

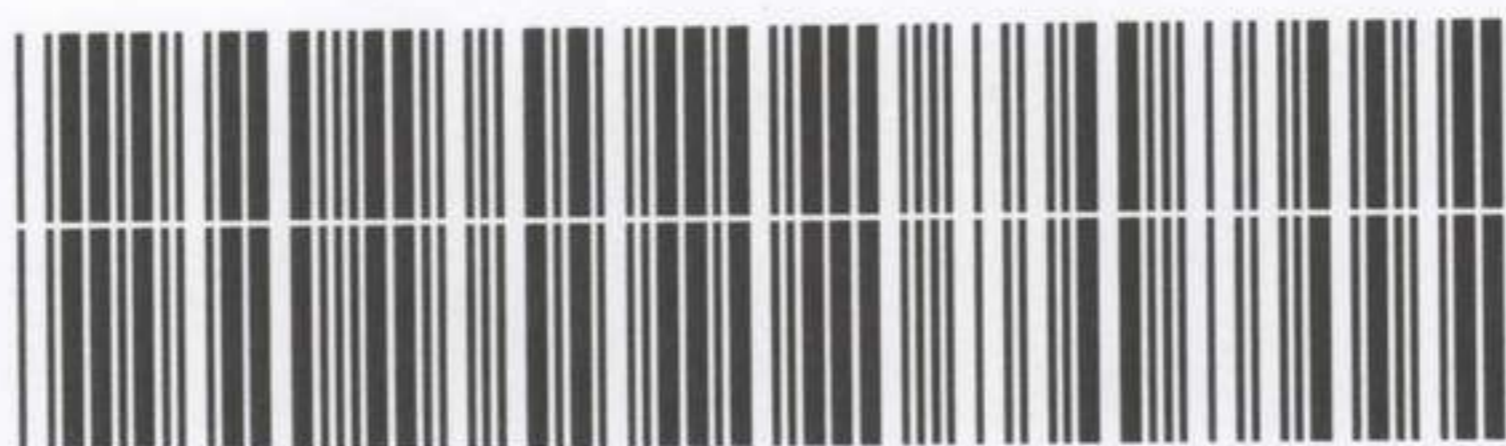
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/6/9

Title: 6th Infantry Brigade

May 1916



AWM4-23/6/9

Volume 5. (1)

Date	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached:
1916 May 1	ERQUINGHEM	Fine weather. Brigade forming Div. Reserve with Hd Qrs at ERQUINGHEM 5 th Aust Inf Bde + 7 th Aust Inf Brigade occupying front line positions	Several menus attached P
2	ERQUINGHEM	Fine weather, hazy during morning. Reserve line inspected by Brigade	P
3	ERQUINGHEM	Fine weather. Work commenced on support line to Bois GRENIER line	P
4	ERQUINGHEM	Fine weather, hazy during morning. Enemy shelled GRIS POT (A Post) no material damage Casualties Nil	P
5	ERQUINGHEM	Fine weather. Enemy shelled S.E. of ERQUINGHEM hitting FP Camps. Lt King killed	Copy of diary section attached

C.11/50.

222

Vol 5 p2

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1916 May 5	Ervinghem	Information received from 2 nd Div. at 7.40pm that enemy were attacking BRIDOUX SALIENT. Brigade ordered to "Stand By", but were not required	Copy of Defence Scheme issued P
6	Ervinghem	Fine warm weather. Work on defences continued. GRIS POT shelled, no casualties	P
7	Ervinghem	Cloudy with light showers. Situation normal. Casualties: Nil	P
8	Ervinghem	Showery & cold. Quiet day. Work on defences progressing. No casualties	P
9	Ervinghem	Cloudy with light showers. Situation normal. No casualties	P

C.11156.

Vol 5 p3

Date. 1916	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
May 10	Ervinghem	Fine weather. Conditions normal	P
11	Ervinghem	Cloudy & cool. Situation normal. Work on defences continuing. No casualties	P
12	Ervinghem	Fine & cloudy. General Burdwood visited Area & called at H.Q. No. 21 st , 22 nd , 23 rd & 24 th Bn. Situation normal	P
13	Ervinghem	Wet & dull. Court of Inquiry re attack on BRIDOUX SALIENT terminated	P
14	Ervinghem	Fine and cloudy. Genl Legge held a conference with Brigadier at 6 th Bde H.Q. Situation normal. No casualties	P
15	Ervinghem	Dull & very hazy. Both enemy & ourselves inactive. No casualties	P

2254

Vol 5 p 4

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1916 May 16	Ervington	Fine clear day. Our aeroplanes and hostile anti-aircraft guns very active. Observation good. No casualties.	P
- 17	Ervington	Fine warm day, hazy during morning. Situation normal, no casualties. Gas warning received from D4 but nothing eventuated. Lecture on Bayonet fight.	P
18	Ervington	Fine, rather hazy. Genl BIRDWOOD inspected transport lines. ERQUINGHAM	P
18	Erquinghem	shelled from 8.30pm to 9.15pm. little damage - Casualties 2 wounded	P
19	Erquinghem	Fine & warm. Lecture RVE MARLE on kind Mortars attended by Brigadier & Staff	

C.11.56.

4

Vol 5 p5

Date.	Place and Time.*		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1916 May 20	ERQUINGHEM	Fine and hazy. Brigadier & BM visit 5 th Bde Area. Situation normal No casualties	P
May 21	ERQUINGHEM	Fine & warm. ERQUINGHEM shelled in vicinity of Bde Hd-Qu. Brigadier wounded. Lt Col R. Watson took over command (temp) at 11.55 pm.	P
- 22	ERQUINGHEM	Warm & hazy. Situation normal no casualties. Brigadier evacuated	P
- 23	ERQUINGHEM	Fine & warm. Visited 7 th Bde front. Enemy artillery very active. Our retaliation effective	P
- 24	ERQUINGHEM	Dull & hazy. Situation normal	P

C.11/56.

222

Vol. 5 p 5

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1916 May 25	ERQUINGHEM	Fine & warm. Situation normal	E
- 26	ERQUINGHEM	Cloudy & warm. Situation normal	E
- 27	ERQUINGHEM	Fine & cool. Major W.K. FETHERS appointed to command 23 rd Bn, temporarily. No casualties	E
- 28	ERQUINGHEM	Fine & cool. 24 th Bn moved to new billets with Hd- Qrs at LA ROLANDERIE FARM. Situation normal. No casualties	E
- 29	ERQUINGHEM	Clear cloudy day. Artillery active on both sides. Our aeroplanes in possession of the air. No casualties. 3 companies of 21 st Bn moved to billets in RUE MARLE	E

C.11156.

6

Vol. 5 p 7

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1916 May 30	ERQUINGHEM	Cold and dull. Brigadier Bill. visited Div. HQ. Situation normal. 3 wounded	P
- 31	ERQUINGHEM	Fine - Lazy. Artillery active. Situation normal	P

C.11.54.

222

SECRET MEMORANDUM.

Brigade Headquarters,
1st May, 1918.

Map of 36 NW 1/20000

"L" Brigade, Divisional Reserve, Headquarters ..	ERQUINGHEM,
"L.A." Battalion ..	"
"L.B." " ..	RUE DONOIRRE.
"L.C." " ..	HALLOBEAU.
"L.D." " ..	JESSE FARM.
M. G. Company ..	ERQUINGHEM.
Mortar Batteries ..	"

(1) Units are expected to parade in readiness to move off within a quarter of an hour of receipt of orders. The following will be carried on the march:-

- 200 rounds S.A.A.
- 3 Sandbags.
- Packs containing Greatcoats, Iron Hatton, Mess tin only.

Surplus kit will be packed in Sandbags and left in Billets.

(2) "L.A." Battalion will move on receipt of the Alarm Order as follows - from RUE DONOIRRE, via. Railway line and RUE DE BIEZ.

Bn. Hdqrs.,	1 Co., 3 L.S.'s.	to L'ARMEE POST.
	1 Co.	LA VESSE POST.
	2 Co., 1 L.S.	RUE FLEURIE POST.
	2 Co., 1 L.S.	RUE ALLES POST.
	2 Co.	HALFWAY HOUSE "
	1 Platoon	RUE MARLE.
	1 Platoon	HOUSE, I.C.S.S.

(3) Brigade Headquarters, remaining Battalions M. G. Company will move to LA ROLANDERIE FARM (R.11) in readiness to move as required. "C" & "D" Battalions will cross the river at ERQUINGHEM BRIDGE.

Trench Mortar Batteries stand by for further orders in billets.

(4) The Reserve Division may be expected to arrive in line 10 hours after the Alarm.

(5) Detailed route reconnaissances will be carried out as under:-

L.A., L.C., L.D. Battalions Headquarters to LA ROLANDERIE FARM (R.11), thence respectively to

- BOIS CHENIER
- CROIX MARCHEAL
- RUE FLEURIE.

Further reconnaissances will include routes to the several posts in the vicinity of the above three points.

(6) Detailed orders for regimental moves as indicated above will be forwarded to Brigade Headquarters as soon as the reconnaissances are completed.

[Signature] Major,
Brigade Major.

Defence Scheme.

L. Bde - Engineering
5/5/1916

Ref. Map S.W 36 1/20000

1. The Brigade in Divisional Reserve (L. Bde) will be prepared to move from Br. Alan Post at half an hour's notice.

To ensure that this can be carried out the following orders will be promulgated forthwith.

1. No man, without a special pass, may leave his billeting area.
2. When away training, troops must be within 15 minutes march of their billets & will have a cyclist orderly, who knows their whereabouts, at Br Hdqrs.
3. On receipt of orders to "Stand by" from Bde. All units will remain in billets fully equipped & ready to fall in at a moment's notice. On being ordered to "Stand To" all units will fall in & will be moved to their Br Alan posts, with the exception of L.B. Battⁿ which will march independently to its post - The posts will be selected so that troops can move up successively into Column of route with the head of the leading Column Co. at starting point - Bns. will report when ready to move off.
2. Bns. will move to Bde. Headquarters by route as per attached table. In case of communication with B. Brigade is temporarily interrupted Bns. will move to the places indicated 15 minutes after being ordered to "Stand To", unless orders to the contrary are received.
3. The following will be carried on the march:—
 - 220 Rounds S.A.A.
 - 2 Sandbags
 - Packs containing greatcoats, worn helmets, & mess tin only - Surplus kit will be packed in sandbags left in billets

2

Order Scheme Cont.

- is boxes of S.A.A. will be placed in Co. Huts from which the additional 100 rounds will be issued, when ordered to Stand by.
- 4. Bomb supply of 1000 bombs for Bn. will be taken forward, each Co. bringing 200 bombs in canvas buckets, 20 to each.
- 5. The class at Bomb School will march to Bde. Hdqrs. before they are arrived.
- 6. M.S. Coy. will move to Holambra Town on receipt of orders to move. Lt. M. Dutton will stand by & await instructions from Bde. Hdqrs.
- 7. Transport - On receiving orders to 'Stand by' from Bde. Hdqrs. M. Line Transport will be loaded with their proper loads & water canteens filled. Animals will be kept well but will not be loaded until ordered to move.
- 8. After having the order to move, Bde. Hdqrs. will proceed to Holambra Town, where all reports etc. will be forward.

John Major

Bde. Major & Inf. Lt. Col.



5th March 1916.

- Copy no 1 Filed
- 2 Diary
- 3 21 Bn
- 4 22 Bn
- 5 23 Bn
- 6 24 Bn
- 7 Intls
- 8 1st - Am Bn
- 9 5th - Inf Bn
- 10 7 - -

Division	Battalion Area	Detail	Points	Reference point	Remarks
1 st Bn	Lesau Sarus	Bn.	Cross Roads Sq. Gray Day Erquinghem Bridge Rue de la lys Rue Delpierre	Sq. H 10 B02 W Rue Delpierre	"LA" 2 km procedure of the roads to Renderyoum
LC Bn.	Fort Rompo	Bn	Rue de la lys - Erquinghem Rue de Biez	Sq. H 10 B08 W Rue de Biez	
LD Bn.	L'Hallebeau	Bn	Cross Roads Sq. Gray Day Erquinghem Bridge - Rue de la lys - Rue de Biez	Sq. H 11 A 19 E of Rue de Biez	
LB Bn	Rue Dormont	Coy.	Rhylens - Rue des Acquets Rue Rd. C.	La Vesee Post	Roads referred to are Emergency Roads Thorough reconnaissance of roads by day & night to be carried out.
		2 Platoons } 1 Coy. }	Rhylens - Road A - Rue Marie Rd. D	Rue Neuve Post	
		2 Platoons } 1 Coy. }	Rhylens - Road A - Rue Marie Rd. E	Rue Allee P.	
		Bn HQ } 1 Coy. } 2 L. Goms }	Rhylens - Rue des Acquets Road "C"	L'Armée Post	
		2 Platoons	Rhylens - Rue des Acquets Road A	Haltway House Post.	
		1 Platoon	Rhylens Rd A Rue Marie Rd. D	Rue Marie Post 19229	
		1 Platoon	Rhylens Rd A Rue Marie	Haltway Post 11055	
M. G. Coy.		1 Coy.	Rue de la lys - Rue de Biez	Renderyoum Post.	"LA" On the march independently when ordered to "stand by"

APPENDIX

NOTE

Emergency Roads Marked 
Rendezvous 

Scale $\frac{1}{2000}$

