

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/14/8

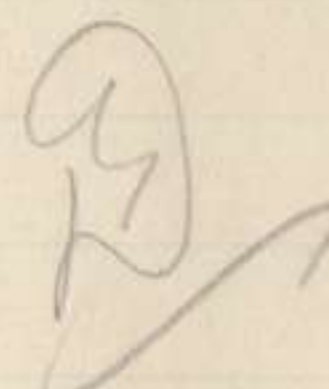
Title: 14th Infantry Brigade

November 1916




AWM4-23/14/8

D9. 14th Brigade

Date.	Place and Time.	14 th A. I. BRIGADE 1/11/16 to 30-11-16	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1/11/16	FRONT LINE.	VOLUME IV 53 rd Bn in whole of front line. 54 th Bn 2 Coy at COBHAM TRENCHES and 2 in SWITCH TRENCH. 14 th MG. Coy 4 guns front line. H.Q. at FLAG LANE. 14 th L.T.M.B. near FLAG LANE. 55 th & 56 th resting at S.I.C. 1st PW, CHAPMAN 55 th Bn slightly wounded. 2 2nd DYKES 56 th Bn KILLED Capt FANNING 56 th Bn Severely wounded.	


C.11/55.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
2/11/16	FRONT LINE.	<p>considerable hostile aerial activity and hostile shelling. Heavy with rifle fire.</p> <p>One tripod of 14th M.G. Coy blown up by a shell, the gun was being changed at the time and escaped injury. COBHAM trench received its usual shelling and also all round B.H.Q.</p>	
3/11/16	RELIEF.	<p>Attack postponed indefinitely.</p> <p>7th A.I.B. General Patton relieved 14th Bde. A tramp</p>	

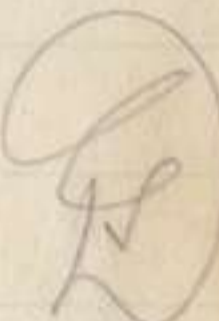
G.11/56.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
4/11/16		<p>of 3 hours through deep mud back to CARLTON CAMP which was reached by majority of Bde at 2.45 am. 55th & 56th marched to FRICOURT CAMP. B.H.Q. 14th M.G. by 2 L.T.M.B., CARLTON CAMP to FRICOURT CAMP. 55th & 56th FRICOURT - RIBEMONT</p>	
5/11/16		<p>B.H.Q. etc FRICOURT - RIBEMONT where whole Bde are now concentrated except H.Q. & 50% of No 3 Sig Section who were kept behind to assist 7th Bde.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">D R</p>

C.11050.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
6/11/16	RIBEMONT	Men did march well although tired & footrows owing to wet boots. Major N.H. CHARTERIS Brigade Major on board to England to Machine Gun School Crantham.	
7-11-16	"	In billets at RIBEMONT.	operative
8-11-16	"	Bde group moved in busses to RAINNEVILLE - COISY and CARONNETTE arriving at dusk. Bde H.Q. at the first named place.	ade NO 47 

G.11-55.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
11-11-16	RAINNEVILLE	<p>Visited by the Commander-in Chief who inspected the 54th and 55th Battalions at work on their ordinary training. Time did not permit of an inspection of 53rd + 56th Battalions.</p>	
16-11-16	do	<p>Visited by G.O.C. A.I.F., who spent the morning amongst the troops, ordinary training was gone on with - Baths had been arranged and Battalions are filling</p>	


C.11159.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		as many men through per day as the accommodation will allow.	
17-11-16	RAINNEVILLE	Inspection of 54 th & 55 th Battalion Transport; by The G.O.C. Division visited Bde. in the afternoon.	
19-11-16	BOIRE	The Brigade moved from the Training Area to Corps Reserve Area, embussing at junction Allonville-Caisy & Rainneville-Amiens Roads & debussing	Operation Order 48 D


C.11050.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
19/11/16 contd		on road south of junction RIBEMONT-BAIZEUX & ALBERT-AMIENS road, & proceeded to take over Corps duties; Bde H. Q being established at Buire; 3 rd Brigade handing over.	
20/11/16 20/11/16	BOIRE	All Brigade excepting 54 th B ^{ny} (less 2 Platoons) & 2 Coy of 53 rd B ^{ny} M.G. & T.M. left on working parties: remainder billeted ^{15th Bact} BOIRE. Major G.F. DICKINSON took over duties of Brigade major.	Q
21/11/16	MAMETZ	The Brigade less detached units & work parties moved	Operation Order 49

C.11/56.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
24/11/16 Contd.	MAMETZ	from Corps to Divisional Reserve Area + was camped in MAMETZ Camp.	
22.11.16.	.	56 Bn. moved to MONTAUDAN Camp. All detached duties relieved except 2 Coy's hollow siding.	
25.11.16	.	2 Coy's hollow siding relieved. 53 Bn. moved to MONTAUDAN Camp 56 Bn. moved to Reserve Camp BONAFIE Wood.	

C.11/56.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
26-11-16.	MARNETZ CAMP.	<p>Lt Col. Cranchaw Returned from leave and resumed command of the</p> <p>53: Pm. Sluts found for day</p> <p>53: Pm. mal RE circuit</p> <p>54 on to setting BONAFIE WOOD</p> <p>55 on to setting Tramway</p> <p>56 on to setting BONAFIE WOOD.</p>	
27-11-16.	"	<p>Sluts supplied as for previous day. Brigade H.Q. moved to QUARRY via MONTAUBAN. office opened at QUARRY (RS 22d9.4.)</p> <p>at 2.30 pm</p>	

C.11-56.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
28.11.16	Quarry	Capt Street returned from leave and resumed duties as staff Captain G.O.C and B. Co. visited "Reserve Line" of 15 Aus Inf Bde. Orders issued for relief of 15 Aus Inf Bde by 14 Aus Inf Bde	APP.
29.11.16.		56 Pm moved to Switch Tr. 55 . moved from barnets to Bonaparte	
30.11.16.		56 Pm moved to front line 55 Pm moved to Switch Tr. A. Coy and LTM B moved to Bonaparte	<p>Order issued Bryson 14 17.1.16 3/1/16</p>

C.11/56.

INSTRUCTIONS for THE ATTACK.

1. The 14th. Brigade will take the following objective :-
GIRD SUPPORT TRENCH from about M.18.a.2.2. to where it crosses the road in M.18.c.8.8. thence to M.18.c.10.9. thence along the old gun pits in M.18.d. to BANK TRENCH where it crosses the SUNKEN ROAD in M.18.d. to M.18.d.10.5. thence to the junction of BAYONET TRENCH with the SUNKEN ROAD N.13.c.4.2. thence along that SUNKEN ROAD to its junction with our present line in N.13.a.4.8.
2. On the objective being taken a line will be held in it or within 100 yards beyond it for the day, with groups in shell holes &c. machine Guns coming up to assist in holding the line.
3. Between BAYONET TRENCH and our present front line, the line may be just west of the sunken road, but a block and a bombing post will be established in BAYONET TRENCH. It may also be necessary to establish a block and bombing post in BANK TRENCH east of the line finally occupied.
4. The attack will be made as for a single objective except for the MAZE GIRD TRENCH and the portion of BAYONET TRENCH between our front line and the objective for which the barrage will halt 200 yards beyond the MAZE etc., until + 13.
5. Brigade Orders will either detail parties or direct Battalions to detail parties (naming ~~xxxxxxx~~ their strength), to occupy the MAZE, the portion of BAYONET TRENCH included in the advance and the portion of GIRD TRENCH and GIRD SUPPORT included in the advance which is not the final objective. These parties should include bombers.
6. These parties will occupy and prepare for defence the line GIRD TRENCH, north trenches of MAZE BAYONET TRENCH, as a support to troops holding the objective.
7. The attack will be made with 3 Battalions at full available strength. The fourth Battalion of the Brigade being in a position of assembly not further back than the line of COBBAM TRENCHES ready to occupy the front line if required.
8. As soon as the objective is taken, the line will be thinned to the minimum required to hold the objective, the remainder being withdrawn to BANK TRENCH in M.18.d. to GIRD SUPPORT TRENCH east of the sunken road in M.18.c. and to GIRD TRENCH west of that road to the Divisional Boundary (see para.13)
9. The 5th. Brigade will assist the 14th. Brigade as follows:-
AT ZERO it will push forward machine Gun parties into shell holes commanding BAYONET TRENCH as far east as N.13.d.6.3. and will also direct machine Gun fire on BAYONET TRENCH eastward to the eastern boundary of the Division. The parties pushed forward will also endeavour to get fire on JUICE ALLEY. The 5th. Brigade will also, as soon as possible, construct a T shaped strong point at its junction with the 14th. Brigade.
10. The 14th. Brigade will consolidate its position in or beyond the objectives at nightfall.
11. Engineer parties will construct strong points at nightfall.
 - (a) where the new line crosses BAYONET TRENCH.
 - (b) where the new line crosses BANK TRENCH.
 - (c) about M.18.c.10.9.
 - (d) at our junction with the 50th. Division which is attacking on our left.

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- 12. Pioneers under Engineer direction will construct communication trenches at nightfall.
- 13. It should be possible to consolidate by day everything except the furthest position but in any case the troops in each position are to consolidate the line they are holding.
- 14. Field Artillery barrage will commence ^{Second} ~~at~~ creep at + 13 minutes, and will halt at from 200 to 300 yards beyond the final objective.

4/11/16

[Handwritten Signature]

MAJOR.

Brigade Major. 14th. Aus. Inf. Brigade.

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some words like "The division will be ready to move..." are faintly visible.]



OPERATION ORDER NO 45

by Brig Gen Hobbs D.S.O.

Comdg 14th A.I. Bde

In the field 2/11/16

- (1)(a) The 14th A.I. Bde will be relieved by the 7th A.I. Bde as follows:-
- (b) On 3/11/16. 55th and 56th Bns will march from S16 c to FRICOURT CAMP. being relieved by 7th Bde
- (c) On afternoon or evening of and during the night of 3rd/4th November 1916 the 53rd and 54th Bns will march from front-line to S16 c. Being relieved by 7th Bde.
- (d) On 4/11/16 the 55th & 56th Bns will march from FRICOURT to RIBEMONT VIA MEAULTE.
- (e) On 4/11/16 (same date as (d)) 53rd and 54th will march from S16 c to RIBEMONT ~~to~~ VIA MEAULTE.

- (2) Advanced parties from 7th Bde will arrive at B.H.Q. M36 c 3.2 at 10. am 3/11/16. Guides will be sent by units as follows to meet them.
- 53rd Bn 1 Guide per coy. 2 Guides for Lewis Guns (one for each sector of front-line). 2 Guides for Regimental signallers.
- 54th Bn 1 Guide per coy. 2 Guides for Regimental Signallers.
- 14th M.G. Coy 1 Guide per section in front-line and one Guide for FLAG LANE.
- 14th L.T.M.B. 1 Guide for T.M. Battery H.Q. M36 c 1.1 B.H.Q. 1 Guide for showing H.Q. dumps.
- No 3 Signal Section & messengers to show lines, and offic men as required.
- All guides will rendezvous at M36 c 8 6

under cover of the bank at that place. Lt SCHOFIELD will meet advanced parties of incoming units at M 35 D 84 and will direct them to the Guides rendezvous at M 30 C 8.6.

(3) All tools will be collected, checked and stacked ~~collected~~ into dumps as per instructions already issued to O.C.'s 53rd & 54th Bns. All front line dumps of grenades, S.A.A. Sand bags, flares, and S.O.S. Rockets will be handed over to relieving units.

Receipts will be obtained for all above mentioned articles and forwarded to B.H.Q. at RIBEMONT on arrival there.

Full petrol water tins ~~and empty tins~~ ~~and empty tins~~ will be handed over to relieving units and empties returned to transport bins on ration mules.

(4) All details will rejoin their units and march with them.

(5) 14th M.G. Coy and 14th L.T.M. Battery will move to S 16 C as soon as relieved and await orders.

(6) Relief complete will be conveyed to B.H.Q. at M 30 C 32 by telephone by using the code word "MAFEISH"

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 9.30 pm

Copies to

53rd 54th 55th 56th

14th M.G. Coy. 14th L.T.M. Battery

5th Division. War Diary.

8th Inf Bde. 14th Field Coy R.E. 8th Field Ambulance

N.K. Charlton Major

Bugade Major

14th A.I. Bde