

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/43/28

Title: Administrative Staff, Headquarters
1st Australian Division

May 1917



AWM4-1/43/28

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

224

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. 4. Page 57.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
near BANCOURT H. 35. C. 55. Sheet 57c.	1-5-17.		Strength return of Division as per Appendix "A" A.A. + Q.M.G. visited watering parades of 2 nd , 3 rd Bdes and evening stables. Arrangements made for 9 th + 10 th Pns. to be assembled quickly from Corps working parties in case they were required in connection with contemplated attack by 2 nd Aust. Division against the HINDENBERG LINE.	
- do -	2-5-17		A.A. + Q.M.G. and D.A.A.G. inspected 5 th , 6 th and 8 th Pns. Transport lines at early morning stables. Much room for improvement was noticed; but conditions are getting better.	
- do -	3-5-17.		D.A.A.G. visited SENLIS area regarding billeting of Division consequent upon adjustment of area granted to this Division when we go out to rest.	
- do -	4-5-17		A.A. + Q.M.G. went on leave to ENGLAND.	
- do -	6-5-17		Captain B. J. Andrews, Staff Captain 3 rd Bde. who was attached to D.H.Q. for training and experience rejoined 3 rd Bde.	H. J. King Major D.A.A.G. Plans Sec

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Pol. 1/58

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																		
near BANCOURT Contd. H. 35C. 5.5 Sheet 57.C.	6-5-17		Brig General HEANE (Comdng. 2 nd Bde) was sent to Divl. Rest Station sick.																																			
			Brig. General BENNETT (Comdng. 3 rd Bde) returned from leave and was ordered to take command of 2 nd Brigade.																																			
- do -	8-5-17.		Anzac order No. 139. for relief of the Division in the line under 2 nd Aus. Div. was received. The Div. was to come back into "M" Area around BAPAUME and remain in reserve. Relief to extend over two days 9 th & 10 th . Brig. General LESLIE (Comdng. 1 st Bde) returned from leave, and Lieut. Col. Mackay resumed command of 4 th Bn.																																			
- do -	10-5-17.		Relief from 2 nd Aus. Div. area completed. Units located as shown in location report attached. Appendix "B". Troops were tired and worn out. Casualties during operations under 2 nd Aus. Division were.																																			
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="3">K. W. Officers.</th> <th colspan="3">Other Ranks</th> </tr> <tr> <th>K.</th> <th>W.</th> <th>M.</th> <th>K.</th> <th>W.</th> <th>M.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st Aus. Inf. Bde.</td> <td>5</td> <td>23</td> <td>-</td> <td>110</td> <td>688</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd Aus. Inf. Bde.</td> <td>3</td> <td>10</td> <td>-</td> <td>38</td> <td>159</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3rd Aus. Inf. Bde.</td> <td>9</td> <td>29</td> <td>-</td> <td>105</td> <td>563</td> <td>105</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		K. W. Officers.			Other Ranks			K.	W.	M.	K.	W.	M.	1 st Aus. Inf. Bde.	5	23	-	110	688	38	2 nd Aus. Inf. Bde.	3	10	-	38	159	-	3 rd Aus. Inf. Bde.	9	29	-	105	563	105	
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By [Signature] plus [Signature]

WAR DIARY

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Col. 4. p. 59

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
near BANCOURT H. 35 C. 55. Sheet 57. C.	11-5-17		Orders received from AMZAC (order no 137) that Division would relieve 11 th Division in the line between 12 th + 15 th May, but these were cancelled the same day, owing to the exhausted state of the troops after the recent hard fighting. 48 th Div. was ordered to relieve 11 th Div. and this Div. remains in "M" Area in Corps reserve.	
- do -	12/5/17		All Brigades resting and refitting. Capt. F. E. Coplestone. AA.S.C. reported for duty from 3 rd Bde as acting D.A.Q.M.G.	
- do -	13/5/17		1 st Bde. moved at 0430 to BAZENTIN to permit 48 th Division using the camp occupied by 1 st Bde as a staging area during their relief of 11 th Division. Otherwise Division resting. Major T. G. Milner M.C. (D.A.Q.M.G.) went on leave.	
- do -	14-5-17		A.A. + Q. M. G. returns from leave.	
- do -	15-5-17		A.A. + Q. M. G. (Col. C. H. FOOTT C.M.G.) went to Corps Headquarters as acting D.A. + Q. M. G. while Brig General Carruthers was on leave.	
- do -	16-5-17		Orders received for relief of 1 st Aus. Div. Artillery, and for their move to rest area near BHEMNCOURT.	
- do -	17/5/17		D.A.D. M.S. (Major J. J. Nicholas) went on leave to England. Orders received for move of Division to BAZÉUX area. Move to commence on 21 st inst.	Lt. King Major D.H.A. p. 1/2
			Commander in Chief visited D.H.Q. at 1430 and met Brigadeis and Divisional Staff and complimented them on recent work of Division.	

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Col. 11 p. 60

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Near BANCOURT H. 35C.55. Sheet 57 C.	19-5-17.		21 st A. M. G. Coy which had been attached to 5 th Aus. Division in BULLECOURT sector was relieved and moved to RIENCOURT. Capt. Coppelstone a/D. A. Q. M. G. visited BAIZEUX area re billeting the Division.	
- do -	20/5/17.		The Divisional Commander left for England on leave. Brig. General H. G. BENNETT C.M.G. (3 rd Bde) assumed temporary Command. Lieut. Col. C. H. ELLIOT. (12 th Pm) taking Command of 3 rd Bde. 1 st A. F. A. Bde. moved to Camp at W. 30. A. (near Albert) & X. 19. B. 2 nd A. F. A. Bde " " SPRING GARDENS Camp, 1 st Aus. Pioneer Bn + 1 st Hld Coy. to BAZENTIN.	
- do -	21/5/17		1 st Bde. Group moved to LAVIEVILLE + BUIRE from BAZENTIN. 2 nd Bde. Group moved to OVILLERS huts from BIEFVILLERS camp.	
BAIZEUX.	22/5/17		D. H. Q. moved to BAIZEUX chateau, 2 nd Bde to BRESLE, HENNECOURT area. 3 rd Bde + 21 st A. M. G. Coy to BAZENTIN. 1 st Aus. Divl. Artillery to BEHENCOURT area with D. A. H. Q. at BAVELINCOURT chateau.	
- do -	23/5/17		move of Division to BAIZEUX area completed. 3 rd Bde moved to RIBEMONT and 21 st A. M. G. Coy to DERHAN COURT.	

H. G. Bennett
21/5/17

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAIZEUX	24/5/17		Location of units in BAIZEUX area as per attached Location Report appendix 'C'.	
- do -	26/5/17		D. A. Q. M. G. (Major T. G. Milnes M.C.) returned from leave. D. A. D. M. S. (Major J. J. Nicholas) returned from leave.	
- do -	27/5/17		D. A. A. G. visited HENENCOURT, HENENCOURT WOOD, LAVIEVILLE and BRESLE inspecting watering arrangements for horses, etc.	
- do -	27/5/17		D. A. A. G. lectured to 5 th + 7 th Bns at HENENCOURT WOOD on "Supply and Transport in Open Warfare". A. A. + Q. M. G. returned from 10 days duty at Corps Headquarters as acting D. A. + Q. M. G.	
- do -	29/5/17		D. A. Q. M. G. lectured to 6 th Bn at BAIZEUX on "Supply + Transport in Open Warfare".	
- do -	30/5/17		D. A. A. G. lectured to 8 th Bn at BRESLE and 1 st Aust. Div. Arty at BEHEN COURT on "Supply and Transport in Open Warfare".	
- do -	31/5/17		D. A. A. G. lectured to officers of 1 st Div. Engineers ^{at HENENCOURT} on "Supply + Transport in Open Warfare".	

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Strength of Division as at 1st May, 1917.

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U N I T S.	On Establishment.			Attached.			Remarks.
	Off.	O.R.	Total.	Off.	O.R.	Total.	
Div. Headquarters.	22	65	87	8	210	218	
Div. Artillery.	80	2533	2613	3	25	28	
Div. Engineers.	27	615	642	1	49	50	
Div. Sig. Coy.	10	231	241		76	76	
Pioneer Bn.	39	1129	1168	1	7	8	
1st Inf. Bde. H.Q.	2	21	23	5	26	31	
1st Battalion.	30	785	815	3	-	3	
2nd Battalion.	26	732	758	-	-	-	
3rd Battalion.	29	880	909	-	-	-	
4th Battalion.	20	672	692	3	3	4	
1st A.L.T.M. Bty.	4	40	44	-	20	20	
1st A.M.G. Coy.	7	179	186	-	-	-	
2nd Inf. Bde. H.Q.	7	21	28	6	97	103	
5th Battalion.	40	914	954	2	7	9	
6th Battalion.	40	1088	1128	1	6	7	
7th Battalion.	36	860	896	2	6	8	
8th Battalion.	35	1043	1078	2	3	5	
2nd A.L.T.M. Bty.	4	52	56	-	22	22	
2nd A.M.G. Coy.	12	174	186	-	24	24	
3rd Inf. Bde H.Q.	2	8	10	3	55	58	
9th Battalion.	28	817	845	3	6	7	
10th Battalion.	20	697	717	2	7	9	
11th Battalion.	22	635	657	2	7	9	
12th Battalion.	22	688	710	2	10	12	
3rd A.L.T.M. Bty.	3	46	49	-	18	18	
3rd A.M.G. Coy.	6	181	187	-	-	-	
Div. Train.	25	402	427	2	89	61	
1st Fld. Amb.	10	253	263	1	4	5	
2nd Fld. Amb.	12	225	237	1	40	41	
3rd Fld. Amb.	10	268	278	1	16	17	
Salvage Company	1	62	63	-	17	17	
Mobile Vet Sect.	1	22	23	1	15	16	
21st A.M.G. Coy.	9	173	182	-	-	-	
<hr/>							
TOTALS.	641	16511	17152	51	835	886	
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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.DISPOSITION REPORT at 8 a.m. 10th May, 1917.

1st. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION HEADQUARTERS :		H.55.c. Central.
BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.	1st.A.I.Brigade Hdqrs.	N.24.b.1.4.
	2nd.A.I.Brigade ")	BIEFVILLERS.
	3rd.A.I.Brigade ")	Brigade Camp.
		BAPAUME.
1st. A.I.Brigade.	1st. Battalion.	N.24. Central.
	2nd. Battalion.	N.24. Central.
	3rd. Battalion.	N.11. Central.
	4th. Battalion.	BANCOURT.
	1st. Machine Gun Coy.)	
	1st. A.L.T.M. Battery.)	BEAULENCOURT.
	Transport.	With Units.
2nd. A.I.Brigade.	5th. Battalion.	BIEFVILLERS.
	6th. Battalion.	Brigade Camp.
	7th. Battalion.	do.
	8th. Battalion.	do.
	2nd. Machine Gun Coy.	do.
	2nd. A.L.T.M. Battery.	do.
	Transport.	do.
3rd. A.I.Brigade.	9th. Battalion.	BAPAUME.
	10th. Battalion.	do.
	11th. Battalion.	do.
	12th. Battalion.	do.
	3rd. Machine Gun Coy.	do.
	3rd. A.L.T.M. Battery.	do.
	Transport.	With Units.
DIVISIONAL TROOPS.	Divisional Train Hdqrs.	H.30.a. Central.
	S.S.O.	H.30.a. Central.
	No. 1 Company	H.30.a. Central.
	No. 2 Company	N.4.b.4.4.
	No. 3 Company	H.34.c.9.3.
	No. 4 Company	N.5.c.1.6.
Field Ambulances.	1st. Field Ambulance	POZIERES (Entraining Centre.)
	2nd. Field Ambulance	N.11. Central.
	3rd. Field Ambulance	I.1.c.5.5. VAUXE
Pioneer Headquarters.	2 Companies	BANCOURT.
	1 Company	J.1.d.5.7.
	1 Company	THILLOY.
		I.30.b.8.9.
		LEBUCQUIERE.
Engineers.	No. 1 Company Hdqrs.	H.30.b.5.5.
	No. 2 Company "	I.26.a.0.8.
	No. 3 Company "	I.32. Central.

(P.T.O.)

WEST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

DISTRIBUTION REPORT OF 8.1.1917 -2-

21st. Machine Gun Coy. Headquarters, Attached 2nd. Division.

(Loss 2 Guns)

1 Troop 15th. Light Horse

Mobile Vet. Section

Divisional Supply Column

Divisional Paymaster

D.A.D.C.S.

Divisional Wing Corps School

HAPLINCOURT.

VILLERS au FLOS.

ALBERT.

H.55.c. Central.

N.18.b. Central.

GOFF HUTS, AVELUY.

Malcolm Kennedy

Captain.

for Colonel.

General Staff.

First Australian Division.

[Faint, mirrored text from the reverse side of the page, including names like HAPLINCOURT, VILLERS au FLOS, and various military units.]

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

DISPOSITION REPORT at 8 am. 24th May, 1917.

1st AUSTRALIAN DIVISION HEADQUARTERS :		BAIZIEUX Chateau.
1st A.I. Brigade Headquarters :		LAVIEVILLE.
1st Battalion		"
2nd Battalion		BUIRE.
3rd Battalion		"
4th Battalion		"
1st Machine Gun Coy.		LAVIEVILLE.
1st A.L.T.M Battery		BUIRE.
2nd A.I. Brigade Headquarters		BRESLE.
5th Battalion		HENENCOURT.
6th Battalion		BAIZIEUX.
7th Battalion		HENENCOURT WOOD.
8th Battalion		BRESLE.
2nd Machine Gun Coy.		"
2nd A.L.T.M Battery		HENENCOURT.
3rd A.I. Brigade Headquarters		RIBEMONT.
9th Battalion		"
10th Battalion		"
11th Battalion		"
12th Battalion		"
3rd Machine Gun Coy.		"
3rd A.L.T.M Battery		"
ARTILLERY.		
1st D.A. Headquarters		BAVELINCOURT.
1st F.A. Brigade		BEHENCOURT.
2nd F.A. Brigade Hdqrs.		BEHENCOURT.
4 Batteries)		BAVELINCOURT.
		BEAUCOURT.
1st Div.Amm. Column		FRECHENCOURT.
Trench Mortar Batteries		BEHENCOURT,
21st Machine Gun Company.		DERMANCOURT.
Engineers		
1st Field Company A.E.		LAVIEVILLE.
2nd Field Company A.E.		HENENCOURT.
3rd Field Company A.E.		"
Pioneers		
1st Pioneer Battalion		DERMANCOURT.
Field Ambulances		
1st Field Ambulance		HENENCOURT.
2nd Field Ambulance		BEHENCOURT.
3rd Field Ambulance		BUIRE Div.Rost Stn.
Divisional Train		
Headquarters & S.S.O.		HENENCOURT.
No. 1 Company		BEHENCOURT.
No. 2 Company		DERMANCOURT.
No. 3 Company		BRESLE.
No. 4 Company		RIBEMONT.

(P.T.O.)

1st Mobile Vet. Section
1st Div. Supply Column
Divisional Paymaster
D.A.D.O.S.
Divisional Wing Corps School
Reinforcement Camp

BAYZIEUX FOREST.
ALBERT.
BAIZIEUX.
ALEERT.
GOUGH HUTS, AVELUY.
BOUZINCOURT.

Malcolm Kennedy

Captain.
for Colonel.
General Staff.
First Australian Division.