

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/75/15

**Title:** 58th Infantry Battalion

April 1917



AWM4-23/75/15



## 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.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field Villers-au-Flos.	1/4/17		R. C. Church service held in grounds of old Chateau. Large fatigues were supplied to the Engineers. During the morning one of our observation balloons, in Villers-au-Flos was destroyed by enemy airman; both observers threw themselves out with parachutes before the balloon went up in flames and successfully reached the ground.	
"	2/4/17		Reveille was at 5 am. and the Battalion was held in readiness to move at 10 minutes notice, to go forward and support 14 <sup>th</sup> Bde. who made an attack on Louverval and Doignies. - see copy of Bde. B.M. 1/922 & our O.I. N <sup>o</sup> 11 attached. The Bn. was not called out during the day and was ordered to remain in readiness to move at short notice.	APP. "A" & "B" attached
"	3/4/17		Reveille was again at 5 am. and the Bn. was still "standing by" in case of a counter-attack on the 14 <sup>th</sup> Bde. who had taken their objectives. We were not called out during the day.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field Villers-au-Flos.	4/4/17		Fatigues were supplied to Engineers for work on the roads.	
"	5/4/17		As we were to be relieved by 6 <sup>th</sup> Bn. in Villers-au-Flos on 6 <sup>th</sup> inst. a camp site was chosen near Beaulencourt, and a party from each Coy. was employed on pitching tents, filling shell holes and preparing the camp for occupation. One Coy. was employed on digging of Intermediate line.	
Beaulencourt	6/4/17		Relieved by 6 <sup>th</sup> Bn. in Villers-au-Flos and moved to camp near Beaulencourt. Men were employed on improving camp.	
"	7/4/17		All companies employed on Intermediate Line.	
"	8/4/17		Church Parades. Coy. Commanders & specialist officers rode out and reconnoitred ground to Velu Wood.	
"	9/4/17		The Bn. was held in readiness to move at a few minutes notice to support the 1 <sup>st</sup> Division who attacked Hermies, Boursies & Demicourt on the right Divisional sector. The Bn. was not called out and remained in camp during the day.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
In the field. Beaulencourt.	19/4/17		As for the previous day the Bn. was held in readiness to move at 10 minutes notice; the 15 <sup>th</sup> Bde. being Corps Reserve to a major operation to be carried out by 4 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Division in conjunction with 62 <sup>nd</sup> Division on their left - see 15 <sup>th</sup> A.I. Bde. Orders 95 + 96 attached. The operation was not carried out on the 10 <sup>th</sup> and we did not move from camp.	APP. "C" & "D" attached.												
Beugnate	11/4/17		Reveille was ordered for 4 am. and the Battalion remained "standing to" ready to move at 10 minutes notice. At 10-30 am. the Bn. moved out and marched to Beugnate. Transport accompanied the Bn. and only a few details such as guard etc. remained in camp. Occupied trenches between Vault and Beugnate.													
"	12/4/17		C.O. went around the line we occupied, and inspected the positions.													
			Total Effective Strength 31 off. 831 O.R.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Detached Duty</td> <td>off.</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Field amb.</td> <td>5</td> <td>42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>With Unit</td> <td>21</td> <td>705</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total.</td> <td>31</td> <td>831</td> </tr> </table>	Detached Duty	off.	O.R.	Field amb.	5	42	With Unit	21	705	Total.	31	831
Detached Duty	off.	O.R.														
Field amb.	5	42														
With Unit	21	705														
Total.	31	831														

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field Beaulencourt.	13/4/17		The Bn. returned to camp at 9 am. reaching the camp at 11 am. - see Bde. Order No 97. Coy. were allotted to their old lines. In the afternoon clothing & equipment were cleaned up. All new officers were introduced to General Birdwood in the afternoon, and No 3044 Pte. J. G. McLeod, No 3020 L/Cpl. C. E. Perkins, and No 3537 Cpl. Davies had the Military Medal ribbon presented by General Birdwood.	Appendix "F" attached
"	14/4/17		All companies were fully employed on digging and wiring the Intermediate Line for four hours from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. In the afternoon a football match was arranged between two companies.	
"	15/4/17		Word was received from Bde. at 6.45 am that the enemy was attacking & had recaptured Lagnicourt, & the 57 <sup>th</sup> & 58 <sup>th</sup> Bns. were ordered to occupy the Intermediate Line and prepare it for defence at once. Information was received at 10 am. that our counter-attack had successfully driven the Germans out of Lagnicourt and inflicted heavy loss. We carried on with the digging & wiring of the intermediate line, & considerable progress was made. In the afternoon the men had an inter-company football match.	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
In the field Beaulieu.	16/4/17		Four hours were spent in continuing the work of digging & wiring the intermediate line, the strong posts were deepened and strengthened. On the way back to camp the Coy. practised Artillery Formations.																
"	17/4/17		All men were again employed on the Intermediate line, and considerable progress has now been made. Artillery formations were adopted in going forward & returning from position.																
"	18/4/17		A nucleus garrison was sent from 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn. to occupy the Bde. frontage of the Intermediate line - see Bde. Order No. 99 attached. All routes to the forward area were thoroughly reconnoitred. Work carried on in deepening & improving strong points.	APPENDIX "F" ATTACHED.															
"	19/4/17		Work continued as for previous days. General Birdwood & staff rode through & inspected camp. In the afternoon there was a football match between 57 <sup>th</sup> & 58 <sup>th</sup> Bn. Officers, the 57 <sup>th</sup> Bn. won after an interesting game.																
			Total Off. Strength 30 off. 811 O.K.																
			<table border="0"> <tr><td>Detached duty</td><td>5</td><td>O.K. 79</td></tr> <tr><td>Field Amb.</td><td>4</td><td>60</td></tr> <tr><td>With Unit</td><td>21</td><td>672</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2"></td><td><hr/></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2"></td><td>30 811</td></tr> </table>	Detached duty	5	O.K. 79	Field Amb.	4	60	With Unit	21	672			<hr/>			30 811	
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>In the field Mametz</i>	<i>20/4/17</i>		<i>We were relieved by the 6<sup>th</sup> Yorks &amp; Lancashires at 11 am., and we proceeded to Mametz and occupied Nisseu Tow huts - see Bde. Order No 100 attached. The relieving Battalion at Beaulencourt expressed great satisfaction on the state of the camp.</i>	<i>Appendix "G" attached</i>
"	<i>21/4/17</i>		<i>The G.O.C. Bde. called a meeting of all officers of the Bde., the first time since leaving Egypt that the G.O.C. Bde. had the opportunity of getting all the officers together. The men were employed on cleaning up the camp and equipment &amp; clothes.</i>	
"	<i>22/4/17</i>		<i>Brigade Church parades and afterwards a Bde. Muster parade when the G.O.C. Bde. took the opportunity of speaking to officers &amp; men.</i>	
"	<i>23/4/17</i>		<i>A Syllabus of Training, copy of which is appended, was issued by Bde. and training was commenced in the morning, a Bn. Muster parade being held at 8.30 am.</i>	<i>Appendix "H" attached</i>



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7.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
In the field Mamezy.	24/4/17		<p>Training as per Syllabus. Approval was given for a 10% leave to Albert daily and advantage was taken of this. <del>of this</del> a muster parade was held at 8.30 am. and the men were then dismissed, the day being regarded as a holiday in commemoration of the landing on Anzac two years ago. Special efforts were made and a very good dinner provided for the men. Brigade sports were held and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. General Birdwood and some of his staff were present.</p>																
"	25/4/17		<p>Training continued as per Syllabus. A football match between companies was arranged. 2/Lt. Cronin left for Lewis Gun School at Le Toquet.</p>																
"	26/4/17		<p>Training continued. Pay was distributed.</p>																
"	27/4/17		<p>Total Effective Strength 31 Off 85 OR</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Off.</td> <td>OR.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached duty</td> <td>5</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Field Amb.</td> <td>2</td> <td>48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>With Unit</td> <td>24</td> <td>729</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><u>31</u></td> <td><u>857</u></td> </tr> </table>		Off.	OR.	Detached duty	5	80	Field Amb.	2	48	With Unit	24	729		<u>31</u>	<u>857</u>
	Off.	OR.																	
Detached duty	5	80																	
Field Amb.	2	48																	
With Unit	24	729																	
	<u>31</u>	<u>857</u>																	

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field Mametz.	28/4/17		Training continued as per syllabus. A concert was given by the Divisional Concert Party in the Y.M.C.A. hut at 7 pm, it was well attended and very much appreciated by the men.	
"	29/4/17		At 9.30 am Church Parades under Brigade arrangements were held for the three denominations. At 11 am. the Brigade was drawn up and inspected by the P.O.B. Brigade, this Battalion being complimented on their turn-out. A new Syllabus of Training was issued by Brigade, commencing on 30 <sup>th</sup> inst. copy of which is attached.	APP. "I" attached.
"	30/4/17		Work as laid down in syllabus was carried out. Inoculations were carried out in "A" & "B" Coys. All Platoon commanders attended a lecture on "Mutual Support" by the Brigade Major.	
With Unit	off OR.	30	761	Lt. Cole returned from hospital, Lt. Davies & Lt. McCall from 5 <sup>th</sup> Div. School, Capt. Chaplain Williams from leave.
Detached duty		4	79	Four officers marched in as reinforcements (Pladet Bn.)
Fld. Amb.		1	40	
Ttl. Eff. Strength		35	880	19 OR. marched in as reinforcements.

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## APPENDIX "A"

"A" Form.  
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.2121  
(in pads of 100).  
No. of Message .....

Prefix .....	Code .....	m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:  Service.	Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent			Date .....
<b>SECRET.</b>			At.....m.	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		From .....
			To .....			By .....
			By .....			

TO { 58th BATTALION. *APP. "A"*

Sender's Number. * <b>B.M.1/922</b>	Day of Month. <b>1st April.</b>	In reply to Number.	<b>AAA</b>
--	------------------------------------	---------------------	------------

Early	tomorrow	morning	the	14th Brigade
is	attacking	LOUVERAL	and	DOIGNIES
as	part	of	a	large
operation	being	carried	out	by
CORPS	AAA	The	57th Bn.	has
gone	forward	and	is	occupying
the	BEAUMETZ	Sector	of the	Outpost
line	AAA	In	order	to
be	prepared	to	meet	possible
contingencies	Units	will	be	prepared
to	move	within	ten	minutes
any	time	after	six a.m.	with
S.A.A.	reserves	etc.	complete	AAA
Breakfast	must	be	over	by
6 a.m.	AAA	The	60th Bn.	will
be	prepared	to	fully	garrison
the	new	BEUGNY	FRONT	LINE.

From **15th Bde.**

Place .....

Time **7 a.m.**

*The above may be forwarded as now corrected.*

(Z)  
(Sgd.) **GEO. F. WIECK.** Major  
Bde. Major 15th Inf. Bde.

Censor. Signature of Addressee or person authorised to telegraph in his name

\* This line should be erased if not required.



## APPENDIX "B"

COPY.

S E C R E T.

APP. "B"58th BATTALION.

Copy No. 2.

OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO. 11. F. 1/4/17.

1. Early tomorrow morning the 14th Bde. is attacking LOUVERAL AND DOIGNIES as part of a large operation being carried out by Corps. The 57th Bn. has gone forward and is occupying the BEAUMETZ sector of the outpost line.
2. The 58th Bn. will be called upon if the necessity arises to go forward to reinforce.
3. Reveille will be at 5 a.m., breakfast at 5-15 a.m. Platoons will fall in in fighting order at 6 a.m. and be kept together ready to move at a moment's notice.
4. All ranks will have full complement of ammunition and each man will carry one grenade. Water bottles will be filled tonight and men will carry the unexpended portion of the day's ration.
5. Eight pack animals carrying S.A.A. and Grenades will be made available ready to follow the column as soon as it moves. Two limbers with a further supply will be loaded tonight and stand by.
6. All preparations possible will be made tonight. Coy. Commanders will personally communicate by phone with H.Q. at 5 a.m. and again at 6 a.m. at which hour they must be able to report "all ready". Boots may be removed tonight but all ranks must sleep in their clothes.

(Sgd.) CHAS. A. DENEHY, Lieut.-Colonel.



APPENDIX "C"

COPY.

SECRET

*App "C"*



Copy No. 2.

15th AUSTRALIAN INF. BDE. ORDER NO. 95.

Reference 57 C.S.W.

9th April '17.

1. On a day known as Zero day -which will be notified in due course the 4th Aust. Division will be making an attack about BULLECOURT in conjunction with an attack further NORTH.
2. The 15th Aust. Infantry Bde. is detailed as Corps Reserve for the operation.
3. The Brigade, less 15th A.L.T.M.B. will assemble ready to move forward, as under :-
 

Brigade Headquarters	-	N.11.D.
57th Battalion	-	"
58th Battalion	-	"
59th Battalion	-	"
60th Battalion	-	N.18.A and C.
15th M.G. Company	-	" "
4. First line transport will be required to accompany troops.
5. If required to move the Brigade will march in above order via REINCOURT-BANGCOURT-FREMICOURT-VAULX.  
Transport should remain close to the road until the unit moves.
6. Blankets will not be carried.

(Sgd.) GEO.F. WIECK, Major.  
Bde. Major 15th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued at 10 a.m.



S E C R E T.

Copy No.2.

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.96.Reference - 57 C. 1/40000.

A. I. F.

10th April 1917.

1. The 4th Infantry Brigade has been ordered to attack the HINDENBURG LINE and certain objectives beyond as shown in accompanying maps.  
The 62nd Division is co-operating on the left and certain Cavalry and Tanks are taking part.
2. The Zero hour and date will be notified separately.
3. The 15th Infantry Brigade is detailed as "Corps Reserve" and if ordered forward will march via REINCOURT, BANCOURT, FREMIGOURT, VAULX. Units will pass the starting point N.5.D.3-0 at Zero hour.  
H.Q. 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.  
60th Battalion.  
58th Battalion.  
57th Battalion.  
59th Battalion.  
15th M.G. Coy.  
15th A.I.T.M.B.
4. The baggage train will rendezvous at FREMIGOURT.  
Wagons will report at Units lines one hour after Zero.  
Surplus blankets and other equipment will be left in Camp under a small guard. Units will also leave their camps under the charge of a guard of reliable men.
5. Ration refilling point will be notified later.
6. All Units will halt for 10 minutes at 10 minutes to each clock hour.
7. Unless otherwise ordered Units will be ready to march daily at 5-0 a.m. or at very short notice any time thereafter.

(Sgd.) GEO. F. WIECK, Major.

Bde. Major 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



APPENDIX *E*COPY.*App "E"*15th AUST. INF. BDE. ORDER NO. 97.Copy No. 2.Reference - 57c 1/40000.12th April 1917.

1. The 15th Aust. Inf. Bde. is being withdrawn from the Left Divisional Sector on 13th April and will return to former Camps.
2. The following march arrangements are made :-
  - (a) Brigade H.Q. will march at 8-30 a.m.
  - (b) The 60th Bn. with transport will march at 9 a.m.
  - (c) The 57th, 58th, 59th Bns, less transport, will march independently via BANCOURT between 9 a.m. & 10 a.m.
  - (d) The 15th M.G. Coy. will march via BAPAUME at 9 a.m.
  - (e) Transport of Units mentioned in (c) will march via BAPAUME and will pass H.17.a.7-3 at the following times :-
 

57th Bn.	-	9-30 a.m.
58th Bn.	-	9-40 a.m.
59th Bn.	-	9-50 a.m.

All transport must be clear of BAPAUME by 11-45 a.m. and 800 yards distance must be kept by Units.

3. Baggage wagons will report early on 13th inst.
4. Brigade H.Q. will close at H.22. Central at 8 a.m. and will reopen at N.24.d.1-9 at same hour.
5. The 57th and 58th Bns. will make arrangements for the whole of their Units to be employed on Second Line works on 14th April. Wiring to be continued.

(Sgd.) GEO. F. WIECK, Major.  
Bde. Major 15th Inf. Bde.

Issued at 4 p.m.



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SECRET

APP. "F"

APPENDIX F



COPY

14

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. ORDER NO. 99.

REFERENCE MAPS - 57 C.S.W. 1/20000  
57 C.N.W. 1/20000

18th April 1917

1. The defence of the Intermediate Line between Q.S.D.6-2 and W I.31.C.8-8 is allotted to the 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.
2. The nucleus ~~of the~~ garrison for this sector is :-  
One Battalion and Two Sections of the M.G. Coy.
3. The 57th Battalion is detailed as nucleus garrison for the Sector and will permanently occupy the strong points with a part of the garrison - 1 N.C.O. and 6 men for each strong point - and will be responsible for safeguarding the defensive works and keeping them in a state of repair.  
The garrison must at all times be ready to man the line at short notice.  
Note :- The Machine Gun Coy. are temporarily detached to the 8th Australian Infantry Bde.
4. The 57th, 58th and 60th Battalions will forward a sketch of the strong points under construction by them. This sketch is to reach Brigade Headquarters not later than 8 p.m. on the 18th inst.
5. The Garrison Battalion will forward a sketch of the sector showing the strong points, the garrison which will man these posts in the event of an attack, and the position of the reserves.
6. The remaining three Battalions, M.G. Sections, and A.L.M.T.M.B. may be required to assist in the defence of the line or be held ready as a mobile force for a ~~counter-attack~~ counter-stroke.  
The ground must be studied and the routes from billets reconnoitred for this purpose so as to effect a rapid concentration at any point.
7. The ~~permanent~~ permanent garrison will be relieved every 12 hours so that all ranks will have an opportunity of gaining a thorough knowledge of the localities to be defended.

(Sgd.) R.A. Salmon Lieut.  
a/Brigade Major, 15th Australian Infantry Bde.



15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. ORDER NO. 100

19th April 1917

## APPENDIX G

1. The 15th Brigade Group -  
15th Infantry Brigade (less 15th M.G. Coy. and 15th A.L.T.M.B.) and 15th Field Company Engineers - will be relieved in "N" Area on the 20th inst. by 32nd Infantry Brigade and 67th Field Coy. respectively. The relief of the 15th A.L.T.M.B. will be notified later. The 15th M.G. Coy. will be relieved on the 21st inst. under orders of the 8th Australian Infantry Brigade.
2. Units will march to MAMETZ CAMPS via BAULENCOURT - GUEUDECOURT - FLERS - and LONGUEVAL. Troops will march by duckboard walk after 11-30 a.m. when relieved.
3. Move will be carried out in accordance with attached table.
- 4 (a) All orders, instructions, maps, schemes, and plans of work relating to the Corps Second Line are to be handed over to relieving unit by Battalions.  
(b) All remaining anti-gas equipment held on charge as Trench Stores will be handed over to relieving unit.  
(c) Tools on the establishment of units will not be handed over.
5. The following intervals will be maintained on the march :-  
200 yards between Battalions.  
200 yards between transport and other unit.  
100 yards between companies.
6. The relief of nucleus garrison in the Corps Second Line will be reported to Brigade Headquarters, N.24. Central.
7. Transport will move under Lieut. Varley, ~~XXX~~ 60th Battalion in the following order :-  
15th Brigade Headquarters.  
60th Battalion.  
59th Battalion.  
58th Battalion.  
57th Battalion.  
15th Field Coy.  
The head of the column will pass the starting point N.17.b.69. at 11-30 a.m.  
Transport Officers of Units will report to Lieut. Varley, 60th Battalion, N.24. Central. at 7-30 p.m. this evening to arrange detail.
8. Baggage Sections of Divisional Train will report to Units at 8 a.m. on 20th inst.
9. Instructions regarding ammunition supplies and relief of working parties will be notified later.
10. Billiting Officers will report to the Staff Captain at MAMETZ camp at 1 p.m. 20th inst.
11. Route to be followed by units must be reconnoitred beforehand.
12. Watches will be synchronised at 9 am 20th inst. with Brigade H.Q. Signal office.

(Sgd) Max Ex

Major  
Brigade Major, 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade.



Copy

15<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Bde.

10

Table of marches.



Date	Unit.	Time pass starting point	Route.	Destination	Remarks.
20 <sup>th</sup> inst	15 <sup>th</sup> Bde. HQ.	11.30 am.	Beaucourt - Meudencourt - Hers - Longueval.	March.	If units are not relieved & ready to pass the starting point by the time they are tabled, they will immediately notify Bde. HQ. When a Bn. is relieved it will stand by ready to move at a moments notice as in case of one unit not being ready another unit will take its place.
"	60 <sup>th</sup> Bn.	12 noon	"	"	
"	59 <sup>th</sup> Bn.	12.30 pm.	"	"	
"	58 <sup>th</sup> Bn.	1 pm.	"	"	
"	57 <sup>th</sup> Bn.	1.30 pm.	"	"	
"	15 <sup>th</sup> Hld. Coy. Eng.	2 pm.	"	"	

APP. G (Contd.)

APP. G (Contd.) 16  
APPENDIX G



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17

SECRET

APP. "G" APPENDIX "G"

COPY

15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.



Administrative addendum to 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade Order No. 100.

1. SUPPLIES - 15th Aust. Infantry Brigade (less 15th M.G. Coy. and 15th A.L.T.M.B.) will draw at BAZENTIN on and after the 20th inst.
2. AMMUNITION - 120 rounds S.A.A. on men will be carried. Units will move out with ammunition echelons empty. All S.A.A., Grenades (with the exception of a small quantity of the latter for training purposes) in the possession of units to be handed over to relieving Battalions.
3. TRENCH STORES - Any trench stores in possession of units will be handed over to incoming Battalions.
4. ACCOMODATION - No trench ~~shelters~~ shelters, tents or marquees will be moved out of "M" Area. All accomodation will be handed over to incoming units. Lists showing number of marquees, tents and trench covers handed over ~~to~~ will be ~~forwarded~~ forwarded in triplicate to Brigade H.Q.
5. PACK SADDLERY - No pack saddlery will be handed over to the 11th Division. Saddlery on hand in excess of establishment will be returned forthwith to D.A.D.O.S.
6. EXTRA KIT AND BLANKETS.  
Two motor lorries are available for the transport of extra kit and blankets. One ~~lorry~~ has been allotted to the 57th and 58th Battalions and will report at 9 a.m. at N.11.D.4-4 on the road opposite those Battalions' camps to collect blankets which should be stacked there there in bundles of 20 by that time. The other lorry will report at 59th Battalion at REINCOURT at 8-30 a.m. and when blankets of 59th Battalion are loaded will report to the 60th Battalion the SUCRERIE, and collect the blankets belonging to that unit.
7. RECEIPTS - Receipts for everything handed over to 11<sup>th</sup> Division will be rendered in triplicate to Brigade H.Q. before 6 p.m. 20th inst.

(Sgd.) Norman B. Lovett Lieut.

Captain  
Staff Captain, 15th Australian Infantry Brigade.



## 15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

SYLLABUS FOR TRAINING FOR PERIOD COMMENCING 23rd APRIL, 1917



<u>1st Day</u>		
8-30 a.m.	-9-30 a.m.	Organisation of Platoons
9-30 a.m.	-10-30 a.m.	Musketry Exercises. Close Order Drill
10-30 a.m.	-12 noon	Organisation of Platoons
12 noon	-12-30 p.m.	Handling of Arms. Smartening up. March back to camp,
Afternoon -		Organised Games
6 p.m.	- 6-30 p.m.	Lecture. Advanced Guards,
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<u>2nd Day</u>		
8.30 a.m.	-9 a.m.	Rifle and close order drill.
9 a.m.	-10 am.	Normal formations in attack in open warfare
10 a.m.	-10-30 a.m.	Close Order Drill
10-30 a.m.	-12.20 p.m.	Platoon in attack.
12.20 p.m.	-12-30 p.m.	General smartening up and march back to Camp.
Afternoon -		Organised Games
6 p.m.	-6.30 p.m.	Lecture. Outposts.
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<u>3rd Day.</u>		
8.30 a.m.	-9 a.m.	Close order drill,
9 a.m.	-11 a.m.	Platoon in attack in open warfare. (particular attention to be paid to Advance Guard Work.)
10 a.m.	-11.30 a.m.	Bayonet Fighting.
11.30 a.m.	-12.20 p.m.	Musketry Exercises
12.20 p.m.	-12.30 p.m.	Rifle Exercises.
Afternoon -		Organised Games
6 p.m.	-6 .30 p.m.	Lecture, Discipline.
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<u>4th Day</u>		
8.30 a.m.	-9 a.m.	Close order drill.
9 a.m.	-11-30 a.m.	Outposts.
11.30 a.m.	-12.20 p.m.	Gas Drill - including bombing and bayonet fighting with exercises.
12.20 p.m.	-12.30 p.m.	Smartening up and march back to Camp.
Afternoon -		Organised Games.
6 p.m.	-6;30 p.m.	Lecture -Gas.
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<u>5th Day</u>		
8.30 p.m.	-9 a.m.	Steadying drill.
9 a.m.	-11 a.m.	Patrols.
11 a.m.	-11.30 p.m.	Bayonet Fighting. using dummies.
11.30 p.m.	-12.20 p.m.	Co-operation with other Platoons and the Platoon as part of the Company in open War-fare.
12.20 p.m.	-12.30 p.m.	Smartening up and return to Camp.
Afternoon -		Organised Games.
Evening -		Concert.

Note. :- In the above syllabus the rules set out in the pamphlet "Instructions for the training of Platoons for Offensive action -1917" will be adhered to. Each Company Commander will forward to Battalion H.Q. by 8 p.m. each evening his syllabus in detail for the work to be carried out on the following day. During the period of training the greatest attention must be paid to DISCIPLINE. Saluting must be rigidly enforced, and men must be turned out tidily.



Syllabus of Training for week ending 5th May 1917.



Date.	DAY.	FORENOON (8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.)	AFTERNOON.	EVENING LECTURE. 6. - 6.30 p.m.
30th.	Monday.	<p>½ hour. Care of arms.</p> <p>1 hour. Aiming Instruction and Trigger Pressing.</p> <p>½ hour. Loading and Rapid Loading.</p> <p>1 hour. Firing positions.</p> <p>1 hour. Visual Training (fatigue men to be used for practice in quickness of vision).</p>	RECREATION.	Mutual Support.
1st.	Tuesday.	<p>2 hours. (Loading and Rapid Loading. Firing positions behind cover.</p> <p>1 hour. Bayonet Fighting - blob sticks to be used.</p> <p>1 hour. Fire discipline exercises - both stationary and moving.</p>	do.	Precautions after occupying villages and enemy positions. (Dangers of lax discipline).
2nd.	Wednesday.	<p>1 hour Grouping practice, 5 rounds J.D.</p> <p>3 hours. Rapid wiring - last ½ hour devoted to wiring competitions between platoons.</p>	do.	Leakage of information.
3rd.	Thursday.	<p>1 hour. Rapid practice, 5 rounds J.D.</p> <p>1 hour. Control of fire.</p> <p>3 hours. Movement from one fire position to another, when within close ranges.</p>	do.	The fighting value of the Infantry soldier.
4th.	Friday.	<p>Platoon Vanguard Scheme. A tactical point to be attacked. On completion the most probable disposition of <del>enemy's</del> enemy's garrison to be discussed and men actually placed to represent it.</p>	do.	Other arms.
5th.	Saturday.	<p>Wood Fighting. Remnants of FRIGOURT WOOD to be used for purposes of illustration.</p>	do.	Concert.

These days are alternative, FRIGOURT WOOD is allotted to 57th and 58th Bns. on 4th May.