

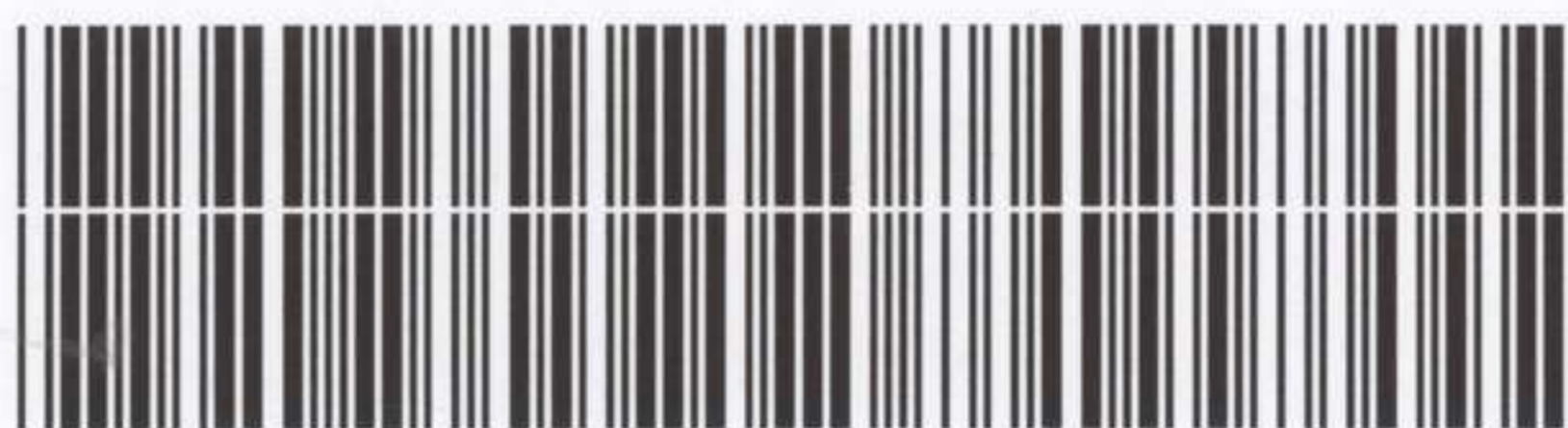
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/68/2

Title: 51st Infantry Battalion

April 1916



AWM4-23/68/2

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.

VOL. I.
Sheet V.

WAR DIARY
OF THE
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

51st Bn.

G.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

F.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAHSAMA (on the march)	April	1 st	Having bivouacked overnight, the Battalion marched at 0600. A halt was made for one hour at midday & MOASCAR CAMP, ISMAILIA (15 miles) reached at 1500. Three men fell out.	AmR
		2 nd	Struck bivouac at 0240 & moved out last unit in Brigade at 0635 for final stage to SERAPEUM (9 miles). No men fell out & camp was reached at 1330. The tents & pitched camp of the 11 th Bn were taken over. The strength of the Bn leaving TEL-EL-KEBIR was 549. The strength reaching SERAPEUM was 521. The deficiency was made up of 25 reporting sick en route. Only 3 men fell out throughout. Transport of blankets & w.p. sheets was by Camel (50 per Bn). Transport of Kettles by limber & heavy baggage by barge.	AmR
Week	April	3 rd - 8 th	Training resumed - delayed by influx of nearly 200 reinforcements & 100 drafts left behind by 3 rd Inf Bde - Bn now overstrength. Bomb school, bayonet course etc had again to be made. Hours of work arranged to avoid heat of day - Mobilisation stores completing.	AmR
		9 th	Bivouac services as usual. Programme of work for week ending April 15 th issued See App. (App I)	AmR

AmR
AmR

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VOL. I.
Sheet VI.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

51st Bn.

Army Form C. 2118.

23

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BERAPEUM Week	April 10 - 16 th		Training continued - Some days devoted to normal attack exercises Musketry carried out on April 15 th . 30 yards range, 3 practices of 5 rounds per man - About 75% qualified; the old rifles of the 1 st Division were used. Bayonet course, bomb school - model trench were completed - Manual of Bayonet Fighting 1914 issued & adopted.	
Week	17 th - 23 rd		75 additional reinforcements to Bn. Mess messhuts completed - Training progressed - Exercises in Trench Warfare Training Programme - See Appendix II.	Am R App II.
April	24 th		Musketry on range - one practice 10 rounds rapid per man.	
	25 th		Holiday - 1 st anniversary of ANZAC DAY (This Bn won the Divisional ^{Aquatic sports} Relay Race Jone.)	
	26 th , 27 th		Batta Exercises in Attack - Maj C.L. Nicholas transferred to 3 rd L. Horse Training Regt. Major R.R. Reilly becomes Senior Major.	Am R
	29 th		Divisional Field operations & inspection by Corps Commander.	
	30 th		Notes - General health for the month good. - Issue of mobilisation stores progressed. For strength see Appendix III.	App III.
Am Ross to be				

51st Battalion.

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4-3 Training Programme for Week ending 15th April, 1916.

COMPANY TRAINING IN ATTACK.

1st. Parade.- Field work only.

Artillery formations	}	All Coys.
Attacks on limited frontages		
Reinforcing		
Building up firing lines		
Training of scouts & connecting files.		

2nd Parade.- Technical Instruction in Trench Warfare.

Organising of grenade teams	}	2 Coys.
Grenade Work		
Bayonet Course		
Instruction in designs of trenches		
Snapshotting & Rapid firing		
One short period of drill		

3rd Parade.-	One short period of drill	}	2 Coys.
	Organising Coy Assault Columns for trench warfare		
	Bayonet exercises		

The two Coys for 2nd and 3rd Parades change over on alternate days.

Lewis Gun Section	}	Special training
Signallers		
Stretcherbearers		

Night Operations.-

Each Company one night
Training in night movement & marching
as a Company
Sentry duties (as a drill)

Am Rose

Lieutenant Colonel,

O.C. 51st Battalion.

TRAPPEUM EAST.

9th April, 1916.

51ST BATTALION.

App II

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TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 20TH 1916.

Mornings:-

Field Training.

Monday Musketry, on range, packfitting, bayonet fighting, rapid
Tuesday Anzac Day (Holiday) loading,
Wednesday Battalion Exercises (Route March)
Thursday " " (Field Training)
Friday Divisional Operations.
Saturday. Battalion Exercises.

Afternoons:-

Musketry Instruction.

Trench Warfare.
Bayonet Fighting.
Drill (short period)

Night Operations:-

Each company is to go out for two hours, one night per week.

Note:-

Divisional Standing Orders:-

- (1) One half hours Bayonet Fighting and Instruction, to be done daily.
- (2) Ten minutes Rapid Loading and Firing to be done daily by all Ranks.

Am Ross

Lieutenant-Colonel.
O.C. 51st. Battalion.

Appendix No 2

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App III

51st. Battalion.

13th. Inf. Bde.

30th April 1916

DAILY STATE

		offs	O/Ranks	Total	Remarks
Number	fit	26	1025	1051	* M.O. + Chaplain Attached.
"	absent without leave		7	7	5 R.A.M.C. Personnel.
"	in Hospital		27	27	1 man pending Discharge M.U.
"	in detention		6	6	
"	on detached duty	1	18	19	
"	attached	* 2	6	8	
		29	1089	1118	

Am Ross

O.C. 51st. Battalion.

Lieutenant-Colonel.

Appendix No 3

51