

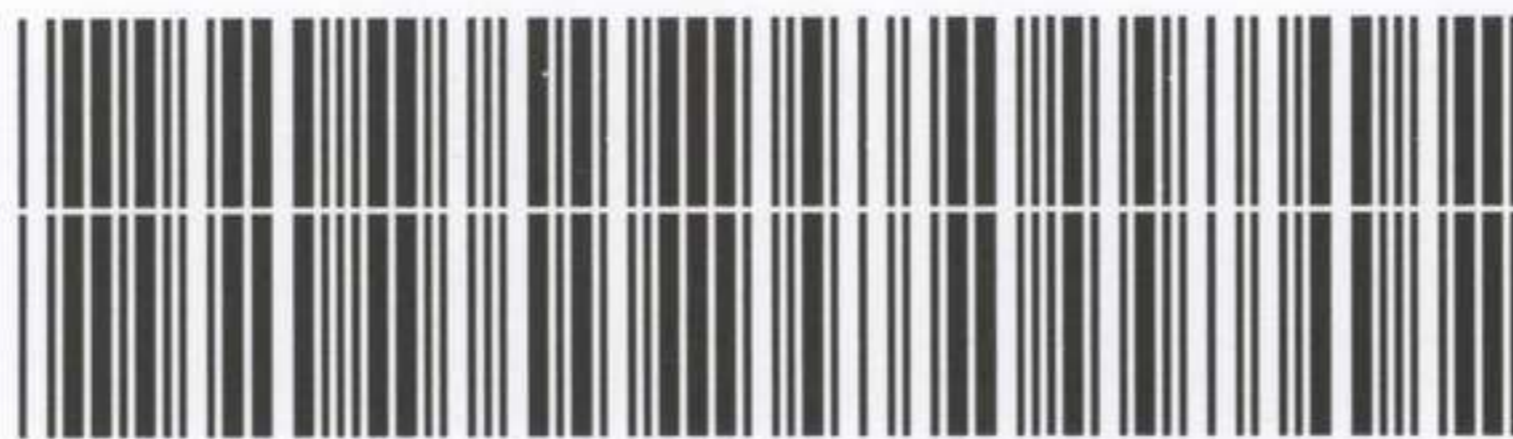
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/38/6

Title: 2nd British Division

February 1917



AWM4-1/38/6

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMLIS	1-2-17		Coy Training carried out. Cold weather still continuing.	
	4-2-17			
BRUCE HUTS	5-2-17	4.0 pm	The Battalion moved to BRUCE HUTS. Movement complete 6.15 pm. Lt. R. CES-de SECONDO joined the Battalion.	
BRUCE HUTS	6-2-17		Coy. Training + Training of Specialists carried out.	
	12-2-17			
BRUCE HUTS	13-2-17		Wire cutting demonstrations with Bangalore Torpedos carried out.	
			No 8689 C. S. M. HEAPS. W. awarded the "Medaille Militaire"	
BRUCE HUTS	14-2-17		Cold less severe - weather clear + fine	
	15-2-17	6.0 pm	The Battalion moved in relief into the front line, relieving the 24 th Bn. The Royal Fusiliers were in the RIGHT SECTOR + 1 st Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regt in part of the LEFT SECTOR. The Battalion formed the right of 2 Division in the COURCELETTE SECTOR connecting with 6 th Australian B ⁿ on the right + keeping touch with 17 th Bn. The Middlesex Regt. on our left.	Appendix A Operation Order 2 pp. 13 Movement Order
			The front line consisted of 15 posts with 12 Lewis guns. C Coy in the RIGHT sector D Coy in the LEFT with A + B Coys in support at COURCELETTE + FRASERS POST. Bn HQ at W. MIRAUMONT AUGUTS. A.	
	16-2-17	5.0 am	Relief completed. Night very dark + snow set in making movement difficult.	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	16.2.17	4.0pm	Battalion HQs moved to OLD BRN. HQs in DYKE VALLEY.	
	"	6.0pm	"A" + "B" Coys moved up in support into dugouts in YELLOW LINE. Their increasing. Intermittent shelling of tracks + dumps + DYKE VALLEY by enemy.	
	17.2.17	3.0am	2 nd Bn. South Staffordshire Regt. formed up for attack on front of our RIGHT sector.	
		5.45am	Attack launched. The Battalion cooperated with Lewis gun + rifle fire. Weather misty.	
		7.0pm	Partial relief - Battalion Relief carried out.	
	18.2.17	-	Weather still misty. Wire put up in part of our entire SECTOR. Intermittent hostile shelling.	
		8.45pm	Quartermaster store at AVELUY demolished by hostile heavies.	
	19.2.17	-	Mist still continuing but less dense. All quiet on front. Slight hostile shelling during afternoon on RIGHT Coy. posts.	
	20.2.17	-	Mist cleared during day but settled again during the night. Going very heavy.	
	21.2.17	-	Weather clear but night very dark. State of tracks + posts very bad.	
	22.2.17	-	Situation normal. Weather clear, visibility fair. Mud on tracks very bad.	
	23.2.17	7.30pm	The Battalion was relieved by 2 nd Bn. The Oxford + Buckingham Light Infantry (52 nd L.I.)	
		8	Night clearer but going very heavy.	
	24.2.17	5.30am	Relief completed. The Battalion conveyed in vehicles to BOUZIN COURT.	
			Casualties during town.	
			Officers Killed 2 nd Lt. R.C.E.S de SEGUNDO. "	
			Other Ranks " " " " " " " " " 3	
			Officers Wounded Lt + Q'ns H.E. STURBINGS	
			Other Ranks " " " " " " " " " 39	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOUZINCOURT	26.2.17	7 -	Battalion employed in re-fitting.	
ALBERT	27.2.17	3.0 pm	The Battalion moved to ALBERT.	
ALBERT	28.2.17	-	Coy training & training of Specialists carried out.	

*Class Action Log
4 - The King Reg*

*SS Honour Roll
Cuff 1/King Reg*

*2
3
17*

Hope

14th. February 1917.

Reference Sheet 57D S.E. 4/30000
" " " 57C S.W. "

Undertaken

GENERAL.

Operations will be at an early date ("Z" Day) by the 2nd. Division against an objective on the line R.12.C.50.15 -- N.14.a.15.45.

DATE.

"Z" Day and zero Hour will be notified later.

LINE GARRISON.

The Battalion will move into the line on night 13/14th. - "X"/"Y" Night - and will hold the line from No. 17 Post to No. 11 Post both inclusive.

DISPOSITIONS.

The Battalion will be disposed as under :-

Front Line.

"C" Company.....Posts Nos. ~~1~~ to 4 both inclusive. *MACE'S Post*

"D" Company and

2 platoons "B" Coy. Posts Nos. 5 to 11 both inclusive.

Support Line (Yellow Line)

"A" Company.....Posts Nos. 1 to 2a.

"B" Company.....Posts Nos. 2a & 3a.

"H.Q." Company.....Posts Nos. 3, 4, and 4a.

Lewis Guns.In Line.

Right Coy.....Posts Nos. 17, 1, 2, 3, 4.

Left Coy.....Posts Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8a, 9, 10, 11.

Yellow Line.

Reserve.....Post No. 4 (2 Guns).

ROLE OF BN.

The Battalion will assist operations by rifle and Lewis Gun fire brought to bear on known enemy M.G. Posts and strong points and prevent counter attacks. Fire will not be opened until Zero Hour (to be notified later). O.C. Front Line Posts and Officer i/c Lewis Guns will take steps to ensure that the Lewis Gun and rifle fire at their disposal is utilised to its fullest extent to co-operate with and assist the attack.

COMMAND OF

FRONT LINE.

Posts Nos. 5 to 11, both inclusive, will be under the command of O.C. 2/B. Staffords, on "Z" Night, at an hour before Zero, to be notified later.

PATROLS.

O.C. Front line posts will establish Outpost groups well in front of their posts and in touch with groups of posts on their right and left and will ensure that complete possession of "no man's land" is obtained. Enemy patrols and working parties must be dispersed.

WORK.

O.C. Front Line posts will take steps to deepen and improve their posts and will arrange for adequate cover for Lewis Gun Teams and riflemen whilst assisting in the attack operations.

COMMUNICATION.

Post Commanders will keep Battalion Headquarters fully acquainted with the situation on their front and flanks. Attention of O.C. Coys. is drawn to keys of S.A.B. Code and Playfair Cypher.

271c

ORDER NO. 27 (continued)

- 1. PRISONERS. 2/Lieut. Farworth and a Party to be drawn from "B" Coy. will take over all prisoners of war at the QUARRY at N.E. end of COURCELETTE at M.19.C. On warning of incoming prisoners being received from Brigade H.Q. 2/Lieut. Farworth will proceed to the receiving point, give receipts for prisoners, and send original escort back to the line. He will then escort prisoners to the Divisional Cage at X.10.S.3.S. Instructions for care of prisoners laid down in Apex. 7 or Bde. Order No. 244 (to be seen at Orderly Room) will be strictly carried out.
- 2. RATIONS. Two days' rations will be carried. An extra cheese ration and a meat sandwich and a chocolate ration will be issued on morning of the 15th. Os. C. Coys. will make arrangements to prevent the extra ration being consumed except as an emergency.
- 3. DRESS AND EQUIPMENT. Great Coats and ankle boots will be worn when going up. Gum Boots will be carried. Haversacks will be carried and Packs will be left in store.
- 4. GUIDES. Os. C. Coys will detail 3 men per post as guides who will make themselves thoroughly acquainted with routes to and from their posts to Bn. H.Q. and to Regtl. Aid Post.
- 5. INTELLIGENCE. Os. C. Front Line Coys. will take over intelligence information from Os. C. Coys. they relieve and will include it in their intelligence report to Bn. H.Q. on morning of 16th. instant.
- 6. MEDICAL. Regimental Aid Post will be established at No. 3 Post, YELLOW LINE (M.39.C.0.5.)
- 7. REPORTS. Reports to Bn. H.Q. at W. MIRAUMONT dugouts (Left Bn. H.Q.) up to 4 p.m. on 16th. instant. From 4 p.m. onwards (16th. inst.) to Bn. H.Q. at (YELLOW LINE old Bn. H.Q.) M.19.d.7.7.

Ally James

3/Lieut.

Issued at 5.30 p.m. a/Adjutant 1st. The King's Regiment.

- Copy No. 1 H.Q. 6th. Brigade.
- " 2 Commanding Officer.
- " 3 2nd. In Command.
- " 4 Capt. J.H. Jamison D.S.O.
- " 5 Lewis Gun Officer.
- " 6 Adjutant.
- " 7 O.C. "A" Coy.
- " 8 " "B" "
- " 9 " "C" "
- " 10 " "D" "
- " 11 " H.Q. "
- " 12 War Diary.
- " 13 Filled.

MOVEMENT ORDER

Copy No. 12

B

272c

Issued in conjunction with 1st. King's Order No. 27, 15th Feb 1917.

1. MOVES.

The Battalion will move ^{Today} tomorrow, 15th. inst., in front line relief, in the following order and times:

	Post. No.	Dep.	BRUCE HUTS.	Clear	OVILLERS.	Clear	POZIERES.
"D" Coy	(11)	4 p.m.		5 p.m.		7 p.m.	
	(10)						
	(9)						
	(8a (Coy.H.Q.)						
	(Rt.Support	2 minute intervals.					
	(19 & 8						
	(7)						
	(6)						
	(5)	4.16 p.m.		5.16 p.m.		7.16 p.m.	
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"C" Coy	(Mace's & 17	4.21 p.m.		5.21 p.m.		7.21 p.m.	
	(1)						
	(2)	3 minute intervals.					
	(3)						
	(Coy.H.Q. & 4	4.29 p.m.		5.29 p.m.		7.29 p.m.	
<hr/>							
"A" Coy	(4 & 4a.	4.34 p.m.		5.34 p.m.		7.34 p.m.	
	(Scouts, L. Gun						
	(H.Q. Coy						
	(Police Snipers						
	(3a.1 Platoon						
	("C" Coy.						
	(3 Aid post						
	(Sappers.	3 minute intervals.					
	(2a.H.Q. &						
	(1 pn. "B" Coy						
	(2a.1 Platoon						
	("A" Coy.						
	(1 1 pn. "A" Coy						
	(1 1 pn. "A" Coy	4.48 p.m.		5.48 p.m.		7.48 p.m.	

2. ROUTES.

Guides will be at E. end of ARTILLERY LANE (X.5.a.3.C.) at 7 p.m.
 "D" Coy. will relieve by ARTILLERY LANE route.
 "C" Coy. will relieve ~~via~~ ~~through~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~route~~ ~~via~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~route~~ across DYKE ROAD - track to MANCHESTER DUMP.
 "A", "B", and H.Q. Coys. and Details will proceed along main BAPAUME ROAD and DUCKBOARD TRACK to their posts in YELLOW LINE.

3. RELIEF COMPLETE.

Os. C. Coys. will send in "relief complete" certificates to Bn. H.Q. at W.MIRAUMONT Dugouts (left Bn.H.Q.) immediately the relief is completed.

4. TRENCH STORES &c.

All trench stores will be very carefully taken over. Lists of stores &c. taken over will be forwarded by runner to Bn. H.Q. as soon as relief is complete.

5. RATIONS

On night 15/16th. "D" Coy. will draw and take up at E end of ARTILLERY LANE Lewis Gun ammunition will be drawn by this Coy. at same place.
 "C", "A", "B" & H.Q. Coys. and details will draw and take up tea at point where DUCKBOARD TRACK joins main BAPAUME ROAD. In addition "C" Coy. will draw LEWIS Gun ammunition at this point. After night 15/16th. all rations &c. will be brought up to junction of DUCKBOARD TRACK and BAPAUME ROAD and carried up to all posts from that point.

Continued on page 6

MOVEMENT ORDER (continued)

6. KITS, Trench Kits will be stacked near Qr. Mr's. Stores
BLANKETS &c. by 2 P.m. Blankets will be rolled in bundles
of ten, labelled, and stacked, with men's packs in the
same place by 10 a.m. All Slippers and Service Dress
Caps will be placed in bags and stacked with the packs
at the same hour. No slippers or caps are on any
account to be taken into the line.

HANDING OVER. 3/Lieut. H. Crowder will hand over present billets.
He will be responsible that that the lines are left in
a clean and sanitary condition and will report on
completion of duty to Bn. H.Q.

W. J. Parkes

3/Lieut.

3/Adjutant 1st. Bn. The King's Regiment.

- copy No. 1. H.Q. 6th. Bde.
- " 2. Commanding Officer.
- " 3. 2nd. in command.
- " 4. Captain J. H. Jameson D.S.O.
- " 5. Lewis Gun Officer.
- " 6. Adjutant.
- " 7. C.O. "A" Coy.
- " 8. " "B" "
- " 9. " "C" "
- " 10. " "D" "
- " 11. " H.Q. "
- " 12. War diary.
- " 13. Filed.

W.F.

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ADDITION TO MOVEMENT ORDER
Issued in conjunction with A.P. KING'S ORDER NO. 37.

1. MOVES. App Post No. 1 R.Q. and 1 platoon "A" Company.

L. Markham 3/11/17

15/3/17 Adjutant 2/The King's Regt.