

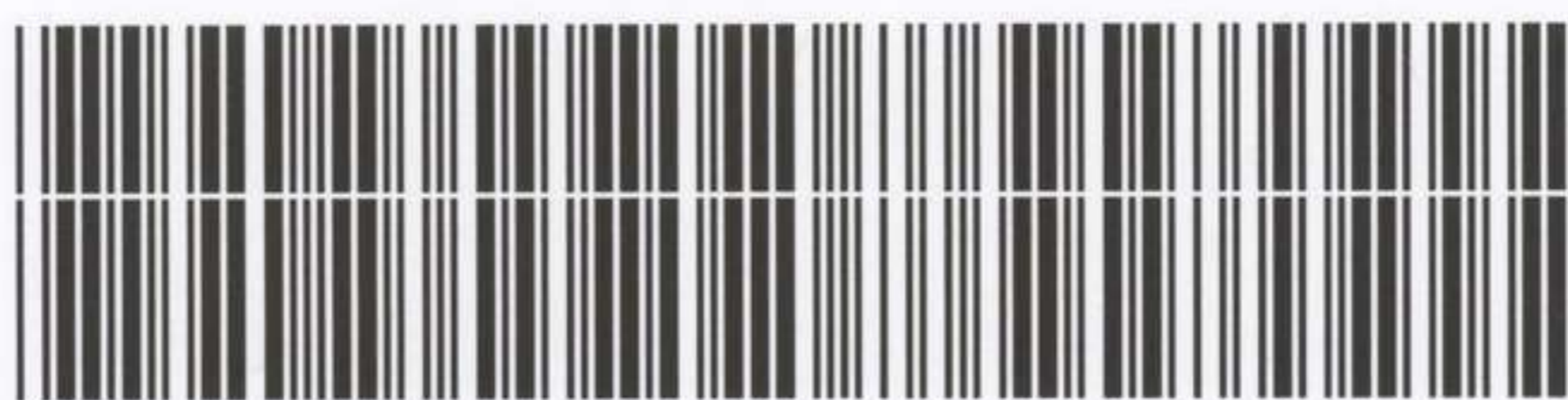
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/74/18

**Title:** 57th Infantry Battalion

July 1917



AWM4-23/74/18



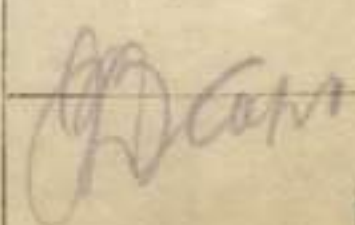
WAR DIARY

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.~~ 57<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F.  
 (Erase heading not required.)

13 266

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTRAY	17/17	9.30 AM	Portion of Bde units at CONTRAY held Church Parade at 9.30 am 6 Coy & OPD <sup>s</sup> on 58 <sup>th</sup> Bn parade ground at 9.30 am R.G. at CONTRAY Church	
		11 am	Bn bayonet team to represent the Bn in the Bde finals was picked	
		3 pm	On B area at the Bayonet course the 57 <sup>th</sup> & 58 <sup>th</sup> Bns held their trial. 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn won. at 3 pm on 15 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Company sports ground the 58 <sup>th</sup> Bn held their Company competition. at 4 pm the 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn held their inspection by the Brigade Major and Staff Captain. The 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn won and came second to the 59 <sup>th</sup> Bn in the Brigade. The final result of the Bayonet fighting were 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn first 60 <sup>th</sup> Bn second, both teams to represent the Brigade in the Divisional Sports.	
	27/17	6 am	C.O. adjutant & two officers per Company went by motor lorry to THIEPVAL to see the Divisional finals of the Field Firing Scheme. The 57 <sup>th</sup> Battalion represented the 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde in the final and they drew first to go over the course. "C" Coy 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn moved out from the sunken road at 8.30 am and the scouts were very good. after the other two Bdes had gone over the course the final for the Division resulted in "C" Company 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn. 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde winning the	attached scheme appendix 11
		9.30 am	Divisional event. at 9.30 am a lecture by Archdeacon Ward and Lieut Col	 1



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.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn AIF

14

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTRAY			AH Lebbutt DSO on venereal disease at the stadium. At 10.30 am. Companies carried out work. as per syllabus "Hammung of Patrols" attached syllabus of training for week ending 7 <sup>th</sup> July 1917 Appendix XIII. Afternoon inter company cricket.	appendix XIII
	3.7.17	8.15 A	A Company carried out "company in advanced guard" on A Area from 8.15 am to 11 am. The Battalion passed through the CONTRAY baths from 9 am to 4 pm. "C" Company returned from THIEPVAL at 12.15 pm. The 58 <sup>th</sup> Bn band played them into CONTRAY. At 2 pm "C" Company went to the Baths.	
	4.7.17	8.15 am	Companies held an inspection re equipment rifles. The two parties to represent the Battalion at the Divisional Sports were inspected by the CO. At 2.30 pm the Battalion route marched to the Divisional sports and assault at arms. The afternoon turned out very fine and the sports were very good. Our bayonet team came second in the Division. The Platoon in the obstacle race did well but lost a lot of time at the first obstacle. After the programme was finished the Battalion marched home.	
	5.7.17	8.15	Fine weather. Two Companies carried out "advanced guards" as per syllabus on A area. The other two Companies carried out patrols on A area. Sports	J.D. Capt



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.

57th Bn AIF

15

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONTAY	6.7.17	9am	The Battalion moved to HERISSART as per Bde order attached (appendix XIV).	appendix XIV
			The whole of the Battalion moved out of billets from CONTAY except 33 men who were attending the 5th Army Sniping School VADENCOURT. attached Battalion Order No 3's, re move to HERISSART appendix XV. Battalion arrived at HERISSART	appendix XV
			at about 10.15 am and moved into billets. there is plenty of room and very good accomodation for the men. Sanitation was very bad. Each company completed the morning's work by cleaning up & improving the billets.	
	7.7.17	8.15am	A+B Companies carried out work preparing for the THIEPVAL Field Firing scheme to take place on the 12th inst at THIEPVAL. D Company carried out an advance guard scheme. C. Company patrol.	
		7.30 PM	Ten (10) officers from the Battalion went by motor lorry to see a model Platoon carried out in every detail at the 1st Army Sniping School. The demonstration was very instructive to all the junior platoon officers and they were able to pick up many points of interest for their platoons.	
		11 am	At 11 am the G.O.C. 15th Inf Bde inspected the transport of the 57th & 58th Bns at their transport lines and the turn out was most satisfactory.	J.D. Capt



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.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn

(16)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HCRISSEART.	8.7.17	9.30am	The Church Parade for the Coy E, OPD <sup>s</sup> of the 57 <sup>th</sup> & 58 <sup>th</sup> Bn to be held on the 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn recreation ground at 9.30am was put off on account of the very wet weather. At 3.30pm a voluntary Church parade was held on the 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn Regimental parade ground. RC <sup>s</sup> parade at 9am was held in the Parish Church, and again at 7.30pm.	
	9.7.17	8.15a	Fine weather, but wet underfoot. At 8.15am. Battalion Route march out to Training Area. Companies carried out close order drill for half an hour, then Company Commanders lectured on the work for the night march and advance as per Brigade Syllabus attached (Appendix XVI). Battalion returned to Billets at 10.30am.	Appendix XVI
		3pm	At 3pm CO and all officers & NCO <sup>s</sup> went out to the assembling point for the night operation. The CO went over the scheme and illustrated same. Owing to the ground being all under crop it was impossible to advance right on to our place of deployment.	
		10.15pm	At 10.15pm the Battalion moved out of billets and passed the starting point The Crucifix T10D52. Arrived at point of assembly at 11.8pm. The march was carried out very quietly and after carrying out the miniature	J.D. Cap







208.

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.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn AIF

18

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERISSART	12.7.17	8 am	The Battalion route marched to HENENCOURT WOOD in beautiful weather & to attend the 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust Division Sports. His Majesty the King arrived at 11.30 am and was cheered by the 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde as he arrived & drove into the sports ground. His Majesty stayed about 45 minutes and everything went off very well. He departed from the other side of the ground & was cheered as he drove off. The programme continued till 4.30 pm. All the events were very good and a most eventful day for the 5 <sup>th</sup> Divn. The Battalion formed up after the end of the sports and marched back to billets.	
	13.7.17	8.15 AM	Beautiful weather. All specialists carried out the syllabus. Companies paraded at T1 & 2 and carried out patrols & advance guard exercises. The Range was not available as per syllabus. All P.H. helmets were collected and examined by representatives from Division. The NCO's going over to the Training Battalion were inspected by Major King, 5 <sup>th</sup> Divn HQ at 5.30 pm.	
	14.7.17	8.15 AM	Fine weather but wet under foot. Slight rain later on in the day. The Battalion carried out a Battalion attack. General Idea as per Brigade order attached to syllabus of training for the 9 <sup>th</sup> Divn - 14 <sup>th</sup> Divn appendix XVI attached. Bn operation order No 34 appendix XX	J. King appendix XX



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.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn. AIF

19

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEARSSART.			<p>owing to the ground being under crop the advance from the position of deployment was very slow, the platoons only being able to advance in single file for some distance. The scouts soon came in touch with the enemy and immediately formed up to put the enemy out of action. The 1<sup>st</sup> objective was along the hedge in rear of the road between the two woods. The first wave of the leading platoons were much too long in coming up to support the scouts. This was due to the information not being sent back thro the proper channels, after this objective was taken the scouts went thro the wood &amp; captured a few of the enemy but they missed some snipers who were up trees. The advance to the second objective was not good owing to the communication between companies being bad. The right flank were too far advanced for the left. The enemy M.G. positions were located by the scouts and the supports were sent up immediately &amp; the rifle grenades &amp; Stokes guns blew them out. The advance for the final assault was not good owing to the waves &amp; sections not keeping line and being moving forward where they were exploded by the enemy. The supporting platoons formed up for the final assault right on the outskirts of the wood which was being heavily shelled with shrapnel by the enemy.</p>	<p>J.D. Carr</p>



268

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F

(30)

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HERISSART			all the mistakes and tactical errors have been explained to the officers & men.	
	15.7.17	10.30 AM	R.C. Church Parade was held at the Parish Church HERISSART.	
		9.30 AM	all units of the Bde held their C of E & OPD church parade at the stadium at HERISSART. after the service was over the Corps Commander presented ribands of decorations won by members of the Brigade. After this the Brigade marched pass in column of route and then returned to Billets.	
	16.7.17	7am.	The 15 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde moved to MAILLY area & exchanged billeting & training areas with the 14 <sup>th</sup> Brigade the 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn as per Brigade order attached appendix XXI 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn & 58 <sup>th</sup> Bn composed the No 7 Column under Lt Col Jb. Stewart DSO as per attached order (appendix XXII). The 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn moved to BEAUSSART and exchanged with the 54 <sup>th</sup> Bn. attached operation order No 26. appendix XXIII	appendix XXI appendix XXII appendix XXIII
BEAUSSART	17.7.17	8.15 AM	The Battalion carried out a Battalion in attack, in conjunction with the 59 <sup>th</sup> Bn on our left and a troop of L.H. on our right. as per order attached appendix XXIV. The practice was carried out very well. appendix XXV attached Syllabus of Training for week 16 <sup>th</sup> met to 21 <sup>st</sup> .	appendix XXIV appendix XXV
				J.D. Carr 8



266

# 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.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn. A.I.F.

(21)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																									
BEAUSSART	18 7 17	7.45 AM	<p>The Brigade were the advance guard for the Division as per attached Brigade order appendix XXVI</p> <p>The 57<sup>th</sup> Bn were the Van guard. 58<sup>th</sup> Bn + 60<sup>th</sup> Bn MAIN GUARD. 59<sup>th</sup> Bn represented the enemy.</p> <p>The MAIN GUARD to pass the Starbuck Point road junction at Q7 A 3-A at 9 am</p> <p>VAN GUARD as per VAN GUARD order NO 1. by Lt Col. J.C. Stewart. DSO. O/C V.G</p> <p>attached. appendix NO XXVII. This exercise was postponed owing to wet weather.</p> <p>The remainder of the day was spent in cleaning &amp; checking equipment.</p>	<p>appendix XXVI</p> <p>appendix XXVII</p>																									
			<p>Total effective strength</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">officers</td> <td style="text-align: center;">ORs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">In Amb</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">29</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">30</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1027</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Detached out of area:</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">80</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Brigade Order:</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">76</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">with unit</td> <td style="text-align: center;">72</td> <td style="text-align: center;">892</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">30</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">1027</td> </tr> </table>	officers	ORs	In Amb	3	29	30	1027	Detached out of area:	5	80			Brigade Order:		76			with unit	72	892				30	1027	
officers	ORs	In Amb	3	29																									
30	1027	Detached out of area:	5	80																									
		Brigade Order:		76																									
		with unit	72	892																									
			30	1027																									

*[Handwritten signature]*

6



266

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.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn AIF

22

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUSSART	1917	7.31 AM	<p>Fine weather The 15<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde will march to CORBIE on the 19<sup>th</sup> inst. as per Brigade order attached (appendix No XXVIII). The Brigade marched in the following order. Bde HQ, 60<sup>th</sup> Bn, 59<sup>th</sup>, 58<sup>th</sup>, &amp; 57<sup>th</sup>. 15<sup>th</sup> ALTB. The starting point for the Battalion was Cross Road P12 C 9-1 to pass at 7.31 am. The first halt was at 7.50 am. The pace of the Brigade column was good to start with, but after Baisieux is got a little irregular consequently the distance between Bns was hard to maintain.</p> <p>Battalion order No 38. appendix XXIX. The Column halted from 11.50 am to 1 pm for lunch just outside of CORBIE. after marching through the town for sometimes we passed the G.O.C 5<sup>th</sup> Div. The Column passed over the river on a pontoon bridge and recrossed, then marched to billets. The last part of the march was very trying, as it being over cobble stone &amp; no halt until reached our billets. The men stuck at it very well, &amp; only a few men fell out. Many cases of sore feet were noticed occurred after 5.30 pm six officers from each Bn were at a lecture given by one of the officers of the Engineers on Pontoons, etc. It was most instructive &amp; the methods of crossing rivers etc were very clear.</p>	<p>appendix XXVIII</p> <p>appendix XXIX</p>

J.D. [Signature]



266

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.

57<sup>th</sup> Battalion

(23)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CORBIE	19.7.17		Open Camp was given & all the men who were not on duty had a look round CORBIE & returned to Billets at 8 pm.	
	20.7.17	7.31 AM	The Brigade marched to MAILLY area on 20 <sup>th</sup> inst as per attached Brigade order 110. (Appendix XXX). Column passed starting point Road junction 1/8 mile N of U in LA Neuville. at 7.30 am. Route as per march Table attached. The Battalion marched at the Head of the Column. Bn order No 39. attached Appendix XXXI. The return march to MAILLY was very good & many men had sore feet from the previous day, but they stuck at it & only a couple of men fell out on the journey. Taking the march right through it was most satisfactory.	Appendix XXX Appendix XXXI
BPAUSSART	21.7.17		Good weather. The Battalion marched to HAMET & held a bathing parade in the River ANCRE. The midday meal was carried & the men enjoyed the <del>parade</del> parade. attached Appendix XXXII. Brigade Training Syllabus for week 21 <sup>st</sup> July to 28 <sup>th</sup> July 1917	Appendix XXXII

J.D. Cap  
11



WAR DIARY

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. 57<sup>th</sup> Battalion

24

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUSSART	22.7.17	9.30am	<p>Fine weather. Church parades as follows. R.C. at 9am at Parish church MAILLY</p> <p>Confessions at 7pm. Mass at 10. am in Parish Church C of E + OPD of 57<sup>th</sup> Bn</p> <p>60<sup>th</sup> Bn + 15<sup>th</sup> HLTMB held at Ref 57<sup>th</sup> P12 c 7.4 at 9.30 am. The Baths at MAILLY were allotted to Bn from 9am to 1pm. all Companies were bathed and issued with clean undercloths.</p>	
	23.7.17	9am	<p>Beautiful weather. The postponed Brigade advanced guard scheme was carried. The 57<sup>th</sup> Bn VAN GUARD. 58 + 60<sup>th</sup> Bn MAIN GUARD. 59<sup>th</sup> Bn represented the enemy. Orders issued for the scheme for the 18<sup>th</sup> met were used for this, with exception that the 15<sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy were attached.</p> <p>1 section to VAN GUARD. remainder with MAIN GUARD. The Battalion move off from BEAUSSART at 7.15am and took up their position as VAN GUARD + were ready for the MAIN GUARD to advance at 9am</p> <p>Owing to the very bad ground &amp; conditions of advance, the advance of the MAIN GUARD was very slow. Owing to one flag being put up after our scouts were 700 yds in advance of it, it held up our advance in the centre at the very start from</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p>



WAR DIARY

OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

57<sup>th</sup> Battalion

(25)

(Erase heading not required.)

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
BEHOSSART	23/7/17		<p>The information from the scouts to start with was too slow, but afterward the O.C VAN GUARD was well kept informed of the situation. The exercise was carried out very well and all communications were good, except at times visual signalling was unable to be kept up. Each M.C. position was taken and the attacking parties carried the jobs out very quickly. Several prisoners were taken and on one occasion one strong point of the enemy was surrounded before the enemy saw the attackers. After getting near to the final objective, the Companies formed up the assaulting line very well &amp; were well supported. The exercise was very instructive to all concerned &amp; was most successful.</p> <p>It ceased at 12 noon, after which the Battalion had lunch then returned to Billets.</p> <p>At 4.30 pm at Bde HQ the C.O.C Bde had all officers &amp; went over all points of the morning exercise.</p>	

J.P. [Signature] 13



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.

57<sup>th</sup> Battalion

(76)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUSSART.	23.7.17	7pm	<p>At 7pm the Battalion marched to PIONEER HUTS at <sup>after orders No 40 attached</sup> W 10 a 3-0<sub>n</sub> where they billeted for the night en route to THIEPVAL to carry out a marksmanship exercise on the range. The march down was most satisfactory the evening was cool &amp; the men enjoyed the march.</p>	<p>Appendix XXXXIII</p>
THIEPVAL	24.7.17	6.30am	<p>At 6.30am the Battalion moved out of PIONEER HUTS &amp; proceeded to range at THIEPVAL arrived at 7.30am. The exercise that was carried out is as follows. Each Company had one hour to carry it out. We had three (3) sets of targets. 1<sup>st</sup> objective were Head &amp; Shoulders at about 750 yds range. The exercise was purely Platoon &amp; section Commanders fire orders. This in most cases was carried out well. Each man fired 5 rounds at 1<sup>st</sup> objective. 2<sup>nd</sup> objective was H+S painted white, the Company advanced at two platoons in line and carried out fire orders &amp; control, one platoon giving covering fire to the other as they advanced. This practice was fair. 3<sup>rd</sup> objective was represented by plates. The shooting at there was very good all through the Companies &amp; the covering fire was good also.</p>	<p>14</p>



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. 57<sup>th</sup> Battalion

(27)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>The results of the three practices were good &amp; it was very instructive to the men. They were able to take advantage of cover &amp; see the result of their shooting. At the conclusion of the exercise the Battalion marched back to HVELOY &amp; had lunch after which we all had a swim in the HNERC. Left there at 6.15 pm to BEAUSSART in the cool of the evening. arrived in billets 8.40 pm</p>	
BEAUSSART	25.7.17	9.30 AM	<p>Fine day. all the 5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Divisional Staff &amp; Staff of 8<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> &amp; 15<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde, Battalion Commanders &amp; 2nd in Commands &amp; adjutants carried out a divisional attack without troops. The enemy was reported to have a Brigade (less one Battalion) one Battery of artillery at HERISSART, the remaining Battalion being reported at VARENNES with outposts on line HEDRAUVILLERS - FORCEVILLE - ACHÉUX.</p> <p>Battalion order NO 40 (appendix NO XXXIV) showing the scheme. Commanding officers had to send in a criticism of Divisional operation. order NO 101. Reference method of Raising VARENNES attacked but then (appendix NO XXXV). The G.O.C. 5<sup>th</sup> Division held his first conference at point 89 P 23 D 8-8 and went over with all officers the first stage of the</p>	<p>appendix XXXIV</p> <p>appendix XXXV</p> <p>J.P. [Signature]</p>



WAR DIARY

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.

57<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF (28)

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUSSART			<p>attack. The criticism and Battalion orders were handed into the Bde major for criticism by the Divisional Staff. We were given a second place to hold the second conference &amp; the Brigadier went off with his Brigade officer &amp; went into the second stage of the attack. Bde orders were issued and Battalions issued their operation orders etc. At the second conference all the points of attack were criticised &amp; discussed. The third stage of the attack was the attack on VARENNES, after which the GOC Division held his final conference &amp; the scheme was gone into. Each unit furnished a narrative of the final attack. This skeleton exercise was very instructive to all and many points were brought out in the general discussions.</p> <p>Battalion. The Companies were at the disposal of Company Commanders who carried Fire orders &amp; fire control also gave a lecture on same.</p>	<p>16</p>



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. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F.  
(Erase heading not required.)

(29)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUSSART.	26.7.17	8.15 AM	<p>Fine weather. The Battalion carried out a "Trench to Trench" attack on ground at about Reference 57° K 31 D 5.5 - 6 0 2 A 3-7, over a frontage of about 400 yards. Two company frontage. The advance was made in the following formation: Two waves of two lines each with about 30 yards between lines and 75 yards between waves. The 1<sup>st</sup> wave took the 1<sup>st</sup> objective and consolidated same the moppers up attending to the dugout etc. The second wave went through the 1<sup>st</sup> objective and captured the second objective and consolidated same. The enemy counter attacked three times but each time they were driven off. This exercise was good and the men fully understood their jobs.</p> <p>The Baths at MAILLY were used by the Battalion from 2 pm to 6 pm each man being issued with clean undercloths.</p>	
	27.7.17	8 AM	<p>a Trench to Trench attack was carried out, the exercise being for the training of the Brigade &amp; Battalion Signallers, see Instructions re exercise for the 27<sup>th</sup> unit. appendix NO. <del>XXXVI</del>. The advance was made under a barrage which was represented by flags. The attack to place.</p>	appendix <del>XXXVI</del>



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. 57<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
(Erase heading not required.)

30

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUSSART			near BEAUMONT HAMEL. Zero time 10.30 am. The signallers carried out this exercise very well and the information given from the front line was good after the advanced Battalion Post was established, the communication was good.	
	28.7.17		Fine weather. The Brigade exercise as per syllabus was cancelled. Company Commanders made a complete kit inspection also boots after which they lectured to their Companies on French to French attack. A marching out parade was held for the move to Steenbecque on the sq <sup>th</sup> unit. All surplus clothing etc was collected and returned to dump.	
	29.7.17	9 AM	Very wet miserable day. Church Parade was held as follows: R C at 9 am 1 <sup>st</sup> Mass in Parish church M Hilly. Parade Mass at 10 am Coy E + OPD parade was held at 9.30 am at junction of roads at P 12 C 7-2. The parade was cut short owing to very heavy rain. The remainder of the day the men rested before the journey which took place at 12.25 am 30 <sup>th</sup> unit. at 3 pm H Coy being the loading	



WAR DIARY

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.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.F.

31

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEAUSSART			<p>party for the Brigade group and details at Belle Eglise station, left BEAUSSART Bde move order attached (appendix <u>XXXVII</u>). Battalion order No 41 (appendix <u>XXXVIII</u>) showing the times of departure etc</p> <p>Herewith attached marching out state, appendix <u>XXXIX</u> also enhauning states appendix <u>XXXX</u>. The unloading party left by 1<sup>st</sup> train No 3 at 8.25pm against and carried out all the unloading at STEENBECQUE</p> <p>The remainder of the Battalion and Transport moved by No 6 train at 12.25 am 30<sup>th</sup> inst and the enhauning was carried out very quickly.</p>	<p>appendix <u>XXXVII</u></p> <p>appendix <u>XXXVIII</u></p> <p>appendix <u>XXXIX</u></p> <p>appendix <u>XXXX</u></p>
STEENBECQUE	30.7.17	7.45 AM	<p>well arrived at STEENBECQUE at 7.43 am 30<sup>th</sup> inst. The YMCA representative had cocoa on the station for the men which was appreciated by all</p> <p>marched to Billets in the village of LA BELLE HOTESSE. The Battalion arrived all present &amp; correct. The men are very comfortable.</p>	
LA BELLE HOTESSE			<p>after settling down in their billets the men's feet were inspected after which they took advantage of the spell &amp; had a good rest.</p>	



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

57<sup>th</sup> Bn. AIF

32

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																														
L'Abelle Hotesse	31/7/17	8.15 AM	<p>Fine weather in the morning. Heavy rain during afternoon. The Battalion carried out a complete inspection of kit also a foot inspection. The Boots of the men were fixed up in many of the worst cases. All specialists carried out an inspection of their equipment.</p> <p>Total effective strength</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Officers</td> <td>ORs</td> <td>In Hospital</td> <td>Officers</td> <td>ORs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>37</td> <td>1002</td> <td></td> <td>3</td> <td>44</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Out of area</td> <td>7</td> <td>88</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Brigade Details</td> <td></td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>With unit</td> <td>27</td> <td>845</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><u>37</u></td> <td><u>1002</u></td> </tr> </table>	Officers	ORs	In Hospital	Officers	ORs	37	1002		3	44			Out of area	7	88			Brigade Details		25			With unit	27	845				<u>37</u>	<u>1002</u>	<p></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i> Capt</p>
Officers	ORs	In Hospital	Officers	ORs																														
37	1002		3	44																														
		Out of area	7	88																														
		Brigade Details		25																														
		With unit	27	845																														
			<u>37</u>	<u>1002</u>																														



Company Tactical Field Firing Competition

2<sup>nd</sup> JULY, 1917.

CONDITIONS

1. Companies will be organised as in pamphlet O.B./1919. Platoons will turn out at a strength of 35 rank and file exclusive of N.C.O's and leaders who will not fire.
2. No officer or man will take part with any one Company who has been on the strength of any other Company since 10<sup>th</sup> JUNE.
3. Ammunition allowed — per company:—

S.A.A. for rifles	2,100
S.A.A. for 4 Lewis Guns.	400
Total	2,500
Rifle grenades	30

4. Marks will be allotted as follows:—

For turn out.....	50
For marks deducted for faults.....	100
For preliminary orders and arrangements.....	200
For tactical handling during advances.....	200
For fire orders and control.....	400
For hits — Rifle and Lewis Guns.....	400
One point for each hit on heads under 300 yds.	
Two points for hits on heads over 300 yds.	
10 points deducted for any falling plate not knocked out in reasonable time.	
Points to be totalled — Top score to be made up to or down to 400 and others raised or lowered in proportion.	
For fire effect of rifle grenades.....	50
Total	1,000

JUDGES.

Fire orders and Control.

Major D.K. Michie. Highland Light Infantry.

Tactical Handling — Orders — and Turn Out.

Lieut-Col. Ross D.S.O. West Yorkshire Regiment  
1<sup>st</sup> Angus Corps School.

Rifle Grenades.

Captain Macfarlane M.C. — 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Hits.

Major R.P. Darwell M.C. } 5<sup>th</sup> Australian  
Capt. S.A. Hurn M.C. } Divisional Headquarters.

REFEREE.

The Divisional Commander.

266



copy

5<sup>th</sup> Aust. DivisionField Firing SchemeJuly 2<sup>nd</sup> 1917

## Reference

Sheet 1/40,000 No 57D  
and attached sketch of  
THIEPVAL range.

General Idea

A hostile force has retired through AVELUY - THIEPVAL and GRANDCOURT. Its rearguard is believed to be on the general line POZIERES - HAMEL.

A pursuing force of our troops is preceded by several advanced guards of which one (called Z) has orders to make good the line MOUQUET FARM - THIEPVAL CHURCH.

Special Idea

At . . . . m. on 2<sup>nd</sup> July . . . . . Company . . . . . Battalion forming the vanguard of Z column, is under cover at X.1. central. It receives orders to push forward, drive in the small rear parties of the enemy, and reconnoitre the line MOUQUET FARM - THIEPVAL.

Similar companies are working on both flanks.

The enemy is believed to have a battery of 77 in action covering his retirement.

NOTES

- (a) Movement will be confined between the lines of flags on the ground (see sketch). Ground and enemy on the shaded portion of sketch will be ignored.
- (b) There is no Artillery or Tickers Gun support for our troops.

Instructions Regarding Situations

Phase I Company moves up, taking necessary precautions, and drives in enemy's rear line. (Target A - some heads and a machine gun.)

Targets A will be lowered when the Umpire considers them sufficiently punished.

Phase II The advance is continued. Targets B (falling plates) will be encountered and will be engaged when seen. All the plates must be knocked out before any further advance is allowed.

Over



286

Phase 3 Scouts and patrols move forward again and locate targets C, the enemy main rear party position. The company will attack C, actually assaulting the position with the bayonet, and then reorganize.

Phase 4 While the company is reorganizing, it should be prepared to deal with any counter attack which may be launched. The enemy counter attack, if made, will be represented by lines of surprise head and shoulder targets.



266  
gillson

Appendix XIII



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Programme of work for week ending 7th July 1917.

DATE	Forenoon Parade (8.15 a.m. to 12.15 p.m)	Evening Lecture (6.15 pm. to 8.45 pm.)
2nd July.	As many Officers as possible will visit THIEPVAL. Training of patrols. Patrols to be sent out on definite missions over an easily observed course; men to be divided into "fours" for purpose of criticism and later selected "fours" will be sent to demonstrate their views.	
3rd July.	57th Bn. - Company in Advanced Guard. GONTAY - HARPONVILLE. 58th Bn. - Range Practices, J.D., Control of fire advancing under covering fire - WARLOY Range. 59th Bn. - Company in Advanced Guard, RUBEMPRE- T.30. 60th Bn. - Range Practices, J.D. Control of fire Advancing under covering fire - T.22.	Advanced Guards.  Scouting and Patrols.
4th July.	Divisional Sports.	
5th July.	As for 3rd July.	Organisation of fire.
6th July.	57th & 58th Bns. change over programme. 59th & 60th Bns. change over programme.	Delaying tactics of small parties.
7th July.	As for 6th July.	

NOTES - In Advanced Guard Schemes small parties of men representing hostile patrols and scouts are to be used.

29th June 1917.

*Geo S Wright*  
Major.  
Brigade Major 15th Australian Inf. Brigade.



266

Appendix XIV / 25  
Copy No.....

SECRET



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.108.

3rd July 1917.

1. 57th and 58th Battalions will move from GONTAY to HERISSART on 6th July 1917.
- 2.(a) 57th Battalion will pass the starting point, CROSS ROADS at V.20.C.95-60 at 9 a.m.  
(b) 58th Battalion will pass the starting point as in (a) at 10 a.m.
3. Advance parties will report at CHURCH, HERISSART to Staff Captain at 10 a.m. on 5th inst.
4. Certificates as to Sanitary state of billets will be obtained from TOWN MAJOR before units leave GONTAY.
5. Acknowledge.

*Ceo. F. Street*

Major.

Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 8 p.m.

- No. 1. 57th Battalion. ✓
- 2. 58th Battalion. ✓
- 3. 59th Battalion.
- 4. 60th Battalion.
- Copies - 5. Brigade H.Q.
- 6. War Diary.



266



Headquarters,  
15th Australian Inf. Brigade.  
5th July 1917.

57th Battalion.  
58th Battalion.  
29th A.A.S.C.

Re 15th Infantry Brigade Order No. 108.

- (1) Owing to the absence of watering facilities in HERISSART transport will remain in its present position.
- (2) C.O's may make own arrangements for stabling officer's chargers in HERISSART.
- (3) Each Battalion will leave a working party on the watering troughs CONTAY ( one party on each pump). These parties will work for and be responsible to their respective transport officers.
- (4) 4 G.S. Wagons ( 2 for baggage and 2 for spare rations) will be supplied by 29th A.A.S.C.

They will report as follows :-

- |          |                           |                          |           |            |
|----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 Waggon | 57th Bn. H.Q.             | 8.30 a.m.                | -         | baggage.   |
| 1 Waggon | 58th Bn. H.Q.             | 9.30 a.m.                | -         | do-        |
| 2 Waggon | 57th Quartermaster Stores | (report to Capt. Taylor) | 8.30 a.m. | - rations. |

*Maxwell Smith*

Captain.  
Staff captain 15th Australian Inf. Brigade.



Appendix No. XIV

Headquarters,  
15th Australian Infantry Brigade,  
5th July, 1917.

57th Battalion,  
58th Battalion,  
29th A.A.S.C.

Re Brigade Order 108 and 23/389 dated 5th July:-

(1) Paras 1 and 3 of our 23/389 are cancelled. Transport will move to HERISSART with units.

(2) Horses will be watered at RUBEMPRE as follows :-

Morning	7.50 a.m.	57th Bn.
	8.15 a.m.	58th Bn.
Mid-day.	11.50 a.m.	57th Bn.
(if necessary)	12.15 p.m.	58th Bn.
Evening.	5.50 p.m.	57th Bn.
	6.15 p.m.	58th Bn.

Refer ~~order~~ order dated 17th June 1917 dealing with Administration of RUBEMPRE - CONTAY area.

*Stewart Smith*

Captain.  
Staff Captain 15th Australian Inf. Brigade.



Appendix XV

Appendix XV

57 Battalion AIF Copy No 1

Operational Order 32

5-7-17

1. The Battalion will move to HERISSART on the 6<sup>th</sup> July 1917. The head of the column to pass the Starting Point CONY CHURCH at 8.40 am

Order of March: - Headquarters  
A Coy  
B  
C  
D

2. Transport will move independently at 8.15 am

3. Dress: - All ranks. Marching Order without blankets. Blankets to be rolled in bundles of 15 and stacked at 9 M Stow by 7.15 am. Baggage All values and baggage will be stacked at 9 M Stow by 7.30 am. Rations Unconsumed portions of days rations to be carried in haversack. All water bottles to be full.

- 1. Muster Copy
- 2. Files
- 3. War Diary
- 4. A Coy
- 5. B
- 6. C
- 7. D
- 8. Transport
- 9. M
- 10. Long officers
- 11. M

John Bhang  
Capt  
AIF



DATE. FORENOON PARADE. (8.15 a.m. To 12.15 p.m.) unless otherwise required

9<sup>th</sup> JULY. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. — light march followed by a light advance (T. 30 A).  
 58<sup>th</sup> Bn. — Battalion in attack (T. 29 & 30).  
 59<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies — outposts. (T. 1 & 2).  
 2 Companies — Company in attack (T. 1 & 2).  
 60<sup>th</sup> Bn. — Musketry. (T. 22).

10<sup>th</sup> JULY. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. — Musketry. (T. 22).  
 58<sup>th</sup> Bn. — light march followed by light advance (T. 30. A).  
 59<sup>th</sup> Bn. — Battalion in attack (T. 20 & 30).  
 60<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies — outposts (T. 1 & 2).  
 2 Companies — Company in attack (T. 1 & 2).

11<sup>th</sup> JULY. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies en route to THIEPVAL.  
 1 Company — Company in attack (T. 1 & 2).  
 1 Company — outposts. (T. 1 & 2).  
 58<sup>th</sup> Bn. — Musketry. (T. 22.)  
 59<sup>th</sup> Bn. — light march followed by light advance (T. 30 A).  
 60<sup>th</sup> Bn. — Battalion in attack. (T. 20 & 30.)

12<sup>th</sup> JULY. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies Field Firing at THIEPVAL.  
 58<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies en route to THIEPVAL.  
 All other troops will march to HENENCOURT WOOD. under unit arrangements.

13<sup>th</sup> JULY. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies returning from THIEPVAL.  
 2 Companies — Musketry. (T. 22.)  
 58<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies — Field Firing at THIEPVAL.  
 2 Companies — Musketry. (T. 22.)  
 59<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies en route for THIEPVAL.  
 2 Companies — Musketry. (T. 22.)  
 60<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies en route for THIEPVAL.  
 2 Companies — light march followed by light advance (T. 30. A.)

14<sup>th</sup> JULY. 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. — Battalion in attack. (T. 20 & 30.)  
 58<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies en route from THIEPVAL.  
 2 Companies — Musketry. (T. 22.)  
 59<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies — Field Firing at THIEPVAL.  
 2 Companies — Musketry. (T. 22.)  
 60<sup>th</sup> Bn. — 2 Companies — Field Firing at THIEPVAL.  
 1 Company — outposts. (T. 1 & 2.)  
 1 Company — Company in attack (T. 1 & 2.)

NOTE. (a) Company outpost and attack schemes should be worked in combination in order to obtain maximum training but very close supervision and good arrangement is essential.  
 (b) A copy of the scheme issued by Battalion H. Q for Company tactical exercises must reach Brigade H. Q. the previous day.  
 (c) Commanders must study the ground and make their plans before the troops are taken to the ground.  
 (d) In all cases lectures will be given to the men on the evening preceding the exercise.  
 (e) All range takers with instruments will assemble at T. 2, D. 1-1 at 9 a.m. on 9<sup>th</sup> JULY.

5-7-17 Sgd. Col. F. Wieck Major, Brigade Major 15<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Brigade.



copy  
266

Appendix XVII

15<sup>th</sup> Aust Infantry Brigade  
Tactical Exercise - Batta. in Attack.  
General Idea

Reference  
Sheet 57D

A mixed hostile column of about one Brigade, with one battery of field guns, is retreating under pressure through RUBEMPRE in the direction of CONTAY. His rear guard made a stand along the ridge T. 22 - T. 28 yesterday.

The pursuing force to which your Battalion belongs consists of your own Brigade Group (with its 3 batteries of 18 pounders) and one Squadron of Light Horse.

The hostile rear-guard was severely handled in yesterday's action and at 10 pm was driven from its position.

There is every indication that the enemy will make a stand in a position reported by R.F.C. reconnaissance to exist along the high ground T. 18-24-30.

Special Idea

At 9 am. our Advanced Guard was held up on a line running approximately along the road through T. 23.B T. 24.C T. 30.A & C. Hostile Artillery fire has not been heavy but machine gun fire reported from a position in T. 30.B has caused some loss. The position reported by the R.F.C. is strongly held.

The S.O.C. decides to attack with two Battalions - the Battalion with 1 subsection Stokes Mortars attached is to be on the right and the dividing line is the left edge of the wood T. 30.A. The attack is ordered to commence @ 10 am. and the Battalion is assembled in readiness under cover of the hill at T. 29.C. 76. Your right flank is protected by 2 troops of Light Horse.

Situations

(1) On reaching the line T. 30.C. 0-5-T. 29.B. 8-4 your scouts come under rifle fire (Two Platoons as enemy) from the western edge of the wood in T. 30.A and from 2 machine guns @ T. 30.B. 3-5.

Information to be passed back and the enemy platoons driven off. Just as this task is completed a message is received from the Battalion on your left to the effect that from somewhere on your sector Machine Guns are preventing that Battalion's advance.

(2) Your advance, facilitated by the slackening of M.G. fire has reached a line about 100 yards short of the eastern edge of the wood when the M.G. fire suddenly increased in volume and the fire is very effective. Sound indicates that there are about 3 M.G.'s in action.

Over



Situations (Contd)

(2) (Contd)

Guns to be located by scouts and dealt with by grenadiers under Stokes Mortar barrage. These guns will disappear when sufficiently punished. The advance continues. Hostile Artillery fire increases.

(3)

Your advance reaches the eastern edge of the wood and locates the enemy's main position on the reverse slope of the spur in T. 30. B. Hostile battery uses shrapnel against you.

Hostile position to be assaulted and captured.

NOTES

The first objective will be represented by 2 platoons of the Battalion with 10 rounds of blank S.A.A. per rifle.

The second objective will be represented by one red flag for each M.G.

The third objective will be represented by a line of signal flags (blue for strong resistance and white for weak resistance).

Stokes guns report on ground @ 9 am.



Copy

266

15<sup>th</sup> Aust. Infantry BrigadeTactical Exercise - Night March followed by a  
Night Advance.General Idea

Reference

Sheet 57D

Sheet 4 N.W.E.

A hostile force retiring on BUCQUOY has reached the line RAINCHEVAL-TOUTENCOURT. A convoy escorted by 2 Companies Infantry left rail head at VILLERS-BRETTONNEUX to join this force at le VAL DE MAISON. On reaching ST GRATIEN the O. C. convoy received an order to march the convoy to VARENNES. At 9 pm. the convoy reached CONTAY; the escort had had a very trying march and was straggling badly. The O. C. Convoy decided to halt at CONTAY for 5 hours. Owing to the darkness and the condition of the men the outpost line was not out further than the edge of the village.

Our pursuing force reached the line PUCHEVILLERS-HERISSART-RUBUMPRE

Special Idea

At 10 pm the E. O. C. Pursuing Force receives information regarding the Convoy halted at CONTAY and decides to attack it early in the morning. He details the Battalion to make a night march and deliver an attack as soon as it is light enough to see.

Situations

- (1) T. 30. C. 6-8 has been selected as the place of Assembly. The Battalion will march to that point.
- (2) From T 30. C. 6-8 the Battalion will move to a place of ~~the~~ deployment (actually would be along the road in S 25) in a preparatory formation.



266

23/605

Appendix

Copy No. 1

33

15th AUST. INFANTRY BRIGADE TRAINING ORDER No.1.



Reference -  
AMIENS 1/100000.  
Sheet 57 D.

10th July 1917.

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade has been ordered to proceed to CORBIE on 13th July for the purpose of training in crossing pontoon bridges. On the night 13th/14th the Brigade will bivouac at CORBIE and on 14th July will return to present billets. The Brigade will return to billets on 14th inst. in the same order, by the same route, and under similar arrangements as regards times and halts as on the forward journey. Starting points communicated later.
2. The Brigade will commence the march in two columns as under :-  
  
No.1 Column. - The Column will pass the starting point - the cross-roads at T.13.D.9-1 at 8 a.m. and march via PIERREGOT-MOLLIENS and PONT NOYELLES.  
 H.Q. 15th Inf. Brigade.  
 59th Battalion.  
 60th Battalion.  
 57th Battalion.  
 58th Battalion.  
 29th A.A.S.C.  
  
No.2 Column. - The Column will pass the starting point - the CONTAY Church at 8 a.m. and will connect with the rear of No.1 Column at cross-roads  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile NORTH of ST.GRATIEN.  
 15th M.G. Company.  
 15th A.L.T.M.B.  
 15th Aust. Field Ambulance.
3. The 1st line transport will not carry mobilisation stores but will carry blankets and valises. Rations and forage for 14th inst. will be carried on the A.A.S.C. supply wagons.
4. Halts will be made at 10 minutes to each clock hour and in addition Units may anticipate a long halt for lunch at 11 a.m.
5. One Mounted Officer and 2 cyclists per Battalion will report to the Staff Officer at the head of the column when the latter reaches PONT NOYELLES.
6. Billet guards and necessary details will be left in billets but Units should march as strong as possible.
7. At CORBIE no one will be given leave to leave the bivouac Area until instructions have been issued by Brigade H.Q.

*Geo. E. Wright*

Major.  
Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

- Issued - No.1. 57th Battalion.  
 2. 58th Battalion.  
 3. 59th Battalion.  
 4. 60th Battalion.  
 5. 15th M.G. Coy.  
 6. 15th A.L.T.M.B.  
 7. 29th A.A.S.C.  
 8. 15th Field Ambulance  
 9. Staff Captain.  
 10. Brigade Q.M.  
 Copies - 11. War Diary.  
 12. Bde. H.Q. file.



Reference Sheet.  
1/40000 N<sup>o</sup> 57<sup>D</sup>

Appendix XVIII

11<sup>th</sup> July 1917

### GENERAL IDEA

A retreating BLUE FORCE has occupied a general line RUBEMPRE - HERISSART - TOUTENCOURT with a rearguard protected by outposts making good the wood in T.2A.

A pursuing RED FORCE has reached a line LE-YAL-DE-MAISON - PUCHEVILLERS. The RED FORCE Commander decides to attack.

### SPECIAL IDEA

C. Company 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. will form part of the outpost line with a frontage from left of wood at T.2A1-0 to T2A6-7. Other companies are co-operating on both flanks. One 18 pounder battery of artillery covers the wood.

AH on 11<sup>th</sup> July D Company 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. is under cover on road N25C2-0 to N25D central and will attack the wood from T2A1-0 to T2A3-5 200 yards from the right of wood.

X Company on the right and Y Company on the left will also be taking part in the attack.



FIELD FIRING SCHEME.

July 1917.  
-----

Reference

Sheet 1/40,000 No.57.D.  
and attached sketch of THIEPVAL range.

GENERAL IDEA.

A hostile force has retired through AVELUY-THIEPVAL and GRANDCOURT. Its rearguard is believed to be on the general line POZIERES-HAMEL.

A pursuing force of our troops is preceded by several advanced guards of which one (called Z) has orders to make good the line MOUQUET FARM-THIEPVAL Church.

SPECIAL IDEA.

At.....m, on July.....Company.....Battalion forming the vanguard of Z column, is under cover at X.1.central. It received orders to push forward, drive in the small rear parties of the enemy, and reconnoitre the line MOUQUET FARM-THIEPVAL.

Similar companies are working on both flanks.

The enemy is believed to have a battery of 77's in action covering his retirement.

NOTES.

- (a) Movement will be confined between the lines of flags on the ground (see sketch). Ground and enemy on the shaded portion of sketch will be ignored.
- (b) There is no Artillery or Vickers Gun support for our troops.

INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING SITUATIONS.

Phase 1. Company moves up taking necessary precautions, and drives in enemy's rear line. (Target A - some heads and a machine gun).  
Targets A will be lowered when the Umpire considers them sufficiently punished.

Phase 2. The advance is continued. Targets B (falling plates) will be encountered and will be engaged when seen. All the plates must be knocked out before any further advance is allowed.

Phase 3. Scouts and patrols move forward again and locate targets C, the enemy main rear party position. The company will attack C, actually assaulting the position with the bayonet, and then reorganise.

Phase 4. While the company is reorganising, it should be prepared to deal with any counter attack which may be launched. The enemy counter attack, if made, will be represented by lines of surprise head and shoulder targets.



Operation Order No 34

Appendix ~~XX~~

Copy 36

T 29 C 4.6

9.15 am 14.7.17.

266

Reference 57<sup>D</sup> 40000

1. Enemy is holding a line approximately along the road T. 23B T 24C T 30 a & c. Our advance guard was held up on this line at 9 am this morning. Hostile Artillery fire has not been heavy, but machine gun fire is reported from position T 30 B. The position is reported by R.F.C. to be strongly held.
2. It is intended to attack the position with two Battalions 57<sup>th</sup> Bn. on right & Rn. on left. The left 57<sup>th</sup> Bn frontage is the left edge of wood T. 30 a. The right flank of Bn. will be protected by two troops L.H.
3. Distribution. A Coy on right.  
B " " left.  
D " in Reserve.

The dividing line of the attacking companies will be right edge of wood in T 30 a 3-7. One subsection of Stokes mortars is allotted to the frontage. The attack will be made in two waves of half companies.

Upon the capture of 1<sup>st</sup> objective the attack will be followed up to enemy's 2<sup>nd</sup> position, reported by R.F.C. reconnaissance to exist along the high ground T 18. T 24. T 30. The attack will commence at 10 am.

Reports to Road dividing line of attack frontage.

- Issued to No 1 File
- " 2 War Diary
  - " 3 Brigade
  - " 4 Light Horse
  - " 5 X Battalion
  - " 6 A Coy
  - " 7 B "
  - " 8 D "

John Bhaing Capt  
of adpt.  
57<sup>th</sup> Bn.



266  
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No. 108.

Reference- Sheet 57.D.

14th July 1917.

1. The 15th Infantry Brigade has been ordered to exchange billeting and Training Areas with the 14th Infantry Brigade (MAILLY Area) on 16th July.
2. The Units of the 15th Infantry Brigade will exchange billets as under:-
 

Brigade H.Qrs RUBEMPRE	14th Brigade H.Qrs	MAILLY.
57th Battalion HERISSART.	54th Battalion	BEAUSSART.
58th Battalion do	53rd Battalion	BOLTON CAMP(P.17.B)
59th Battalion RUBEMPRE	56th Battalion	LYTHAM CAMP(P.17.A.)
60th Battalion do	55th Battalion	P.18.D.
15th M.G.Coy CONTAY	14th M.G.Coy	P.18.B.
15th A.L.T.M.B. do	14th A.L.T.M.B.	LIVRE CAMP P.11.D.
3. The Brigade will march at 7 a.m. in three columns, as under:-
 

<u>No. 1 Column</u>	O.C. Column - Lt. Col MASON.	
Brigade H.Qrs		Starting Point T.13.B.9-9.
59th Battalion		Route - HERISSART -
60th Battalion.		TOUTENCOURT - VARENNES.
<u>NO. 2 Column.</u>	O.C. Column	Lt. Col STEWART D.S.O.
57th Battalion		Starting Point T.10.A.9-8.
58th Battalion.		Route as for No. 1 Column.
<u>No. 3 Column</u>	O.C. Column	Capt. MUIRSON M.C.
15th M.G.Coy		Starting Point U.21.C.8-3.
15th A.L.T.M.B.		Route - via VARENNES.
4. Halts will be made at 10 minutes to each clock hour.
5. One Officer and one cyclist per unit will proceed on Sunday for the purpose of taking over huts, stores, etc. If any stores are taken over, lists will be furnished to Brigade H.Qrs within 24 hours.
6. All billets must be handed over scrupulously clean and certificates to that effect will be obtained and submitted to Brigade H.Qrs within 24 hours.
7. S.A.A. wagons will be used for carrying blankets. The baggage wagons of the A.A.S.C. will not report until later in the day therefore loads should be formed into dumps and baggage guards left.
8. Brigade H.Q. will close at RUBEMPRE at 8 a.m. and re-open at Q.7.C.2-8 at 9 a.m.

Sgd G.F. WIECK Major,  
Brigade Major 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.

Issued to.	No. 1.	57th Battalion
	2	58th Battalion
	3	59th Battalion
	4	60th Battalion
	5	15th M.G.Coy
	6	15th A.L.T.M.B.
	7	29th A.A.S.C.
	8	15th Field Amb.
	9	Brigade Q.M.
	10	Staff Captain
	11	War Diary
	12	Bde H.Q. File.



MARCH ORDER NO. 35.

COPY NO. 1

Reference Sheet 57.D. 1/40,000.

1. The 15th Infantry Brigade has been ordered to exchange billeting and training areas with the 14th Brigade (MAILLY AREA) on 16th July 1917.
2. No. 2 Column consisting of the 57th Battalion and 58th Battalion will pass the Starting Point CRUCIFIX ( T.10.d.5-2.) at 7 a.M; on 16th inst.  
Route via CONTAY - VARENNES - FORCEVILLE .
3. A halt of Five (5) minutes will be made at 7.30 a.m., thereafter halts of 10 minutes at Ten minutes to each Clock hour.
4. 58th Battalion will break off independently for its destination BOLTON CAMP ( P.17.B.) at the crossroad P.17.a.6-2.
5. 1st Line Transport will accompany Units. S.A.A. Wagons will carry blankets. Baggage Wagons A.A.S.C. will accompany transport.
6. Reports to head of Column.

*John Blainey*  
Capt.  
*of adjt*  
*57<sup>th</sup> Bn*

Issued to- No.1. File  
2. War Diary  
3. 15th Inf. Bde.  
4. 57th Battalion  
5. 58th Battalion.



266

57th BATTALION A.I.F.

Operation Order No.36

15th July 1917.

-----  
Reference Sheet 57. D.

1. The 57th Battalion will move to BEAUSSART on the 16th July 1917. The Head of the Column to pass the Starting Point CRUCIFIX T.10.d.5-2. at 7 a .m. on 16th inst.  
 Order of March:-  
 Headquarters  
 A Coy  
 B "  
 C "  
 D "
2. First Line Transport will accompany the Column.
3. Dress:- Full Marching Order, Steel Helmets - Hets in packs. Blankets to be rolled in bundles of 15 and stacked at Q.M.Store by 6 a.m.  
Baggage All valises and baggage will be stacked at Q.M.Store by 6.a.m.  
Rations Unconsumed portion of days ration to be carried in haversack. All waterbottles to be filled.

*John Blang* Capt.  
 A/Adj. 57th Btn A.I.F.

- Issued to:-
- |      |    |                   |
|------|----|-------------------|
| Copy | 1  | File              |
|      | 2  | War Diary         |
|      | 3  | A Coy             |
|      | 4  | B "               |
|      | 5  | C "               |
|      | 6  | D "               |
|      | 7  | Transport         |
|      | 8  | Q.M.              |
|      | 9  | Lewis Gun Officer |
|      | 10 | M.O.              |



266

BATTALION IN ATTACK.

Copy No. /

Appendix XXIV

Reference Sheet 57.D. 1/40,000.

17. 7. 17

GENERAL IDEA.

1. A hostile Force of all arms is retiring through COLINCAMPS and MAILLY in the direction of HEBUTERNE. His rearguard has made several stands and is practically annihilated. Two fresh Battalions have been detached and have taken up position on the Line of the Road COLINCAMPS-SUGAR FACTORY-K.25-32. It is reported by the R.F.C. that this line has been strengthened. The work being covered by the remnants of the rearguard on the Line K.31.B.Central-CHALK PIT-SUGAR FACTORY. The pursuing Force to which you belong has reached the Line ACHEUX-FORCEVILLE-H<sup>ED</sup>DAUVILLE.

SPECIAL IDEA.

At 8 a.m. our Advance Guard is held up on the Line of the Road Q.1.Central- K.31.C; The 15th Infantry Brigade with its group artillery is detailed to attack position. The G.O.C. decides to attack with Two Battalions, 57th Battalion on RIGHT, 59th Battalion on LEFT. Each Battalion has one subsection L.T.M. Battery attached. The attacking Bus will assemble in readiness under cover of the high ground in K.31.C.- Q.1.b. The dividing Line of the Attacking Battalions is . The Attack is ordered to commence at 10 a.m. The RIGHT Flank is protected by one troop L.H.

SITUATIONS

- No.1; On reaching the crest of the hill WINDMILL Q.1.D. you come under moderate shrapnel fire, under direct observation from K.26;a. Necessary action is to be taken by Company Commanders.
- No.2. On reaching a Line Q.2.a.Central-K.31.Central your scouts come under the fire of Two enemy machine guns and rifle Fire. This is the enemy covering position and must be dealt with. On sufficient punishment this objective will disappear and advance will continue.
- No.3. Your scouts definitely fix the enemy's main position; advance is made under heavy shrapnel but little machine gun fire. Firing Line to be built up. Hostile position to be assaulted and captured, as our Cavalry will probably take advantage of enemy's disorganisation. Captured position will be consolidated. Pursuit by fire will take place. The 1st Objective will be represented by fatigue men with flags. These men will have 10 rounds Blqnk S.A.A. per rifle. 2nd Objective will be represented by a Line of flags- Blue for strong and White for weak resistance- Machine Guns by red flags and tin cans Ranks representing enemy must be well in rear of objective before assault.

- Issued to- Copy
1. File
  - 2 War Diary
  - 3 15th Infantry Brigade
  - 4 59th Battalion
  - 5 A Coy
  - 6 B
  - 7 C
  - 8 D Coy.

*John Bhamphart  
of adyt*



Programme of Work for Week ending 21/7/1917.

DATE	Forenoon parade 8.15 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. unless otherwise ordered.
16th July.	All Units march to MAILLY at 7.a.m. in accordance with orders already issued.
17th July.	Lessons learnt at the 1st ANZAC Corps School demonstration to be put into practice, under Company arrangements.
18th July.	Attack Practice, under schemes drawn up by Battalion Commanders.
19th July.	The Brigade will route march to CORBIE, cross the canal by the Pontoon bridges, and bivouac for the night. Probable starting time - 8 a.m.
20th July.	The Brigade will return to the MAILLY area.
21st July.	Brigade night operation, commencing at 9 p.m. (Includes outposts, and a night advance followed by an assault.)

NOTE:- Battalion Training Areas will be indicated by Brigade Staff on arrival in the MAILLY Area.

15/7/17.

(Sgd) Geo. F; Wieck Major;  
Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

-----



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Advanced Guard Order No. X  
by  
Brig-General H.E. ELLIOTT, C.M.G., D.S.O.

-----\*\*\*-----

Ref: FRANCE  
Sheet 57 D. 1/40000.

18th July 1917.

1. (A) Our Outposts, established on the line AUCHONVILLERS - Sunken Road - THE SUGAR FACTORY - COLINCAMPS, report they have been in touch with enemy patrols along their front. It is believed that the enemy contemplates continuing his retirement to-day.
  - (B) The 10th Division (British) are at SAILLY-AU-BOIS and will continue to advance to-day on HEBUTERNE. The 11th Division (British) are at MESNIL and will advance to-day to GRANDCOURT.
  2. Our advance will be continued to-day.
  3. The Advanced Guard of the 5th Australian Division will advance by the MAILLY-SERRE-PUISIEUX ROAD covering the ground NORTH of a line drawn from Q.10.A.0-1 to L.27.B.7-8 on the right and SOUTH of a line drawn from K.25.D.0-6 to L.7.Central on the left.
  4. The Main Guard will pass the starting point, road junction at Q.7.A.3-4, at 9.0 a.m.
- (IN ORDER OF MARCH)
- 15th Bde.H.Q.
  - 15th A.L.T.M.B.
  - 58th Battalion.
  - 60th Battalion.
5. The enemy, if met with, is to be vigorously engaged.
  6. First line transport will be brigaded and march in rear of the Main Guard under Lieut. VARLEY, 60th Battalion, Brigade Transport Officer.
  7. Reports to the head of the Main Guard.
  8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

VAN GUARD  
(O/C Lt-Colonel  
J.C.STEWART, D.S.O)  
57th Bn.

MAIN GUARD.  
(IN ORDER OF MARCH)  
15th Bde.H.Q.  
15th A.L.T.M.B.  
58th Battalion.  
60th Battalion.

Captain.  
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

A/Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry  
Issued at 6.0 a.m.  
To. Copy No.  
G.O.C. 15th A.I. Bde. 1  
57th Battalion. 2 ✓  
58th Battalion. 3  
59th Battalion. 4  
60th Battalion. 5  
15th A.L.T.M.B. 6  
Copies to :-  
5th Aust. Div. 7  
Left Brigade 8  
Right Brigade 9  
War Diary 10.11.  
File 12.



Appendix XVIII

VANGUARD ORDER No.1

By

Lieut. Colonel J/C. Stewart D.S.O.

18th July 1917.

Reference Sheet 57.D.1/40,000.

6.30 am.

1. (a) Our Outposts, established on the Line AUCHAUVILLERS-SUNKEN ROAD-  
THE SUGAR FACTORY -COLINCAMPS report they have been in touch with enemy patrols along their front. It is believed that the enemy contemplates his retiringment continuing today.  
  
(b) The 10th Division (British) are at SAILLY-Au-BOIS and will continue to advance today on HEBUTERNE. The 11th Division (British) are at MESINE and will advance today to GRANDCOURT.
2. The Advance Guard of the 5th Australian Division will advance by the MAILLY-SERRE- PURSIEUX ROAD covering the ground North of a Line drawn from Q.10.A.0-1 to L.27.B.7-8, on the Right and South of a Line drawn from K.25.D.0-6 to L.7.Central on the Left.
3. Distribution:-  
A Company on Right of Frontage, a Line drawn from Q.8.A.Central to K.30.Central.  
B Company to Line drawn from Q.1.Central to L.18.D.5-0.  
C Company to Left of frontage.  
Reserve D Company.
4. One Stokes mortar will be attached to A and C Companies.
5. Vanguard to be in position by 8.45 a.m.
6. Advance to commence at 9.a.m.
7. The enemy, if met with; is to be vigorously attacked.
8. Reports to Reserve on SERRE-PURSIEUX ROAD.

*John Bhang* Capt.,  
a/Adj. 57th Btn A.I.F.

## Issued to:-

- No;1 File
- 2 War Diary
- 3 G.O.C. Advance Guard
- 4 15th A.L.T.M.B.
- 5. A Company
- 6 B "
- 7 C "
- 8 D "



266  
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER No;109.

ALBERT 1/40000  
Ref. LENS 1/100000  
AMIENS 1/100000.

18th July 1917.

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade will march to CORBIE on the 19th inst. in accordance with attached table of moves. Regulation distances and halts will be observed on the march. First Line transport will accompany Units.
2. Baggage wagons will report to Units at 5.p.m. on the 18th inst.
3. Supplies will be drawn on arrival at CORBIE at a time and place to be notified later.
4. Details as to billeting arrangements will be issued later.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Sgd G.A. Street Captain,  
A/Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 12.15 p.m. to

57th Battalion	Copy No.1.	
58th Battalion	"	2
59th Battalion		3
60th Battalion		4
15th A.L.T.M.B.		5
Bde Signal Officer		6
Copies to		
G.O.C. 15th Inf. Bde		7
5th Aust Divsn		8
A.D.M.S.		9
Town Major CORBIE		10
A.P.M.		11
S.O. 29th AASC		12
Staff Captain		13
15th M.G.Coy		14
War Diary		15
File		16.



266

S E C R E T.

TABLE OF MOVES TO ACCOMPANY  
15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.109

TROOPS IN ORDER OF MARCH.	STARTING POINT. PLACE.	TIME OF PASSING.	ROUTE	DESTINATION	REMARKS.
15th Bde H.Q.	CROSS RDS P.12.C.9-1.	7.11 a.m.	HEDAUVILLE-WARLOY BAISEEUX-FRANVILLERS-- BONNAY.	CORBIE.	Billets in LA NEUVILLE to be allotted.
60th Battn.	CROSS RDS P.23.D.8-7.	7.31 a.m.	ditto	ditto	ditto
59th Battn.	ditto	7.38 a.m.	ditto	ditto	ditto.
58th Battn.	ditto	7.45 a.m.	ditto	ditto	ditto.
57th Battn.	CROSS RDS P.12.C.9-1.	7.31 a.m.	ditto	ditto	ditto.
15th ALTMB.	ditto	7.38 a.m.	ditto	ditto	ditto.

Appendix No: XXVIII



Operation Order No;38

By

19/7/17.

Reference 57.D.1/40,000.  
-----

1. The 15th Infantry Brigade will march to CORBIE on the 19th inst.
2. Order of March:-  
15th Inf. Bde H;Qrs  
60th Battalion  
59th Battalion  
58th Battalion  
57th Battalion  
15th A.L.T.M.B.
3. First Line Transport to accompanant Units.
4. The Battalion will pass the Starting Point, Battalion Headquarters at 7.17.a.m. joining the Brigade Column at the Cross Roads P.12.C.9.1. at 7.31 a.m.
5. Order of March:-  
Headquarters  
D Company  
A "  
B "  
C "  
Rearguard of one picked Platoon will be furnished by C Company, to collect all stragglers.
6. Dress- Full Marching Order. Hats will be worn, helmets on back of packs. Unconsumed portion of days ration and full waterbottles to be carried. Limbered Wagons will be used to carry valises and blankets. All valises and blankets will be stacked on road by Companies opposite huts at 6 a.m. 19th inst.
7. All mobilization stores will be left at Q.M.Stores under Guard. All such stores to be handed over by 6 a.m.
8. All billets and huts must be left scrupulously clean.
9. Reports to head of Battalion.

*John Bhang*  
a/Adjnt 57th Battn A.I.F. Capt.,

Issued to -

- Copy 1 File  
2 War Diary  
3 A Company  
4 B  
5 C  
6 D Company  
7 Transport  
8 Q.M.  
9 L.G. Officer  
10 Signals.



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.110.

Ref. LENS 1/100000.  
AMIENS 1/100000.

19th July 1917.

1. The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade will march to MAILLY AREA on 20th inst. in accordance with attached march table.
2. First Line Transport will accompany Units.
3. Regulation distances will be observed and halts will be made at 10 minutes to every clock hour. There will be no long mid-day halt.
4. Felt hats will be worn and steel helmets carried on the man.
5. Brigade H.Q. will close at CORBIE at 6.30 a.m. and reopen at MAILLY at 2 p.m.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Sgd G.W.STREET Captain,  
A/Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at	To	Copy No.
	57th Battalion	1
	58th "	2
	59th "	3
	60th "	4
	15th M.G.Coy	5
	15th A.L.T.M.B.	6
	15th Field Amb.	7
	Bde Sig.Officer	8.
Copies to		
	G.O.C. 15th A.I.Bde	9
	Town Major CORBIE	10
	Town Major MAILLY	11
	S.O.29th A.A.S.C.	12
	5th Aust.Division	13
	A.D.M.S.	14
	Staff Captain	15
	War Diary	16
	File	17.



SECRET.

MARCH TABLE TO  
ACCOMPANY 15th A.I. BRIGADE ORDER NO. 110.

TROOPS IN ORDER OF MARCH.	STARTING POINT.		ROUTE.	DESTINATION	REMARKS.
	PLACE.	TIME.			
15th Bde H.Qrs.	Road Junction 1/8 mile N of U in LA NEUVILLE.	7.30 a.m.	LA HOUSOYE-FRANVILLERS. BAISIEUX-WARLOY- HEDAUVILLE.	MAILLY.	
57th Battn.	do	7.31 a.m.	do	BEAUSSART.	
58th Battn	do	7.37 a.m.	do	BOLTON CAMP.	
59th Battn	do	7.42 a.m.	do	LYTHAM CAMP.	
60th Battn	do	7.48 a.m.	do	MAILLY WOOD CAMP.	
15th M.G.Coy	do	8.4 a.m.	do	do	
15th A.L.T.M.B.	do	8.7 a.m.	do	LIVRE CAMP.	
15th Field Amb.	do	8.8 a.m.	LA HOUSOYE- FRANVILLERS.	CONTAY. To leave colu mn at FRANVILLERS & proceed independently to CONTAY.	

Appendix No. XXX



266

## Operation Order No.39

19th July 1917.

Reference Sheet AMIENS 1/100000 & LENS 1/100000.  
-----

1. The 15th Infantry Brigade will march to MAILLY Area on the 20th inst.

2. Order of march:-

15th Bde H.Qrs  
 57th Battalion  
 58th "  
 59th "  
 60th "  
 15th M.GCoy  
 15th A.L.T.M.B.  
 15th Field Amb.

3. First Line Transport will accompany Unit.

4. The Battalion will pass the Starting Point first road to left about half way between our present Camp and railway at 7.6 a.m., joining Brigade Column at the Road junction 1/8 of mile N of U in LA NEUVILLE at 7.31 a.m.

5. Order of March:-

H <sup>q</sup> adquarters
C Company
D "
A "
B "

Rearguard of one picked platoon will be furnished by B Company to collect all stragglers.

6. Dress:- Full Marching Order. Hats will be worn- helmets on back of packs. Unconsumed portion of days ration and full waterbottles to be carried. Limbered wagons will be used to carry valises and blankets. All valises and blankets will be stacked in Court Yard of billet by Coys by 6 a.m. 20th inst.

7. All ~~valises~~ billets and huts must be left scrupulously clean.

8. Reports to head of Battalion.

*C. Davis Lt.*  
*for* Capt.,  
 a/Adj. 57th Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to Copy 1 File  
 2 War Diary  
 3 A Coy  
 4 B "  
 5 C "  
 6 D "  
 7 Transport  
 8 Q.M.  
 9 Sigs  
 10 L.G. Officer.



Training programme for week ending 28th July 1917.

DATE	TRAINING ETC	REMARKS.
21st July.	All Units resting after march from CORBIE and being bathed at MAILLY baths.	
22nd July.	CHURCH PARADES and completion of bathing.	
23rd July.	Brigade Advance Guard Scheme.	The scheme set down for 18th inst. but postponed on account of rain will be carried out. All previous arrangements hold good. Separate instructions will be issued for 15th MGCoy.
24th July.	A. Field Firing practice at THIEPVAL for 57th & 58th Bns. B. Signal Scheme for 59th Bn-60th Bn and Brigade Signal Section.	57th Bn will proceed to PIONEER CAMP (W.10.A.3-0.) on the night 23/24th and use the range from 7.30 am till 12 noon. 58th Bn will use the range from 12.15 pm till 4.45 p.m. B. Details later.
25th July.	Divisional Scheme.	Details later.
26th July.	A. Field Firing Practice at THIEPVAL for 59th & 60th Bns. B. 57th Bn and 58th Bn will each carry out a trench to trench attack.	A. The 59th Bn will proceed to PIONEER CAMP (W.10.A.3-0) on the night 23/24th inst. and use the range from <del>12.15 pm</del> 7.30 am till 12 noon. The 60th Bn will use the range from 12.15 p;m; till 4.45 p;m;
27th July.	A. 59th & 60th Bns will each carry out a trench to trench attack. B. Signal Scheme for 57th Bn, 58th Bn, and Brigade Signal Section.	B. Details later.
28th July.	Brigade Scheme. (Trench to Trench Attack).	Details later.

The Machine Gun Company and Trench Mortar Battery will participate in all Brigade Schemes and will be at the disposal of their respective Commanding Officers on other days.

Sgd. G.A. STREET Captain,  
 A/Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



266

## Operation Order No.40

Reference 57 D 1/40000

23rd July 1917.

1. The Battalion will march to PIONEER CAMP (W.10.A.3-0) on the night of the 23/24th inst. to carry out a Musketry exercise at THIEPVAL. The column to pass the Starting Point Battalion Headquarters at 7 p.m. on 23rd inst.

## Order of March:-

Headquarters  
A Company  
B     "  
C     "  
D     "

2. First Line transport will accompany the column.
3. Dress- Fighting Order, greatcoats rolled and fastened on belt under haversack. Blankets to be rolled in bundles of 15 and stacked outside Company Headquarters on road by 5.30 p.m.  
Baggage- Valises and blankets will be stacked at 5.30 p.m. at Company Headquarters on road. Waterbottles to be filled.

*John Bhang*  
Capt.,  
a/Adj. 57th Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to  
Copy No. 1 File  
2 War Diary  
3 A Company  
4 B "  
5 C "  
6 D "  
7 Transport  
8 Q.M.  
9 L.G. Officer  
10 I.O.



57th BATTALION A.I.F.

Appendix xxxiv

Operation Order No. 40

Reference 57.D. 1/40000.

15th July 1917.

- 266
1. (a) The enemy is reported to have a Brigade (less one Battalion), one battery of artillery at HERRISART, the remaining Battalion being reported at VARENNES with Outposts on Line HEDAUVILLE-FORSEVILLE-ACHOUK.  
(b) The 3th Brigade A.I.F. are at MIRAMONT and move today (with attached troops) towards HEDAUVILLE.
  2. 15th A.I. Brigade, 14th P.A. Brigade and 15th Field Ambulance will move on FORSEVILLE via SMERRE-MAILLY-MAILLET Road passing the Starting Point Road Junction L.19.D.5-6 at 8.30 a.m.
  3. The Battalion will pass its Starting Point and will pass the Starting Point L.19.D.5-6 at 8.31 a.m. The Battalion will pass at and join March column.
  4. Dress- Fighting Order and unconsumed portion of days ration and emergent ration to be carried. Each man to carry 170 rounds S.A.A. and two bombs. Packs and blankets to be stored at left with a guard of 1 R.C.O. & 6 men to be furnished by the Duty Company. Transport will remain parked in its present position.
  5. An ammunition dump will be formed at MAILLY-MAILLET (Q.7.B.) at 12 noon consisting of artillery and S.A.A.
  6. A Main Dressing Station is being established in MAILLY-MAILLET at Q.7.A. at 12 noon.
  7. Reports to Head of Battalion.

*John Bhang*  
Capt.,  
Adj. 57th Battalion A.I.F.

## Issued to-

- No. 1 File
- 2 War Diary
- 3 15th Inf. Brigade
- 4 A Company
- 5 B Company
- 6 C Company
- 7 D Company
- 8 Transport Officer
- 9 Intelligence Officer
- 10 Lewis Gun Officer
- 11 Q.M.



✓  
266

Appendix ~~XXXX~~  
~~XXXX~~  
XXXX

57th BATTALION A.I.F.

24th July 1917.

CRITICISM OF DIVISIONAL OPERATION ORDER NO;101.

Reference METHOD OF RAIDING VARENNES.  
-----

From General and Special idea, I assume that VARENNES with its garrison of one Battalion, less say one Company as Outposts is isolated; its nearest supporting troops being HERISSART. I assume also that neither white or khaki have Mounted troops, this being so it appears to me that the operation of raiding VARENNES and destroying material and Railhead etc should be entrusted to one Brigade and that it should not be necessary to use two Divisions. With regard to the method of carrying out the Raid the following points are to be considered.

1. The whole raid must, if possible, be completed before the arrival of reinforcements from HERISSART 6 miles away.
2. After the capture of the village protection must be given to the troops detailed for the demolition of village. These covering troops would probably have to fight in the event of reinforcements coming up before the job was complete, and if necessary fight a Rearguard action covering the retirement of the demolition troops.
3. As the country is open and roads good I consider the attack could be made with two Battalions from the direction of P.27.C. and the high ground V.2.A. Central, two Companies follow Right Battalion as demolition party, one Company to protect flank of the attack from the direction of ACHEUX *and one Co. in A* one Company in reserve at FORCEVILLE. The Attacking Troops will make a night march to be in position to attack shortly after dawn, enemy Outposts being driven in at dawn.

Lieut. Colonel,

C.O. 57th Battalion A.I.F.



INSTRUCTIONS RE EXERCISE FOR 27th INST.

1. The 57th Battalion will form up ready for the assault in the present Front Line Trench (purple line) as per sketch issued.
2. The 57th Battalion on RIGHT.  
The 58th Battalion on LEFT.  
Each of these Battalions will advance in the following formations:  
Two waves of two Lines each with 20 yards between Lines and 75 yards between waves. Two Companies in each wave for each Battalion.  
1st wave to take 1st objective.  
2nd wave to pass over 1st objective and take 2nd objective.  
1st wave will have moppers up to deal with old enemy Front Line (red Line)  
2nd wave will have moppers up to deal with dug-outs in BEAUMONT HAMEL.
3. ZERO Time 10-30 a.m.
4. Advancing under barrages as under.
- |            |         |                  |  |
|------------|---------|------------------|--|
| 10-30 a.m. | barrage | 100 yards        | in Front of Front Line.                    |
| 10-34 a.m. | do      | lifts            | 100 yards.                                 |
| 10-38 a.m. | do      | do               |  |
| 10-42 a.m. | do      | do               |  |
| 10-47 a.m. | lifts   | to 1st objective | and remains till 11-7 a.m.                 |
| 11-7 a.m.  | barrage | lifts            | 100 yards again.                           |
| 11-17 a.m. | do      | do               |  |
| 11-22 a.m. | do      | do               |  |
| 11-27 a.m. | do      | do               |  |
| 11-32 a.m. | do      | do               |  |
| 11-37 a.m. | do      | do               |  |
| 11-42 a.m. | to      | final objective. |  |
| 11-52 a.m. | barrage | lifts            | 150 yards and continues to further orders. |
5. The barrage will be illustrated by men with red flags, four (4) men at 100 yards interval.
6. Frontage of attack 400 yards.

*John Bhainy* Capt.  
Adjutant 57th Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to  
Copy 1 File  
2 War Diary  
3 A Coy  
4 B Coy  
5 C Coy  
6 D Coy  
7 Intelligence Officer  
8 Signal Officer  
9 Lewis Gun Officer  
10 Q.M.



*Approved*  
~~XXXVII~~

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO. 111

Ref. Sheets 57.D., 36 A., 27. 1/40000

26th July 1917

1. (a) The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group, plus Headquarters and three Companies 5th Pioneer Battalion, No. 23 Dental Unit and 5th Mobile Veterinary Section will move by Rail to Second Army Area on the 29/30th inst.
- (b) The entraining Station will be BELLE EGLISE and the detraining Station STEENBEQUE.
- (c) On arrival in Second Army Area The 15th Australian Infantry Brigade Group will be billeted in the SERCUS AREA.
2. Units will proceed independently to the station. The times of departure will be notified later but the composition of trains and order of departure will be as under:-

TRAIN NUMBER.	SERIAL NUMBER	TROOPS.
2	30	15th Brigade Headquarters
	31A	3 Officers and 100 O.Rks 57th Battalion
	35	No. 4 Signal Section.
	36	15th M.G.Coy
	37	15th L.T.M.B.
5	31	57th Battalion with Transport less 31A and 31B.
8	32	58th Battalion with Transport less 32A.
11	33	59th Battalion with Transport Less 33A
14	34	60th Battalion with Transport less 34A.
17	04	Headquarters and three Companies Pioneer Battn with Transport
20	32A	One Company, 1 Cooker & Team 58th Battn
	90	29th A.A.S.C.
	86	15th Field Coy A.E.
23	33A	1 Company, 1 Cooker & Team 59th Battn.
	34A	1 Company, 1 Cooker and Team 60th Battn
	93	<del>22</del> 15th Field Ambulance & No. 23 Dental Unit.
	95	5th Mobile Veterinary Section
	31B	3 Officers 150 O.Ranks, 1 Cooker & Team 57th Battn.

3. The Company of the 57th Battalion, that is spit up and travelling on the First and Last Trains will provide loading and unloading parties as under.
  - (a) The party proceeding by First Train (i.e; 3 Officers & 100 O.Rks) will act as Unloading Party at the detraining Station under the R.T.O. and will remain at the detraining Station until the whole of the Brigade Group plus attached, have been detrained. They will then proceed to join their Unit. Sufficient cooking utensils and supplies for 48 hours after day of entrainment.
  - (b) The party proceeding by the last train (i.e. 3 Off 150 O.Rks Plus 1 Cooker and team will act as entraining party under the R.T.O. at BELLE EGLISE for the whole of the Brigade. Group plus attached. 48 hours rations plus unexpired portion must be in possession of this party before the departure of the First Train. This party will march to rejoin its Unit on arrival at the Detraining Station.
4. No extra Transport beyond the baggage wagons, which will report to Units 24 hours before the departure for entraining Station, will be provided for the move. Any material and stores which cannot be carried in Transport on day of entrainment will be taken to the entraining Station on the day prior to the move and placed under a guard.



Staff Pay Office

P. 2.

191

From No. Rank

(Corps)

TO THE DISTRICT PAYMASTER

(Place)

MEMO

I beg to request that on and after the

191, and during my service in the AUSTRALIAN

IMPERIAL FORCE, you will be good enough to pay on my behalf the sum

of per day to

of

whose signature appears in the margin.

(Signature)

Signature of Principal.

Regtl. Number Rank

Corps

The Agent will please also sign below for purposes of record.

Signature of Agent.



266  
It will be loaded on train by which the Unit is Travelling and when unloaded again will be immediately loaded into motor Transport provided for the purpose.

5. No supplies will be drawn from Supply Dumps on the 29th inst but will be dran from improvised supply dumps at BELLE EGLISE Station. The supplies will be loaded on to the train when the Unit entrains. Quartermasters must be at the station at 9 am on the 29th inst to draw these supplies. No supplies will be drawn on the 30th inst in SENLIS Area but will be dumped and drawn on arrival at the Church at SERCUS.
6. No Area Stores will be taken from the present Area Lists showing the stores are given in the 1st ANZAC Corps Routine Order No; 473 B/- 25/11/1916. Units and all attached troops will, prior to leaving the Area return all tents other than those included in mobilisation table G.1096. also chaffcutters to O.O. Army Troops No.1 RUE DE BAPAUME ALBERT and will render a return to Brigade H.Qrs showing all stores handed over.
7. Units will forthwith reconnoitre route to BELLE EGLISE Station and ascertain what watering arrangements are available also interview R.T.O's regarding dumping of stores at the Station prior to entrainment.
8. On arrival in the new Area the following Leave Train arrangements will come into force. No other stations are to be used by parties proceeding on Leave. Officers, N.C.O's and men must report to the R.T.O. one hour before departure of trains.

TO BOULOGNE		TIMINGS	FROM BOULOGNE		TIMINGS
HAZEBROUGH	Dep.	15:53	BOULOGNE	dep	3.54
EBBLINGHEM		16.15	ST OMER	arr	6.35
ST OMER		16.43	EBBLINGHEM		7.20
BOULOGNE.	arr	19.36	HAZEBROUCK		7.43.

9. Watering places in the new area are as follows:-
  - (a) A.23.D.8-8 (Four troughs and 800 horses per hour)
  - (b) A.24B.6-5 (Two troughs and 400 horses per hour)
  - (c) B.22.B.9-2 (T do )
  - (d) B.12.B.5-2 do
  - (e) C.5.D.6-8 (Two troughs and 200 hozses per hour)
  - (f) C.17.D.1-3 (One trough and 200 horses per hour.)
  - (g) T.24.A.3-9 (Two troughs and 400 horses per hour.)
 At all except (e) horses can be watered from both sides.
10. The party of one Officer and 12 Other Ranks from 15th M.G.Coy on Anti-Aircraft duty at ACHEUX will remain on duty until -immediately prior to departure of last train of the Brigade Group by which it will travel.
11. (a) 2/Lieut R.M.Rolland will assist the R.T.O. BELLE EGLISE during the entrainment and will travel by the last train.  
(b) Capt. W.Keen will assist the R.T.O. STEENBECQUE during the detrainment and will remain with him until the last train is unloaded.
12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Sgd G.W.STREET Captain;

A/Brigade Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

Issued at 9.30 pm to

57th Battalion Copy No.1	Staff Captain	19
58th Battalion	War Diary	20-21
59th "	File	22
60th		
15th M.G.Coy		
15th A.L.T.M.B.		
15th Field Coy A.E.		
15th Field Amb.		
29th AASC		
5th Pioneer Battalion		
23rd Dental Unit		
5th Mobile Vet' Sect/		
4 Signal Section		
B.G.C. 15th A.I.Bde		
5th Aust Div.		
Brigade Q.M.		
Town Major MAILLY		
R.T.O. Belle Eglise		
Staff C		



ADDENDUM TO BRIGADE ORDER NO. 111

- 266
1. (a) With reference to para 2 of the above mentioned Order the Train numbers should read 3-6-9-24 instead of 2-5-8-etc to 23 (~~11~~)  
 (b) The Composition of the trains as given in order No. 111 will not be changed but the serial numbers of the following Unit have been changed as under:-  
     29th A.A.S.C. from 90 to 78  
     15th Field Coy A.E. from 86 to 83  
     15th F.A. from 93 to 86  
     5th Mobile Vet Sect. from 95 to 90  
 (c) The First Train departs at 8.25 p.m. on 29th inst and thereafter trains leaves every 24 hours, the last train thus leaving at 12-25 am on the 31st inst. The order of the departure will be as given in para 2 of order No. 111.
  2. Each Train consists of one Officers carriage, 30 box trucks and 17 flat trucks holding the following.
 

Officers carriage	36 Officers
Box Truck	40 men or 6 H.D. or 8 L.H.
Flat Truck	4 axles ;
  3. (a) Personnel of Infantry Battalions will arrive at the station one and a half hours before the time of departure of the train and the Transport three hours.  
 (b) All other Units will arrive complete three hours before of departure of the train.  
 (c) The entrainment must be completed half-an hour before the time of departure of the train.
  4. Units must provide breast ropes for horse trucks but ropes etc for securing vehicles on flat trucks will be supplied by the R.O.D. and the work done by that service.
  5. A complete Marching Out State of each Unit showing Officers, O.Ranks; Horses (specifying H.D. L.D. etc) vehicles and bicycles must be sent down with the transport. On these states G.S.limbered wagons will be shewn as two wheeled vehicles.
  6. No personnel or stores will be allowed in the brake vans at each end of the train or on roofs of trucks. All baggage must be placed in flat and not the covered trucks.
  7. Picquets must be told off at stops at each end of the train to prevent troops leaving the train.
  8. The approximate time of the journey is 7 hours.



Operation Order No. 41.

Ref. - Sheets  
57.D. 36 A. 27.

29th July 1917.

1. (a) The 15th Infantry Brigade will move by Rail to Second Army Area on 29/30th inst.  
 (b) The entraining Station will be BELLE EGLISE and the detraining Station STEENBECQUE.  
 (c) On arrival in Second Army Area the 15th Infantry Brigade Group will be billeted in the SERCUS Area.
  
2. The Battalion will proceed independently to the entraining station. The times of departure of Companies from BEAUSSART and arrival at Station, also time of departure of trains from station are as per time table hereunder.

Train.	Serial.	Troops.	Departure from Beaussart.	Arrive Station.	Departure.
3.	31A	3 off 90 orks D Coy 10 o;rks A " (unloading party at STEENBECQUE.)	5 p.m.	7 p.m.	8.25 p.m. 29th
6.	31	9 off 172 o.Rks Bn.H.Q. 3 179 B Coy 4 163 C " 1 69 D " Transport.	9 p.m.	11 p.m.	12.25 am 30th
			7.30 p.m.	9.25 pm.	12.25 am 30th
24.	31B	3 150 A Coy One Cooker & Team. (Loading party at BELLE EGLISE.)	3 p.m.	5 p.m.	12.25 am 31st

3. Dress. Marching Order, hats. Steel helmets to be carried on the pack. Water proof sheets must show under the flap of the pack. Waterbottles to be filled. 24 hours rations to be carried which will be issued at the station.  
Baggage & Blankets. Blankets to be rolled in bundles and stacked in huts by Companies by 6 p.m. Valises same time.

*John Blaney* Capt.,  
Adj. 57th Battalion A.I.F.

- Issued to-
- |          |    |                   |
|----------|----|-------------------|
| Copy No. | 1. | File              |
|          | 2  | War Diary         |
|          | 3  | A Coy             |
|          | 4  | B                 |
|          | 5  | C                 |
|          | 6  | D                 |
|          | 7  | Transport         |
|          | 8  | Q.M.              |
|          | 9  | M.O.              |
|          | 10 | Lewis Gun Officer |
|          | 11 | T.C.              |



Appendix XXVIX

57th BATTALION A.I.F.

29/7/17.

TRANSPORT ENTRAINING STATE.

	H.D. Horses	Chargers	L.D.	Mules	Total.
No. 3 Train	Nil				Nil
No. 6	15	12	3	30	62
NO 24	2				2
Includes A.A.S.C. Attached and M.O.'s charger.					

VEHICLES.

	4 Wheeled	2 Wheeled	Bicycles	Total.
No. 3 Train				Nil
No. 6	7	14	1	21
No. 24	1			1

The 4 Four wheeled vehicles are 4 G.S. Wagons (ASC) and 4 cookers.  
 The 14 Two wheeled " are 10 Limbers; 1 mess cart; 1 maltese cart &  
 2 water carts.

John Bhanglapp  
 adjt  
 57<sup>th</sup> Bn

Appendix XXVIX



57th BATTALION A.I.F.

29/7/17.

ENTRAINING STATE.

No. 3.	1st Train	D Coy	3.	90	3	100
		A Coy		10		
No. 6.	2nd Train	H. Qrs	9	175	<del>17</del> 15	594
		B Coy	<del>3</del> 2	181		
		C Coy	<del>4</del> 3	167 ✓		
		D Coy	1	71		
No. 24	Last Train	A Coy	3	150.	3	150
				<b>Total.</b>	<u>23</u> 21	<u>844.</u>

John Bhanglap  
adp  
57<sup>th</sup> Bu

Appendix No. ~~XXXIX~~



57th BATTALION A.I.F.

29/7/17.

ENTRAINING STATE No. 3 TRAIN. 825 pm. 29<sup>th</sup> incl.

Officers	O.Rks	Total	Horses	Vehicles.
3	100	103	Nil	Nil.

John Bhaug Capt  
advt  
57<sup>th</sup> Bn

Appendix XXXX



266

57th BATTALION A.I.F.

29/7/17.

ENTRAINING STATE NO. 6. TRAIN

12.75 am 30<sup>th</sup> inst

Officers	O.Rks	Total.	Animals				Vehicles.	
			H.D.	L.D.	Riding	Mules	4wd	2 wd.
17	594	611.	15	5	12	30	7	14 also 1 bicycle.

*John Bhang Capt  
adpt  
5.7.17*

Appendix No: XXXXX



57th BATTALION A.I.F.

29/7/17

ENTRAINING STATE NO. 24. TRAIN.

12:25 am 3/17 inst

Officers	O.Rs	Total	Animals. H.D.	Vehicles. 4 wd.
3	150	153	2	1

John Bhanig Capt.  
adp  
57th Bn

Appendix No: ~~XXXXX~~