

AWM4

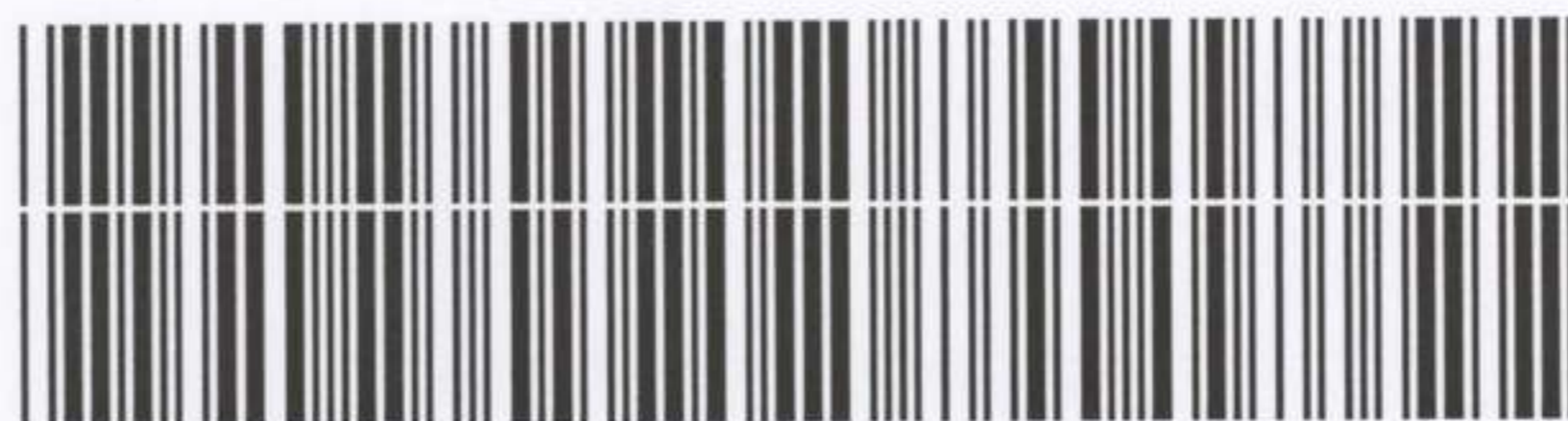
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Infantry

Item number: 23/59/7

Title: 42nd Infantry Battalion

May 1917



AWM4-23/59/7

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.)

42nd Bty A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Pradelles	1/5/17		<p>Strength Officers 35; O.R. 921; 1 taken on, 6 struck off (hospitals) Casualties Nil. Wind E to S.E about 5 mls per hour, clear bright day. Battalion moved from Armentiers via Steenwerck and Morris to Pradelles, where it billeted on night of 1/2nd May (16 1/2 mls) one man fell out on march.</p>	
Renescore	2/5/17		<p>Strength Officers 35; O.R. 942; 21 taken on, (new draft) Casualties Nil. Wind East about 4 mls per hour; clear bright day. Battalion moved from Pradelles via Wallon Cappel, Eblinghem to Renescore, where it billeted on night of 2/3 May, No man fell out on march. Distance (13 miles)</p>	
Tatinghem	3/5/17		<p>Strength Officers 35; O.R. 934; 8 struck off (hospitals) Casualties Nil. Wind S.E. about 4 to 6 mls per hour, clear, bright day. Battalion moved from Renescore via Arques, St Omer to Tatinghem, where it billeted on night of 3/4 May (9 miles) no man fell out on march.</p>	
Alquines	4/5/17		<p>Strength Officers 35; O.R. 924; 7 struck off (hospitals) Casualties Nil. Wind East about 5 mls per hour, clear bright day. Battalion moved from Tatinghem via Boisdunghem to Alquines (12 miles) B.H.Q and Band C, Coy billeted in Alquines; A Coy in Promontello; D Coy in Harlles. No man fell out on march. Good billets.</p>	
"	5/5/17		<p>Strength Officers 35; O.R. 923; 4 struck off (hospitals) Casualties Nil. Wind West about 5 mls per hour, clear bright day. Battalion engaged in training (Platoon and section training)</p>	

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Alquinos	6/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 918. (decrease 5) Retaken on strength from hospital 1; Struck off strength to hospital 5, transfers 1.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Wind</u> North 15 mls per hour; Clear bright day; Bn. Church Parade - holiday.</p>	
"	7/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 922 (decrease 4). Retaken on strength from hospital 5; struck off strength to hospital 1.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Wind</u> North 10 mls per hour; Clear bright day; ^{Good observations} Battalion engaged in training.</p>	
"	8/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 923 (increase 1) Retaken on strength from hospital 1.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Wind</u> N. E. N. W. 7 mls per hour; Clear bright day; ^{Good observations} Battalion engaged in training.</p>	
"	9/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 928 (increase 5) Retaken on strength from hospital 5.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Wind</u> W. - about 5 mls per hour; Clear bright day; Bn. engaged in training.</p>	
"	10/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 929 (increase 1) Retaken on strength from hospital 4; Struck off to hospital 2, transfers 1.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Wind</u> West about 4 mls per hour; Clear bright day; Bn. engaged in training. Brigade Scheme. Divisional Commander present.</p>	
"	1/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers, 37. (2/Plut J. J. Bartley and 2/Plt J. A. Lister returned from reinforcements) O.R. 947. (increase 22) 28 draft; 2 retaken on from hospital.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind West 2 mls per hour. Clear bright day. Battalions engaged in Brigade training (French Warfare).</p>	

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ALQUINES	13/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> 37 officers; 947 O.R. (no increase)</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind S. West about 3 miles per hour; fine clear day</p> <p><u>Battalion</u> engaged in training (Brigade French Warfare Scheme)</p>	
"	13/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 34 (Capt. C.R. Cameron, 2/Lt. L. Keyser V.C. and 2/Lt. Taylor placed on recorded list); O.R. 946, 1 S.O. to hospital</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind S.W. about 2 miles per hour, clear, hot weather.</p> <p><u>Battalion</u> holiday (Sunday)</p>	
"	14/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35 (Capt. A. Pott returned on strength); 954 O.R. 4 returned on strength from hospital, 4 new draft.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind W. about 15 miles per hour, dull day cool, 2nd</p> <p><u>Battalion</u> engaged in training (Brigade Scheme) Army Comd's present.</p>	
"	15/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 954</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind W. about 15 miles per hour, foggy, dull day</p> <p><u>Battalion</u> engaged in training</p>	

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Alquines	16/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> 35 Officers, 954 O.R. <u>Casualties</u> Nil. <u>Weather</u> Wind. S.W. about 5 mls per hour, Clear day; Bn engaged on training</p>	
Alquines	17/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; 954 O.R.; (c/o Lt. Col. Woodcock left on 10 days leave) <u>Casualties</u> Nil. (Maj. Farrell. Adminstrating command.) <u>Weather</u> Wind. N.E. about 8 miles per hour; dull cold day; Bn Sports Meeting</p>	
TATINGHAM	18/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 953. 4 struck off to hospitals (2 on leave) <u>Casualties</u> Nil. <u>Weather</u> Wind. S.E. about 5 mls per hour, Clear bright day; Bn. marched from Alquines and billeted in Tatingham, Good billets in farms.</p>	
Renesance	19/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 943. 10 struck off strength to hospital (2 on leave) <u>Casualties</u> Nil. <u>Weather</u> Wind S.W. about 8 mls per hour, Clear, bright day. Battalion marched from TATINGHAM and billeted in RENESANCE. Good billets in farms.</p>	
STRAZELE	20/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; 6 on leave, (Capt. Luby, Capt. S. John, Lt. Pickering, Lt. Judson) O.R. 943. <u>Casualties</u> Nil. <u>Weather</u> Wind. W.N.W. 6 mls per hour; Clear day; Bn. marched from RENESANCE. Good billets in farms.</p>	
ARMENTIERS	21/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers, 30 (6 on leave). O.R. 938. 5 off to hospitals. <u>Casualties</u> Nil. <u>Weather</u> Wind. N.W. at 10 mls per hour clear day. Bn. marched from STRAZELE. A and B Coy. billeted at Ecole Professionale, B and C in Convent. 13. H. 9. 40. Rue Sadi-Carnot.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Armenties	22/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> 35 officers, 940 O.R.; 2 retaken on strength from hospital.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil.</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind west 3 mls per hour; Clear bright day; Battalion resting in billets.</p>	
Armenties Ploegsteert	23/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> 35 officers; O.R. 1012; 59 new draft; 13 returned from hospital (Increase to 72).</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Nil.</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind W. to N.W. about 3 miles per hour; clear day, good observation.</p> <p>Battalion relieved 38th Bn and 1 Company of 37th Bn A.I.F. in Le Biset Sector Ploegsteert, becoming Left Battalion of Brigade front. Bn sector from Warnave River on S. to Westminster Av. on N. A, B and D. Coys in front line and C. Coy in Support in Hunters Av. Forts; B.H.Q. Rifle House.</p>	
"	24/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; O.R. 1013.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> 2 wounded. O.R.</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind W. N.W. about 3 mls per hour clear day good observation. Our artillery and aircraft very active; heavy enemy retaliation to our attacks.</p>	
"	27/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 36; O.R. 1008; (struck off 6 to hospital, taken on 2) ^{decrease} #</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> 4 wounded. O.R. 1 dead of wounds (wounded on 26th)</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind N.E. 2 mls per hour; clear day; good observation. Our artillery and aircraft were again very active. Enemy retaliation was very weak.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ploegsteert	26/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; 1010 O.R.; 4 taken on and 2 struck off to hospitals = 2 increase</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> 2. (1 died of wounds, wounded on the 25th). Major Heron returned from base</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind East 3 mls per hour; clear day; good observation; day quiet in the</p>	
"	27/5/17		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; 1005 O.R.; 6 struck off and 1 taken on hospital (Wainwright 5) op. (P. Col Woolcock returned from base) and resumed command.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> 3 O.R. (1 doubled in action).</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind East 10 miles per hour; clear day; good observation;</p>	
"	28/5/17		<p>Great artillery activity both sides. Our batteries fired continuously day & night</p> <p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; 1000 O.R.; 5 off to hospitals</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Three wounded.</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind S.W. about 3 mls per hour; clear day; good observation</p>	
"	29/5/17		<p>Our artillery bombarding enemy lines and back areas continuously</p> <p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; 1000 O.R.; 2 struck off, 2 taken on from hospitals</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Three wounded</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind S.W. 4 mls per hour; Cloudy day; moderate observation</p>	
"	30/5/17		<p>Great artillery activity both sides; counter-battery work.</p> <p><u>Strength</u> Officers 35; 996 O.R.; 4 off to hospitals</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> Two wounded.</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind S.W. 5 mls per hour; Clear day; good observation</p>	

Increased artillery activity both sides. Heavy enemy retaliation on our sector.

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A 2nd Bty - A. I. F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>31/5/17 ploegsteert</p>	<p>31/5/17</p>		<p><u>Strength</u> Officers. 35; 996 O. Ranks. no change.</p> <p><u>Casualties</u> 1 Wounded.</p> <p><u>Weather</u> Wind. at S.W. 3 mls per hour; clear atmosphere, good observation.</p> <p>Increased artillery activity. Our artillery bombarded enemy front line, supports & back areas continuously.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Allualluallu C. D. 4th Bn A. I. F.</p>	