

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/38/17

**Title:** 21st Infantry Battalion

January 1917



AWM4-23/38/17

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Vol. VI

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Lt Col J W J Lohs  
Major B C Duggan

Commanding 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion RIF

appendices nil

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.

Sheet I

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Jan 1 <sup>st</sup>		Unit in front line trenches On Patrols out from 6-15 pm. to 7-30 pm at N 28 D Central N 28 B 9.3	JJ
	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Unit relieved by 22 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion in front lined and moved into Support at NEEDLE TRENCH Relief Complete 9 pm Casualties wounded OR 1	JJ
	3 <sup>rd</sup>		Relieved by 24 <sup>th</sup> Battalion. Battalion moved to "C" Camp TROONES WOOD	JJ
		7 pm	Relief complete	JJ
TROONES WOOD		4 <sup>th</sup>	Infantry tasks. Inspection of soldiers feet & foot rubbing	JJ
"		5 <sup>th</sup>	Infantry tasks	JJ
		6 <sup>th</sup>	Infantry tasks. Received 8 <sup>OR</sup> 2 reinforcements	JJ
		7 <sup>th</sup>	Infantry tasks	JJ
		8 <sup>th</sup>	Infantry tasks	JJ

Jan. 1917

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Lt Col F W J Jones  
Major B. O. C. Duggan

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Sheet 2

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Commanding 21<sup>st</sup> Balm AIF

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TROONES WOOD	Jan 9 <sup>th</sup>	3 pm	Battalion less 'A' Coy moved into Supports at <sup>9 BLIGHTY TRENCH</sup> NEEDLE TRENCH, and relieved 24 <sup>th</sup> Battalion	J.F.
		7 pm	Relief Complete	
	10 <sup>th</sup>		BLIGHTY TRENCH heavily shelled by Enemy. Casualties 1 Killed 3 wounded Major Crowther reported for duty from ALDERSHOT	J.F.
	11 <sup>th</sup>		Moved forward to front line trenches & relieved 23 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion	
		9-15 pm	Relief Complete Casualties <sup>OR</sup> 1 Killed <sup>OR</sup> 3 wounded	J.F.
	12 <sup>th</sup>	3 pm	Enemy artillery active. Retaliation asked for and obtained	J.F.
	7 pm	Small operation against N 35 A 1.3 with 6 <sup>th</sup> LTM Battery and 6 <sup>th</sup> M B Coy. Two patrols followed and found trench only with small Garrison Casualties <sup>OR</sup> 1 Wounded		
	13 <sup>th</sup>	8 pm	Small operation against N 29 C 1 1/2 1 to N 29 C 2 C with 6 <sup>th</sup> LTM Battery	J.F.

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WAR DIARY  
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY  
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Lt Col Fred Jones  
Major B. C. Duggan

Army Form C. 2118

Commanding 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion  
AIF

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Jan 14		and 6 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Machine Gun Company. Patrols followed & saw a few of the enemy & also located tracks whereon he brought up rations.	J.F.
	14 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Unit <sup>on line</sup> relieved by 22 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion went into Support at BLIGHTY + NEEDLE TRENCHES Relief Complete	J.F.
	15 <sup>th</sup>		Ration Carrying & infantry tasks	J.F.
	16 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Unit was relieved by 31 <sup>st</sup> Battalion and moved to ADELAIDE CAMP Relief Complete. Heavy fall of Snow. Temperature below zero	J.F.
ADELAIDE CAMP	17 <sup>th</sup>	11AM	Route marched to QUARRY SIDING & entrained. Detrained at RIBEMONT and marched to Billets	J.F.
	18 <sup>th</sup>		Bathing Parade. Inspection of Shelters Lt Haqqan reported back for duty from Second dist	J.F.

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or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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 Lt Col J W D Jones  
 Major B C Duggan  
 Commanding 21<sup>st</sup> Baltn AIF  
 Army Form C. 2118

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Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																			
RIBEMONT	JANY			J.F.																			
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Training	J.F.																			
	20 <sup>th</sup>		Training 37 other Rank reinforcements reported to Unit	J.F.																			
	21 <sup>st</sup>		Church Parade	J.F.																			
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Training	J.F.																			
	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Capt Pearce & Lt Black & Murray reported back to Unit from Second list The following number of officers & other ranks were detailed to infantry tasks at the undermentioned places <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>To</td> <td>FRICOURT</td> <td>0</td> <td>OR</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>HOT CROSS ROADS</td> <td>5</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>MAMETZ WOOD</td> <td>2</td> <td>50</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>CONTAY</td> <td>1</td> <td>35</td> </tr> </table> The balance of the officers & other ranks of Unit were training	To	FRICOURT	0	OR			5	100		HOT CROSS ROADS	5	100		MAMETZ WOOD	2	50		CONTAY	1	35
To	FRICOURT	0	OR																				
		5	100																				
	HOT CROSS ROADS	5	100																				
	MAMETZ WOOD	2	50																				
	CONTAY	1	35																				
24 <sup>th</sup>			Training	J.F.																			
25 <sup>th</sup>			Bathing Parade & Training Lt Mac Gregor reported for duty from Second list	J.F.																			

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Lt Col J W D Johns  
By Major B C Duggan

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Sheet 5

Commanding 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion AIF

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIBEMONT	JAN 26 <sup>th</sup>		Draining & footrubbing with Capt Macneil evacuated to Hospital. Lt S. S. Gordon + 58 other Ranks joined Unit Major Crowther reported to 23 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion for duty	J.F.
	27 <sup>th</sup>		Draining 5 other Ranks reinforcements reported to Unit Capt Sanapou reported back for duty from Bussy School.	J.F.
	28 <sup>th</sup>		Draining and Infantry tasks	J.F.
BECOURT	29 <sup>th</sup>	1 pm	Route marched to BECOURT	J.F.
"	30		Infantry tasks	J.F.
"	31		Lt Col J W D Johns rejoins Unit from 6 <sup>th</sup> Brigade duties Major Crowther reports for duty from 23 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion Major Duggan reports to 23 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion for duty Lt Jait evacuated to Hospital with injured knee	
			Weather. Temperature from 16° to 20° below Zero & has continued same since 17 <sup>th</sup> inst	
			Present effective strength	
			Attached	Officers 40 Other Ranks 722
			Detached	1 5
				26 420
				J. J. Johns Lt Col
				Commanding 21 <sup>st</sup> Battalion