

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/33/13

Title: 16th Infantry Battalion

December 1916



AWM4-23/33/13

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 51

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Flers	2nd. to 7th. Dec. 1916		<p>Onnight of 2/3rd. Dec. the 16th. Battalion relieved the 14th. Battalion. two companies occupying front line and 2 companies in support in Bulls Road and Flers Alley.</p> <p>Our line as relieved extended from N.20.C.7.7$\frac{1}{2}$ on left to N.20.D.8.6. on right flank. H.Qrs. of left Company in Cheese Road and right company in Gun Pits on road N.20.D.2.4.</p> <p>Front line trenches and approaches to same were in a most parlous condition on our relief, all parties having to go from Cheese Road to front line "over the top."</p> <p>During our four days occupation a new trench connecting Sunken Road and front line was put in hand and completed.</p> <p>The whole front line was drained and made habitable, dugouts being taken in hand to protect garrison from weather.</p> <p>Enemy's shelling was heavy during our tour, but always directed at Cheese Road and North West end of Guedecourt, no damage was experienced in these bombardments as no garrison was present in trenches shelled. Our casualties during our tour were light.</p> <p>In this sector of trench as touch had not been established with right and left battalions patrols were thrown out by night to gain connection, no enemy parties were encountered in these patrols and the enemy appeared to be very jumpy generally.</p> <p>The 16th. Battalion was relieved on night of 6/7 December by 6th. Battalion A.I.F., and proceeded to huts at Montaubain for night, entraining for Meaulte on morning of 7th. December, from latter place Battalion marched to Ribemont.</p>	
Ribemont	16th. Dec.		<p>The 16th. Battalion as part of the 4th. Brigade moved to Cardonette, arriving about 3pm.</p>	
Cardonette	17th. to 31st. Dec.		<p>The Battalion was engaged in organisation and specialists training during stay at Cardonette.</p>	

B. B. ...

Capt.
Adjutant. 16th. Battalion.