

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/77/32

Title: 60th Infantry Battalion

September 1918



AWM4-23/77/32

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

60th Battalion. A.I.F.

FOR

September 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

*E. M. Quinn, Lieut.
Asst. Adjutant. 60th Battalion A.I.F.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*J. Kerr Major
Temp. Commanding 60th Bn AIF*

WAR DIARY

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Pages 1

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Coy Unit 62C BN HQRS N12 to 91	1/9/18	6 am 8.10 am 10.25 am 10.15 am 8 am 11.25 am 12.40 pm	<p>Weather - Fine but cloudy. Visibility fair</p> <p>14th A.I. Bde attack N of SOMME</p> <p>Personne captured and enemy surrendering freely.</p> <p>Message received from 57th Battalion adjutant that 59th and 59th battalions were moving and that 57th were standing by prepared to move.</p> <p>Battalion was immediately given word to stand by prepared to move at a moment's notice</p> <p>Notification received that 15th A.I. Bde was moving from OZC 1.8 to 132 d 3.3</p> <p>LIEUT GRIBBLE proceeded to brigade 14th A.I. Bde as Bde liaison officer</p> <p>Phone message from brigade that battalion was to move to OZ with the Regt at OZC 1.8</p> <p>Battalion in position in OZ and companies sent forward representatives to reconnoitre forward positions, and routes and bridges</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1/9/18 (cont)	2.5pm	<p>60 issued a supplementary order. The role of the battalion was to make good the brigade right flank on the divisional boundary along 05d, 011a and 010. The order of the attack was to be 'D' Coy, 'E' Coy 'B' Coy with 'A' Coy in reserve. 'D' Coy's left flank was to be along the line of the road from 135209 to 05693.</p>	
		6pm	<p>60 issued order. 60th Battalion was placed under tactical command of Lt Col DENEHY DSO 57th Battalion. The 57th Battalion held a post at 04C61 and the 60th Battalion was to cooperate with them in establishing a line east of the SOMME. Coy commanders were to reconnoitre routes in 57th Battalion area.</p>	

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Job 3

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

BM HQRS
I 21 a 90

2/9/18

10am

1pm

5pm

Weather: Showery.
Battalion was disposed in artillery formation in shell holes in I 150 and I 21 a

CAPT J HADDOW and LIEUT COOPER wounded. Shelling considerable. Two runners per Coy were attached to Battalion HQS to replace casualties

58th Battalion holding front line I 22 d 64 to I 22 d 68.

60th Battalion HQS moved to I 27 + 06 with 58th and 59th Battalion HQS. The brigade expected to attack later through eastern end of PERONNE their objective being FLAMICOURT.

LIEUT HOWELS arrived and took over duties as adjutant in place of CAPT HADDOW wounded.

Operation order 12/12 received from brigade. The 60th and 59th Battalions to be under the orders of Lt. Col SCANLON DSO. 59th Battalion and

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	2/4/18 (cont)		were to relieve the 53 rd , 55 th and 56 th battalions as soon after 7 pm as possible. The CO immediately reported to Lt Col SEARLON and received orders to relieve the 53 rd battalion.	
		5.15 p	CO went with an advanced party to 53 rd battalion HQs at I 21 C 08 to arrange details of the relief.	
		7.30 p	Casualty were sent to brigade. Killed 20 R wounded CAPT HADLOW and Lieut COOPER, Lt Lieut VEALE and 10 OR. Now Gained 20 OR. Wounded and remaining on duty. CAPT JH STEELE; LIEUT COOKSON. Trench strength 11 officers 329 OR.	
		9 pm	Brigade advised that SOS line ran I 29 C 89, I 28 d 29, I 34 a 08 I 23 d 30, I 17 d 20.	
		10.15 p	Battalion HQs moved to a deep dug out at I 21 C 08	
		11.15 p	Relief complete reported to brigade and 54 th battalion 60 th Battalion disposed as follows. "D" Coy on right B Coy in centre C Coy on left on a line I 21 d central to I 21 b 4.8.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	2/9/18 (cont)		"A" Coy in support I 21 a 68 to I 15 c 63. The 59 th battalion was on the line I 22 a 38 to I 22 c 88. Our line was partly in support to the 59 th battalion and partly covered the gap between the 59 th battalion and the 2 nd Aust Division whose right flank was at I 15 d 52. R.A.P moved from I 33 b 31 to I 21 d 89.	
	3/9/18	1.50pm	Weather fine. Battalion disposed as last night.	
		1.52pm	Word for LIEUT WELLINGTON, Lieut BURNS and Lieut WALKER to rejoin the battalion from the nucleus.	
		3-4pm	Lt Col SCANLON visited CO, and issued instructions and discussed arrangements for an operation on night 3/4 th September. vide Appendix	
		4pm	30 th battalion I.O. recommended dispositions of the battalion.	
		5pm	CO issued operation order and held a conference of Coy commanders at 'C' Coy hqs.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	3/9/18 (cont)	6pm	Received information from brigade that considerable enemy retirement was anticipated. Reported to brigade that a number of bodies of soldiers belonging to 14 th A. Bde were lying in the area and asked that burial party be instructed to dispose of them.	
		8pm	S.O.S line same as previous night.	
	4/9/18	midnight - 5am	Minor operation vide Appendix	
		6am	Received warning order that 59 th and 60 th battalions were to be relieved in area north of T 22 b 20 by 8 th A. Bde. Details of relief to be arranged by 60 th concerned Battalion on relief to move to vicinity of O 1 and 7 and N 12. Advance party to report to Staff Capt at Bde Hqs at 2pm.	
		9.30am	Instructed by brigade to leave a salvage party behind.	

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Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	4/9/18 Rough	12 noon	<p>Warning order with reference to the relief was issued to companies. Bulking, salvaging and burying parties were arranged for. Rations were to be taken to new area. Cooked rations sent up for B and C. Boys could not be delivered in the morning owing to operation being unfinished till daylight. These rations were destroyed.</p>	
		4pm	<p>Further report from brigade received strengthening belief in enemy's intentions of retirement.</p>	
		7pm	<p>Relief orders issued. Appended to further evidence of enemy retirement received and battalion was instructed to maintain touch.</p>	
		8pm	<p>'A' Coy move out. Received orders to stand fast which were passed to B, C and D Coys.</p>	
		9:15pm	<p>Patrols were pushed out to keep touch with the enemy.</p>	
		9:30pm		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	4/9/18	(cont)	<p>Quartermaster and transport were notified of alteration in arrangements.</p> <p>The new brigade sector now was. W boundary - grid line between I 29 and I 35 - S. boundary - grid line between O 10 and O 16. The brigade being disposed as follows. Advanced guard - 59th battalion on right, 60th battalion in centre & 59th on left with 58th battalion in support on right.</p> <p>Arrangements were that 60th battalion should stay in present area when 30th battalion arrived hand over the front line and then move to support line and again to the right in conformity with 57th battalion D Coy on right, B in centre and A Coy 'C' on left and A Coy in reserve.</p> <p>Information received that 57th battalion patrol was near DARNASTADT line. Capt CAHILL B Coy reported that ST. DENIS WOOD has been evacuated.</p> <p>30th battalion headquarters arrived and took up the dugout.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	5/9/19	12.15am	B' C' and D' boys reported relief complete.	
		12.30am	31st battalion informed us that they had established a post at I 17c 68 and were endeavouring to occupy DARMSTADT trench.	
		1.30am	Notification received that SOS line ran I 24a 00, I 24c 00. I 34 b 00.	
			Transport orders issued See Appendix No.	
		7.40pm	Regade order BM 539 received See Appendix No.	
		8am	Companies were notified to be ready to move in conformity with 57th battalion.	
		12noon	The battalion moved out. D' B and C boys relieved 57th battalion in DARMSTADT trench with battalion HQs at I 23c 3.4.	
			8th A/Bde approaching forward to BUSO and 60th battalion instructed to keep touch with them.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	5/9/18 (Cont)	3pm	<p>right post 8th A/Bde located at T 249 80 .ca The Battalion was then disposed from here from DOINGT to 9th A/Bde. D Coy on right. B in centre and C on the left. "A" Coy was attached to 59th Battalion</p>	
		3.30pm	R.A.P. established at T 22 202	
		4pm	<p>S/O 2 of 5th Inst Div visited the Battalion and obtained the dispositions of the Battalion and other information LIEUTS. WELLINGTON, WALKER and BURNS arrived LIEUT BURNS made assistant adjutant and sent to transport lines. LIEUT WELLINGTON took over duties of IO was LIEUT WALKER was posted to B Coy</p>	
		5pm	<p>Notification received that the Battalion is being relieved by a Battalion of the 3rd Inst Division Lieuts BREWER and WELLINGTON proceeded to "A" Coy's position with a relieving party</p>	
		6pm	Operation Order BN 569 received. See Appendix No.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<i>5/9/18</i> <i>(cont)</i>		<i>The Co asked for and received permission for the battalion to remain in their present area for the night on being relieved by the 3rd Aust Division.</i>	
		<i>7pm</i>	<i>Companies are informed that as the 3rd Aust Division passes through them they will make their own arrangements for billeting themselves in the present area.</i>	
		<i>9pm</i>	<i>R.M.O. reports on condition of men to ADMS see Appendix to Battalion can be established during the day near DOINGT.</i>	
	<i>6/9/18</i>			
		<i>1am</i>	<i>3rd Aust Division passed through our line.</i>	
		<i>8.30am</i>	<i>Brigade issued instructions for the battalion to remain in its present area.</i>	
		<i>10.30am</i>	<i>Notification received that the Nucleus was due to arrive at BACHES at 6pm. 'A' Coy was instructed to take them on their strength.</i>	
		<i>11.30am</i>	<i>Companies were asked to forward in accordance with instructions from brigade recommendations for immediate commissions, six being required from each battalion.</i>	

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LIEUT GREEN transferred from 'B' Coy to 'D' Coy.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	6/9/18	2.30pm	Order from Brigade received that the battalion would move to O24 by 9.30 am on 7 th inst.	
		4pm	Move order JH 9/44 issued	
		5pm	Notified by brigade that recommendations for honours and awards must be in by 12 noon on 7 th inst	
	7/9/18	8am	<p>Weather fine</p> <p>Battalion moved to new area in trenches in O24</p> <p>A Coy with nucleus. LIEUTS W LEGGATT and AH MACROBERTS with 64 OR joining the rest of the battalion there.</p> <p>LIEUT BREWER wired for and returned to 54th battalion</p> <p>LIEUT LEGGATT taking over duties of signalling officer.</p> <p>Day was spent in erecting shelters and in resting the men.</p> <p>Day uneventful.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN HQRS O 24C Ref 69C	8/9/18	10 am	<p>Weather Cloudy with heavy showers in afternoon</p> <p>Routine Reveille 7.30 am, Breakfast 8.30 am Lark parade 10 am.</p> <p>A thorough inspection was made by companies of men's equipment and shortages taken steps being taken to salve as much equipment as possible to replace shortages. Special attention was paid to men's feet and their boots both being in rather a bad state through the continuous movements of the Battalion.</p> <p>A salvage party under LIEUT WALKER was sent out to collect trophies for the Battalion. a few of which were collected and placed on a dump.</p> <p>Men engaged on building more comfortable and ramproof shelters.</p> <p>Court of Enquiry held at Pn. Regs consisting of President Capt CH. ROBERTS Members Lieuts WALKER and A.H. MACROBERTS to enquire into and determine the illegal absence or otherwise of men of the Battalion.</p>	12 MB

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	8/9/16 Cont		<p>Notification that following decorations had been awarded was received from brigade. 3037 Sgt ARMSTRONG G.F. M.M. was to Military Medal. Military Medal. 2929a Sgt LOWRIE WJ. 3018 Lt Col MCCLINTOCK S., 3079 Sgt MARSHALL R.W. 3017 Sgt BEALBY.H. 3011 Lt Col CRAWFORD W.H.</p> <p>LIEUT W.R. GANNON died of wounds on No 36 Ambulance Train as LIEUT S.E. WOOTTON ceased to be recorded with 15th ALTMB on being evacuated wounded.</p> <p>MARCHED OUT LIEUT LEVY on UK leave</p>	
	9/9/18	10am 1.15pm	<p>Weather, Fine with cold wind in morning cloudy and showery in afternoon.</p> <p>Routine as yesterday.</p> <p>In accordance with a brigade order battalion prepared to move to area in OZ. Advance party under LIEUT WELLINGTON sent on to billet the battalion.</p> <p>The battalion passed starting point and marched in easy stages being met by guides on</p>	

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7th 15

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	9/9/18 (Cont)		<p>main PERONNE road and graded. to allotted area in 07 Men started at once to obtain iron and timber for construction of shelters. The area was around BARLEUX copse most of the companies being in old trenches. Although there were some shelters already built a good deal of work was needed to make these rainproof and comfortable and to construct new ones for the accommodation of the whole battalion. Area was very bare and covered with shell holes old trenches and wire. MAJOR D B DOYLE marched in from brigade hqs. to resume regimental duties and took over command of 'C' Coy as from the 5th inst. date of promotion from CAPTAIN.</p>	
Bn. H QRS 07d. BARLEUX COPSE	10/9/18		<p>Weather. Very wet. Routine. Reveille 7.30 am, Sick Parade 7.45 am. Breakfast 8 am.</p>	

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July 16

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	10/9/19 (cont)	9am	<p>Companies held parades and inspected men. Men then resumed building of dugouts and shelters. A lumber being sent to BARLEUX for iron and timber which was not very plentiful. Men's packs were brought up from VAIRE and issued. LIEUT WALKER went to Brigade hqs as sports representative for the Battalion. It was decided to utilize the afternoons for sports and football matches which were arranged forthwith. Brigade sports as set down for 20th inst. LIEUT DYKE appointed Works officer and proceeded to construct offices and a Battalion Officers' Mess. A training ground was selected in O7d. MARCHED OUT LIEUT AH MACROBERTS on UK leave.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>BN HQRS BARLEUX COISE</p>	<p>11/9/18</p>		<p>Weather. Wet. Routine as day previous. Companies held a short inspection and released men to continue with the building of shelters except for various fatigue parties. Syllabus of training submitted by company commanders and specialist officers and following Headquarters routine was decided upon - Battalion parade. 9.15 am. Physical training and bayonet fighting 9.30 - 10 am. 10 - 12 noon specialist schools rest of battalion being handed over to OC training for the day, the company commanders taking this duty in rotation. The football match between the 60th and 59th battalions was postponed owing to wet weather. MARCHED OUT LIEUT DYKE on UK leave. LIEUT GRIBBLE appointed as secretary for battalion officers mess and took over construction of mess from LIEUT DYKE</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN HQRS BARLEUX COPSE	12/9/18		<p>Weather showery to wet Routine as before. Battalion parade held at 9.15 am. Parade dismissed at 9.45 am owing to wet weather, and companies carried on with their own arrangements, many generally being engaged on completion of shelters and rendering them ramproof.</p> <p>Battalion notified that the Prime Minister (Mr W M HUGHES) will visit the brigade tomorrow and battalions would parade on brigade parade ground at 11 am.</p> <p>CAPT R. DICKSON, taken on strength ex seconded OTB as from 8th inst, and took over command of A Company.</p> <p>Band played for an hour in the evening as on several days previously.</p> <p>2LT JA UNDERWOOD ex Rpts (Cadet bn) 2LT FB MURIN ex Rpts 2LT JA UNDERWOOD ex Rpts</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN HQS BARLEUX COPSE	13/9/18	2pm 5pm	<p>Weather fine to showery.</p> <p>Routine as usual. Brigade parade cancelled and battalion was notified that the Prime Minister would visit the brigade tomorrow.</p> <p>Companies carried on with training as per syllabus.</p> <p>Football match between 60th and 59th battalions resulted in a "win" for 60th battalion.</p> <p>Lt Col H.T.C. LAYH. DSO returned from UK leave and was advised that he would proceed tomorrow at 2pm through ITALY en route for AUSTRALIA on 6 months tour of duty.</p> <p>Nomination asked for from brigade of one officer who left Australia in 1914 for 6 months tour of duty to AUSTRALIA. He would report at 2pm tomorrow. LIEUT E. VARLEY'S name was submitted and nomination approved.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	13/9/18 (Cont)		<p>LIEUT H WALKER instructed to take over duties of Transport officer from Lieut VARLEY</p> <p>LIEUT HOWELLS marched out on U.K. leave</p> <p>LIEUT E.M. BURNS taking over duties as adjutant</p> <p>Enemy planes active as night was clear</p> <p>9.20pm One enemy aeroplane brought down in flames by AA guns just out of Battalion area to NORTH</p> <p>10pm Enemy aeroplane brought down out of control NE of area also by AA guns or Lewis gun fire</p> <p>The Battalion was bathed during the afternoon at the Brigade portable baths at Brigade Hqs. and a much needed change of underclothes obtained for the men.</p> <p>MARCHED IN 2/LT CH GRIESE ex Rfbs (Cable Pn) LIEUT HW CHAMBERS MM. etc Supernumerary.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	13/4/18	11.50am	The battalion was informed that the Prime Minister would not appear that morning but would visit the battalions informally in the afternoon. The battalion then marched back to camp.	
		2pm	A football match was played against ^{15th A.I.} Brigade Poles and ^{15th ALTMB.} The match was won by the 60 th Poles by 8 goals. The Prime Minister again did not appear having been called away from Brigade.	
		10pm	Received "Battle Instructions" Series E 101 a secret memo. from ^{15th A.I. Bde} giving particulars of a pending attack by the Fourth Army with the First French Army on the right and the 3 rd Third Army on the left. on the enemy's defensive position in front of the HINDENBURG line. The Australian Corps to attack in the centre of the Fourth Army. the 4 th Aust Division on the right and the 1 st Aust Division on the left each with two brigades in the line.	
			WAR NEWS to hand stating capture of 25000 prisoners in ST MIHIELE salient.	
			RECORDED IN	
			RECORDED OUT	
			Lieut. E.J. GRIEVE ex UK leave	
			LT-COL HTC LAYH. DSO. } to AUSTRALIA	
			LIEUT E.H. VARLEY }	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p><i>BN HQRS BARLEUX CORSE</i></p>	<p><i>14/9/18</i></p>	<p><i>10:30 am</i></p>	<p><i>Weather fine. Routine Breakfast 7:30 am. Parade at Battalion parade 8:30 am. The battalion was marched to the Brigade parade ground in anticipation of the Prime Minister's visit. The brigade was inspected by the Brigadier 15th AI Bde who commented on the good clothing of the battalion. The battalions then dispersed to different parts of the ground to carry on work under 60's until the Prime Minister appeared. Lt Col HTC LAYH DSO on leaving the battalion gave a short address to the men. He would not say that he was exactly sorry to go home for a short time but he regretted leaving the battalion when he had just come to appreciate its worth. Major T KERR MC then gave a farewell address to Lt Col LAYH on behalf of the officers and men of the battalion and wished him a safe and happy return to AUSTRALIA.</i></p>	<p><i>MB.P.L.</i></p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN HQRS BARLEUX COPSE	15/9/19	11am 3pm	<p>Weather Fine Routine Reveille 7.30 am Breakfast 8 am Sick Parade 9 am Voluntary COPE and RC church services were held A football match was played against the 57th Battalion won by the 60th Battalion</p>	
	16/9/19	9.15am 9.30am -10	<p>Weather Fine Routine Reveille 7 am Breakfast 7.30 am Sick Parade 8 am Battalion parade was held and 'A' company was inspected by the CO. Men's clothing and equipment greatly improved. Their drill movements was want a good deal of smartening through being in the line and on the move for such a length of time. Physical exercises as per syllabus</p>	<p>HB er</p>

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July 24

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references Appendix
	16/9/18 (cont)	10- 10.45 11.45 to noon 3/4	<p>A start was made on specialist schools and the rest of the men were grouped under the OC Training for the day. CAPT CH ROBERTS OC 'D' Coy. The day was exceptionally fine and a good start was thus made.</p> <p>Gas drill as per syllabus under company arrangements.</p> <p>A football match was played against 50th Battalion and was won by the 60th Battalion.</p>	
	17/9/18		<p>Weather. Wet in the early morning, fine during the day.</p> <p>Routine as yesterday.</p> <p>The Staff Captain lectured to the Battalion on "Supplies" outlining the difficulties that were experienced in feeding troops in the line.</p>	

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July 25

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7/25/18	(Cont)	<p>and explaining the scale of rations and the reasons for shortages at times. This proved most interesting and instructive to the men.</p> <p>Parade was handed over to Capt DICKSON 'A' Coy OC Training for the day and the same was taken up until noon with physical training.</p> <p>Meals were held under LT WALKER'S superintendance to pick representatives for the Brigade Sports.</p> <p>Good material was selected to represent the Battalion.</p> <p>2nd day and per hour was notified by the Third and Fourth Divisions were notified being 5.20 am on 18th inst.</p> <p>MARCHED OUT LIEUT WELLINGTON on UK leave.</p> <p>MAJOR D B DOYLE temporarily detached to Aust Corps Hqrs as liaison officer.</p>	

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July 26

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																								
BN. HQRS BARLEVX COPSE	18/9/18		<p>Weather. Rather wet in early morning, sultry during the day.</p> <p>Routine as usual. There was no battalion parade the whole battalion being sent down by companies to the Brigade portable baths.</p> <p>Wire received from 15th AI Bde stating that from observations made the not first objective had been taken on the whole of the corps front.</p> <p>Later news said that all objectives had been taken and that the casualties were light.</p> <p>Further trials for the Brigade Sports on 25th inst were held.</p> <p>The following appointments to commissioned rank (if held) were approved:</p> <table> <tr> <td>3079</td> <td>Sgt</td> <td>RW</td> <td>MARSHALL</td> <td>MM</td> <td>posted to "B" Coy.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2682</td> <td>Sgt</td> <td>JH</td> <td>SCARFE</td> <td>MM</td> <td>posted to "D" Coy.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3011</td> <td>Sgt</td> <td>WH</td> <td>CRAWFORD</td> <td>MM</td> <td>posted to "A" Coy.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3017</td> <td>Sgt</td> <td>H</td> <td>BEILBY</td> <td>MM</td> <td>posted to "C" Coy.</td> </tr> </table>	3079	Sgt	RW	MARSHALL	MM	posted to "B" Coy.	2682	Sgt	JH	SCARFE	MM	posted to "D" Coy.	3011	Sgt	WH	CRAWFORD	MM	posted to "A" Coy.	3017	Sgt	H	BEILBY	MM	posted to "C" Coy.	
3079	Sgt	RW	MARSHALL	MM	posted to "B" Coy.																							
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3011	Sgt	WH	CRAWFORD	MM	posted to "A" Coy.																							
3017	Sgt	H	BEILBY	MM	posted to "C" Coy.																							

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN HQRS BARLEUX COPSE	19/9/18	9-15am 10am -12 noon	Weather Fine Routine as previously shown Battalion parade was held as usual. at 9:15 am Rifles beginning to smarten up in their movements. Rifle exercises good but drill movements still show their lack of training for the last few months. Speciality schools carried on with good results being obtained. The afternoon was devoted to training for sports. MARCHED IN LIEUT J W STUBBS rejoined ex Aust. Corps Signal School.	

27.10

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN. HQRS BARLEUX CORSE	20/9/18	9.15am 9.30am -10am 10- 12noon	<p>Weather. Fine with one or two showers.</p> <p>Routine as usual.</p> <p>Battalion parade was held introducing more advanced work.</p> <p>Usual physical training was carried out.</p> <p>Specialist schools continued</p> <p>Further training ^{for the Sports} was carried out in the afternoon.</p> <p>MARCHED OUT T/LEAPT M. CAHILL LIEUT H. WALKER } on VR leave</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN HARS BARLEUX COPSE	21/9/18	2am 9.40am	<p>Weather. Fine but windy and cloudy.</p> <p>Routine as usual.</p> <p>Bathing parade as ordered for today was cancelled and a Brigade route march was substituted.</p> <p>The battalion left the parade ground and passed the starting point 08 d 72 at 10am as ordered taking the route laid down - FME LAMIRE BRIDGE - LE MESNIL - 022 C22 - ETERPIGNY BRIDGE - ETERPIGNY and thence home arriving back at 12 noon.</p> <p>The afternoon was spent in sports contests within the battalion.</p> <p>1/4 GREEN ceased to be attached to 60th Battalion</p>	

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July 30

23

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BN HQRS BARLEUX COPSE	22/9/18	9.15 am	<p>Weather Showery in morning, very wet in the afternoon</p> <p>Routine as usual.</p> <p>Battalion parade as usual.</p> <p>Specialist schools as usual.</p> <p>Further sports training was carried out in the afternoon but had to be abandoned early on account of the weather.</p>	
	23/9/18	3pm	<p>Weather Showery</p> <p>Routine as usual.</p> <p>There was no battalion parade. Companies carried out advanced guard schemes under their own arrangements in accordance with Brigade syllabus.</p> <p>Final football match was played on the 60th Battalion ground against 57th Battalion. 60th Battalion won which made them premiers</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	23/9/18 (cont)		<p>2/LIEUT LC REEVES died of wounds received in action, at No 2 Red Cross Hospital on 14/9/18.</p> <p>Lieut EM BURNS appointed Assistant Adjutant.</p> <p>2/Lieut JA UNDERWOOD appointed. Mischetry Officer</p> <p>Lieut EG WELLINGTON appointed Intelligence Officer</p> <p>Lieut EM BURNS relinquished appointment as Lewis Gun Officer</p>	
	24/9/18	<p>9am</p> <p>9.30-10am</p> <p>10am</p> <p>3hr</p>	<p>Weather fine.</p> <p>Routine as usual.</p> <p>Battalion parade in full marching order with felt hats.</p> <p>Kit inspection under company arrangements.</p> <p>Route march under company arrangements of not less than 3 miles. Dress full marching order.</p> <p>Two scratch teams of football were matched. Training for the Sports was also proceeded with</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Q.7.d.	4/19/18 4/19/18	4/19	News received 60 th Bn to be split up. Work proceeded with - Compiling of Nominal rolls, return to D.A.D.O.S. of all Mch. Stores.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
O.7.d.	25/9/18		Routine 7am Reveille. weather showery to fine.	
		9am	Bn Parade and men informed of the Re-organization in 60 th Bn to be "Cut out." Bn to form A + B Coy 59 th Bn, to be completed before 26/9/18. news received with mixed feeling.	
		1.30	Regade Sports. 57 th + 60 th Bn tied. for Cup 24 points each. Big crowd including numerous Nurses.	
		4pm	Concert in Bde School Lecture Hut.	
		11.45pm	Transfers Completed. Nominal Roll forwarded to 59 th Bn. Bde notified. Mason Kerr to 57 th Bn. Doyle 58 th Bn.	
			32 off 581 O.R. transferred to 59 th Bn.	
			Thus ended a successful + proud Battalion.	(G.Y.) MB

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WAR DIARY

OF

60th Battalion A.I.F.

FOR

September 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Operation order. |
| 2 | do. do |
| 3 | Relief do. |
| 4 | Warning do. to O.M. Co. |
| 5 | Movement do. |
| 6 | Relief do. |
| 7 | M.O.'s report on men |
| 8 | Warning order. |
| 9 | Personal narrative 27 Aug. to 6 Sept.
by C.O. |
| 10 | Daily Strength. |
| 11 | do. |
| 12 | Preliminary instructions |
| 13 | In order. Move |
| 14 | O.M.'s report |

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APPENDIX ³⁵

Ref. Sheet 620.
1/40,000.

60th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Appendix No.1
3.9.18.

Order by Major T. Kerr M.C.

1. To-day the 2nd. Australian Division who now have posts in I.17.a. are bombing down trench from I.17.a. towards I.23 central.
2. To-night at ZERO hour the 60th. Battalion, A.I.F. will leap-frog the 59th. Battalion, establishing a line approx. along road from I.16.d 8.2. to I.22.b.3.2. to Railway line at I.22.b.2.1.
3. The present 59th. Bn. A.I.F. line runs from I.22.a.5.9. to I.22.c. 8.8.
4. 59th. Bn. will remain in present line.
5. Instructions :-
The operations will be carried out by C and B. Coys
B Coy on RIGHT.
C. Coy on LEFT.
6. The action will take the form a peaceful penetration without artillery support.
7. Fighting patrols will be sent forward first and on information from them Company Commanders will push their coys. forward in support.
8. Should further progress be possible through ST. DENIS WOOD and into TRENCH System in I.23.a. and I.17.c. Company Commanders will make good the ground and ~~organisation~~ organise in depth each post, digging in.
9. Should C and B. Coys advance sufficiently far, A and D. Coys will be pushed forward in support at discretion of O.C. Attack.
10. Close liason with 2nd. Aust. Div. by left coys. will be maintained in forward ZONE.
11. Capt. ROBERTS will be O.C. Attack with forward H.Qs and in close touch with O.C. by telephone.

5.25 p.m.

Sd/. T. Kerr Major.
T/Cmdg. 60th. Bn. A.I.F.

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APPENDIX 2

Appendix No. , , , , , , , , , ,
60th BATTALION A.I.F.

Report on operation carried out by 60th Battalion on night
of 3rd-4th September 1918.
Reference FRANCE Sheet 62c 1/40,000

On the 3rd September 1918 the 59th Battalion held front line from I.22.a.39 to I.22.d.17; The 2nd Division were on left and were reported to have established a Bombing Block in enemy front line (DARMSTADT trench) at about I.17.a Central. Their intention was to secure DARMSTADT trench by bombing along it south towards I.23 during the afternoon of the 3rd September.

The 5th Division were to conform by advancing through I.22 and if possible into I.23. At 3 p.m Lieutenant Colonel Scanlon issued orders to 60th Battalion to advance through ~~I.22~~ 59th., Battalion front line, to establish a ~~front~~ line ~~XXXXXX~~ in front of road from I.16.D.91., to I.22.D.29., and to exploit from there to DORMSTADT trench, which runs approximately N and S, immediately ~~east~~ east of ST DENIS WOOD. The C.O., 60th Battalion thereupon issued orders for the operation to be carried out by two Companies of the 60th Battalion under Captain Roberts. The objective was equally divided between the two companies, and Zero time was to be as soon as possible after consumption of evening meal. We notified the 2nd Division through ~~the~~ 22nd Battalion Company Headquarters in I.16.a., but were unable to obtain then, or at any time subsequently, information as to the proposed 2nd Division operation. Captain Roberts established his Headquarters at 59th Battalion left front line Company Headquarters, and direct Telephone communication was arranged between him and the 60th Battalion headquarters.

Our operation duly commenced at 11 p.m 3rd September. Fighting patrols from the two Companies were sent out from the 59th Battalion front line. These made good the country up to the objective, and under cover of them the companies moved into position on the objective. Throughout the operation, enemy Machine Gun fire was encountered principally from direction of ST DENIS WOOD.

3-30 a.m.

The Patrols made good the objective.
Intense enemy Gas Bombardment in I.21.

4-30 a.m.

Right company was reported ' Digging in ', one platoon on right of cross roads I.22.b.32 ~~to I.22.b.67~~ and the remainder from I.22.b.32 to I.22.b.67. Fighting patrol at once pushed out to exploit ground in front.

5 a.m.

Left company reported ' digging in ' at I.22.b.67 to I.16.d.82. Daybreak and enemy Machine gun fire prevented further exploitation. Communication was established between the two companies, but not with the 2nd Division on the left. Informed 2nd Division through 22nd Battalion Company Headquarters in I.16.a., of result of operation.
A/ Over)

5 a.m. Received following information from 22nd Battalion Company Headquarters in I.16.a.:-

On left of 5th Division, the 21st Battalion is in front line; extreme right post is at windmill I.17.a.23. Nothing is known of the proposed bombing operation along DARMSTADT trench. 22nd Battalion is in supports with extreme right post at I.15.d.52.

Signed T. Kerr, Major

Commanding 60th Battalion A.I.F.

The patrol made good the objective. Intense enemy gas bombardment in I.21. Right company was reported digging in, one platoon on right of cross roads I.22.b.32 to I.22.b.37. Fighting patrol at once pushed out to exploit ground in front. Left company reported digging in at I.22.b.67 to I.22.b.82. Dapreck and enemy Machine gun fire prevented further exploitation. Communication was established between the two companies, but not with the 2nd Division of the left. Informed 2nd Division through 22nd Battalion Company Headquarters in I.16.a. of result of operation.

I.22.b.30 a.m.

I.22.b.30 a.m.

APPENDIX NO. 3.....

60th. BATTALION A.I.F.Secret

Ref. Sheet FRANCE 62c.

4th September 1918.

1. Battalion headquarters, 'B' and 'C' Companies will be relieved by 30th Battalion and the whole Battalion will move to area O.I.D. (vacated on morning of 2nd inst) on night of 4th - 5th September 1918.
2. 'A' Company will move when ready, and will take all guides as far as R.A.P. where guides allotted to B. C. and D. Companies will remain. D., company will move when their guides have finished guiding relieving front line ~~part~~ companies. B; and C., companies will move on completion of relief. All companies will pick up guides at R.A.P., I.20.a.29 and again at bridge I.26.c.51 from where they will be guided to their quarters. Companies will move independantly.
3. 'D' Company will arrange with 'B' Company for the guiding of front line relieving companies, according to instructions already issued to O.C. 'D' Company.
4. Companies will carry their S.O.S. signals, will convey all hot boxes, water tins, and as many water bottles as they can salvage to ration dump near R.A.P., with these exceptions, all trench stores will be handed over to incoming unit.
5. Except for 1 Lewis gun per company, Lewis Guns will be handed in at Ration Dump near R.A.P. One man per company will accompany guns and will move to new area with Lewis Gun Limbers.
6. Hot meals and blankets will be ready in new area, companies will arrange issue.
7. Companies will send code word PINE on completion of relief or on moving.
8. Companies will report to B.O.R., when all correct in new area.
9. Usual precaution against enemy aircraft, and strict march discipline will be maintained.
10. Acknowledge.

(Sgd) L.J. Howells, Lieutä
A/Adjutant 60th Battalion A.I.F.

60TH BATTALION A.I.F.

APPENDIX NO...4.....

Ref Map 62.c. To the Quartermaster and Transport Officer .

The Brigade is moving forward to follow the enemy who is apparently evacuating. The order of march will be 59th Battalion 60th Battalion, 57th Battalion, and 58th Battalion.

Northern Boundary grid line east and west between I.29 and I.35., and the southern boundary grid line east and west between O.10 and O.16.

The 57th and 58th Battalions are now keeping in touch with the enemy and we must be prepared to do likewise. Later today send S.A.A. Pack mules forward.

I anticipate advancing any time after the men have been fed, moving south to our new position.

Can not state to what extent and when we will advance. That will depend on further information. I have been instructed that 'A' Company will be temporarily attached to the 59th Battalion till we are set. You will get all further necessary information from Brigade.

(Signed) T. Kerr, Major.
 // Commanding 60th Battalion A. I. M. F. ...

B.M. 539APPENDIX NO. 5

At 6.30 a.m. the 59th.Bn. plus A.Coy 60th.Bn. will move via PERONNE to a position in rear of 57th.Bn. outpost's lines. aaa. C.O. 59th.Bn. will establish his H.Q. with 57th.Bn.H.Q. and wire this Office when troops are in position aaa. On receipt of further definite orders the 59th.Bn. plus A.Coy 60th.Bn. will advance along the line of the road running from I.23. c.3.3. through I.23.d., I.24.d. and e. and J.19.c. and d. and make good the high ground in J.19.c. J.25.a. and c. of DOINGE aaa. The move from the position in rear of 57th.Bn. out post lines will not take place until definite orders are received from these H.Q.aaa. addressed 59th.Bn. repeated 57th.Bn. 58th.Bn. 60th.Bn. 15th.A.L.F.M.B.

7.40. a.m. RUZO.
5.9.18.

B.M. 564

APPENDIX No.6.

All Bns.
15th.A.L.M.B.

1. The 15th.A.I.Bde. will be relieved tonight in the line by Bns of the 11th. and 8th.A.I.Bdes. as follows :-
2. All troops NORTH of the EAST and WEST grid line between O.6. and O.12. will be relieved by the 11th.A.I.Bde.
 All troops south of the above line will be relieved by the 8th. A.I.Bde.
3. The time of departure of the 58th. Bn. and 59th. Bn. will be notified from Bde.H.Q.
4. All units on relief will move to areas in the vicinity of Bde. H.Q. I.32.
5. Personnel of the 15th.A.L.M.B. will report to the Bridge at O.34.d.4.9. at once.
6. Personnel of the L.M.Regt.when no longer required by Bns. will be instructed to report to their officer at O.3.c.3.8.
7. Instructions for the relief of the M.G.Coy will be issued separately.
8. Completion of reliefs will be reported to Bde.H.Q.
9. Acknowledge.

Sd/. R.R.GOLLAN Captain.
 Brigade Major.
 15th. A.I.Bde.

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APPENDIX

6

St. Aust. Inf. Bde. to 60th. Battalion, A.I.F.

M. 569

Re. B.M. 564, aaa. 58th. and 59th. Bns. may move at once
aaa. addressed all battalions.

KUZO, 7.30 p.m. 5.9.18.

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APPENDIX 7

A.D.M.S.

APPENDIX 7.

5th.Aust.Division

Re the health of the men of the 60th.Bn.

The men, owing to continual strain and continuous gassing each night and with loss of sleep owing to frequent movement, their subsequent efficiency will be greatly impaired if they remain in their present situation. The sick parade to-day was large, consisting wholly of men worn out with fatigue etc.

5.9.18.

Sd/. A.W.LeSouef. Capt.
R.M.O. 60th.Battalion, A.I.F.

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APPENDIX

8

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Appendix No., 8

60th BATTALION A.I.F.

WARNING ORDER;

The 15th Aust., Infantry Brigade will relieve the 14th Aust., Infantry Brigade to-night.

2. The 57th Battalion will relieve 58th and 54th Battalions. On completion of relief, 58th Battalion will move to sector vacated by the 57th Battalion.

3. Lieut-Colonel Scanlon will take charge of the 59th and 60th Battalions and arrange to take over positions held by remaining Battalions of the 14th Aust., Infantry Brigade. This relief will be completed as soon after 7 p.m. as possible.

Acknowledge.

9.18
5.17 p.m

(Sgd) D.B.DOYLE, Captain
for Brigade Major
15th Aust., Infantry Brigade.

APPENDIX ⁹ 9

PERSONAL NARRATIVE, BY MAJOR T. KERR, M.C. 60th BATTALION, ON 44

OPERATIONS FROM AUGUST 27th to SEPTEMBER 6th 1918.

Ref. map 62e. 1/40,000 and 62d. 1/40,000 10th Sept, 1918.

At mid-day on the 27th August, at a conference at Bde. Headquarters, VAIRE, I received orders that the 15th Bde. would advance at 2.p.m. on that day, in an easterly direction throughout PROYART. The 60th Battalion moved out at 2.p.m. ~~in~~ ~~the following order~~ and took up position on the line of march thus:- 59th Btn. 58th Btn. 57th Btn. and 60th Btn. in the following order in Artillery formation in platoons in fours at 100 yards interval and 50 yards distance:-

D. Company	A. Company
C. Company	B. Company.

Btn. Headquarters.

Transport moved by more Northern route via MORCOURT.

At 9.p.m. arrived at "ESTREES" bivouacing in old trenches in vicinity. During the night received orders that advance would be continued in the morning at 9,a.m. Battalion moved forward in same relative position approx. 1000 yards in rear, as reserve Battalion. Passed through BELLOY-EN-SANTIERRE arriving at N.29.a. about mid-day, when advance ceased as the 8th Brigade had pushed enemy to SOMME RIVER.

At a conference of C.O's at Bde. H.Q. S.EAST of VILLERS CARBONNELL orders were received that the 15th Bde. would cross the SOMME that night in the following order:- 57th, 60th 58th and 59th Btns, over a bridge to be constructed by the 8th Field Coy, Engineers, at HAPPLINCOURT. Orders were given to Company Commanders and Specialist Officers, and 5.p.m. I took the above people forward to reconnoitre ground, assembly positions etc., At 6.30. p.m. received instructions that the operation was cancelled. The Btn. remained in area N.29.a. in old trenches.

The Btn. Transport followed in close touch throughout the 27th and 28th August, and the men were given hot ~~meals~~ meals at every opportunity.

On August 30th whilst in trenches in vicinity of N.29.a. near VILLERS CARBONNELL at 2.a.m. orders were received

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from Bde. Headquarters for C.O's to attend a conference, at which I was present. The orders were that the 15th Bde. would move NORTH ~~39452~~ to BARLEUX and then advance NORTH-EAST, crossing the SOMME passing through the 2nd Aust. Div. on the high ground in O.35.5 and 11.c. I held a conference of Company Commanders and Specialist Officers explaining the role of the 60th Btn. and we moved off at 6.a.m., after a hot breakfast, and advanced approx. 1000 yards in rear of 57th Battalion on a two Company frontage, in attillery formation of sections in file at approx. 50 yards ~~in~~ interval and 50 yards distance, with S.A.A. Mules, the Battalion as reserve to Brigade, ~~with~~ with special instructions to defend the Bde. right flank, which was otherwise unsupported.

When in vicinity of O.13.b. orders were received from Bde. at 9.a.m. to cease advance, as the 2nd Div. had not then crossed the River, and to take up position to the rear, notifying Bde.H.Q. of location. I immediately gave orders to Coy Commanders to move their Coys immediately into trenches near by in O.13.b. as shelling was considerable, and from there to move to old ~~trench~~ trenches in area 12- O.12.G. under cover of available trenches. At the latter position the Btn. stayed till evening.

At a conference of C.O's at Bde. at 3.p.m., orders were received that the 15th Bde. would cross the SOMME that night and continue the advance N.EAST next morning, the 60th Battalion to be Reserve Battalion, and to make good right flank protection as formerly, but to establish a crossing in whatever Btn. area there was an available bridge, built by the Engineers.

At 6.p.m. I held a conference of Coy Commanders and Specialist Officers, explaining the task of the Battalion, and immediately sent as liason 1 Officer, with runners, to each of 57th, 58th, and 59th Btns, who were taking over the line. We then moved forward to a more central position O.7.a. About 7.p.m. instructions came from Brigade that the major operation was cancelled, and that patrols only would be pushed across the river. We bivouaced in trenches for the night as Reserve Btn. in O.7.a. In moving to O.7.a. several casualties from shell fire occurred, including Lieut. W.R.GANNON. (Intelligence Officer).

Aug. 31st. 60th Battalion still in support in same position. Issued orders to Btn, to be in instant readiness to follow up 57th, 58th, and 59th Btns should any effect a crossing. Established close liason with front line Btns by sending Officers forward, and being in touch with all by telephone. Intermittent shelling with H.E. Gas Shells, few casualties. Lieut REEVES and Lieut A. ALLARDYCE ~~wounded badly~~ wounded badly by shell fire. Hot meals were sent forward from Transport Lines.

SEPTEMBER 1st. At 6.a.m. 14th Inf. Bde. and 2nd Aust. Div. attacked towards MONT ST. QUENTIN and PERONNE. 60th Btn. received orders to be prepared to support the attack, ^{of 15th Brigade,} by crossing the SOMME south of PERONNE, ~~and attack east~~ after 57th, 58th and 59th Btns. 60th Btn, after crossing, to attack due south making good the ground in O.4. and O.10. as far as southern Div. boundary along AULNAIES WOOD, establishing right flank protection to Bde.

I held a conference of Company Commanders and Specialist Officers, giving instructions for attack and previous reconnaissance At 10.a.m. moved Btn. to position forward in O.1.d. At 5.30. p.m. received instructions from Bde.H.Q., owing to impracticability of crossing the River immediately South of PERRONNE by 59th and 58th Btns, to place myself under C& Col. DENEHY, D.S.O. with Company Commanders, at the same time making a reconnaissance of the area C.O. 57th Battalion, as, at that time, it seemed possible for 57th Btn. to cross in the vicinity of their front. At 6.30, p.m. reported personally to Col. DENEHY, D.S.O. with Coy Commanders, at the same time making a reconnaissance of the area, but the 57th Btn. could not negotiate the marshes beyond the river, although a bridge had been constructed over the latter; Returned back to Btn.H.Q. and gave orders for the men to rest, but to be prepared for any call at short notice. Btn. still bivouaced in O.1.d.

SEPTEMBER 2nd. At 4.10 a.m. received urgent message, on telephone from Bde.H.Q. to be prepared to move at once with Btn. cross the SOMME, and take part in attack by 15th Bde. commencing at 6.a.m. C.O.'s to report to Bde.H.Q. at 1.33.e.3.3. at once for further instructions. I immediately gave orders for the Btn. to move

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APPENDIX

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via Brigade H.Q. to bridge across the SOMME at I.33b.4.1. along trenches if possible, B.C.D. & A. and Headquarters in that order.

I reported at Brigade at 5.a.m. and received further verbal instructions that 60th Btn. would attack at 8.30 a.m. following 59th Btn. The former, after 59th Btn., cleared Wood in I.29a. and I.28b., would capture FLAMICOURT, and attack due SOUTH, cleaning squares I.34.0.4. and 0.10. of the enemy, the 59th continuing their advance on our left, establishing a Flank in I.35. and 0.5. I met Coy Commanders as Companies passed Bde. H.Q. after daylight, about 5.30, a.m. and explained the operation Route via Bridge in I.33.b.41. through Western edge of PERONNE to assembly position in I.22.a. Our attack to take place at ZERO plus 150 mins. under Artillery barrage, and after Eastern end of PERONNE had been mopped up by 58th Btn. and 14th Bde. The 60th Btn. to follow 59th in following order: * B.D.C. Coys and A. Coy with Btn. H.Q. in reserve. B. Company to attack FLAMICOURT on EASTERN edge, D. Coy to attack by flanking move from WESTERN edge and C. Coy to launch direct attack. The Btn. to continue the attack, after reorganising on Southern side of Village, on a 3. Company front as far as objective.

Lieut. COOPER, who had replaced Lieut. GANNON as I & I.O. and Capt. HADDOW (Adjutant) were of great assistance in organising the move forward to the assembly place. The Btn. moved past Bde. H.Q. under observation of the enemy, who was shelling considerably.

The first crossing of the SOMME itself was ~~seen negotiated~~ negotiated over a hastily constructed Bridge, and the advance through the Town proceeded, the front Coy being in touch with the 59th Btn. Considerable M.G. fire and shell fire was encountered passing through the Town, and great difficulty was experienced in crossing various streams where bridges had been blown up. At one place in 27.c. the crude crossing gave way, and two Coys lost touch, but owing to energetic efforts on part of Lieut. COOPER and C. Coy men, a crossing was effected and the advance continued. On reaching I.21.a. very heavy shelling (Blue Cross) was encountered, also M.G. Fire, apparently from vicinity of I.22.c.

I went forward and decided to push the Btn. out in the open into ~~I.21.b.~~ I.21.b. to avoid further casualties, which were becoming numerous. This was accomplished at 8.30. a.m. and the Btn. was in position, in trenches with 59th Btn., in I.21.b. The last people to get out of the Wood and Cemetery area were D. Coy and Btn. H.Q. who suffered by far the most casualties. I then sought Col. SCANLAN, D.S.O., C.O. 59th Btn, but could not locate his Headquarters.

From information received from Officers of the 55th Btn in vicinity of I.21.b & d. and from my own observation forward, I found that the eastern end of PERONNE had not then been cleared and the Enemy was very active, with M.G.'s, from Ramparts of Town in I.22.c. ~~OUR~~ The artillery fire had died away.

At 9.a.m. I sent a message for Bde. H.Q. by runner to 54th Btn. H.Q. to be transmitted by telephone, stating my position stating that an advance without further intense artillery support would involve heavy casualties, as the 55th Btn had been very badly cut up in the same area as we were to advance over, by the enemy from the same M.G. positions that still existed on the Ramparts. The shelling in the area of all attacking troops at that time was considerable, and the casualties becoming severe. I likewise informed COL. SCANLAN D.S.O. by runner.

About that time Capt. HADDOW and Lieut. COOPER were severely wounded. Btn. H.Q. were then shifted back to trench in I.2.1.a. and I set out to see Col. SCANLAN, D.S.O. myself to confer with him. The 59th Btn. were in position just forward of 60th and remnants of 55th Btn. 53rd. Btn. also in vicinity. I found C.O. 59th and C.O. 58th Btn at Bank in I.27.b.1.5. and reported my opinion of the situation to C.O. 59th Btn., and he stated he had informed Bde. H.Q., and was awaiting further orders, this was at about 10.a.m. The 58th Btn. were then working their way towards eastern edge of Village, but situation was obscure.

I shifted Btn.H.Q. to I.27.b.1.5. and gave instructions to Coys to obtain as much ~~ex~~ cover as possible from shelling, and remain in same position until further orders;

Throughout the day was completely mopped up, the 59th and 60th Btns remaining in same positions, and at 6.p.m. orders were received that the 15th Bde. would relieve 14th Bde. in line established. Under Col. SCANLAN'S orders I received the 53rd. Btn in area I.21. b. and d. relief being complete by 11.p.m. the 59th Btn holding front line on left and 57th Btn. front line on Right. Btn.Headquarters were established at I.21.c.1.8.

Casualties for the day total 52, including 4 Officers wounded, 5. O.Ranks killed, 24 wounded, and 19 gasses, the latter occurring through through the movement early in the day through heavy barrage of Blue Cross in woods on the Northern edge of PERONNE.

September 3rd. The movement passed comparatively quietly, although shelling was considerable. In the afternoon, about 4.p.m. Col. SCANLAN instructed me to make good, at night, a line approx. from I.22.b.2.2. along road to I.16.d.8.2. and conform to operation by 2nd.Aust.Div. on our left. I arranged a conference of Coy Commanders forward, and gave instructions, written and verbal, for the operation to be carried out by B. & C. Coys under Capt CAHILL and Lieut. THORBURN respectively, with Capt. ROBERTS O.C. attack, at forward report centre, in Telephonic communication. If necessary, the other two Coys A. & D. to be pushed forward in support, otherwise to remain in former location.

After the evening hot meal and preparation the action was commenced at mid-night from assembly positions about I.22.a.9.5. By careful preparation of the Coy Commanders, and good reconnaissance of the ground in daylight, the objective was reached. No artillery preparation or support accompanied the advance, which was in the form of peaceful penetration. At 3.30.a.m. confirmed reports were received by me and forwarded to Brigade, that a line of outposts had been established approx. 50 to 100 yards in front of above objective, and patrols were out forward reconnoitring. The line was advanced approx. 1000 yards on left, and 300 yds on right. Opposition from enemy slight, except spasmodic M.G. Fire from St. DENNIS WOOD and vicinity of I.17.a., also scattered artillery fire, mostly 4.2's. Btn H.Q. still at I.21.c.1.8.

September 4th. Situation much quieter, and enemy appearing less active. Btn. in same relative position all day. During afternoon received orders tha the 8th Bde were relieving the 15th Bde. and that 30th Btn would take over 60th Btn. area. Met Col. SCANLAN D.S.O. and Col. STREET, 30th Btn. at 2.30. at 59th Btn H.Q., and arranged details. I personally took the two frontline Coy Commanders 30th Btn forward, meeting Capt. ROBERTS, 60th Btn, and arranged final details, also explained disposition of 60th Btn. About 10.p.m. whilst relief was taking place, received orders for 60th Btn to stand fast as enemy was retiring, and ordered to keep touch. Reported to Brigade that A. Company and part of Btn.H.Q. had already moved to positions allotted near Bde.H.Q., but had ordered remainder to stand fast; front line Coys had patrols out at that time, and about 11.30. p.m. the 30th Btn had relieved B. & C. Coys, 60th Btn returning to positions in vicinity of I.22.a. I informed forward Coys of situation, and instructed them to be in instant readiness for any action, and that the advance, when started, by the 15th Bde. would be in the following formation. 59th, 60th, 57th, 58th Btns, A. Company being under instructions of 59th Btn C.O.

September 5th. 57th and 58th Btns pushing patrols forward, the former towards DARMSTARDT Line and latter into FLAMICOURT. At 11.30.a.m. under instructions from Lt. Col. DENEHEY, D.S.O. moved Btn. forward, D. & B. Coys leading, to DARMSTARDT line, C. Coy Co in Reserve.

Established forward Btn.H.Q. at I.23.c.1.4. At 4.p.m. 57th Btn. worked over to SOUTH of DOIGNT along line of road I.36. and C., 0.6.a. & c. and 60th Btn connected up, swinging line through DOIGNT North along road through I.30.c. & a. linking up with 8th Bde.

(6)
At 9.p.m. the 3rd.Aust.Div. advanced through the
15th Bde.

September 6th. Battalion in area I23.c. resting. Clean under-
clothing was forwarded, and all personnel bathed in the COLOGNE
RIVER. Coy Cookers arrived, also canteen, adding to comfort of
troops.

CONCLUSION. Throughout the above period, although the Battalion
was not actually involved in much fighting, there was a severe
strain on the men, owing to the heavy M.G. and shell fire at times
and almost incessant sudden movement, owing to the circumstances,
and I wish to remark that Officers and other ranks in the Btn.
responded cheerfully and efficiently to all orders.

The work by the Quartermaster, Transport Officer, and
Staff was excellent, and rarely did the men miss a hot meal
during the period.

J. Kerr
.....Major.
I/Commanding 60th Battalion, A.I.F.

Actually with Unit			In Field Amb.		Detached on duty out of Brigade			Total Strength			Remarks			
Off.	O.R.	Total	Off.	O.R.	Tl.	Off.	O.R.	Tl.	Off.	O.R.		Tl.		
17	462	479	17	17					23	596	619	5 O.R. proceeded on U.K. Leave		
Detached on duty in Brigade			Off.		O.R.	Tl.								
Messengers			6	6			Schools, Aust. Corps Sig.	1	2	3		Lt. J. W. Stubbs	1 O.R. to Overseas Training Bn. and placed on Sup'y.	
Groom			1	1			do Bombing	1	2	2				
Officers Mess			1	1			do Infantry	1	3	4		Lt. J. G. Mounford		
Batman			2	2			do Lewis Gun		1	1				
Intelligence			1	1			G.H.Q. Lewis Gun		1	1			5 Off. 88 O.R. rejoined ex Nucleus	
Div. Sig. Coy.			1	1			4th. Army Musketry	1	2	3		Lt. H. W. Richards		
A.L.T.M.B.			2	2			do Infantry		1	1				
							U.K. Leave	2	35	37		Lt. Col. R. T. C. Layh		
												Lt. E. J. Greive		
			14	14			5th. Div. Burial Officer	2	3	3				
							do Canteen	1	3	4		Lt. W. Davis		
							do Dem. Platoon		3	3				
Attached							Guard Kit Dump		1	1				
1 R. C. Padre							Corps Workshops		1	1				
1 A. A. P. C.							A. D. R. W.		6	6				
1 A. A. M. G.			17	462	479		A. W. L.		14	14				
1 A. A. P. S.							Coal Dump, Querrieu		4	4				
2 A. A. S. C.							Leave, Havre		1	1				
1 Off. 54th. Bn.							Safe Custody		11	11				
1 Off. 58th. Bn.														
1 Interpreter														
1 G. R. Batman			17	476	493				6	103	109	23	396	619
9 O.R. (15th. Field Amb.)														

Sd/. F. W. Gribble Lieut.
for Major.
T/Commanding 60th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Actually with Unit			In Field Amb.			Detached on duty out of Brigade						Total Strength			Remarks
Off.	O.R.	Total	Off.	O.R.	Tl.				Off.	O.R.	Tl.	Off.	O.R.	Tl.	
21	472	493	-	-	-							20	572	601	T.O.S.
						A.S.C.						2	2		Lt. H.W. Chambers
						Base O.R.S.						1	1		ex Supy.
						Camp Warden						1	1		2/Lt. C.H. Griese
						Y.M.C.A.						1	1		ex Rpts.
						A.P.M.						2	2		ex sick 2 O.R.
						Concert Party						2	2		ex wounded 3 O.R.
Detached on duty in Brigade						Off			O.R.			TL			
						7			7						
Messengers									Schools, Aust. Corps Sig.			1	2	3	Lt. J.W. Stubbs
Groom						1			do Infantry			1	3	4	Lt. J.C. Mountford
Officers Mess						1			do Lewis Gun			1	1	1	
Batman						1			G.H.Q. Lewis Gun			1	1	1	Lt. Col. H.T.C. Layh
Intelligence						1			4th. Army Musketry			1	2	3	rejoined ex U.K.
Div. Sig. Coy						1			do Infantry			1	1	1	leave
A.L.T.M.B.						2			U.K. Leave			4	30	34	Lt. C.J. Levy
						14			5th. Div. Burial Office			3	3	3	Lt. A.H. MacRoberts
						14			do Canteen			1	3	4	6 O.R. proceeded
									do DemPlatoon			3	3	3	on U.K. Leave.
Attached									Guard Kit Dumps			8	8	8	
P. R. C. Padre									Corps Workshops			1	1	1	
1 A.A.M.C.									A.D.R.W.			2	2	2	
1 A.A.P.S.						21			A.W.L.			5	5	5	
4 A.A.S.C.						472			Coal Dump, Querrieu			4	4	4	
1 Off. 58th. Bn.						493			Leave, Havre			1	1	1	
1 Interpreter									Safe Custody			2	2	2	
1 O.R. Batman									E.F.C. Bond Store, Romescamps			1	1	1	
									Escort Duty			4	4	4	
									Return-to			8	86	94	
												20	572	601	

5^d/ T. Kerr
Major
 T/Commanding 60th. Battalion, A.I.F.

SECRET.15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTIONS SERIES "D" No.1.Ref. Sheet 62.C. 1/40,000.8th Sept 1918.1. INFORMATION.

(1) The enemy's rearguards have been pressed back towards the HINDENBURG LINE. Our Light Horse Patrols report the area West of Railway Line running from R.2.C. to VERMAND clear of enemy. VERMAND is apparently occupied by Machine Guns.

(11) There are three Lines on which resistance may be expected

(a) The HARGICOURT-LE VERQUEIR-MAISSEMY-HOLNON Line.

(b) The old British Line, VILLERET-PONTRUET-FAYET.

(c) The HINDENBURG LINE.

(111) The 5th Aust. Div. front runs approx. R.5. - spur South of VENDELLES -BOYECOURT- through R.29. with patrols in advance.

2. INTENTION.

The Division is to establish its lf on general line VENDELLES-Point 116. in R.13.C. - high ground running due South from this point, maintaining touch with the enemy by means of the Light Horse Squadron.

3. GENERAL PLAN.

(1) The main Guard of the 8th Infantry Brigade is to establish itself on the line described in Para.2.

(11) Reconnaissances by Patrols are to be pushed forward towards the BROWN LINE with the object of ascertaining whether the enemy intends to make a stand, and in this event to ascertain the ~~the~~ Line he is occupying.

(111) It is anticipated that there will be a halt period of at least 24 hours.

(2)

4. UTILISATION OF HALT PERIOD.

The Halt period is to be utilised:-

(1) To rest the advanced guard troops as much as possible.

(11) To reconnoitre Artillery positions and to bring forward the Artillery with a view to dealing with the enemy resistance on the HARGICOURT-LEVERQUIER-MAISSEMY-HOLNON position

(111) To organise Brigade Areas and Lines of supply, and to perfect communications. A reconnaissance of the roads in the Divisional area is to be made with a view to their classification

5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(signed) H.R. GOLLAN, Capt.
 Brigade Major.
 15th Australian Infantry Brigade,

Distribution.

A. Company. C. Company.
 B. Company D. Company.

60th Battalion,
 10th September 1918.

The above copy of 15th Aust. Inf. Brigade Preliminary instructions are forwarded for your information.

Please acknowledge.

A/Adjutant, 60th Battalion, A.I.F.

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APPENDIX

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SECRET.

Copy No.

60th Battalion order No.
Ref. Sheet 622.620.
1740,000.

9th September 1918.

1. The 60th. Battalion will move to area O.1. and O.7. to day, 9th. Sept-ember 1918.
2. Two men per company and headquarters details will report to Lieut. C.G. WELLINGTON, Bn.H.Q. at 9.30 a.m. this morning and will proceed thence to Railway Bridge I.33.d.8.3. where they will report to Staff Captain at 11 a.m.
3. Starting Point O.18.a.9.0.
Order of March H.Q., A.Coy., B.Coy, C.Coy, D.Coy.,
with 100 yards between Companies.
Time of Starting 1.15 p.m.
4. Dress :- Fighting Order, blankets rolled in waterproof sheet and attached to Web Belt below Haversack.
5. One Lewis Gun will be carried per Company and the usual precautions against hostile aircraft taken.
6. Remaining Lewis Guns and Magazines and Officers Valises will be taken to Q.M.Store by 12 noon.
Mess and Orderly Room Boxes will be taken to Q.M.Store by 12.45 p.m.
7. Officers Chargers to be at Starting Point at 1.15 p.m.
8. Cookers will travel with Transport.
9. Transport Orders will be issued separately.
10. Completion of Move will be reported to Bn.H.Q.
11. Acknowledge.

F. J. Howells

.....Lieut.
Adjutant, 60th. Battalion, A.I.F.

Distribution

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WAR DIARY FOR THE Q.M. STORES, FOR PERIOD 1st SEPT.
TO 27th INCLUSIVE.

This period was chiefly taken up with forward work as the Battalion were advancing.

Rations were delivered in every case in good time, and two hot meals were delivered daily.

The locations of our camps were changed at frequent intervals to keep in touch with the Battalion.

Equipping and reclothing was not commenced until the middle of the month. The supply of clothing was plentiful, and thus enabled us to carry out the work quickly.

The work of the pioneers was very heavy in building and establishing our new camp, which when complete was very comfortable.

On the 27th September, word was received to demobilise and all stores had to be returned to D.A.D.O.S. This occupied three days. A very satisfactory return was made, and receipts sent to Brigade for transmission to A.D.O.S.

Transport personnel were handed over complete to O.C. 5th Divisional Train, and receipts obtained.

The work of salvaging the camp was carried out by a party of the 59th Battalion, and salvage returned to 5th D.A.D.O.S.

The supply of comforts and sports material was very good, and was appreciated very much by the men.

Fat returned to Supply was well up to previous returns; up to the 26th inst.—1457 lbs.

Personnel of Store reported back to Companies for duty with the Battalion.

R.Q.M.S. Varley proceeded to Australia for 6 months furlough.

H. Varley Capt.
O.M. 60th Bn. A.I.F.

September 1st. Location N. 9. b.

Three hot meals delivered to Battalion at the following hours:- 4.15 a.m., 12.30 p.m., and 5. p.m. Dry rations at 12.30. p.m. The Battalion moved forward at 3 p.m. to new location. New route reconnoitred. Good issue of goods from Australian Comfort Fund.

September 2nd. Location N. 9. b.

Breakfast delivered to Battalion at 3.30 a.m. Battalion then moved forward to Peronne, and the route reconnoitred again, and rations and hot meal reached them at 7.30 p.m; C.Q.M.S. Bryant wounded at Ration Dump. Store and Transport line was bombed by enemy planes at 0.30. Three animals wounded.

September 3rd. Location N. 9. b.

Rations delivered at Ration dump at 3.15 a.m., and at 8 p.m. Two hot meals and dry rations. The Battalion took over front line. Road to Ration dump was subjected to gas and shell fire. Blankets moved forward from Vaire to Assevillers and stored.

September 4th. Location N. 9. b.

Breakfast delivered at 3.30 a.m. and evening meal, and dry rations at 10 p.m. A. Company and Head Quarters returned to position near Barleux. Blankets and hot meals were ready when they marched in.

September 5th Location N. 9. b.

A. Company moved forward and attached to both Battalion. Breakfast was delivered to them at 3 a.m. Meals for B. Company, and C. Company at 3.30 a.m. Instruction to move cookers to I. 32. D 3.3. These went forward and they found the Battalion was not moving. Hot meals were prepared in this location, and delivered to three Companies at 12.30 a.m. 34 cases of comforts were drawn from the 5th Divisional Funds.

September 6th Location O. 13h. D. 5.4.

Transport lines and Battalion Stores were moved from N. 9. b. to O. 13. D. 5.4. Breakfast was delivered to Battalion at 8.30 a.m. and rations delivered to Companies and H.Q. at 6 p.m. The cookers moved to Company locations at 4.30 p.m. Clean clothes were drawn and the men bathed in the Somme river. The Nucleus marched in and rations were issued at 8. p.m. Comforts were issued to Battalion - Cigarettes, Tobacco, Fruit, and general mixed comforts.

September 7th

Location O. 24 Central.
Transport lines and Store were moved from O. 13. :. 54 to O. 20. Central. Cookers moved with Companies and hot meals were ready on arrival. Blankets issued to troops. Rations delivered to Companies at 5 p.m. A. Coy rejoined Battalion.

WAR DIARY Continued -

- September 8th Location 0.24 Central.
Rations delivered to Q.M. Stores by 2nd line transport. Rations delivered to Coys at 3 p.m. Indents submitted to DADOS. for re-equipping. Bootmaker repaired boots of C. and B. Coy.
- September 9th Location 0.24 Central
Orders issued to move to position near Barleax. Cookers moved with transport. Hot meals were provided and rations delivered on arrival in new camp at 0.13 D.5.4.
- September 10th Location 0.3 D. 5.4.
Cookers established with Coys and Cookhouses built. Kit stores shifted from Vaire to present location. Rations were delivered at 3 p.m. Heavy rain all day.
- September 11th Orders received to shift Transport before noon to location. Inspections made of Coys, and indents submitted to DADOS. The Battalion Stores recalled. Iron rations and Water bottles. Large quantities of R.E. material carted to make camp for Battalion. Rations delivered at 3.30 p.m.
- September 12th Clothing drawn from DADOS. Battle stores returned as per Brigade Order. Stores built in new area, and material carted again, for making of camp. Raining very heavily. Rations issued at 4.30 p.m.
- September 13th Rations delivered at 3. p.m. Shortages taken from Coys and supplied. Good issue of goods received from Australian Comfort Fund.
- September 14th Rations delivered at 3.30 p.m. Comforts issued to Battalion, included - Cocoa, Milk, Sweets, Biscuits, and Cigarettes and tobacco.
- September 15th Rations issued at 3. p.m.
- September 16th Rations issued at 3. p.m.
- September 17th Rations issued at 4.p.m.
- September 18th Rations issued at 3.p.m.
- September 19th Rations issued at 2.30 p.m. Raining all day.
- September 20th Rations delivered at 3. p.m. Indents received from Coys for shortages and supplied.
- September 21st Rations issued at 4. p.m.
Wintery weather.

September 22nd.

Rations issued at 2.30 p.m. RQMS Varley left for furlough, 2 months~~X~~ to Australia. Duties taken over by CQMS Bowen.

September 23rd

Rations delivered at 3. p.m. Raining all day. Good lot of comforts received from Australian Comfort Fund.

September 24th

Rations issued at 3. 30 p.m. Cardigans in store delivered to Companies.

September 25th

Rations issued at 5. 30 p.m. Comforts including - Fruit, tobacco, cigarettes, butter, cocoa, and milk, delivered to the Battalion. Orders received to return establishment to DADOS.

September 26th

Rations issued at 4.30 p.m. Returned Batt stores to DADOS. Transport moved out from Batt. location.

September 27th

Balance of stores returned to DADOS. The Battalion marched out as A. and B. Coy of the 59th Battalion.

WAR DIARY Continued.

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BOOTMAKER'S REPORT.

Boots repaired 160 pairs
New Boots issued 24 pairs.

ARMOURER'S REPORT

Repairs to Bicycles 9.
" Lewis Guns 14.
" & Overhauling rifles 40.
" Magazines 6.
Overhauling stock, cleaning Machine Guns, salvage, and general work.

PIONEERS REPORT

Building Officers Mess
" Sergeants "
" Shelters "
Making Boxes, Crosses, Latrine seats.
Minor work.

TAILOR'S REPORT

Repairs to clothing 50
Alterations to " New 28
Felt hats renovated 57
Pugarees made 6
Tunics cleaned and pressed 8
Breeches 9
Minor repairs etc. including chevrons and colors etc. 50.

POSTMAN'S RETURN.

Mail Matter inwards 120
" outwards 48
Registered mail to Australia 38
" U.K. 22
" received from Aust. 80
" U.K. 48
Telegrams Despatched to U.K. 9
Cablegrams Despatched to Aust. 10.

RETURNS FOR SEPTEMBER

Fat returned to Supply 1457 lbs
Paper " " 25 "
Cardboard " " 58 "

COMFORTS RECEIVED

Cocoa & Milk, 19 cases; Sweets, 3 cases;
Biscuits, 5 cases; Cigarettes, 3 cases;
Tobacco, 2 cases; Milk, 4 cases, Fruit,
4 cases; Butter 1 case.

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SALVAGE

September.

Packs, Web,	170	
Greatcoats,	120	
Jackets, Cardigan;	55	
Sheets, ground,	6	
Cap Comforters	80	
Howitzer Shell cases	10)	
Rifles G.	2)	for War Museum.
Boots Ankle,	17	
Pouches, Magazine L.M.G.	64	
Braces, Pouch Mag.	32	
Buckets "	55	
Lewis Guns "	3	
Magazines L.M.G.	30	
Overcoats	20	
Cardigan Jackets	10	
Packs, Web	30	
Tunics	2	
Putties	63	
Australian Hats	6	
Rifles M.L.E.	1	
Ground Sheets	3	
Wire, red,	2	
Telephone G.	1.	
Rifles L.M.E.	9	
Water Bottles	2	
Steel Helmets	4	