.
 (P25a 8.2)

Dumps.
 Rations. O24d 2.5.
 S.A.A. O24c 25.30. + in
 vicinity each Coy. H.Q.

3
Strombos Horns.

1 at each Coy. H.Q.

1 " Bn. H.Q.

(Report by Bn SAs N.C.O already forwarded).
Sketch attached.

H.Q.

5" A.S. Bde

per DR L.S. 9 p.m.

SRM Phc Lt
J.O.

Addenda.

A. A. L. G.

2 in vicinity Bn. H.Q.

(O 24 & 30.35)

2 guns in vicinity of Support
Coy H.Q. (Pic 25.20) are
mounted as A.A.S.S.

SRM Phc Lt
J.O.

Bde A Reserve O 13 c 28
120,000 S.A.A. 1500 Grenades.
Reserve Ration Dumps.

Sheet

Appx 13

62d. $\frac{1}{40000}$. Intelligence Summary 17th Bn A.I.F.
for period ending 6 a.m. 29-6-18.

Operations :- The relief of 35th Bn A.I.F.
in FRONT LINE was successfully completed
at 1.15 a.m. While Bn was marching
in a heavy barrage of about 5 minutes
duration was put across valley in
J23.

Route taken by Bn was ~~1~~ of this along
VILLERS SWITCH.

Protective Patrols covered relief &
were not withdrawn until dawn.

Our artillery :- Very active at intervals
during night. (8.30 - 11 p.m.) (2.30 a.m.
to 3.30 a.m.)

Enemy shelling.

Time	Target	Calibre	Direction	Nature etc.
10 to 10.15 p.m.	Valley J23 c	77 Stk HE 4.2 5.9 HE	?	Heavy for 5 minutes.

Enemy aircraft :- at about 10.25 p.m.
an enemy plane dropped bombs in
vicinity O.29 b.

S.O.H.O
5th A.I. Bde
per DR Ld. 7.30 a.m.

RM Gp H
J.O.

1. "G" Section, No. 1 Special Company, R.E. will bombard on two days to be notified later enemy Front Line System with 4" Stokes Mortar Gas Bombs.
2. (a) Six 4" Stokes Mortars at P.25.b. 30.83 will fire on enemy trenches from P.25.b.29.00 to P.25.a.10.50.
 (b) Six 4" Stokes Mortars at P.19.d.90.40 will fire on enemy trench from P.20.e.68.00. to P.20.a.75.00.
 (c) Bursts of fire will continue for three minutes from each zero.
 (d) Wind limits :- South West through West to North.
 (e) a. On Front Line system in P.19.e. and in P.19.d. and East of road running through P.19.d.50.00 and P.20.a.80.00 will be cleared. The whole of P.25.b. will also be cleared. Troops from zero minus five minutes to zero plus six minutes on each occasion.
 b. From zero minus five minutes to zero plus six minutes all Troops East of DIGGERS SUPPORT will wear S.B.R. fully adjusted.
 (f) The following positions will be occupied by Troops moved from forward area.
 - (i) Left Coy. Hunter Street from P.19.d.4.6. to its junction with DIGGERS SUPPORT, and portion of DIGGERS SUPPORT near P.19 central.
 - (ii) Centre Coy. York Street from P.25.b.10.85. to its junction with DIGGERS SUPPORT and portion of DIGGERS SUPPORT, near its junction with YORK STREET.
 - (iii) Right Coy. Pitt Street from P.25.a.5.1. to DIGGERS SUPPORT and DIGGERS SUPPORT near its junction with Pitt Street.
- (g) Precautions will be taken to ensure that there is no over-crowding.
- (h) The area to be vacated will be clear of all Troops by zero minus twelve minutes.
- (i) (1) The Right and Left Companies will each detail one Officer to patrol Front Line and report same clear of troops to Officer of R.C.O. 1/c Battery at zero minus FIVE minutes. If the Line is not clear by this time, the shoot will be cancelled in case of battery concerned.
 (ii) Officer from Left Coy will patrol Line from Left Bn. boundary to P.25.b.7.7. Officer from Right Coy. will patrol line from P.25.b.7.7. to Bn. Right Boundary.
- (j) The patrolling Officers will then stand by Batteries and on completion of shoot will patrol the line allotted to them with an Officer or R.C.O. 1/c of No. 1 Special Coy. R.E. If the trenches are clear of Gas they will report to Coy. Commanders concerned and normal dispositions will be resumed.
- (k) The shoots in each case will take place at the zero hour arranged or will be definitely cancelled.
- (l) The following code words will be used and followed by zero hour.
 - (i) PARLIAMENT "Gas shoot will take place."
 - (ii) RECESS "Gas shoot will not take place."
 - (iii) MISOTION. "Cancel!"
 (e.g. 'PARLIAMENT 1.15 a.m.')
 Codeword (iii) will be used if necessary after (i) has been sent out.
- (m) When normal dispositions are resumed after the operations Coy. will wire the following:- "WAR MUSEUM".
- (n) Watches to be synchronised two hours before zero.
- (o) ACKNOWLEDGE.

J. Barrett
 Adjutant, 17th. Bn., A.I.F. Captain.

Distribution.

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. File. | 5. "D" Coy. |
| 2. "A" Coy. | 6/8 War Diary. |
| 3. "B" " | |
| 4. "C" " | |

Patrol Programme Appx 15

Sheet 62 d SE. 17th Bn A.I.F.

1/20,000 Night 29th - 30th June 1918

Coys	Personnel	Time and place of departure	Time and place of return	Object.
"B"	INCO. - 4 OR's	P25b 4.5 at 2 a.m.	P25b 1.3 at 3.30 a.m.	To examine shell holes at P25b 50.45 intervening ^{ground} and locate enemy wire.
"A"	INCO. - 6 OR's	P25b 55.70 at 12 midnight	P25b 7.9 at 2 a.m.	To examine posts at P25b 9.8 + 7 and obtain information re enemy lines in front, wire etc.
"D"	INCO. - 10 OR's	P20c 15.60 at 10.15 a.m. (approx)	P19d 00.90 at 11.45 p.m. (approx)	To reconnoitre enemy work in vicinity P20c 4.1 + C4.5 and intervening ground towards left of Sector.

Password "GREEN"

Copies to
5th A.I. Bde
"A" "B" & "D" Coys (17th Bn)
15th Bn A.I.F.
25th Bn A.I.F.

(Sgd) G.R. McPherson Lt
G.O.
for Lt Col Comm. 17th Bn A.I.F.

Appx 16

Sheets. 62d.

SW + S.E. 20000

Intelligence Summary 17th Bn AIF.

for period ending 1.30 am 30/6/18.

Operations :- Patrol of 1 off + 10 OR. left on lines at Pzda 1.4 proceeded East about 150*. An enemy working party was heard. Patrol endeavoured to investigate more closely but were fired on by enemy from edge of belt of wheat about 50* further on. Enemy also threw up flares, but continued working. Approx position of working party was Pzda C 4.4. Coughing, talking noise of tools could be distinctly heard. Our artillery then opened fire (about 30 rds 18 pds) in vicinity & apparently dispersed party. Patrol remained out for further half hour but heard or saw no further signs of enemy. Patrol returned at Pzda C 2585 at 11.45 p.m.

~~at~~ Patrol of 17 NCO + 6 OR. leaving on lines at Pzda 5570 at 12 midnight investigated Posts at Pzda 5.6 + 2589.7 & found that they contained dead but showed no signs of recent occupation. Several apparent enemy S.P.s were discovered as crop was flattened in places with tracks leading back to his front line. Patrol returned at Pzda 7.9 at



2

2 a.m.

J. H. W.
5 a.m. Bde.

W. M. C. P. H. J.
L. O.
17th Bn. A. I. F.

Appx #17

Ref. sheet 620. S.S. PATROL DEPARTMENT. Night 30/6 - 1/7/1918. 17th. Bn., A.I.F.

Coy. & Personnel	Time & place of departure.	Time & place of return.	Object
"B" Coy. 1 offr. 12 o/r. Rifle L.C. & 2 Grens to be included.	10.15 p.m. P.20.c.1.3.	12.15 a.m. P.20.c.2.8.	Investigate line of enemy posts from 3.1. to 35.40. Engage any and enemy parties or disperse working parties.
"B" Coy. 1 offr. 6 o/r.	11 p.m. P.25.b.25.45.	12.30 a.m. P.25.b.1.3.	Reconnoitre enemy front line and intervening ground from the North of road approx. P.25.b.8.4. to P.25.b.5.3. Condition of wire, U.G. Positions, to be noted if possible.
"A" Coy. 1 N.C.O. 6 o/r. Including R.Gren.	12.30 a.m. P.25.b.6.7. approx.	2 a.m. P.25.b.8.9. approx.	Reconnoitre in front of Coy. sector.

If no progress will not be taken forward of Company Headquarters.
 Pass word :- "BROWN" All ranks to be warned.
 Code word "CHALK" to be wired to Bn. Headquarters when Patrol returns.
 Attached forms to be used.

LRM Phee Lt
Lt. Col. & SO.
 for commanding 17th. Bn., A.I.F.

30/6/18.

Appx 18

During the period 11-28th. June, 1918, the Brigade was in Corps Reserve. The 17th. Battalion was disposed in woods North and East of GLISY. Battalion Headquarters was in the village. The following is a brief outline of the doings of the Battalion over that period.

TRAINING. Three Ranges were constructed, two miniature and one 100 yards. Musketry training carried out under Battalion Instructor, Captain E.T. Manefield. Each man fired practices on miniature and 100 yards ranges. In addition a class of 90 men in Lewis Gun work used the miniature range. These 90 men were turned out as competent L. Gunners. An Officers' Class on the L. Gun was run by Lieut. Massey with success. Platoon and Company schemes were carried out, the ground in the area lending itself to such work. In addition the normal training was done, i.e. Musketry, Gas Drill, Close Order Drill and Battalion Drill. A Signalling Class was supervised by Lt. E.R. Raine and was very useful in brushing up the old hands and training new ones.

AMUSEMENTS. Excellent outdoor recreation was obtained by all ranks. The men revelled in swimming, cricket, and football. A Swimming Carnival was held on 23rd. June and was a great success; "D" Coy. winning the Battalion Championship. Great keenness was displayed over inter-company Cricket matches and a football match against an English Unit proved an easy victory. There were practically no indoor amusements to be had. Captain McLean, M.O. of the Battalion gave two very interesting lectures on the South Polar Expeditions. A number of the men were taken to Rivery to the "Green Diamonds" entertainment, but lack of transport prevented the majority of men from seeing their Brigade party.

GENERAL. Supplies for the Canteen have been difficult to obtain but the donations of the Australian Comforts Fund and the Battalion Fund were extremely helpful to us in providing a little diversion from the every day rations. No vegetables etc. could be bought to supplement the issue.

At the end of the spell the men were well and happy, the morale of the Battalion being distinctly high. On the morning of our move forward, however, between 30 and 40 men from "B" Company were attacked by the prevailing epidemic and had to be evacuated. The majority of these men were well and fit a few hours before and the M.O. states that there is nothing abnormal in it when men are sleeping close together in the one area.

R.M. Sade
for Col

June. 1918.

Appx 19th Bn A.I.F.
14th Bn A.I.F.

Transport Report.

Condition of horses during month has been good due to a good supply of feed. Work has been principally confined to delivery of rations to battalion in forward area.

Rations were drawn by first line from refilling point from 14th to 27th inclusive, after which date the A.S.C took up their work again.

One horse was killed by shellfire during month.

There has been one short move during month.

LAHOUSOYE - GLISY 14th

1-4-18

A. Busley Capt.

Appx 20

War Diary for June 1918

The Battalion having been out of the line for the best part of the month the time has been taken up in re-equipping & clothing. Australian pattern clothing has been unobtainable with the result that half the Bn is now equipped in Imperial pattern.

Vegetables have been very short otherwise rations are well up to the usual standard.

Salvage work has been good right through. The value of one week's work 7th to 14th totalling over sixteen hundred pounds. The salvage of paper, cardboard, jam cartons has also been good.

Two horses were wounded on ration convoys, one having to be destroyed, otherwise ration trips have been uneventful. Food in the trenches has been highly satisfactory.

Dawson
17th June



8002.89.
22d.P.19.20.25.
17.6.18.1
F.S.

86



APPENDIX.

34