

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/44/9

Title: 27th Infantry Battalion

May 1916



AWM4-23/44/9

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

NOTE This Diary has been
subsequently compiled on
June 4th 1919

RAH

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF
27th Aero Exp Bn

FOR

MAY 1916

Signature of Officer compiling W. Houston Capt

Signature of Officer Commanding W. Houston Capt

2A 329

WAR DIARY of 27th Battalion

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

A. I. F.

Lt Col P. D. ...

Vol 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Opportunities	May 2		Sgt A. R. Sarby rejoined from details Lt Col Rowe but 60. OR arrived from reinforcements	
a. (W. 1000 ft) 2. (W. 1000 ft) 3. (W. 1000 ft)	3	8pm	Plt H. M. Laughlin (D Co) No 2202 fell from window of billet (fractured elbow) Relieved 25 th B ⁿ in trenches and became B Battalion. A Coy took over New ground trenches 67 68. Artillery Hill Rock.	
	4 1/2	7pm	Lt Col Ross' patrol brought in two small German flags.	
	5	7pm	Enemy opened heavy shell fire on BRIDOUX salient occupied by bde of our Lt - B ⁿ shot to arms until 10 pm. There were two false alarms. Lt Col Ross wounded in right arm while on patrol duty. No 873 Lt Col Newby G.C. wounded in head & both shoulders while on patrol duty, died on being brought in.	
	6	10pm	Gen B. Adwood visited our position & inspected our front line	
	10	2pm	Enemy shelled our front line for 1/2 hour. 1 Casualty.	
	11	4.30	British Aeroplane (Plt. Capt. Tully, R 30) shot down by enemy AA guns. Plane fell in our line. Capt. Tully killed. Observer uninjured. We recovered Lewis gun Very poor automatic patrol. Enemy artillery set plane on fire at 6 pm. 100 lbs destroyed.	

2

WAR DIARY

27th 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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville	May 13		Capt W. Sacket rejoined and took over Command of A Company.	
Abbeville	15	8:30p	Relieved by 25 th B ⁿ and became C Battalion. A Coy Lille Post B Coy and one platoon D Coy Bois Grenier line C Coy and D Coy less one platoon billeted in Rue Marie. B ⁿ H.Q. billeted in Rue Marie.	Transfer of 25 th B ⁿ to 27 th B ⁿ 13 th May 1918
	16		Lieut Elder left on 9 days leave (Scotland)	
	17		Lieut Col Sullivan left on 8 day leave (England) Rep. Lane took over Command	
	24		C Coy. 2 Coy less 1 platoon + B ⁿ H.Q. moved to Bois Grenier line + relieved B Coy 2 nd Pioneer	
	27		Relieved 25 th B ⁿ and became B Battalion	
	31		Anniversary of departure of 27 th B ⁿ from Adelaide on active service. (3 Bottle Heidelberg) officer O.R.	
Killed			2	
Wounded			1	
Wounded Sick			1	
Returned Sick			2	
Transferred to other units			2	
Replacements absorbed			2	
			71	

Sub. Lane try

Transfer of 25th Bⁿ to 27th Bⁿ 13th May 1918

Wounded Lieut Ross.

Wounded Capt. Lamm

Rejoined Capt. Lamm

27th Bⁿ 13th May 1918

2

Belton

Subsonic

12/20/41

12/20/41

12/20/41

12/20/41

12/20/41

12/20/41

12/20/41

12/20/41

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes and scribbles covering the main body of the page.]

[Faint handwritten notes in the right margin.]

Date

Hour

Summary of Events and Information

References to
Reports and
Documents

and the War Manual respectively. This paper
contains information regarding War Diaries and Intelligence

(Leave blank for guidance)

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

WAR DIARY

FORM 100-110

5

106

MAY 1916

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

27th Aus Inf Bn

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Rue Marle ARMENTIERS.	1/5/16		<p>Battal in billets Rue Marle Armentiers.</p> <p>Reconnaissance parties went forward to familiarise themselves with Emergency Roads and tracks leading up to the front line.</p>	
"	2/5/16		<p>As above.</p>	
Leaches ARMENTIERS	3/5/16		<p>About 7 P.M. the Battal moved forward into the line, relieving the 25th Aus Inf Bn. The sector has been increased by taking in Rue-de-Bois Salient on the southern end of our old sector. Intermittent shelling with 4.2 shells going on during relief, but no casualties suffered.</p> <p>Spring parties sent out along whole sector from midnight till 4 A.M.</p>	
"	4/5/16		<p>Quiet day. Practically no shelling & no movement observed in Hun lines. At 8 P.M. a very heavy bombardment opened up by Bosch on 18th Bn sector ^{on our right flank}. Bombardment lasted about 1 hour. Parapet blown in, in places on our right flank but no casualties suffered. Our artillery replied vigorously.</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (1934) W 11330/P713 750,000 3/18 E 2688 Forms/22/16/16

229

MAY 1916

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

27th Aus Inf Bn

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Trenches ARMENTIERS	5/5/16		Quiet day. Working parties out on wire along whole sector from 11 P.M. till 3 A.M.
"	6/5/16		As above. LIEUT J. L. ROSS, Platoon Scout Officer, was wounded in the right arm whilst out on patrol at about 11.30 P.M.. L/C MUNDY was shot dead at the same time. L/C DAVIES the third member of the patrol assisted LT ROSS back to our lines, and then guided a stretcher party back and returned with the body of MUNDY. DAVIES showed great courage, since the Bossch maintained heavy machine-gun fire across this portion of "No Man's Land" the whole time. L/C ROSS and party were about 200 yds from our front line, on the LILLE - ARMENTIERS ROAD, at the time the above casualties were sustained.
"	7/5/16		Quiet Day. LIEUT R. D. SOUTHOON appointed Platoon Scout officer vice LT. ROSS. wounded.

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(10340) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 3/18 & 2688 Forms/C2118/16.

2

329

MAY 1916

WAR DIARY

27th Aus Inf

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trenches ARMENTIERS	8/5/16		Quiet day. Working Parties out at night on wire along whole sector.	
"	9/5/16		Enemy quiet. Raining heavily all day & night.	
"	10/5/16		Hurricane bombardment put down by enemy on our sector at 3 P.M. lasted 15 mins. One casualty inflicted.	
"	11/5/16		Quiet day. About 5 P.M. one of our aeroplanes was brought down about 300 yds behind our front line. Pilot was killed by shrapnel pellet, and the Observer managed to make the landing without crashing. Shortly afterwards the enemy commenced to shell the plane and after about 30 shots, set it on fire. Observer was got away in safety & no other casualties inflicted.	
"	12/5/16	}	Enemy fairly quiet. Working parties out each night improving trenches & wire entanglements.	
	13/5/16			
	14/5/16			

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (10340) W1 W5300/P713 750,000 3/15 E 2688 Forms/C2118/16.

See

229

WAR DIARY

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trenches ARMENTIERS	15/5/16		Enemy quiet all day. At 8 P.M. Btu was relieved in front line by 25 th Bu., and moved back to Bilets in Rue MARLE. Relief successfully completed without casualties, by 10 P.M.	
Rue Marle ARMENTIERS	16/5/16 to 23/5/16		Period of rest in Bilets with 4 hours parade each day. During this period a Raiding Party was picked & trained and a spot chosen for the Raid. Capt. Patterson was appointed ofc Raiding Party.	
Support Trenches ARMENTIERS	24/5/16		at 6 P.M. the Batta moved up into the Bois GRENIER Support line (Near RATION FARM) No casualties suffered.	
	25/5/16 26/5/16		Batta in Support line. Working parties sent out on Communication Trenches etc, each day.	
Trenches	27/5/16		Bu moved forward into front line at 8 P.M. Relief complete by 10 P.M. No casualties.	
	28/5/16 to 31/5/16		Enemy fairly quiet. Working parties out every night on Wire and Trenches.	

4

WAR DIARY

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																				
			<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Deaths</td> <td>0</td> <td>OR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td>1</td> <td>19. Lt. Ken</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travelling sick</td> <td>1</td> <td>50. Capt. Owen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* Transferred</td> <td>2</td> <td>9. Capt. Thomas King</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rejoined</td> <td>2</td> <td>59. Capt. Owen Walker</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rejoined</td> <td></td> <td>(Capt. Bowen)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Absorbed</td> <td>2</td> <td>71. Lt. Ken</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* Lt. Owen to 6</td> <td></td> <td>Lt. Owen 7/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lt. Owen to 5th</td> <td></td> <td>11/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other ranks 1 to 2nd</td> <td></td> <td>2nd Div Sig Co 7/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>7 to Details (Base Rts) 27/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1. 5th 2nd Div 31/16</td> </tr> </table>	Deaths	0	OR	Wounded	1	19. Lt. Ken	Travelling sick	1	50. Capt. Owen	* Transferred	2	9. Capt. Thomas King	Rejoined	2	59. Capt. Owen Walker	Rejoined		(Capt. Bowen)	Absorbed	2	71. Lt. Ken	* Lt. Owen to 6		Lt. Owen 7/16	Lt. Owen to 5th		11/16	Other ranks 1 to 2nd		2nd Div Sig Co 7/16			7 to Details (Base Rts) 27/16			1. 5th 2nd Div 31/16	
Deaths	0	OR																																						
Wounded	1	19. Lt. Ken																																						
Travelling sick	1	50. Capt. Owen																																						
* Transferred	2	9. Capt. Thomas King																																						
Rejoined	2	59. Capt. Owen Walker																																						
Rejoined		(Capt. Bowen)																																						
Absorbed	2	71. Lt. Ken																																						
* Lt. Owen to 6		Lt. Owen 7/16																																						
Lt. Owen to 5th		11/16																																						
Other ranks 1 to 2nd		2nd Div Sig Co 7/16																																						
		7 to Details (Base Rts) 27/16																																						
		1. 5th 2nd Div 31/16																																						

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.

WAR DIARY

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Phrase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Place Date Hour

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

24 Nov 1916

14/11/30

Maj. G.P. Bice.
27th Bn. A.I.F.

This Article was donated to the Australian War Memorial