

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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/39/1

**Title:** 4th British Division

September 1916



AWM4-1/39/1

4th DIVISION.

G.S. 1st - 17th September 1916.

Admin.1st - 13th September 1916.

G.O.C.R.A. 1st - 12th September 1916.

10th Infantry Brigade. 1st - 16th September 1916.

1st Bn. R. Warwickshire Regt. 1st - 11th September 1916.

2nd Bn. Seaforth Highlanders. 1st - 16th September 1916.

1st Bn. R. Irish Fusiliers. 1st - 11th September 1916.

2nd Bn. Royal Dublin Fusiliers. 1st - 16th September 1916.

11th Infantry Brigade. 1st - 12th September 1916.

1st Somerset Light Infantry. 1st - 12th September 1916.

1st East Lancashire Regt. 1st - 13th September 1916.

1st Hampshire Regiment. 1st - 14th September 1916.

1st Rifle Brigade. 1st - 10th September 1916.

12th Infantry Brigade. 1st - 10th September 1916.

1st R. Lancs. Regiment. 1st - 16th September 1916.

2nd West Riding Regt. 1st - 10th September 1916.

2nd Lancs Fusiliers. 1st - 25th September 1916.

2nd Essex Regiment. 1st - 12th September 1916.

A.D.M.S. 1st - 11th September 1916.

-----

WAR DIARY - 4TH DIVISION GENERAL STAFF.

\*\*\*\*\*

RENINGHELST.

1ST SEPTEMBER.

Situation unchanged.

Following relief in accordance with Operation Order No.55 of 28th August completed.

King's Own relieved by 8th Bn. 2nd Australian Brigade, 1st Australian Division in Left Sub-Sector, Right Sector.

King's Own moved to POPERINGHE.

Operation Order No.56 issued:-

On 4th September 10th Brigade H.Q. and three battalions will move from Camps ST LAWRENCE Area to PROVEN and K.L.M. Camps. 1 Battalion will move to POPERINGHE.

Following moves of 12th Brigade will take place on 4th September.

Brigade H.Q. and 2nd W.Riding Regt. from Canadian Corps area POPERINGHE to VIII Corps area POPERINGHE.

Lancs.Fus.(less 2 Coys) from POPERINGHE to ELVERDINGHE. 2 Companies Lancs.Fus.from POPERINGHE to BRANDHOEK.

King's Own (less 2 coys) from POPERINGHE to BRANDHOEK. 2 Coys.

King's Own from POPERINGHE to 'L' Works.

Essex Regt. from POPERINGHE to P. Camp.

RENINGHELST.

2ND SEPTEMBER.

Situation unchanged.

Command of line from YPRE - COMINES Canal to TRENCH 55 inclusive passed to G.O.C. 1st Australian Division in accordance with Operation Order No.55 of 28th August. Seaforth's and Irish Fusiliers moved to Camp ST LAWRENCE area.

Relief of Right and Centre Groups 4th. Divisional Artillery by 1st Australian Divisional Artillery completed.

Warwick's moved from WINNIPEG Camp to Camp ST LAWRENCE Area.

Dublin's on relief in Right Sub-Sector, Centre Sector, by battalion 1st Australian Brigade moved to Camp ST LAWRENCE Area.

RENINGHELST.

3RD SEPTEMBER.

Situation unchanged.

RENINGHELST.

4TH SEPTEMBER.

Situation unchanged.

Following moves took place in accordance with Operation Order No.56 of 1st. September.

Warwick's from WINNIPEG to Camp M.

Irish Fus.from TORONTO to Camp L.

Seaforth's from ST LAWRENCE to Camp K.

RENINGHELST.

4TH SEPTEMBER (Continued).

289c

Dublin's from ERIE to POPERINGHE.  
10th Bde H.Q. from ST LAWRENCE to  
PROVEN.

Relief of 114th Brigade (38th Division)  
by 12th Brigade in ELVERDINGHE - BRAND-  
HOEK Area completed.

RENINGHELST.

5TH SEPTEMBER.

Situation unchanged.

6TH SEPTEMBER.

RENINGHELST.

Situation unchanged.

Operation Order No.57 issued.  
The 2nd Australian Division will take  
over the line at present held by the  
4th Division from TRENCH 55 (exclusive)  
to the YPRES - MENIN Road (inclusive).  
11th Brigade will be relieved by 5th  
Australian Brigade on nights 8/9th and  
9/10th September.  
After the relief has taken place, 11th  
Brigade will be billeted in POPERINGHE  
and will move to BOLLEZEELE Area on 11th  
inst.  
G.O.C.4th Division will hand over command  
of the line to G.O.C. 2nd Australian Divn.  
at 10 am. on 10th September at which hour  
4th Div.H.Q. will close at RENINGHELST  
and re-open at ESQUELBEC.

7TH SEPTEMBER.

RENINGHELST.

Situation unchanged.

RENINGHELST.

8TH SEPTEMBER.

Situation unchanged.

RENINGHELST.

9TH SEPTEMBER.

Situation unchanged.

Relief of E.Lancs. in Right Sub-Sector,  
and Som.L.I. in Brigade support by units  
of 5th Australian Brigade completed.  
E.Lancs. and Som.L.I. moved to POPERINGHE.

RENINGHELST.  
ESQUELBEC.

10TH SEPTEMBER.

Relief of Rifle Bde. in Left Sub-Sector  
completed.  
Hamps.R. moved from MONTREAL Camp to  
POPERINGHE.  
Rifle Bde moved to POPERINGHE.

10 a.m.

Command of the line from TRENCH 55 (excl.)  
to the YPRES - MENIN Road (incl.) passed  
to G.O.C. 2nd Australian Division.  
H.Q.4th Division established at ESQUELBEC.

Operation Order No.58 issued.

ESQUELBEC.

10TH SEPTEMBER (Continued).

2900

In accordance with orders received from Second Army the following units of 4th. Division will march on 11th September to billets near DUNKERQUE.

11TH INF.BDE.  
29TH F.A.BDE.  
12TH FIELD AMBCE.  
No.3 COY, DIV.TRAIN.

Full report as to reason for this move is attached marked "A".

ESQUELBEC.

11TH - 13TH SEPTEMBER.

Division at rest.

ESQUELBEC.

14TH SEPTEMBER.

Division at rest.

Operation Order No.59 issued.  
The units of the 4th Division which are at present in the DUNKERQUE Area will return to the Second Army area on 15th inst. as under.

11th Brigade to BOLLEZEELE Area.  
29th F.A.Bde to HOUTKERQUE Area.  
12th Field Ambce. to WATOU Area.

The move will be carried out under orders to be issued by Gen. Rees Commdg.11th Brigade.

ESQUELBEC.

15TH SEPTEMBER.

Move of units specified in Operation Order No.59 completed.

ESQUELBEC.

16TH SEPTEMBER.

Operation Order No.60 issued.

4th Division with S.A.A. and Grenade Portion of the Divisional Ammunition Column - less Divisional Artillery, Medium and Heavy Trench Mortars and Motor Vehicles will begin to entrain night 16/17th September for the South and will be replaced in VIII Corps by the 7th Division.

Entrainment orders etc., for the move are attached.

17TH SEPTEMBER.

Move of 4th Division in accordance with Operation Order No.60 in progress.

29/c  
4th DIVISION - OPERATION ORDER No. 57.Reference Sheet 33 S.P.  
(1/20000).

6th September, 1918.

1. The 2nd Australian Division will take over the line at present held by the 4th Division from Trench 55 (exclusive) to the YPRES - LEMIE Road (inclusive).
2. (a) The 5th Australian Brigade will relieve the 11th Brigade in the line; the relief will be carried out in accordance with the attached table - Appendix A.  
All other details will be arranged between G.O.C. of these Brigades direct.
- (b) The 11th Brigade after relief will be billeted in POPERINGHE and will move to BOLLEZEELE area on 11th inst. by train.
3. Artillery reliefs will be carried out subsequently to the relief of the infantry under arrangements to be made between G.O.C. R.A. 4th Division and 2nd Australian Division.
4. Relief of R.E. and Pioneer Battalions will be arranged between C.R.E. 4th Division and C.R.E. 2nd Australian Division.
5. Relief of Field Ambulances will be arranged between A.D.M.S. 4th Division and A.D.M.S. 2nd Australian Division direct.
6. All dumped S.A.A., Grenades, Stoke Mortar Amm., trench stores, Secret and 1/10000 maps and aerial photos will be handed over to relieving units.
7. Completion of all reliefs will be reported to 4th Division Head Quarters.
8. G.O.C. 4th Division will hand over command of the line to G.O.C. 2nd Australian Division at 10 a.m. on 10th September.
9. 4th Div. H.Q. will close at RENINGHELSF at 10 a.m. 10th instant and will reopen at ESQUELERS at the same hour.
10. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 10 am.

*W. J. ...*  
Major,  
General Staff, 4th Div.

Copies to 10th, 11th, 12th Inf. Brigs.  
4th Div. Arty.  
4th Div. Engrs.  
4th Div. Q.  
4th Div. Sig. Co.  
A.D.M.S. 4th Div.  
21st W. Yorks. R. (Pioneers).  
A.P. 4th Div.

11 I Anzac Corps.  
12 5th Corps.  
14 2nd Australian Div.  
15 1st Australian Div.  
16 29th Division.  
17 War Bureau  
18 File

DATE.	UNIT.	FROM.	TO.	REMARKS.
Night 8/9th Sept.	11th Inf. Brig. 1st E.Lanc. R.	Trenches Right Sub-sector.	POPERINGHE.	{ Relieved by units 5th Australian Brigade. { Personnel by train from ASYLUM. {
	1st Som. L.I.	Trenches Brigade Support.	POPERINGHE.	
	11th M.G.Coy.	Trenches.	POPERINGHE.	
Night 9/10th Sept.	11th Inf. Brig. 1st Hamps. R.	MONTRÉAL Camp.	POPERINGHE.	By March Route.
	1st Rif. Brig.	Trenches Left Sub-sector.	POPERINGHE.	{ Relieved by units 5th Australian Brigade. {
	11th T...Bty.	Trenches.	POPERINGHE.	{ Personnel by train from ASYLUM. {
	Brig. H.Q.	YPRES Ramparts.	POPERINGHE.	G.O.C. 11th Inf. Brig. will hand over command of the line to G.O.C. 5th Australian Brig. on completion of the relief.

2920

2930

W. D. C.

- S E C R E T -  
\*\*\*\*\*

Copy No: 11

4th DIVISION OPERATION ORDER NO: 58  
\*\*\*\*\*

10th Sept 1916.  
\*\*\*\*\*

1. In accordance with orders received from Second Army, the following units of the 4th Division will march on 11th September to billets near DUNKIRK.
  - (a) 11th Infantry Brigade.
  - (b) 29th Artillery Brigade.
  - (c) 12th Field Ambulance.
  - (d) No: 3 Coy, Divnl Train and attached units of H.Qrs Coy.
2. Above units will march in accordance with attached table at such an hour so as to enable them to arrive in their billets by 2 p.m. 11th September.
3. On arrival they will report to Brig-Genl Rees, D.S.O. Comdg 11th Infantry Brigade and will remain under his orders.
4. Above units will ~~have~~ be rationed for the 12th instant.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*W. D. C.*

Major.

Issued at 10.30 p.m.

General Staff., 4th Division.

Copies to :-

*11th Brigade  
 29th FA Bde  
 No 3 Coy Train  
 12th FA Amb  
 H. Qrs  
 8th Coy P's  
 A.D.M.S.  
 H. Qrs Div  
 H. Qrs Signals  
 A.P.M.*



294 c EK

UNIT	FROM	TO	ROUTE
4th Inf. Bde.	BOLLEZEELE	GOUDKERQUE - TETEGHEM - ARIBOUTS CAPPEL - CAPPELLE. Bde H. Crs Admiralty Office, DUNKIRK (near Docks)	ZEGGERS CAPPEL - BERGUES. Billeting parties to report to Mayors of villages.
29th F.A. Bde.	BUSSEBOOM	B. Hqrs & 1 Bty - SPYCKER. 5 Batteries - BROUCKERQUE.	POPERINGHE - HOUTKERQUE - ZEGGERS CAPPEL - PITGAM. Billeting parties to report to Mayors of villages.
12th Field Amb.	WORMHOUDT	GOUDKERQUE	BERGUES
No. 3 Coy. Div Train.	BOLLEZEELE	GOUDKERQUE	BERGUES