

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/40/17

Title: 51st Highland Division

August 1916



AWM4-1/40/17

Confidential

CONFIDENTIAL
NO 81/A
HIGHLAND
DISCUSSION

WAR DIARY

Vol 15

of

1/7 Battalion THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS

From 1st August 1916 to 31st August 1916

(Volume 25)

8754
875

WAR DIARY

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

17th Lt The Gordon High
August 1916

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LAVIÉVILLE (near)	17		Owing to uneven terrain and cramped situation of brigade only small parades, as of platoons, were possible.	RPR.
5 ^o	8	3 pm	The transport accompanied by a billeting party under Capt MULVEY, left for a new destination.	RPR.
CITERNES	9	7 am	The 153 rd Brigade entrained this morning for LONGPRÉ. We marched from Lisonac at 7 am, being the third battalion on the march. Entraining of the battalion at Railhead, MÉRICOURT-RIBEMONT, was completed by 10 am. Train routed via AMIENS. Journey to LONGPRÉ occupies 4 hours. On detraining, we marched to CITERNES via WANDEL & HALLENCOURT a distance of 10 miles. Comfortable billets awaited all ranks at CITERNES.	RPR.
CITERNES	10		The men were allowed a complete rest after the very long and narrow marching yesterday.	RPR.
CITERNES RACDINGWELL	11	9 am 1 pm 3:30 pm	Marching back to LONGPRÉ for entrainment. Sufficient time was given for the troops to have a meal before their departure from LONGPRÉ. Train left at 3:30 pm. Journey via Abbeville.	RPR. 275

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1/7 Bn. The Gordons

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RACQUINGHEM	12	4 am	BOULOGNE, CALAIS, ST OMER + HAZEBROUCK. to THIENNES we detrained at 11 pm. Continuing our march from the station we reached RACQUINGHEM at 4 am. The day was devoted entirely to rest.	RBR
B	13		Companies engaged in physical exercises, bombing instruction, and close order drill.	RBR
B	14		Work as per foregoing programme.	RBR
B	15		B.	
ARMENTIÈRES	16	4 am 10 am 12.20 pm 1.20 pm 4 pm	Transport left for ARMENTIÈRES area. Battalion passed stalling point at LA BELLE CROIX at 10 am & entrained at EBBLINGHEM at 12.20 pm along with 1/5 Gordons. Detrained at STEENWERCK at 1.20 pm. Thence marched via LES TILLEULS + PONT DE NIEPPE to billets in ARMENTIÈRES in the neighbourhood of the Rue Nationale, no. 28 of which consist of a Battalion Headquarters.	RBR S 79x

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
ARMENTIÈRES	17		<p>In the course of the morning we relieved the 2nd (Wellington) POW of the 5th New Zealand Bde. as Brigade in reserve to the left sector. Disposition of boys as follows.</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>boy</td> <td>to</td> <td>LOCK HOUSE,</td> <td>HOURLINES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>boy</td> <td>to</td> <td>TISSAGE</td> <td>5th</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+D</td> <td>1 boy</td> <td>to</td> <td>BREUVERT Factory,</td> <td>ARMENTIÈRES.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Platoon Hdqrs near Breuvert Factory.</p>	A	boy	to	LOCK HOUSE,	HOURLINES	B	boy	to	TISSAGE	5 th	C+D	1 boy	to	BREUVERT Factory,	ARMENTIÈRES.	RBR.
A	boy	to	LOCK HOUSE,	HOURLINES															
B	boy	to	TISSAGE	5 th															
C+D	1 boy	to	BREUVERT Factory,	ARMENTIÈRES.															
D ^o	18	11am	<p>Gerians shelled slightly that quarter of ARMENTIÈRES occupied by us.</p>	RBR.															
A ^o	19		<p>Short forenoon parade for C + D boys for inspection of clothing etc.</p>	RBR.															
A ^o	20	10-30 am	<p>Presbyterian church service was held in Breuvert Factory.</p>	RBR.															
Tiegele	??	1 pm 2 pm	<p>A new draft of 60 men joined us. We relieved the 1/7 Black Watch Right Battalion of the left sector. Relief commenced at 2 pm. Turn complete before 4 pm. Disposition of boys was as follows - A boy (right), B boy (center), C boy (left). "D" boy in support in Vancouver. D boy supplied 1 platoon as garrison back of the strong points FRY PAN + SPZ in accordance with the defence scheme for the sector. Battalion Hdqrs off</p>	RBR.															

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17th Bn The Gordon

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			SPAIN AV. between VAN COUVER & NEWBURN LAKE	
Trenches	13	11 am	Lieut Prosser 11th Hussar instructor at NETHERAVON reported here for some practical lessons in trench warfare which were imparted to him at first hand.	RBR
		12.30 pm	"Gas alert"	
		4.6 pm	Enemy threw large minenwerfer into ORCHARD obliterating boys bookhouse but causing no casualties.	
		8 pm	5 German cadets from G.H.Q. School at ST OMER arrived for 48 hours instruction. 3 were allocated to a Coy & 2 to C Coy. Casually 1 O.R. wounded.	
D.	24	7 am	Enemy put a few minenwerfer into Gap Japan causing no damage.	RBR
		5-6 pm	In the forenoon quietness prevailed, but in the afternoon there was the usual trench mortar activity. Our 2" T.M. fired on trenches opposite FISI. Heavy German minenwerfer were fired diagonally from 4 HALLOTS to the ORCHARD. This was succeeded by salvos of 4.2" Thrapnel on Newburn Lane.	
		6 pm	Yesterday's "gas alert" cancelled	
		6.30 pm		

817

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1/7 Bn The Gordon L.I.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trenches	25 th		There was very little activity in the course of the day except for a brief time during the afternoon when the enemy opened heavy mine warfare on the ORCHARD but he was silenced by our Howitzers.	RMR
50	26	5.30	There was a repetition of yesterday's duel between enemy T.M. + our Howitzers which ended in our favour.	RMR
50	27	6.7 am	There was a good deal of trench mortar activity at this time. Enemy brought mine warfare cross fire to play on CONSETT trench. 60-pounders badly damaging that trench. replied with effect.	RMR
BOUPLINES		2.44 pm 6.36	Battalion relieved the 1/6 Bn. Watch in the Subsidiary mine warfare. itself relieved by the 1/7 Bn. Watch from the decision. Boys were disposed as follows: remain from the right, A.D.C. Battalion Headquarters in the Chateau de la Rose, BOUPLINES.	RMR 5572

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references Appendix
HOURLINES	29			RPR
S.	29.		Major Dawson left to take up an appointment as Town Major of HEILLY- RIBEMONT.	RPR
		12 (noon)	"Gas" alert" was communicated but this signal	
N.	30.	5pm.	was cancelled at 5pm next day.	RPR
S.	31	1.30 am	1/6 P.M. 11/7 P.M. (in the line) emitted gas on enemy trenches the operation being preceded by machine gun fire to deaden the sound of the incoming gas. Our artillery and trench mortars opened intensively on German tracks and wire in preparation of a raid by 1/6 Block Watch, which collapsed in no man's land through casualties sustained from enemy shrapnel. While this operation was being conducted, our battalion in the subsidiary line stood to in readiness.	RPR

Robert Bruce Major
Aug 17 1918

588+

48 1/2

CASUALTIES during the month of
AUGUST 1916.

Unit.	Killed in Action.		Wounded		Missing		Shell Shock	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
1/7th. Gordon Highrs.	-	2	2	8	-	-	1	-

Robert Bruce

Major,

31st. August 1916.

Commanding 1/7th. Bn. Gordon Highlanders.