

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/55/1 PART 1

**Title:** 38th Infantry Battalion

March 1916 - April 1919



AWM4-23/55/1PART1

[23/55/1,  
Part 1 ]

38th Aust Infantry Battalion

War Diary

Copies kept by Lieut H.R. Robbins MC, Adjutant  
38th Aust Inf Bn, covering period March 1916  
to April 1919.

These are mostly file copies of the original diary, and the following points should be noted :

- (a) In some instances this file copy is more legible than the original.
- (b) The file copy contains some minor typographic and transcription errors.  
On 23 Mar 18 a full stop is omitted from the file copy which effectively changes the location referred to.
- (c) In at least one discrepancy, the file copy is correct. On 21 Feb 18, in a list of MM winners a hand amendment by Lieut J.B. O'Donnell has been made to the file copy, deleting Williams and inserting Umbers. This amendment is verified by other official records.

Bullen  
13 May 88

# 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
Bendigo	1.5.16.		First men taken on Battalion Strength - in all 201.	
Campbellfield	5.6.16.		Battalion moved here today from BENDIGO.	
..	14.6.16		Presentation of King's and Regimental Colors to Battalion by His Excellency Sir R. Munro Ferguson K.C.M.G.	
Melbourne	20.6.16		Battalion embarked for England on S.S. "Runic" A 54.	
Plymouth	10.8.16		Battalion arrived today at 2 p.m. Entrained for LARK HILL Camp Salisbury Plains.	
Lark Hill Camp.				
Amesbury.	27.9.16		Reviewed with 3rd Division A.I.F. by His Majesty the King at BULFORD FIELD.	
..	22.11.16		Battalion entrained for SOUTHAMPTON for embarkation to HAVRE (see 10th Brigade A.I.F. Order No. 40)	
Strazelle	26.11.16		Arrived from HAVRE and Billeted here.	
Armentieres.	28.11.16		Left Strazelle and marched to Armentieres where Battalion Billeted.	
..	1.12.16		Relieved New Zealand troops in Left sub sector HOUPLINES area (Reference map Sheet 36 N.W.2 1/10,000.	
..	4.12.16		We released gas in a favourable wind (West 8 m.p.h) against enemy trenches. No visible result.	
..	9.12.16		Enemy raid by 7 to 12 men made on our trenches at about C.17.c.60.05. beaten off by Lewis Gunners and bombs. Our casualties 2/Lieut. EMONSON and three O.R. wounded.	
..	10.12.16		38th Battalion relieved by the 40th Battalion and retired to billets in Armentieres.	
..	16.12.16		38th Battalion relieved the 40th Battalion.	
..	21.12.16		38th Battalion relieved by 40th Battalion and retired to billets in HOUPLINES (CHATEAU ROSE).	
..	28.12.16		38th Battalion relieved the 40th Battalion.	
..	1.1.17		At 1 a.m. simultaneous raids were made along the whole Divisional front. This Battalion had four raiding parties, none of whom effected an entry into enemy trenches. The party which raided opposite RAID DITCH were caught by enemy searchlight just as they had finished cutting the wire and fired on by machine guns and bombs. 2/Lieut. POOLEY (leader) and 10 men failed to return and are posted as "missing".	
..	2.1.17		A patrol found one of the <del>missing</del> missing men of Lieut. POOLEY'S party and brought him in.	
..	3.1.17		38th Battalion relieved by 40th Battalion and retired to billets in ARMENTIERES.	
..	9.1.17		38th Battalion relieved 40th Battalion.	
..	13.1.17	8 to 12.	Whole front heavily bombarded by enemy-Minenwerfer, H.E., Shrapnel being used in <del>abundance</del> great abundance. Great damage was done to the trenches- especially in Locality 14 and CAMBRIDGE AVENUE. Our casualties were 4 O.R. killed and 7 O.R. put out of action (wounded and Shell shock).	
..	14.1.17		38th Battalion relieved by the 40th Battalion and retired to billets in HOUPLINES (CHATEAU ROSE).	
..	19.1.17		38th Battalion retired to No. 2 Hutments STEINWERCK for Brigade rest period.	
..	26.1.17		38th Battalion became Support Battalion in BOIS GRENIER sector.	
..	28.1.17		Raid on enemy trenches at HOUPLINES by a party drawn from all Units of the 10th Infty Brigade.	

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Armentieres	29.1.17		Two Companies of the 38th Battalion and two of the 37th Battalion forming a Battalion of 800 strong under Lieut-Colonel DAVIS retired to Billets at ERQUINGHEM baths for special training as a raiding Battalion. The remainder of the two Battalions (known as X Battalion) under Major R.O. HENDERSON.	
..	31.1.17		X Battalion relieved the 39th Battalion in BOIS GRENIER sector.	
..	10.2.17		X Battalion relieved by the 40th Battalion.	
..	10.2.17		Total casualties to 10.2.17 Killed and Missing 3 officers 36 other ranks. Died of Wounds - 6 .. .. Wounded 5 73 .. .. Total 8 officers 115 other ranks.	
Bois Grenier	15.2.17		X Battalion relieved 40th Battalion.	
..	25.2.17		40th Battalion relieved X Battalion.	
..	27.2.17		At 12-30 a.m. the raiding Battalion attacked the German line preceded by a heavy barrage. They penetrated to the third line and completed the destruction caused by the artillery, inflicting heavy casualties and bringing back one machine gun, one searchlight and seventeen prisoners. Enemy dead were estimated at about 200. 38th casualties consisted of 16 O.R. killed or missing, 3 officers 42 O.R. wounded.	
..	2.3.17		38th Battalion relieved 40th Battalion in left sub sector at BOIS GRENIER	
..	9.3.17		4th Sth. Lancashires relieved 38th Battalion who moved to billets at ERQUINGHEM baths.	
..	10.3.17		38th Battalion marched to billets at STEINWERCK.	
..	21.3.17		38th Battalion marched to HAZEBROUCK and billeted for the night.	
..	22.3.17		Continued the march and billeted at WARDRECQUES.	
..	23.3.17		Completed the march and billeted at MORINGHEM.	
..	5.4.17		Marched to WALLAN CAPPEL and billeted for the night.	
..	6.4.17		38th Battalion continued the march and <del>billeted</del> went into billets in ARMENTIERES.	
..	16.4.17		38th Battalion relieved 40th Battalion in left sector at HOUPLINES.	
..	26.4.17		38th Battalion relieved by 2/6 Kings Own Liverpool Regt and billeted in ARMENTIERES.	
PLOEGSTREERT	29.4.17		38th Battalion relieved 42ns Australian Battalion in the PLOEGSTREERT-STYVES sector - reserve Battalion at OOSTHOVE FARM.	
..	13.5.17		38th Battalion relieved 40th Battalion at RIFLE HOUSE - now support Battalion.	
..	22.5.17		38th Battalion relieved 37th Battalion in front line in PLOEGSTREERT-ST YVES sector.	
..	23.5.17		Portion of the 38th Battalion front taken over by the 42nd and 33rd Battalions - 38th now holding from AINSWORTH AVENUE (inclusive) to ASH LANE. Two Companies moved to subsidiary line.	

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PLOEGSTREERT	23-5-17.		Raiding party of 7 Off. and 214 O.R. chosen from all Companies went over at 2 a.m. The party was divided into two columns of which one effected an entry into the enemy's trench and brought back one prisoner. Our casualties, of which many were caused by our own barrage, consisted of 2 Officers and 28 O.R. killed or missing. 2 Officers 63 O.R. Wounded.	
..	2-6-17.		38th Battalion relieved by 41st Battalion and retired to BRUNE GAYE.	
..	7-6-17.		Northern offensive began at 3-10 a.m. Approach march of 38th battalion was much hampered by enemy gas shells. The battalion wearing gas masks left their trenches in three waves made up as follows :- (1) "D" Coy. and $\frac{1}{2}$ of "B" Coy. (2) "A" Coy. and $\frac{1}{2}$ of "B" Coy. (3) "C" Coy. The first wave reached ULCER reserve without difficulty. Here, the 2nd wave passed through the 1st being later joined by $\frac{1}{2}$ of B Coy, and $\frac{1}{2}$ of D Coy. from the 1st wave. From UNGODLY trench the 2nd and 3rd waves went on together and reached the BLACK LINE their final objective, with 12 platoons and 12 Lewis guns. There were few casualties during the advance. The Battalion established the BLACK LINE and put in a block in UNGODLY AVENUE just East of the POTTERIES MESSINES road. By the morning of the 9th the BLACK LINE had been dug 7ft deep and fire-stepped in places. Two strong points had been established. During the advance the 38th Battalion captured 7 machine guns and two 7.7 cent. field guns.	
..	9-6-17.		38th battalion was relieved by 42nd battalion and retired to BRUNE GAYE. (Glass house)	
BRUNE GAYE	12-6-17.		Battalion moved to vicinity of KORTEPYP.	
..	18-6-17.		38th Battalion marched to REGINA CAMP.	
..	22-6-17.		Owing to enemy shelling the battalion evacuated REGINA CAMP and moved to HILLSIDE CAMP (KORTEPYP)	
..	23-6-17.		The battalion moved to the DOUVE RIVER Camp.	
..	30-6-17.		38th Battalion casualties from 10-2-17 to 30-6-17. Killed 4 Off. 95 O.R. Wounded 16 .. 445 .. Missing. 1 .. 9 .. Died of W/ds. 1 .. 16 .. <u>22 .. 565 ..</u>	? 5 7/8 2
..	11-7-17.		38th Battalion relieved 34th Battalion and went into support on MESSINES RIDGE.	
..	20-7-17.		40th Battalion relieved 38th who went into camp near NEUVE EGLISE.	
..	5-8-17.		38th Battalion moved to TANKODROME camp in the vicinity of DRANOUTRE.	
..	14-8-17.		38th Battalion entrained at BAILLEUL for WIZERNES from which place they marched to billets at SENLECQUES, C and D Companies being billeted at LA CALICQUE.	
..	20-9-17.		Total decorations gained by 38th Battalion D.S.O.1. M.C.6. D.C.M.4. M.M.18.	

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SENLECQUES.	22-9-17.		3rd Australian Division inspected by the Commander in Chief Field Marshall Sir Douglas Haig in field near DRIONVILLE.	
	25-9-17.		38th Battalion marched to ASSINGHEM and billeted for the night.	
	26-9-17.		Continued the march and billeted for the night at LYNDE.	
	27-9-17.		Continued the march and billeted near TERDEGHEM.	
	28-9-17.		Completed the move and camped in the neighbourhood of WINNIZBELE.	
	29-9-17.		Information available concerning our next attack. Following officers selected to take part. H.Q. Major Hurry (In Command) Lt. Martin F.R. (Adjutant) Lt. Robbins H. (I.O.) Lt. McColl H. (Carrying parties), Lt. Rooke T.A. (Sigs) A. Coy. Captain Dench H., Lt. Major, Lt. Kirkbride. B Coy. Captain Moore, Lt. Storey, 2/Lt. McKenzie D. C. Coy. Captain Selleck, Lt Munday, Lt Dutton. D. Coy. Captain Orchard, Lt Beattie, Lt Rowe, Lieut-Col. Davis -- Divl. Liaison; Lieut. Herring Brigade Burial, Lt. Murdie Brigade forward Station; Lieut. Bowden -- Brigade Intelligence, Captain Davies R.M.O.	
	2-10-17.		Taken by motor-bus to VLAMERTINGHE, whence the battalion marched to a bivouac area E of YPRES on right of YPRES-ZONNEBEKE road.	
<u>YPRES.</u>	4-10-17		YPRES BATTLE No.3. Phase.4. -- -- The battalion was allotted 2nd objective and began the approach march at 9-45 p.m. on the night of 3/4, forming up on its assembly tapes by about 2.a.m. without suffering any casualties, and in following order. 1st wave - 2 platoons of "C" Coy. (left) and 2 platoons of "D" Coy. (right); followed by "B" Company as moppers up. 2nd wave -- Remainder of C and D Companies. A Coy in rear as reserve Coy. While waiting for ZERO hour some enemy shelling was experienced but for the most part it was inaccurate as far as 38th was concerned though we had a few casualties. When the barrage came down our men followed closely on the heels of the 37th battalion and all opposition was speedily overcome. On the left practically the only opposition came from a machine gun post about D16a03. which was quickly subdued by our men in conjunction with N.Zs. on our left. In the centre a machine gun post at ISRAEL HOUSE gave trouble for a time. On the right the main opposition came from concrete pill boxes about JUDAH HOUSE and SPRINGFIELD FARM; the latter yielding several Machine Guns and about 150 prisoners. In almost every case opposition was overcome by working round to the rear of the pill-boxes and throwing in a "P" bomb or Mill's grenade. Rifle grenades were little used. Generally speaking our men kept so close to the barrage that they were on the enemy before he could recover from it. The battalion objective was reached about 7-30 a.m. and consolidation began immediately. About 9-30 a.m. an enemy plane flew low over the line but apparently failed to locate it, as enemy's artillery fire was at no time very accurate. At 1-30 p.m. a platoon of "D" Company was sent forward to re-inforce the 39th Battalion and one company of 150 men was organised to be ready to move forward at a moments notice to assist in a contemplated further advance. On the night of 5/6th about 9p.m. the enemy put down a heavy box-barrage which however	

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YPRES BATTLE No.3. (cont'd)	4-6/10/17.		<p>caused comparatively few casualties. The same night we were relieved by 2/8 Manchesters and marched through YPRES to hutments in the neighbourhood of VLAMERTINGHE which we reached about 6-30 a.m. 6th October. Our total casualties during the operations were :-</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"></th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Killed.</th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Wounded.</th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Missing.</th> <th style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Total.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">Officers.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">O.Ranks.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">33</td> <td style="text-align: center;">142</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">182</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">34</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">143</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">184.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.	Officers.	1	1	-	2	O.Ranks.	33	142	7	182		34	143	7	184.	
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	34	143	7	184.																				
	10-10-17.		<p>During these operations Battalion Headquarters was established at JUDAH HOUSE - R.A.P. was at LEVI COTTAGES. Q.M. Store and Transport were situated in hutments near VLAMERTINGHE. All ranks not taking part in operations were quartered at MORBECQUE.</p>																					
YPRES BATTLE	12-10-17.		<p>38th Battalion marched to Bivouac area at HUSSAR FARM.</p> <p>The <del>battalion</del> commenced approach march at 10-45 p.m. on night of 11/12th.</p> <p>To 38th Battalion was allotted the 3rd or final objective -- a line beyond village of <u>PASSCHENDAELE</u>. The battalion commenced approach march at 10-45 p.m. on night of 11/12th. Soon after entering "K" track we came under enemy shell fire which continued intermittently until assembly lines were reached. Our casualties during this time were considerable, particularly in the neighbourhood of the junction of "K" track with SUNKEN Road (running Nth. thro' D16b). A fair amount of gas shell was used by the enemy in the low lying ground N.E. of JUDAH HOUSE but owing to high wind the effect was not very marked. The battalion formed up on its tapes about 3 a.m. in the following order; Two platoons of "A" Coy, (right) plus 2 platoons of "B" Coy. (left) formed first wave followed by "D" Coy. as moppers up. The remaining platoons of A and B Coys. formed 2nd wave followed by "C" Coy. as moppers up.</p> <p>While waiting for zero hour enemy shelling was severe and many casualties resulted. When our barrage came down we advanced in rear of 40th Battalion, but soon came under heavy machine gun fire particularly from the sector on our left about BELLEVUE. One party under Lieut. MUNDAY worked its way across the RAVE BEEK and cleared three pill boxes, but was stopped by heavy rifle and M.G. fire and during next night had to rejoin main body which in the meantime had advanced to red line, where 38th joined remnants of 37th and 40th. Casualties had been so severe that further advance was impossible especially as the New Zealand troops on our left had failed to get forward. Consequently the senior officer present Major BIBLIN (40th bn) ordered a retirement to approximately jumping off line and consolidated there about 3 p.m. The conjunction with remainder of brigade 38th battalion held this line until relieved on night of 13/14th. by 41st battalion A.I.F., when 38th moved to bivouac at HUSSAR FARM.</p> <p>During the operations Battalion battle Headquarters were in pill box in BERLIN WOOD as also was R.A.P. Q.M. Store and details were camped infield on right of YPRES--ZONNEBEKE Road.</p>																					

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
YPRES BATTLE. No. 3. (Cont'd)	12-10-17		<p>Following officers took part in operations, Lieut-Colonel Davis D.S.O., (In command) Capt. Fraser. (Adjutant), Lieut. Bowden H.H. (I.O.), Lieut. McColl H. (Carrying parties) Lieut. Morrison (Sigs), "A" Coy., Capt. Trebilcock, Lieut. Matthews, Lt. Heward. "B" Coy. Capt. Latchford, Lt. Baxter, 2/Lt. McKenzie, "C" COY. Lt. Herring, Lt. Munday, Lt. Marshall. "D" Coy. Lt. Maxwell, Lt. Gollan, Lt. Robinson. R.M.O. Capt. Davies. Brigade Liaison -- Major Hurry. Brigade Intelligence Lt. Storey.</p> <p>Casualties during the operation were :-</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Killed.</th> <th>Wounded.</th> <th>Missing.</th> <th>Total.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Officers.</td> <td>5</td> <td>7</td> <td>2</td> <td>-- 14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O.Ranks.</td> <td>6</td> <td>263</td> <td>99</td> <td>-- 368</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.	Officers.	5	7	2	-- 14	O.Ranks.	6	263	99	-- 368	
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	15-10-17		38th Battalion moved by motor-bus to SENLECQUES. C and D Coys. being at LA CALICQUE.																
SENLECQUES	31-10-17		NIL																



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			Honours and Rewards. to 20-9-17.	
			-----	
			Mentioned in Sir. Douglas Haig's Despatches (5)	Military Medal.
			Lieut-Colonel. C.H. Davis. Captain. A. Fraser. Captain. R.M. Marks. Lieut. C.C. Gale. No. 1721. Corp. Murphy T.G.	Sgt. Nihill P.L. B.R.O. 78(8-3-17) Pte. Tutor H.W.H. .. .. McIvor P. .. .. Shuttlewood J.A. .. .. Meyerink J.J. B.R.O. 55(2X-1-17)
			A.I.F. List 186. (5-6-17)	610 .. 428 T/Sgt. Berry R.P. } 763 Sgt. Buckland R.J. } 1729 Pte. Coutts P.R. } 6009 .. Eyers E.A. } 1845 .. Green T.R. } 2090 .. Heaney J.R. } List 219. 6025a .. Holt G. } 17-8-17. 6027a .. Joiner W.E. } 337 .. Moore A.S. } 434 .. Pascoe J.T. } 2134 .. Pyers L. } 380 Cpl. Spencer G. } 1959 .. Roberts L.A. } A.I.F. List 223. (28-8-17)
			D.S.O. -- Lieut-Colonel. C.H. Davis. A.I.F. List 186. ----- (5-6-17)	
			Military Cross.	
			-----	
			{ Captain Trebilcock. } A.I.F. 223. (28-8-17) { Captain Fairweather } - Lieut. Peters C.H. B.R.O. 59. (12-1-17)	
			{ .. McCulloch. } A.I.F. List 208. (20-7-17) { .. Kennedy. } { .. Emonson. } B.R.O. 55 (2-1-17)	
			D.C.M.	
			-----	
			{ Sgt. Nihill P.L. A.I.F. List 223. (28-9-17) { 548. Corpl. Fullerton G.B. .. .. Sgt. Taylor. A.J.C. B.R.O. 81. (15-3-17)	
			326. Pte. Lock. F. A.I.F. List 208. (20-7-17)	

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Senlecques.	1/11/17		<p>Total strength of 38th Battalion.</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Officers</td> <td style="text-align: right;">35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N.C.O.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O.R's.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">524</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>652</u></td> </tr> </table>	Officers	35	N.C.O.	93	O.R's.	524	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>652</u>														
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>652</u>																								
do.	2/11/17		<p>R.O. by Maj.Gen. The Hon <del>Sir</del> H.A. LAWRENCE K.C.B. commanding 2nd Anzac Corps. 28/10/17. The following award of MILITARY MEDAL has been made to men of 38th Battn for work done on operations 4/5th October 1917.</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>2518 L/Sgt W.E.Brook (temporary attached 10th A.L.T.M. battery)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1886</td> <td>Pte E.McMaster.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2078 Pte J.G.Guthridge.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">997</td> <td>" W.E.Stanbury.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2469 " A.E.Petherick.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">715</td> <td>Cpl H.B.White.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3233 Sgt O.A.Siden.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">389</td> <td>Pte C.E.Seymour.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1816 Pte T.M.Chalmers.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1340</td> <td>" B.O.Tranter.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1815 " P.Chalmers.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">12306</td> <td>" L.C.Smith. 10th A.F.Amb. attached 38th Battn.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>851 Cpl F.S.H.Crafter.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>The following are the recommendations as sent in to higher authority.</p> <p>Pte C.E.Seymour. Whilst acting as company runner he frequently carried messages through the hottest parts of the enemy barrage. Early in the action he came upon a section which had lost its leader and became disorganised, he reorganised this section and led it forward until he found an officer to whom he handed it over. His coolness and courage throughout the operation were worthy of the greatest praise.</p> <p>Pte B.O.Tranter. When his section was held up by heavy machine <sup>gun</sup> fire from an enemy strong point this soldier of his own initiative worked his way round its flank and bombed the garrison, killing 5 and capturing 40 of the enemy as well as the machine gun itself. Throughout the action his courage and general behavior were very marked.</p> <p>Cpl H.B.White. When most of his section of Lewis gunners had become casualties and the advance of our left flank was checked by heavy machine gun fire this soldier rushed forward alone with his Lewis gun and by his covering fire enabled our troops to continue the advance and capture the M.G.</p> <p>Pte W.E.Stanbury. With a section of his platoon this soldier was held up by an enemy garrison with two machine guns of his own initiative he worked forward sniping the enemy gunners and his work was mainly the cause of the whole garrison of 20, including an officer, surrendering. On many previous occasions this man has shown the same coolness and disregard of danger as he did on this occasion.</p> <p>Pte E.McMaster. For two days and nights he acted as runner to Battn H.Q. making frequent journeys to various parts of the line often under heavy fire and at all times through most difficult country. He was indefatigable and his cheerfulness and entire disregard of danger throughout the operation set a fine example to all.</p>	2518 L/Sgt W.E.Brook (temporary attached 10th A.L.T.M. battery)	1886	Pte E.McMaster.	2078 Pte J.G.Guthridge.	997	" W.E.Stanbury.	2469 " A.E.Petherick.	715	Cpl H.B.White.	3233 Sgt O.A.Siden.	389	Pte C.E.Seymour.	1816 Pte T.M.Chalmers.	1340	" B.O.Tranter.	1815 " P.Chalmers.	12306	" L.C.Smith. 10th A.F.Amb. attached 38th Battn.	851 Cpl F.S.H.Crafter.			
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335 1/15 2015 5/15 D.D.&L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

# 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												
Senlecques	2/11/17.		<p>Cpl Crafter F.S.H. Early in the operation his platoon commander became a casualty and the platoon became disorganised. He at once took charge of the platoon reorganised it and subsequently led it throughout. By his courage and devotion to duty he set a fine example to all his men and the qualities of leadership he displayed were of the highest order.</p> <p>Ptes Chalmers.P. and Chalmers.T.M. These two men worked together throughout the operation as stretcher bearers. Both displayed great gallantry in carrying wounded through shell-swept areas and both continued their work practically without intermission for 50 hours. The courage and devotion to duty displayed by these two men were a fine example to all other stretcher bearers.</p> <p>Pte Guthridge.J.G. Throughout the operation whilst acting as runner he was continually at work traversing most difficult country frequently under heavy fire cheerfully and with an utter disregard of his own safety. Besides carrying messages this soldier on various occasions gave valuable assistance to stretcher-bearers and wounded men this contempt of danger and the willing manner in which he set out whenever called upon were most marked.</p> <p>Sgt Siden.O.A. He acted as C.S.M. and was of the greatest assistance to his officers in reorganising the company on its objective being attained and though practically without rest was unflagging in his energy and cheerfulness throughout the operation.</p> <p>Pte Petherick. A.E. This man led the advance against a hostile M.G. which was holding up some of our troops. He shot four of the crew put the gun out of action and so enabled our advance to be continued.</p> <p>Pte Smith.L.C. While on duty at an advanced regimental aid post he dressed the wounded for two days under heavy fire with a total disregard of his personal safety and continued until he was himself severely wounded on the evening of the second day.</p>													
do.	10/11/17		38th Battn moved by motorbus to La Motte area and billeted for night at Verte Rue and Caudescure.	B.O.49.												
	11/11/17		38th Battn marched to Vieux Berquin area and billeted for night at Noote Boom.													
	12/11/17		Battn marched to Hollebeque Farm camp.													
Warneton.	13/11/17		38th Battn relieved Sherwood Foresters in left battalion sector of Warneton sector. Q.M. store and <del>BYO</del> transport at Romarin.	B.O.50.												
	14/11/17		<p>R.O.1406 10/11/17 by Lt.Gen. Sir A.GODLEY. K.C.B. K.C.M.G. commanding 2nd Anzac Corps .</p> <p>Military Medals have been awarded to the following members of the 38th Battalion;</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">29 Sgt BEARD.E.S.</td> <td style="width: 33%;">1852 Pte HOLLINGWORTH.A.</td> <td style="width: 33%;">515 Cpl BELL I.L.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>645A " KING.J.H.S.</td> <td>485 " NEWELL.W.J.L.</td> <td>933 " MEREDITH.J.V.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5974 " BURKE.J.</td> <td>1670 " MATHESON.J.</td> <td>529 L/Cpl CAMPBELL.G.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2802 " FRASER.H.J.</td> <td>1832 " FEDDER.F.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>The following are the recommendations of the C.O. as sent to higher authority.</p> <p>Sgt BEARD.E.S. During the operation of the 4th and 12th October this N.C.O. volunteered to deliver hot rations to his battalion. The conditions were dreadful on the 12th the ground being almost impassable. He went forward with pack mules on both occasions and personally saw that the rations reached their destination. His courage and determination have on all occasions been worthy of the highest commendation.</p>	29 Sgt BEARD.E.S.	1852 Pte HOLLINGWORTH.A.	515 Cpl BELL I.L.	645A " KING.J.H.S.	485 " NEWELL.W.J.L.	933 " MEREDITH.J.V.	5974 " BURKE.J.	1670 " MATHESON.J.	529 L/Cpl CAMPBELL.G.	2802 " FRASER.H.J.	1832 " FEDDER.F.		
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Warneton.	14/11/17.		<p>Private HOLLINGWORTH.) Private NEWELL. ) These two soldiers were employed as runners between B.H.Qrs and the front line and did exceedingly good work in carrying messages forward during the most severe bombardment. On their return journey they assisted in carrying back the wounded, they exhibited great courage and devotion to duty.</p> <p>Corporal BELL. Was in charge of signalling station and by his courage energy and devotion to duty considerably helped to bring about successful communication although working under very trying conditions. He has at all time carried out his duties in a splendid unselfish manner and his courage and fortitude during the recent operations were worthy of the highest praise.</p> <p>Lance Corporal CAMPBELL.G. was in charge of a section during operations 4 and 12th October and by his fearlessness and prompt action showed a splendid example to his men. Under very heavy shell fire he showed an utter disregard of self and rendered most valuable assistance to the O.C. of his Company by collecting information and clearing up the situation during the operations of the 12th October.</p> <p>Corporal MEREDITH.J.V. was in charge of Lewis Gun Team and did exceptionally good work on 4th and 12th October. On the 12th he showed great courage and ability leading his team forward to the most advanced position and endeavouring to keep down the enemy's fire with his gun. His coolness courage and determination were inspiring to his comrades.</p>	

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	14/11/17		<p>Cont. MILITARY MEDALS.</p> <p>MATHESON. J. in the operations of 4th and 12th October showed fine courage inspiring all his comrades with confidence. On 12th Oct when severe casualties had been inflicted on his Battn he stuck to the ground he had won and by his coolness courage and devotion to duty did much to allay the confusion that arose on account of the casualties inflicted. He exhibited many fine qualities of leadership.</p> <p>WEDDER. F. did duty as stretcher bearer in operations of 12th Oct. He carried out his duty under heavy shell fire with great courage and devotion and through his exertions many wounded were successfully evacuated. He did similar good work during the operation of 4th Oct. The conditions under which he worked were arduous in the extreme but he continued with untiring energy and devotion.</p> <p>Sgt KING. led his platoon with great courage fortitude and ability. He set a fine example to his men under very severe shell and M.G. fire and inspired them all with his fine example during operations of 4th and 12th Oct. At all times he has shown the same courage and coolness and his example has been of inestimable value to his company.</p> <p>Sgt BURKE and Sgt FRASER did excellent work during operations of 12th Oct they led their man through heavy shell and M.G. fire to the most advanced position and there endeavoured to assist the advance of their Battn by keeping down the enemy's fire. By their fine example of courage and coolness their men were greatly inspired. When the advance of their Battn was ultimately held up and they were instructed to fall back to a rear position they again led their men to that position under complete control and greatly assisted the company commander in the consolidation and holding of the line. Their conduct was a fine example to all and they exhibited great ability in leadership. At all times they have set a fine standard of courage and devotion to duty.</p>	
Warneton.	21/11/17		40th Battalion relieved 38th Battn in left Battn sector of Warneton sector. 38th Battn returned to hutments at Romarin as reserve battalion.	(B.O.51.
Romarin.	29/11/17		38th Battn relieved 40th Battn in above named sector.	AppA(B.O.52.
	30/11/17		<p>Taken on strength 1 - 29th Nov 4 officers 119 O.R.</p> <p>Struck off strength 1 - 29th Nov 2 officers 30 O.R. Sick.</p> <p>Other reasons 16 O.R.</p> <p>Casualties 7 O.R. (1K.1M 5W) Total 2 officers 53 O.R.</p> <p>Fighting strength of Battn Officers 38</p> <p>O.R. <u>669</u></p> <p>TOTAL <u>707.</u></p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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WARNETON.	<del>21/11/17</del> 6/12/17. 15/12/17. <del>20/11/17</del> <del>20/11/17</del> 20/12/17. 31/12/17.		40th Battn relieved 38th Battn in left Battn sector of Warneton. 38th Battn retired to RED LODGE as support battalion. 38th Battn moved to Aldershot Camp on the Waterloo Road.  The Battn <sup>moved</sup> <del>marched</del> to HOLLEBECQUE CAMP in the STEENWERCK area. 38th Battalion moved to ALDERSHOT CAMP WATERLOO ROAD Fighting Strength of the Battalion 46 Officers 723 O.R. Casualties during December Killed / 3 O.R. Wounded 6 O.R.	( B.O.53. ( B.O.54. ( App A. ( B.O.55. ( B.O.56.																								
ALDERSHOT CAMP	31/12/17.		Total battle casualties of 38th Battalion to date <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>K</th> <th>DIED</th> <th>WOUNDS</th> <th>W</th> <th>MISSING</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Officers</td> <td>14</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>27</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O.R.</td> <td>147</td> <td>22</td> <td></td> <td>913</td> <td>93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>161</td> <td>23</td> <td></td> <td>940</td> <td>96</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> GRAND TOTAL - 1220.		K	DIED	WOUNDS	W	MISSING	Officers	14	1		27	3	O.R.	147	22		913	93	TOTAL	161	23		940	96	
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			<u>HONOURS and AWARDS.</u>																									
			D.S.O. Major HURRY.G. (A.I.F. list 214 <del>1251231</del> 18/12/17) MILITARY CROSS. Captain DAVIES G.V. (R.M.O.) Captain ORCHARD.W.H. A.I.F list 274 18/12/17. Captain LATCHFORD E.W. Lieut MARTIN.F.R.B. A.I.F. list 274 18/12/17. D.C.M. Sgt now 2/lieut SHILLIDAY J.S. N.2209 Lance Cpl BRIGHT.A.A.																									
			Mentioned in Sir DOUGLAS HAIGS despatches- authority- Special Brigade Order 30/12/17. Captain DENCH.H. 967 L/Cpl PEGLER A.E. Lieutenant LANGLEY F.B. 1251 Private NICHOLSON.H.																									
			TOTALS TO DATE.																									
			D.S.O. 3. M.C. 9. D.C.M. 6. M.M. 42. Mentioned in Sir DOUGLAS HAIG'S Despatches 9.																									

# WAR DIARY

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ALDERSHOT CAMP.	1.1.18		Working parties supplied totalling 4 Off. 13 N.C.O. 257 O.R. - Cable burying and pipe laying	App. A (working party reports)
"	2.1.18		do 4 " 12 " 266 " - do	do
"	3.1.18		do 4 " 15 " 279 " - do	do
"	4.1.18		do 4 " 18 " 315 " - do	do
<p><b>HONOURS and AWARDS.</b> A.I.F. list 279 (1/1/18)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Awarded Military Cross - Capt. A. FRASER (Adjutant)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">" D.C.M. - No. 645 L/Cpl. PERRY R.J.</p>				
"	5.1.18		Working parties supplied totalling 4 Off. 14 N.C.O's 219 O.R's. Leave granted to Battalion has been increased to 3 Off. 32 O.R's. per week to England commencing from 1st. Jan.	App. A.
"	6.1.18		Daily working parties totalled 1 Off. 8 N.C.O's 86 O.R's. Weather during previous week has been very severe, training being practically impossible.	App. A.
"	7.1.18		Daily working parties totalled 1 Off. 8 N.C.O's 110 O.R's. A and B Coys carried on with training as per syllabus.	App. A.
"	8.1.18		Working parties totalled 2 Off. 10 N.C.O's 134 O.R's - B and C. Coys trained as per syllabus.	App. B.
"	9.1.18		Daily working parties totalled 3 Off. 13 N.C.O's 185 O.R's. D Coy trained as per syllabus attached	App. B.
"	10.1.18		Daily working parties totalled 1 Off. 8 N.C.O's 80. O.R. - A and D Coys trained as per syllabus attached.	App. A.B.
"	11.1.18		Daily work report attached - B and C Coys trained as per syllabus attached.	App. A.
"	12.1.18		Daily work report attached	App. A.B.
"	13.1.18		B Coy. trained as per syllabus attached. Daily work report attached	App. A.
"	13.1.18		D. Coy. trained as per syllabus attached.	App. B.
"	14.1.18		Weather during past week has been cold and boisterous and greatly militated against training. Daily work report attached	App. A.
"	15.1.18		C Coy trained as per syllabus attached Daily work report attached	App. B.
"	16.1.18		A and D Coy trained as per syllabus Daily work report attached	App. A.
"	17.1.18		Daily work report attached	App. B.
"	18.1.18		Daily work report attached	App. A.
"	19.1.18		Daily work report attached	App. A.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ALDERSHOT CAMP T19.b40.50	20.1.18		Daily work report attached Lecture to Junior Officers of 10th Bgde by Major Gen. Sir JOHN MONASH.K.C.B. at Cinema Hall NEUVE EGLISE on Duties of Junior Officers.	App. A.
"	21.1.18		Daily work report attached	App. A.
"	22.1.18		Daily work report attached Coy Officers reconnoitred sector to be taken over by us in a few days. They all report trenches in a very bad state.	App. A.
"	23.1.18		Divisional Commander congratulates working parties of this Battalion (See Working party report attached Monthly Sanitary Report attached. AWARDS - AUTHORITY - Military Order 495 of 1917 - promulgated A.I.F. Orders, Colonial Auxiliery Force Officers Decoration (V.D.) awarded to LT. COL. C.H. DAVIS. D.S.O. During the week last week the weather has been exceedingly mild.	App. C. App. A. App. A.
"	24.1.18		Daily working party report attached Owing to daily Bath parades, working parties and the muddy state of the ground very little training has been carried out during the last few days except for Lewis Gunners, Scouts and Observers.	App. A.
"	25.1.18		Daily work report attached	App. A.
"	26.1.18		Advance party of Sniping Sergeant, two Observers, No. 1 of each Lewis Gun teams, Gas N.C.O. left for the line in accordance with Battalion Order No. 57. Owing to lack of accomodation in the line Officers as detailed in the order did not report with the Advance party.	App. E.
T19.b40.50.	27.1.18		Daily work report attached. In accordance with Battalion Order No. 57 (App.E) 38th Battn relieved the 23rd Battn A.I.F. in the WARNETON Sector. The relief was comple at 9.15 p.m. The Battn moved from ALDERSHOT lines to CONNAUGHT Siding - thence by light railway to HYDE PARK CORNER. The relief passed without ----- incident, some of the 23rd Battn. being heard to remark that it was the quickest relief they had ever had.	App. A.
"	28.1.18		Last night was remarkably quiet. Intelligence Summary attached Our front line extends from approx. U 11 b o5.47 to U 11 d 60.00 the last 250 yards approx not being held. The dispositions are as follows;- Front line - right to left - 2 platoons of A Coy and 2 Platoons of C Coy - Remainder of A & C Coys in close support. B Coy in support in Grey Trench approx. D Coy in reserve at CATACOMBS (HYDE PARK CORNER) Battalion H.Q. is in old German Pill Box at U9b 58.32. Q.M. store and transport are at ANTRIM LINES near ROMARIN SIDING. Front line is held as follows A Coy - posts 1 - 4 (inclusive) each of 1 N.C.O. and 8 men, Three Lewis Guns - C Coy - posts 5 - 9 (inclusive) each of 1 N.C.O. and 6 men except No. 8 (1 N.C.O.	App. F.

WARNETON AREA (GREY FARM)

2353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/15 D.D.&L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.



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WARNETON AREA (GREY FARM)	28.1.18		AND 3 MEN) and three Lewis Guns. The trenches are in a very bad state USEFUL LANE (C.T.) is good in parts but in some places almost impassable. WALLY SUPPORT is fair RIVER LANE is only passable with difficulty the mud being knee deep and very sticky indeed. The front line is in the same condition. Three T head saps have been put out to accomodate three of the posts but the others are in the trench.																										
	29.1.18		Intelligence Summary attached (App. F.) Army Form B 213 attached (App. G.) Offence Report B 2069 attached (App.H.) During last night an attempt was made by A Coy to strengthen the wire on our right flank. Owing to bright moonlight the wiring could not be proceeded with. A great amount of work was done in clearing trenches, making drains, collecting salvage, the reserve Coy supplied 55 men for carrying gravel and bursters from RACINE DUMP to subsid line.																										
	30.1.18		Intelligence Summary attached (App. F.) Enemy minenwerfer not so active this evening as previously (See Int. Sum.) owing probably to prompt Artillery retaliation. Battn. H.Q. visited by Divisional Commander.																										
	31.1.18		Intelligence Summary attached (App. F.) D and B Coy relieved A and C Coy. respectively in the front line. A Coy is now in the subsid line as Support Coy. C Coy in reserve at the Catacombs. The day was misty and the relief was carried out in daylight without incident. The C.O. and Adjutant were relieved by 2nd. in command and assistant Adjt.																										
			<table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Official FIGHTING STRENGTH of Battn</td> <td>50</td> <td>Off.</td> <td>821</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RATION STRENGTH</td> <td>37</td> <td>"</td> <td>672</td> <td>"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total CASUALTIES for month</td> <td></td> <td>K.</td> <td>W.</td> <td>Accidentally Injured.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Officers</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>6</td> <td>2.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O. R.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>- Total 10</td> </tr> </table>	Official FIGHTING STRENGTH of Battn	50	Off.	821	O.R.	RATION STRENGTH	37	"	672	"	Total CASUALTIES for month		K.	W.	Accidentally Injured.	Officers		2	6	2.	O. R.				- Total 10	
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38TH. BATTALION. A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WARNETON SECTOR.	1.2.18		Daily work report attached	App. A.
			Daily Intelligence summary attached.	App. B.
	2.2.18		Daily work report and intelligence summary attached. German patrols came into contact with our right (No.1) post. For details see Intelligence summary	App. A.& B.
	3.2.18		Daily work report and Intelligence Summary attached. Confirmatory note re yesterday's encounter. attached to Summary	App. A.B.
	4.2.18		Daily work report and Intelligence Summary attached. In accordance with Battalion Order No. 59 the 38th Battalion being relieved by the 40th Battalion moved to RED LODGE, thus becoming reserve Battalion. The relief passed off without incident and was reported complete at 8.15.p.m. During our spell in the trenches the weather has been remarkably fine and mild, thus enabling us to do a good deal of work to the trenches. Enemy artillery fire has been practically nil but his Trench Mortars have been very active. One pine-apple landed in a small shelter this morning and killed 2 men, wounding 3 others, a sixth man escaped unhurt. Our total casualties were 4 killed, 12 wounded; 12 evacuated sick during the eight days in the line, including 2 cases of trench feet.	App. D.
RED LODGE.	5.2.18		Army Form 213 to 2nd. February attached. The dug-outs at Red Lodge are still in good condition. Ablution benches (or their equivalent) are conspicuous by their absence, the men being forced to wash in shell holes. Owing to the relief no working parties were sent out yesterday afternoon.	App. C
	6.2.18		Daily work report attached. All available men are needed for working parties hence no training can be done before going into the line again.	App. A.
	7.2.18		Daily work report attached.	App. A.
	8.2.18		Daily work report attached The working parties have greatly interfered with bathing parades but all men have had a hot bath since coming out of the line	
	9.2.18		Daily work report attached Army Form B. 213 to 9.2.18 attached	App. A. App. C.
			Army Form B. 2069 (Offence Report) for weeks ending 2nd 9th./2/18 attached	App. E.
	10.2.18		Daily work report attached. At 10.p.m. this evening, special party raided the German trenches. The raid, which took place opposite WARNETON was completely successful. See App. F.	App. F.

# 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
RED LODGE	11.2.18		Daily work report attached (App. A.) The weather during our stay at RED LODGE has continued to be fine and mild. Owing to the strength of working parties which we have had to supply, no training has been possible even for Specialists.	App. A.
WARNETON SECTOR	12.2.18		In accordance with Battn. Order No.60. 33th. Battn relieved 40th in WARNETON Sector. The relief passed without incident and was reported complete at 8.15.p.m. The dispositions of the Battn. are now as follows:- Right Coy. "A" Coy. - holding posts 1 - 4 inclusive as follows:- No.1 post (night post only) contains 1.N.C.O. 11 men with 2 Lewis Guns. No. 2. 1.N.C.O. 6 men with one Lewis Gun. No.3. and 4. 7 men each with one L.Gun at No.4. The remainder of the Coy are in WALLY Support. Left Coy. "C" Coy. holding posts 5-10 inclusive. No.5.6.7.9 - 1.N.C.O. 6 men with one gun each. No.8. 1 N.C.O. 3 men. No.10. Night Listening post - 1.N.C.O.6 men. Remainder of Coy in WALLY Support and UGLY Lane. Support Coy. "D" Coy. is in GREY Trench (Subsid Line) Reserve Coy. "B" Coy is in CATACOMBS.	App. D. Reference Sheet 28.S.W.
	13.2.18		Daily work Report attached. No. 5972 Sgt. BRANCH R.B. and No.2634 Pte SIBCLAIR R.B. have been awarded Belgian Croix de Guerre for continuous meritorious service in the field - Authority Battn. Routine Order 8.2.18	App. A.
	13.2.18		Daily work report attached. Daily Intelligence Summary attached The trenches are in considerably better condition than when we came in previously. There is still a good deal of water in the front line especially on the right but the C.T. and Supports are dry.	App. A. App. B.
	14.2.18		Daily work Report attached. Daily Intelligence Summary attached. The Division has seriously undertaken working of improving the Sector, and a large no. of men are being employed nightly under engineer and pioneer supervision.	App. A. App. B.
	15.2.18		Daily work and Intelligence Reports attached.	App. A. & B.
	16.2.18		Daily work and Intelligence Reports attached A.F.213. and 2069 for week ending 16th attached. In accordance with Battn. Order No.61. B.&D. Coys relieved C.&A. Coys respectively in the front line. C. Coy went into support in GREY trench and A Coy went to CATACOMBS. The relief passed off without incident.	App. A. & B. App. D.
	17.2.18		Daily work Report and Intelligence Summary attached	App. A. & B.
	18.2.18		Daily work Report and Intelligence Summary attached	App. A. & B.



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38th. Battalion. A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KORTEFYP	1.3.18		Casualties during FEBRUARY O.R.      K.      D.W.      W. 3      1      8	
			Daily work Report attached	App. A.
	2.3.18		do	
			A.F.B. 2069 and 213 attached	App.C.L.
			Monthly Medical Report for February attached	App.B.
	5.3.18		Daily Work Report attached	App.A.
N.D. des ARDENIS	4.3.18		do	"
			In accordance with Battn. Order No. 65 the 38th. Battn moved to Billets in the LUMBRES Area. Battn. H.Qrs. and A. Coy being at N.D. des. ARDENIS. B.C. & D. Coys at AFFRINGUES.	App.F.
do	5.3.18		Training will be carried out in accordance with Syllabus in App.E.	
do	9.3.18		A.F.B. 2069 and B. 213. attached	App.C. & L.
do	15.3.18		do	
do	25.3.18		In accordance with Battn. Order No. 66 38th. Battn moved by rail from LUMBRES to CAESTRE in order to proceed to Billets in WINKIZELLE Area at CAESTRE.	
IN THE FIELD	23.3.18		Previous orders were cancelled and the under orders direct from Corps the 38th. Battn marched to WALLON CAPPEL. A.Fs.B. 213 and B. 2069 attached	App.D. & C.
	24.3.18		3.a.m. In accordance with Battn Order No 67 38th Battn were instructed to proceed to	
		9.30.	WARDRECQUES Area. Later instructions were issued and Battn embussed at Rd. Junction immediately	Ref. Map
		a.m.	North of W. in WALLON CAPPEL and debussed at CAMPAGNE marching thence to neighbourhood of COUBRONNE. H.Q. being at LE RONS - B. Coy. at COUBRONNE - A.C. & D. Coys at LE SABLON.	HAZEBROUCKE 5a.
	25.3.18		Remained in Billets in the above named villages during the day.	
		11.30.p.m.	Proceeded by route march to ST. VIER Station arrived at 4.11.a.	
	26.3.18		Three Companies (A.B. & D. entrained for South probably DOULLENS (Ref Map LENS 11) C. Coy	
		9.a.m.	followed in later train and to unload 3 trains on arrival at their destination.	
		4.p.m.	Detrained at MONDICOURT proceeded by route march to AUTHIE where the Bn. was to billet for the night. Arrived at AUTHIE at 7.p.m.	
	27.3.18		Orders received that Bn. to proceed at once by route march to MARIEUX where Bn. embussed at	
		2.a.m.	5.a.m. for FRANVILLERS. Arrived FRANVILLERS 1.30.p.m. Immediately proceeded by route march to	Ref. Map
			HEILLY - Germans reported to have reached vicinity - Moved forward in open order to village	ALBERT
		2.p.m.	MERICOURT and a previously selected position was taken over from 43rd. Battn. A.I.F. just beyond Village - No enemy yet encountered. A. & B. Coys holding line from MERICOURT Le-ABBE Station to about cross-roads at J.11.b. C. Coy in support - D. Coy in reserve -	(Combined Sheet)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
IN THE FIELD	28.3.18	8.a.m.	C.Coy (Capt. F.E.FAIRWEATHER.M.C.) pushed forward and occupied MARETT Wood. About 1000 yards from main line of defence - The enemy observed in force on ridge running through K.1, J.12 and J.17. His machine guns played on our positions in Wood (J.11.b. and J.6.c.) but without doing harm.	
		11.a.m.	Enemy (about 100 strong) advanced down side of hill in four waves moving towards MARETT Wood ostensibly to attack and take wood - Attack beaten back with Rifle and L.G.fire - Enemy suffered 50% casualties. Survivors retired as quickly as possible over hill. Day remained comparatively quiet except that Artillery fire increased. No further attack by enemy. Our position in Wood consolidated as far as possible. Night of 28th. 29th. very quiet except for occasional machine gun fire and shelling at random - Casualties by M.G. and shell fire suffered by us for 24 hours from 12 noon 28.3.18 to 12 noon 29th. - 4 N.C.Os and 9 men wounded	
	29.3.18	8.a.m.	Patrol of 1.Off. (Lieut FIRZGERALD) 2 N.C.Os and 14 men moved out to reconnoitre hill in front of MARETT Wood (near TREUX) - C.Coys position - to find out whether it was in occupation of enemy - Very soon a party of the enemy (from 35 to 40) was surprised in the sunken road several hundred yards from the Wood. This party was engaged by oblique L.G. and Rifle fire from a few yards range, and in a minute or two all were casualties - About 40 casualties were inflicted in addition to 3 prisoners being secured by the patrol - We suffered no casualties - Report attached hereto also recommendation that Lieut FITZGERALD G.E. and No. 3059 L/Cpl.DUNN J.N.W.E. be mentioned in Divisional Despatches - Remainder of day quiet - No more Germans seen on hill all day. Their advance effectively checked on this front.	App. G.
	30.3.18	10.a.m.	A. Coy relieved C.Coy in MARETT Wood - C.Coy returned to billets in MERICOURT-LE-ABBE for a few hours rest.	
		11.a.m.	Shell fire on Wood increased considerably - M.G. fire also increased. Enemy still working on ridge but observing every precaution. Our casualties for 24 hours - 2 Offs. (Lieut WARNOCK S.R. & BIRCHILL) 2 N.C.Os and 5 men wounded - 1 man Killed i/a.	
	31.3.18	8.p.m.	During heavy enemy attack on 11th. Bde. front on our right (which was repulsed) over 500 shells fell round A.Coy in MARETT Wood but casualties Nil. Quiet night - Enemy Aeroplanes dropped bombs during early morning on our supposed positions but without result. 38th. Bn. commenced relief of 39th Bn. in forward positions - C.B.&D. in front line - A.Coy in support - Relief completed without untoward incident. Up to present no difficulty has been experienced in getting rations and ammunition to front line - Casualties for past 24 hours Nil.	

*Collect information  
No. troops in support*

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FIELD  ?	31.3.18		<p>Conditions since arriving in this Sector (27.3.18) have been only fair - Rain falling very heavily on 29th. 30th. and morning of 31st. Men wet through but in excellent spirits and exceptionally confident and keen.</p> <p>Battalion Operation Orders for month are under - Scout Reports and Intelligence reports are under - Medical Officers report is under</p> <p>Nominal Roll of personnel for Nucleus Battalion (maintained at Transport lines) in case of heavy casualties is under. Original messages sent and received during operations in present sector.</p> <p>Compiling Officer - <u>1.4.18</u> H. ROBBINS Lieut. 38th. Battn. A.I.F.</p>	<p>App.F. App.H. App.I. *App.J. App.K.</p>

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

38TH BATTALION A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MERICOURT-TREUX.	Apr. 1	1	Enemy movement much increased and our observers pointed out targets to 18 pounds <sup>avo</sup> which dispersed many enemy parties and attacked M.G. Positions. Enemy aircraft very active but were always very heavily engaged by our planes, H.G. fire and A.A. Guns. Patrols moved out 700 yds from trenches and "B" Coy's patrol brought in a machine gun (German 08/15 Pattern) Casualties Nil.	
	"	2.	Enemy activity steadily increasing with artillery, M.G. Fire and aeroplanes but movement has greatly decreased evidently enemy has got into fixed positions and secured some cover in posts, snipers have been very busy wherever enemy has shown himself, jumping from post, and now he keeps to cover. 4 hits claimed by snipers and also a messenger dog whose body could not have been recovered. Scouts brought in another enemy machine gun, and also many documents and other spoil. Casualties nil.	
	"	3.	Again marked increase in all activities of Enemy, seven observation balloons were used by enemy from near MORLENCOURT. Enemy now using VERBY Lights, Night flares and putting up wire. The battalion sector has now been greatly improved and organised, the posts nearly all connected, some wire entanglements constructed and a communication trench commenced. Our "D" Company observers indicated targets to our artillery which engaged them accurately and inflicted casualties. Relief of the trenches by 40th Battalion commenced at 8-30 p.m. and was accomplished systematically and with out interference by enemy, and completed by 11-15 p.m. when the 38th Battalion became "D" Battalion in reserve at RIBEMONT. Casualties Nil.	
RIBEMONT.	"	4.	Uneventful conference by Os. C. Coys. Working party 300 strong sent out to dig new switch trench.	
		4-40 p.m.	4-40 p.m. Received Brigade wire warning of possibility of an attack, from prisoners statement troops were already in position so our artillery opened on his posts and probable points of assembly and maintained a heavy fire for three hours. Night passed quietly. Casualties Nil.	
	"	5.	5 a.m. All our artillery fired rapidly on enemy posts and possible points of formation.	
		7 a.m.	7 a.m. Enemy heavies commenced counter-battery work in an attempt to neutralise our field guns East of the village and a great deal of shelling ensued, but our guns remained in action throughout. Gas shell used by enemy but only a faint trace of it reached RIBEMONT.	
		7-50 a.m.	7-50 a.m. Shelling lifted to village and the cross roads, vicinity of C and D Billets, H.Q. Billet, were heavily bombarded for 60 minutes only slight casualties occurred, for troops wither took to cellars or dispersed over the fields. Casualties 1 killed, 4 wounded.	
		8-50 a.m.	8-50 a.m. Bombardment lifted West towards HEILLY, but intermittent shelling of village continued all day which otherwise was without local incident. Troops retained at billets all day as enemy was attacking our F.L. Troops but was beaten off and therefore no movement on our part was necessary. <del>Original messages received this day attached.</del> While in reserve but little training	



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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

38th Battalion. A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIBEMONT.	Ap1.5	8-50 a.m.	-training has been possible owing to enemy observation and shelling of back areas, but signallers have been organised for the next relief of the trenches by the Signalling Officer (Lt Potter) and the Scout Officer has organised and lectured the scouts on their work under the new and unusual conditions of semi-open warfare. Casualties 1 killed, 4 wounded.	
	" 6.		A quiet day was passed in the billets but at midday we received notice that we should relieve the Left Battalion in the BUIRE-TREUX Sector during the night. During the afternoon the sector was reconnoitred by many officers and at 8-30 p.m. relief commenced and was carried out systematically and without interruption during heavy rain and completed by 11 p.m. Casualties nil.	
	" 7.		A quiet day, BUIRE village was shelled but its garrison was housed in the cellars and no casualties occurred. The Acting-C.O. (Major Hurry) spent the day in the front line viewing the dispositions which it was decided were not the best possible and a scheme for their better improvement submitted to higher authority, it was immediately approved and steps taken to commence the wiring and digging of new posts proposed. The line was held by "C" Coy in the left, A Coy central, and B Coy right with D Coy as reserve Company. C Coy occupies portion of railway line and outskirts of BUIRE Village and up to the River ANCRE. A and B Coy in TREUX Village and up to MARRET Wood with D Company in BUIRE Village.	
	" 8.		The day and night passed without special incident. Casualties Nil. A quiet day with low visibility, the troops were fully occupied in improving defences, and endeavouring to obtain a little comfort and shelter from the indecent weather. Enemy artillery very active, snipers and M.Gs. active although but little movement in forward areas. Our observers brought fire to bear upon a party of the enemy observed in E.27.c., the artillery shot accurately and the party 90 strong dispersed from huts in which they had encamped. Enemy using kite balloon to observe our area. Division (4th Aust) on our left relieved about 1 a.m. by 2nd Aust. Division. Their right battalion 27th Battalion A.I.F. During the hours of darkness we advanced portion of our line on a front of 700 yards from J.6.c.40-30 to J.6.a.65.35, constructed new posts and placed out wire, this done by A and B companies, mainly by B Company. Scouts of "B" Company executed a daring patrol to a distant objective and obtained close touch with enemy and brought in documents and very lights from dead enemy. Casualties nil.	
	" 9.		Day very misty and observation poor. Enemy carried out harassing fire over our areas all day. Between the hours of 8-30 and 9-30 he distributed over a 1000 shells on BUIRE and TREUX villages and on the railway line held by our battalion. Although the day was favourable to enemy attack and shelling seemed to indicate an intention there was no infantry action, but shelling continued all day varying considerably in violence, but usually increasing at the clock hours.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

38TH BATTALION A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Front-Line TREUX-BUIRE Sector.	Apl. 9 (Cont'd)	3 p.m.	Shelling seemed to quieten down and conditions drop to normal again. In the evening commencing at 9 p.m. we were relieved by the 40th Battalion, relief was accomplished in a systematic and orderly manner and without enemy interference. We moved out to near MERICOURT and occupied Support Trenches becoming "C" Battalion. Dispositions are "A" Coy Right, B Coy left, D Coy central with Headquarters in Chateau in Artillery Row, MERICOURT and C Coy in reserve in same village. Quick reliefs are now the Brigade policy in order to preserve the health of the feet. Casualties 1 killed, 1 wounded. "C" Coy 1 wounded "B" Coy. No casualties from gas.	
MERICOURT 1'ABBE.	" 10.		Aerial activity has been rather notable today, formations flying East were given much attention by our A.A.Guns and machine guns but none crashed. Our artillery very active harrassing the enemy. Rain has <sup>made</sup> the trenches uncomfortable but our lads have now prepared numbers of quite snug "bivvies" and secured a measure of comfort. Although rations as issued are on somewhat a limited scale and lack variety the condition of their issue to the lads requires special mention, reflecting very creditably on the work of the Quartermaster and his staff and also the Battalion Transport. Rations are cooked and prepared at the Q.M Store at HELLBY the vessels are then packed in straw filled boxes <del>and covered</del> and carried in limbers to the front line area, being issued to the troops hot, in pleasant variety and satisfying quantity, two hot meals being given, one before daylight and one after dusk as transport is impossible during daylight. Trench feet have been prevented too by the daily exchange of soiled wet socks for clean dry warm ones. Although no laundries are instituted in this as yet unorganised front our Q.M. has secured by salvage and other means a surplus of socks which is washed and dried at the store and issued and reissued daily in exchange for soiled pairs. The A/C.O. (Major Hurry) has expressed his absolute satisfaction with the loyal and untiring efforts of our Q.M. Lieut. P.J. Telfer and desired that these matters be recorded for they have greatly contributed the high standard of efficiency maintained in the Battalion. Casualties nil.	
	" 11		The activities of today have been those of artillery and aircraft on both sides. Enemy observation balloons (4) have been spotting from the vicinity of MORLANCOURT. Defences have been further improved by wiring and entrenchments and area is rapidly becoming organised in depth. Casualties.	
	" 12.		Continued aircraft and artillery activity on both sides but they did not interfere with the progress of work which consisted in the siting and digging of posts in the rear zones. Our <del>infantry</del> observers have been busy and directed attention of artillery on to favourable targets which were engaged with much success. Enemy movement confined to his rear zones and seen <sup>to be</sup> mainly towards the South East. Casualties.	

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38TH BATTALION A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MERICOURT	Apr. 12		In accordance with Battalion Order No. 73. 38th Battalion relieved 40th Battalion astride the River ANCRE. From right to left the front line is as follows :- B and A Coy (Left of the river) D Coy is on right bank of river and parallel with it to the left post astride the BUIRE-VILLIE-SUR-ANCRE Road. C Coy is in reserve in BUIRE. The relief passed without incident and was reported complete at 10-30 p.m.	
	13		A and B Coys H.Qrs were in cellars in <del>BUIRE</del> TREUX. C Coy in cellar in BUIRE. D Coy in cellar under signal box at railway crossing D.30.c.8.9. (Sheet 62.D.) TREUX lightly shelled during day. Otherwise day was without incident. Bn H.Qrs in farm at J.5.a.10.95 Q.M. Store at HELLIX.	
	14th		At 4 a.m. this morning A Coy patrol of six men encountered enemy patrol of eight men near disabled tank 400 yards east of our line. Enemy threw <sup>two</sup> grenades which wounded four of our men. <sup>(the very slightly and) and then scattered. Our men brought in two wounded men.</sup> Apparently none of the enemy were hit by our rifle fire. BUIRE lightly shelled during the day Our artillery fired on enemy movement K.1.a.3.2. which was notified to them by our observers.	
	15th		BUIRE shelled at intervals during day, enemy fired 20 small minenwerfers at the tank. This gun was spotted by our observers and reported to artillery. Artillery fired on it and it did not fire again during our tour in the line. Front line in K.6.a. lightly shelled. Lt. KENNEDY M.C. killed	
	16th		Patrols pushed out to J.6.b.3.2 without seeing enemy. Abandoned enemy M.G. found at J.6.b.4.5. and brought in. BUIRE intermittently shelled all day. On the night 12/13th "A" Coy patrol brought in an enemy rifle with cup attachment for firing grenades. Several grenades were brought in and proved to be the first of their kind captured. G.H.Q. asked for specimen. In accordance with Battalion Order No. 74 the 38th Battalion was relieved by the 40th Bn and moved to RIBEMONT, becoming D Battalion (reserve) Battalion. Work done during 4 days in the line : 350 yards new wire put up, 250 yards existing wire strengthened. B. Coy's posts connected up. A Coy's posts connected up. 50 yards new trench dug towards Battalion on right 50 yards between A and B Coy dug, 180 yards new trench dug on GREEN line (2nd line of resistance.).	
	17th		All men were given hot bath at Flour mill. Day very quiet.	
	18		Following work was done by our men on rear defences : 560 yards double apron wire, 1000 posts cut for use in wiring 235 yards of trench dug, 22 ft breastwork erected.	
	19		Work for today : 440 yards double apron wire, 420 yards hedge cut down, 500 posts for wiring, 466 yards trench, 22 feet breastwork.	
	20		Work done today : 150 yards wire, 475 yards trench, 52 ft breastwork. RIBEMONT was intermittently shelled today with gas and H.E.	
	21		Company specialists will go into line tonight preparatory to relieving 27th Battalion in <sup>new sector.</sup>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIBEMONT	Apr. 21st.		Work done - 165 yards new trench; 35 yards double apron wire, 33 yards breastwork, cut 50 pickets cleared 200 yards under-growth, completed and camouflaged two strong pts.	
"	22nd.		RIBEMONT intermittently shelled during the night. In accordance with Battalion Order No. 75 38th Battn took over portion of the front occupied by 27th Battn. A.I.F. and relieved one Coy of 40th. Battn Our front now extends from approx. D.30.c.52 to E.19.b.40. being held by B.C.&D.Coys (right to left) with A.Coy in reserve in E.2.4.d.19.c. The front consists of series of posts not yet linked up.	App.A.
BUIRE	23rd.		The relief passed without incident but was complete by midnight B.H.Q. is at J.5.a.10.95. A few shells fell in neighbourhood of Bn.H.Q. during early morning. Our Artillery was very active during day and night. Our patrols lay up as Listening posts during the night and saw nothing except Verrey light and rigfia rifle flash from about D.30.d.90.50. and E.25.c.10.55 respectively. At 6.35.p.m. a plane with British markings dropped bombs behind our posts in D.30.c. Two fragments of bomb with British broad arrow brand were secured and forwarded to Brigade H.Qrs.	Ref. Sheet 62d. or ALPNE 1/40,000.
	24th.		Enemy artillery not active. Our artillery very active as usual. Our patrols report no sign of enemy except gounds of digging and coughing at E.25.c.10.50. and 10.70. Visibilities very low	
	25th.		Enemy artillery was very active about 125 rounds of 4.2 and 5.9. falling in BUIRE Railway line in J.5. and main road in D.28 and 29 were also heavily shelled. During last night our patrols pushed well out and discovered enemy post at approx. E.25.b.10.25. which was too strong to rush with the men available. Patrol of B.Coy pushed well out along BUIRE-VILIE road to capture suspected post at E.25.c. 10.50. This was found to be unoccupied and patrol pushed out 100 yards further without finding any trace of the enemy - 1 prisoner 8th.Coy. 246th.R.I.R. 54th R.Div. was captured by D.Coy in E.19.d	
	26th.		Enemy artillery active during the night firing mainly on railway line and roads. Our artillery was again very active. Working party E.25.b.30.40. reported on by our patrol was fired on at 1.15.a.m. and dispersed. In accordance with Bn. Order No. 76, 38th. Bn. was relieved by 40th Bn. and became D.Battn. (Reserve) at RIBEMONT living in cellars.	
RIBEMONT	27th.		The Battalion being now Reserve Battalion is being fully employed on rear defensive lines. The day passed without incident.	
	28th.		Without incident, a few shells fell in RIBEMONT at intervals during the day.	
	29th.		A few shells were thrown into RIBEMONT one of them directly hitting B.H.Qrs. The Adjutant's batman was sererely wounded.	
	30th.		In accordance with Battn. Order No. 77 38th. Battn. relieved the 40th. Battn. in front of BUIRE. The line is held from right to left by A.C.&D.Coys respectively with B.Coy in reserve in BUIRE.	

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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIBEMONT	April	30th	<p>Casualties for the month - Killed in action 1 Off. 5. O.R. Wounded 2 . 54. O.R.</p> <p>Work done during 4 days in reserve:- 285 yards trench dug 3.6' deep. 400 yards trench 4 ft. deep 255 yards parapet and parapets camouflaged, an average of 110 men daily were employed building dug outs in a quarry and to provide living accommodation and so enable D. Battn. to move from RIBEMONT.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

38TH. BATTALION.A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRONT LINE EAST of BUIRE.	1.5.18		Since our last tour in the line the posts have been altered slightly and the line swung out in E.25.b. from the railway line to the river, incorporating the German post discovered at E.25.b. 00,50. during our last tour in the line. The day was extremely quiet about thirty shells falling on BUIRE	Ref. Sheet 62D N.E.
do	2.5.18		The enemy's exact whereabouts being uncertain our patrolling will be more than usually vigorous. Officers patrol moved out to reconnoitre the river bank for possible enemy bridges. The patrol reported heavy enemy machine gun fire and returned without reaching the river bank. One man was seriously hit. The enemy has apparently been disturbed by our operations in E.25.b. and the work of consolidation which can only be done at night was greatly hampered last night by his machine gun guns in the timber between the ANCRE and VILLE-sur-ANCRE. During the day about sixty rounds of H.E. mainly 10.5 c.m. and 7.7. c.m. fell near our front line in E.19.d and on BUIRE.	
do	3.5.18		Another Officers patrol moved out last night to reconnoitre the river bank but was again driven back by hostile machine guns. A special telephone line was run out to our right post near the river and connected through to the artillery so that we could telephone to them the result of their shooting on the M.Gs. As a result the machine guns were considerably harassed during the night but not finally silenced.	
do	4.5.18		About one hundred shells fell on the battalion area during the day. Patrolling was again vigorous. An Officers fighting patrol moved out about three hundred yards keeping parallel to railway line and north of it. They found trench at E.19.b.80.00 strongly held by the enemy. A patrol pushed out on the South of the Railway line to a corresponding distance but saw no sign of enemy occupation.	
	5.5.18		An Officers patrol reconnoitred river to E.25.a.9.2. and examined log previously blown up by 40th Battn. No sign of enemy was seen. Another patrol moved out as far as E.20.c.20.10 without meeting with any signs of enemy occupation or patrols. A third patrol again moved along north side of railway embankment to E.20.c.00.65 and no sign of the enemy was met with. During our stay in the line all the posts were considerably improved, 100 yards new trench were dug and approx. 500 yards new wire put out.	
RIBEMONT.	6.5.18		In accordance with Battn. Order No. 78 the 40th Battn relieved the 38th. who moved to RIBEMONT A. and B. Coys are in the bank in D.27.a. C. Coy in the quarry and D. Coy in the Village itself.	
	7.5.18		The day passed very quietly. The battalion will as usual be fully employed on working parties. Enemy artillery has been exceedingly quiet through our guns constantly harass him.	
	8.5.18		An uneventful day.	
	9.5.18		Since leaving the line all men have had a hot bath.	



# WAR DIARY

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

(3)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ALLONVILLE	18.5.18		(2) Best turned out Field-Cooker and team (3) Best turned out horse limber (4) Best turned out Mule limber - All prizes won by 38th. Battalion.	
	19.5.18		Church Parade this morning. Final of Brigade Football Competition this afternoon - 38th. Battn defeated 40th Battn by 29 points - played in Chateau grounds.	
	20.5.18		Training was carried on as usual. Three bombs dropped in Chateau grounds by enemy aircraft.	
	21.5.18		Advance parties of 38th Battn moved to vicinity of BLANGY-TRONVILLE to take over from a Battn of 4th. Division.	
N.28.d.10.25.	22.5.18		In accordance with Bn. Order No. 80 38th. Battn moved to Reserve area this morning. Owing to an inter-brigade relief by 4th Aust Division the 38th Battn relieved 13th instead of 49th. Battn. All times in March Table attached were made 2 hours earlier and relief was reported complete at 12 noon. The four Coys are in bivouacs in vicinity of railway line (N.29.c. N.29.a.) Battn. H.Qrs. is at cross roads N.28.d.10.35. Rear Battn. H.Qrs. is in BLANGY-TRONVILLE at approx N.22.b.00.10 All ranks bathed in the SOMME Canal.	
do	23.5.18		All Officers and N.C.Os commenced to reconnoitre the forward areas. Scouts, Observers and Lewis Gunners will commence training tomorrow.	
	24.5.18		Reconnaissance of forward area continued. Construction of a new Battalion H.Q. was commenced in the railway cutting N.28.a.90.90. Lt-Col DAVIS D.S.O. V.D. has been promoted Colonel to command A.I.F. Base LE HAVRE. Major HURRY D.S.O. promoted temporary Lt-Col and command 38th Battn as from 12th May	
A.I.F. Base Camps	25.5.18		About 40 shells fell in vicinity of A.B.C. Coys without doing any damage. 180 men were supplied to night for cable-burying in the forward area. This seriously interfered with training of Specialists.	
	N.28.			
	26.5.18		A quiet day B. Coy moved to trenches in N.27.a. as enemy frequently drops two or three shells on their position in N.29. . Battalion H.Q. moved to railway Cutting N.28.a. 9.9. C. Coy moved to trenches in N.26.b. Working party of 210 men was supplied last night for cable burying in the forward area.	
	N.28.			
	28.5.18		At 9.30. p.m. last night the Battn moved by Platoons at 300 yards distance to PIONEER SWITCH and occupied that trench from 0.22.a.75.90. to 0.23.a.20.90. H.Q. being in dug out at 0.22.a.75.90. This was done on instruction from higher authority in order to support 9th Aust. Brigade in case of attack by the enemy. At 6.a.m. this morning the Battn commenced to move back by Sections, the move being complete by 9.a.m.	
	N.28.			
	29.5.18		A quiet day - Since coming into this area the men have bathed frequently in the SOMME canal or neighbouring pools. The regimental barber, tailor, and bootmaker have visited the Companies	
	N.28			



WAR DIARY

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																				
29. 5. 18	N.23		daily. The Battalion Echelon (or Nucleus) is situated in Wood in N.7.a. Enemy dropped ten shells this evening in vicinity of A. Coy. no damage done.																					
30. 5. 18	do		A quiet day. 5 Officers 16 N.C.O. 210 other ranks were furnished from the Battalion for cable burying in the forward area.																					
31. 5. 18	do		<p>A quiet day.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Casualties for MAY</td> <td>Wounded</td> <td>Off</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Accidentally Injured</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><u>1</u></td> <td><u>11</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><u>Total</u></td> <td><u>1</u></td> <td><u>11</u></td> </tr> </table>	Casualties for MAY	Wounded	Off	O.R.			1	9		Accidentally Injured		2			<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	
Casualties for MAY	Wounded	Off	O.R.																					
		1	9																					
	Accidentally Injured		2																					
		<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>																					
	<u>Total</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>																					

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

38<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sheet No 50.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N 28	1/6/18		A quiet day. A few shells fell in the neighbourhood of A and D Coy but no damage was done. Received warning that the 38 <sup>th</sup> would relieve the 42 <sup>nd</sup> Aust Battalion in the line on the night of the 4/5 <sup>th</sup> . Reconnoitring parties immediately proceeded to reconnoitre company sectors. One Officer 30. CR provided for working party at Owl Hill.	Ref Map Sheet 62d 740,000.
X do.	2/6/18		Visited by Gen GELLIBRAND the new divisional commander.	
do.	3/6/18		A quiet day. A few shells fell during the night in the vicinity of A and D boys without doing any harm.	
	4/6/18		In accordance with Batta Order No 81 the 38 <sup>th</sup> Batta relieved 42 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion in front of VILLERS BRETONNEUX.	App A.
	5/6/18		The relief was reported complete at 1. am and was without incident except that three casualties were sustained. The Battalion sector extends from O. 36. d 20.80 to P. 25. central. The front line being held by C (right) and D (left) Coys with A and B in support in O. 36. b and O. 30. d. D Coy mans one forward post and C. Coy four. Every effort will be made to link up these forward posts by a continuous trench. Patrols report everything quiet along the front. The enemy fired a large number of flares particularly in the vicinity of the small Orchard at approx O. 36. b 85. 15. During the day there has been intermittent light shelling of the whole battalion area. The following Officers have come into the line, the remainder being a "B" Echelon with the Battalion nucleus of 25 men per Coy. <u>HQ</u> Lt Col Harvey D.S.O. Lt Peters. MC (Scouts) Lt Curpe (Liaison) Lt Potter (Sigs) Capt Brajer. MC Lt Bowden (Intelligence) Lt Shulliday DCM (Lewis Gun.) A Coy. Capt Collins. Lt Hudson. Lt Major. Lt Mackay. B " Capt Marks. Lt Nurse. Lt Mitchell. Lt Bogle. C " Capt Sellock. Lt McCall. Lt Parker. Lt Forso. D " Capt Orchard. Lt Bennett. Lt Herring. Lt Greenwood. In addition Lt Wilson of 325 Regiment (U.S.A) and one Scout Sgt and one Observer are attached for training and experience.	

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VILLERS BRETONNEUX	6/6/18		Enemy artillery has been very active during the day over the whole Battalion Area, and especially in the village. With the help of 50 men from 40 <sup>th</sup> Battr. 225 yds of trenches 3ft deep were dug towards connecting up our posts.	
"	7/6/18		Enemy showed the usual artillery activity during the day and also last night when his machine guns were very active and greatly interfered with our working parties. The Orchard at 0.36.d. s.e. seems to be a centre of considerable activity, there being at least three light machine guns in the vicinity. He also appears to be working up and about the spot.	
do.	8/6/18		The usual artillery activity by the enemy, whose harassing fire is more or less continuous during the night last night and early this morning the enemy bombarded our front and support lines very heavily but did surprisingly little damage and caused no casualties. The shelling considerably hampered our working parties but we managed to complete about 70 yards of trench in our outpost line. Our observers, who are located at about 0.36.b. 30.00 frequently report individual movement immediately south of railway line but the enemy does not show himself opposite our front. Lt Verso took out a patrol of 12 O.Ranks and got as near as possible to the Orchard. They encountered considerable M.G. fire and had one man seriously wounded.	
"	10.6.18		The enemy again shelled our forward areas very heavily causing us 13 casualties (one killed). The outpost line again escaped serious attention. Machine guns were also extremely active. Nevertheless 114 yds of new trench and communication trench were commenced and partially completed. During morning our observers located a big enemy railway gun firing on a T.B. of 114 <sup>th</sup> from their observation post. Last night Sgt Bennett took out a patrol to try and locate an enemy post with a view to obtaining a prisoner for identification purposes. A few dug outs were found but proved to be unoccupied.	
"	11.6.18		During the night the enemy constantly searched our whole forward area, with one or two guns. Possibly our working parties have disturbed him and he is afraid of an attack. Today his artillery fire has been appreciably less than heretofore.	
BOIS L'ABBE	12.6.18		In accordance with Gen Order No. 82 the 40 <sup>th</sup> Battalion relieved 38 <sup>th</sup> Battalion who became 'I' Battalion. B Coy was relieved during yesterday afternoon and the remaining three Coys during the night, all Coys being in their new positions by 3 a.m. this morning.	
			<u>DISPOSITIONS.</u> Battalion H.Q. - Monastery the Bois l'Abbe. 0.26.c.90.35. A Company - Railway embankment 0.27.d. B " - A.B.C.D. kept in VILLERS BRETONNEUX under tactical control of 40 <sup>th</sup> Battalion. C " - Railway cutting 0.28.c. D " - Trenches 0.26.c. 0.26.d.	
	13.6.18		A quiet day. The Battalion is supplying working parties of 20/181 O.Ranks nightly for work in forward and reserve areas. A party of 4 Officers and 75 other ranks supplied by A.C. & D Coys was today detached for special training and organization for possible minor operations. The officers are Capt. Deeds, Lt Sandford, Lt Barker & Capt Fitzgerald.	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

38<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Sheet No. 54

(Duplicate)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bors l'Abbe.	13.6.18	(Contd)	<p><u>HONOURS &amp; AWARDS.</u>                      BAR TO M.C. — Captain. F.E. FAIRWEATHER, M.C. London Gazette Supplement No. 30706 of 28/5/18.                      MENTIONED IN SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S DESPATCHES.                      Lieut. Col. C.H. DAVIS, D.S.O., V.D.                      Major. G. HURRY, D.S.O.                      Major. H.J.A. MAUDSLEY.                      Lieut. J.B. O'DONNELL                      1228. Plc (L/Cpl) J.C. LEWIS.                      350. RQMS. J.W.H. NICOLL</p>	
" "	14.6.18	to	<p>Nothing of special interest has occurred. During this time the Battalion has supplied an average of 150 daily for working parties chiefly in front line systems. "H" and "C" Coy have had a certain amount of shell fire, but not a great deal. Battalion HQ was shelled on morning of 16<sup>th</sup>, by a high velocity gun, but no damage was done.</p>	
" "	17.6.18		<p>In accordance with, C.O. Order No. 83 the 38<sup>th</sup> Bn relieved 40<sup>th</sup> Bn in front line of VILLERS-BRETTONEUX. "B" Coy which occupied the village moved into the support line in daylight. The other 3 Coys commenced to move at 9 p.m. The relief was reported complete at 12.45 a.m. and was without incident.</p>	
VILLE	19.6.18		<p>The following officers have come into the line the remainder being at "B" Echelon.                      Battalion HQ. Lt. Col. HURRY, D.S.O., Lt. ROBBINS Adj. Lt. SHILLIDAY (Scout &amp; I.P. Off.) Lt. POTTER, (Sigs)                      Capt. FRASER, M.C. Lt. FOWDEN, I.O. Lt. CRISPE (Sigs)                      H. Coy. Capt. FAIRWEATHER, M.C., Lieut. PETERS, Lt. ADDISON, Lt. MAJOR. } FRONT LINE.                      B Coy. Capt. BEATTIE, Lt. MURIE, Lt. BENNETT, Lt. O'COLLINS.                      C. Coy. Capt. SELLECK, Lt. MCCOLL, Lt. HERRING, Lt. VERSO. }                      D Coy. Capt. ORCHARD, Lt. BOGLE, Lt. MACCORMY, Lt. DAVIS } SUPPORT.</p>	
" "	20.6.18		<p>The Battalion front is as before and the dispositions, are as shown in sketch attached. C. Coy of 40<sup>th</sup> Bn occupies F, B, C &amp; D. Keeps in VILLERS-BRETTONEUX (see sketch) and is practically under command of C.O. 38<sup>th</sup> Battalion. The day has been a quiet one, enemy artillery fire being considerably lighter than what we were accustomed to in our previous tour in this sector. Enemy artillery was fairly active during the night, about 300 shells being scattered throughout our forward zone and into the villages. Nothing unusual has occurred throughout the day.</p>	App. D.
" "	21.6.18		<p>The day has been a comparatively quiet one. The rain which fell yesterday and the previous night made the trenches anything but comfortable, but today they are fairly dry. Enemy artillery carried out the usual harassing fire over our whole area without doing us any damage. The orchard is still a centre of enemy activity but our rifle squads are proving a very effective method of silencing the M.G.s.</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A 1925) Wt W 390/P 715 250,000 2/18 Sch. 32 Form C/2118/16.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

38<sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VILLERS-BRETONNEUX	22.6.18		A quiet day. 4 Officers and 10 OR (Aussies) have been attached to the Companies for experience during the past 2 days.	
	23.6.18		In accordance with B.O. No. 87 the 38 <sup>th</sup> Batin was relieved by the 44 <sup>th</sup> Batin H.I.F. the relief being reported complete at 1.45 a.m.	
BLANGY TRONVILLE	24.6.18		The present dispositions of the battalion are: H.Q. Blangy Tronville. A and B Coys in bank N.28. B. C and D Coys in HUBIGNY LINE O.32. a and b and O.36. c and d.	
	25.6.18		A very quiet day. A working party of 3 officers 78 OR was supplied by last night for cable burying in the forward area.	
	26.6.18		5 Officers 265 other ranks were provided for cable burying in the forward area and for bridge and road building at Lamotte. In accordance with B.O. No. 85 27 <sup>th</sup> Batin relieved 38 <sup>th</sup> Batin in BLANGY TRONVILLE. A and B Coys with Bn H.Q. marched to bivouacs in wood in G.12 a near ALLONVILLE. C and D Coys remained in HUBIGNY line.	
HALLONVILLE	27.6.18		AC of A and B Coys took of the opportunity of thoroughly overhauling their Coys in all matters appertaining to G. Branch - clothing equipment etc.	
	28.6.18		In accordance with Bn Order No. 85 the battalion moved to H.29. c and d to bivouacs in the embankment along to HALLUE River.	
	29.6.18		Training was commenced in accordance with the syllabus (see appendix).	
	30.6.18		A full round of cricket matches has been arranged and the men who can swim get a daily bath in the pools along the valley.	
			The weather still continues to be fine and warm. During the night about 15 rounds of high velocity shells landed in our area but did no damage.	
			Amount of pay drawn by men in the field 34,940 francs - £1391.2.8	
			Casualties for the month	
			Other ranks	
			K. W. M. Head. W. Acad. M. Total	
			9 36 1 1 4 = 51	
			HONORS and AWARDS. - MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL.	
			Sgt. Sgt. Mulquinn E. } H.I.F. Post No. 346.	
			948 Sgt. McDonald J. A. }	

Lieut. Colonel

WAR DIARY

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

38<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sheet No

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	
N7C	1-7-18	}	Training proceeded as per syllabus	
	2-7-18			
	3-7-18			
	X			The whole day was given over to the battalion sports meeting which was held near Queerick. B Coy won the <del>under</del> coy championship
		4-7-18		A quiet day. Between 11pm and 1AM (5 <sup>th</sup> ) <del>the</del> enemy planes heavily bombed the vicinity of <del>of</del> the battalion bivouacs but we suffered no casualties or damage.
		5/7/18		The whole day was devoted to a Battalion Sports Meeting. 200 francs were <del>donated</del> towards prize money from Regimental Funds, with an additional contribution of 10 francs per officer. The day was a most successful one B Coy winning the coy championship. For programme see Appendix.
		6/7/18		Training proceeded as per syllabus.
		7/7/18		
		8/7/18		
				When wearing a 'stand-to' was ordered by Army - The 38 <sup>th</sup> battalion was in its battle position by 9.15pm. - The front battalion of the division to be in position
	9/7/18	}	Training proceeded as per syllabus.	
	10/7/18			
	11-7-18			
			In accordance with P.O. No 38 <sup>th</sup> Battalion took over from 14 <sup>th</sup> Battalion in N7C the move being complete by 6.30 AM. The <del>14<sup>th</sup></del> battalion stayed.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N7C	12/5/18		all day in this area and continued the move in accordance with the above order by night, relieving the 15 <sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F., thus becoming D. battalion. Bn. H.Q. is at Ome 3.8. A Coy is in trenches in O18d, and O24b. B Coy is in old front line. P13 b and d. C Coy is in the same line in O13d. D Coy is in bank in O14c. <del>There</del> 5 Anti-Aircraft Lewis guns are mounted, one per Coy and one at Bn. H.Q.	Ref Sheet 62d.
Ome 3.8	12/7/18 16/7/18		Nothing of note has occurred during our stay here. The enemy artillery has put over a certain amount of harassing fire and two slight casualties have occurred.	
P. 14. Cent.	17 <sup>th</sup>		Night: 7/8 cloudy & showery. In accordance with B.O. 70 relieved 39 <sup>th</sup> Bn thus becoming A Bn in the line - the movement was carried out under adverse conditions as Bodeon right was taking over a portion of Bosel territory to straighten our line. Unfortunately a number of D Coy was "hocketed" by hostile artillery while moving up through Vaise Wood causing casualties 1K. 13W. Disposition B.H.Q. P. 14. Cent. A Coy Right F.L. Coy from P21 a 50.00. to P21 b 50.30. (O.C. Capt Fairweather M.C.) C Coy left F.L. Coy. from left of A Coy to P. 16 c 10.70. (O.C. Capt Sellick.) B Coy Support line P21 a (Capt Beattie) D Coy reserve P. 21. a. G. Bn right was 19 <sup>th</sup> Bn; on Bn left was 40 <sup>th</sup> Bn.	Ref Sheet 62 <sup>nd</sup> (France)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
P. 14 Cent.	18 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Reconn. made of line re position of outposts &amp; positions fired. Scouts under Lt Churchill M.C. on night of 17/19 discovered enemy post in German C.T. near Accroche Street. Trenches re condition and accommodation found inadequate necessitating night working parties. Wire on right Coy front good - on left very poor. Enemy during night 17/19 intermittently shelled vicinity B.H.Q. in douga below central Copse. Weather sultry. Hot meals are carried from workers in this douga to troops in line at 9.30 AM and 2 PM. Valley gassed slightly by enemy.</p>	
P. 14 Cent.	19 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Thunderstorms are rife in this area - down-pours causing inconvenience in the trenches. Hostile shelling intermittent during the 24 hrs. Moon is approaching the full with a clear sky is liable to outline men improving outpost positions. Capt Sellick R.O.C. Coy shot by sniper 1.30 AM night 18/19 while visiting Lieut Poles' outpost - great loss to Bn. Just as body arrived at R.A.P. two 7.2" landed in close proximity to stretcher causing 7 casualties to beavers (1 since D.W.). Enemy M.G. and rifle fire active.</p>	
P. 14 Cent.	20 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Depressing day owing to thunder atmospheric conditions. Capt Sellick buried P. 14 at 10.30 (Det 62<sup>nd</sup> Franco). Hostile shelling active during night 20/21. One M.G. firing short into A &amp; C Coy's position - assisted by our own artillery - rather disconcerting being attacked both from front &amp; rear. This short shooting caused 1 casualty. enemy action 3 others. Capt Fairweather M.C. received an accidental bayonet wound while jumping into a trench. Capt Collins took over D Coy and Capt Dench C Coy.</p>	
P. 14 Cent.	21 <sup>st</sup>		<p>Beautiful day with a pleasant breeze. night becoming cool. Enemy landed some small calibre H.V. close to B.H.Q. line of fire from direction E of HAMEL. Every morning hostile counter preparation has been carried out on positions &amp; likely to be used by us in concentration of troops. Lieut. H. Bowden Bn I.O. proceeded to England being selected by Col as its candidate for the advanced Intelligence School course. One casualty.</p>	
Cent	22 <sup>nd</sup>		<p>Bright weather. enemy less active than previous days. visited by G.S.O. 1 Division recon our sector. Douga near B.H.Q. slightly gassed. Visibility extremely at dawn enemy parties observed loading hay. Trucks were reaping rapidly. little chance of reaping those in the front line area. One casualty.</p>	



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
P. 14 Central	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Very cloudy every indication of heavy rain. Heavy artillery barrage well on our right. Later learn French Division on Australian Corps right flank attacking <sup>reports of</sup> <del>in</del> <sup>success to</sup> <del>difficult</del> hand before noon. The bright moonlight makes wiring in front of outposts <sup>to</sup> <del>the</del> B. 14 Post on German C.T. near ACCROCHE STREET is apparently well wired in and alert 2 casualties for the 24 hrs (1 K/W).	
P. 14 Central	24 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine & clear yet which can hardly be expected to continue having lasted now approx. 3 months. During the afternoon Sgt RAYBOLD made a day light recon of B. 14 Post on German C.T. discovered well wired in and occupied. Two B. 14 seen in it evidently centres. This E Post during wiring operations on our outpost line became troublesome with rifle grenades. A party under Lt Sibbitt's command moved down German C.T. but over a shower of 2036's result no further trouble. One slight casualty.	
P. 14 Central	25 <sup>th</sup>		Cloudy with scattered <del>showers</del> <sup>showers</sup> from enemy movement front. Fritz is apparently trying to pick up our line of outposts the Corps giving him opportunity recover from rain. In all cases of approach he was driven off by L.G. fire. Capt Marks was evacuated from B. 14 to L.C.S. and then moves down to take up duties at L. Havre. Only three Captains now in with the Bn. Tonight we are relieved by 39 <sup>th</sup> Bn. This dough in which we are situated receives frequent attention from E Artillery.	
). 24 a 45:30	26 <sup>th</sup>		On night 25/26 not were relieved by 39 <sup>th</sup> Bn thus becoming C. Bn. the relief passed without a hitch and was completed by 1 AM. notwithstanding there was a bright moon shining making visibility good. With the excellent situation was normal. Capt R. Marks is to report for duty at L. Havre. During the last two days in the trenches 3 officers from 37 <sup>th</sup> Bn have been on loan to this Bn - owing to shortage of officers.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
J. 24 a 45. 80	27 <sup>th</sup>		A fair amount of rain today making things uncomfortable - working parties putting in new C.T. chief item. W. is where the chief health trouble though not severe.	Ref. sheet 62. (France)
do	28 <sup>th</sup>		Working parties at night on new C.T. all Trenches - Saps have been named initial letter B - mostly original names. G.O.C. 10 <sup>th</sup> A. I. Bde responsible for same seen still intermittent. Heavy gun fire from direction of 5 <sup>th</sup> Div. front.	
do	29 <sup>th</sup>		Days weather conditions - mag front - night working parties and bathing parties constituted day's programme. Delightful to get a warm bath within 4000' of front line.	
do	30 <sup>th</sup>		Foggy morning consequently visibility restricted. Big gas shot by our artillery took place during the night which owing to weather conditions was extremely favorable from our view. The day was particularly quiet - the Bosch not disturbing the security till about 9.30 P.M. During the last few nights he has carried out harassing fire on roads + tracks in this area - very trying to the transport. Three casualties in B Coy - one serious.	
do	31 <sup>st</sup>		Heavy ground mist - which has been lasting practically as a haze during the day. These conditions make aerial photography nearly impossible if a good result is desired. Our Bn is anxious to obtain air photos of the portions of front line established by linking up the outposts as such is a sure check up to the correctness of map locations. The Bn being II Bn necessitates a redistribution of certain Coys. This was caused by a contraction in our Brigade frontage - such change of position means the construction of new bivouacs by our lads, one slight casualty.	

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38<sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
O. 24. a. 45. 80.	Aug 10		<p>Lately a heavy ground mist has obscured a good deal of ground movement as day breaks. This seems to hang about as a haze during the day well into the afternoon. Today the evening orders to become A Bn was received from Ade - the movement taking place on the night 2/3<sup>rd</sup> August. The 11<sup>th</sup> Brigade is now on the left of our Ade sector and the 6<sup>th</sup> Ade has been warned to take over from the 5<sup>th</sup> Ade on our right. Lieut. J. H. B. CHURCHILL M.C., and J. HOLMBERG were both slightly wounded. Hostile shelling persistent around B.H.Q. 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. E planes fired four of our balloons - returning to their base - one from its behaviour appeared to be in trouble.</p>	Ref. Sect. 62. II. (France)
do	2 <sup>nd</sup>		<p>The morning broke with a light drizzling rain - from present appearances it looks as though a "wet change over" is in prospect before us. The weather has been such as makes surface travelling uncomfortable so imagine the state of hastily dug trenches. The change over was completed by 12.30 a.m. without any hostile action beyond the normal. An Order No. 91. Advance parties moved up the night 1/2 August. "A" Coy on the right (F.L.) O.C. Lieut. PETERS. M.C., "C" Coy on the left (F.L.) O.C. Capt. BENCH. H. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 posts were taken over by 23<sup>rd</sup> Battalion on our right flank. Nos 9 and 10 posts taken over by 27<sup>th</sup> Bn on our left flank. The Battalion frontage extends from P. 21 b. 1.3 to P. 16. C. 13. 24. Today word was received from Ade to prepare for a forward move on our front. The Battalion frontage has been extended to the original 300m Walk on the left.</p>	
P. 4. Cent.	3 <sup>rd</sup>		<p>The rain has been falling and the weather is still showery. Got from Ade the first photo showing connected outpost line which can now be definitely fixed beyond dispute. A Coy of U.S. Troops (1st Bn 129<sup>th</sup> Regt) is with the Battalion - they are here to learn the ropes. Were we as fortunate? They are extremely keen but hardly seem to appreciate the sloppy trenches - what type of "duck board" carriers will they be? They have been initiated into patrol work in N.M.L. and in the duties appertaining to post occupation. Lieut. DUTTON posts - one on ACCROCHE STREET the other on GERMAN C.T. near ACCROCHE STREET. It is the intention of O.C. "A" Coy to raid this post in a night or two. Attached to the Battalion for practical work in N.M.L. (Scouting) we have had an officer and two scouts from the 47<sup>th</sup> British Division (21st London Regt). His instruction was entirely practical and what his thoughts were when an E patrol or messenger dogalighted on the scout on the right while the patrol was lying up in front of the enemy's wire can be imagined. The day broke fine and clear but after noon heavy cloud forms again. Banked up - our aeroplanes are about in strong force again after the spell of unsuitable flying weather. E anti-craft fire caused one of our planes to crash behind his lines about 8.40 a.m. about locality of HERLEVILLE WOODS. Preparations are being pushed forward for the stunt. 10<sup>th</sup> H.I. Bde forms the support Ade to the Division which was attacking. The American troops attached to us were suddenly recalled and were unfortunately to be caught in a short shell strike in, don't know below Central Copse - causing 13 casualties. It was their first line experience - together with hostile shelling. They were anxious to remain having "hit it off" with our boys extremely well. It is withdrawal of the Americans means preparation for the "stunt". Our troops are being used chiefly for carrying parties - a most fatiguing operation and not at all popular with the boys.</p>	
do	4 <sup>th</sup>		<p>The morning broke with a heavy mist which gradually became a heavy rain - this continued with short interludes of fire. The trenches are in a very bad condition again owing to want of drainage facilities. This is a vexatious problem and must be taken into consideration when planning a line of resistance especially in this country. There might have been particularly bad days in connection with "the push" - constant comings and goings connected with reconnaissance. This morning about 4 a.m. quite put down a harassing shot from the F.L. as far back as B.H.Q. using a fair amount of gas and phosgene. This was immediately detected and the alarm given by "Gas guard" troops are thickening up behind so the date cannot be far off.</p>	
do	5 <sup>th</sup>		<p>The morning broke with a heavy mist which gradually became a heavy rain - this continued with short interludes of fire. The trenches are in a very bad condition again owing to want of drainage facilities. This is a vexatious problem and must be taken into consideration when planning a line of resistance especially in this country. There might have been particularly bad days in connection with "the push" - constant comings and goings connected with reconnaissance. This morning about 4 a.m. quite put down a harassing shot from the F.L. as far back as B.H.Q. using a fair amount of gas and phosgene. This was immediately detected and the alarm given by "Gas guard" troops are thickening up behind so the date cannot be far off.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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28th Battalion A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
P. 14. Cont.	1918 Aug 5		Is it possible that Gutz has an inkling of the stunt. This evening it was rumoured that a reconnaissance party of Australians in vicinity of HANGARD FOREST had been captured by the enemy. Will they if the statement is true prove good Australians. E artillery quiet until the early morning shoot.	
do	6		The morning gave promise of better weather conditions than the previous day - a nice stiff breeze blowing would that it increase to half a gale - thus acting as a gas disperser, and an evaporator of surplus moisture. Advance troops are in with the Battalion - spending a rather miserable night owing to trench conditions and rain. Everything possible here is being done to make a great success of the move. The 9th and 11th attack to take the first object - the 10th Bde holding the line from the SOMME to the junction with the second division just south of VAIRE WOOD.	
do	7		The day after an early morning mist "fried up" considerably - preparations going forward for the "stunt" - advance parties for the 53rd and 54th Bns are with our troops in the front line. The moving of the Bns back from BARWON and BARRABOOL TRENCHES to positions in rear was carried out with dispatch and without a casualty. ZERO - 4.20 a.m. "Z" day 8th instant. - Col Hurry vacated sick a much disappointed officer.	
do	8		The officers lucky enough to take part in the operations with the Bns were - B.H.Q. of C.O., Major A.J. MAUDSLEY, Capt. H. FRASER, M.C., Capt. G.V. DAVIES, D.S.O. (R.M.O) Lieut. C.F. CRISPE, Lieut. G.A. DUTTON, Lieut. E. POTTER	
do			A Coy. Capt. FAIRWEATHER, F.E. M.C. B. Coy. Capt. BEATTIE, L.J. C. Coy. Capt. DENCH, H. D. Coy. Capt. ORCHARD, W.H. M.C. Lieut. PETERS, C.H. M.C. Lieut. BENNETT, W.F. Lieut. MCCOLL, H. Lieut. POOLE, H.F. Lieut. ADDISON, D. M.C. Lieut. SANDIFORD, N.W.W. Lieut. BARKER, E.M. Lieut. KIDDELL, R.B. Lieut. SCHLITZ, E.J.H. Lieut. WARNOCK, S.R. Lieut. BAXTER, F.J. Lieut. DAVIS, J.C.	
Q. 14. d	9		Orders from Bde to move forward were received at 4.20 p.m. The move to take place at 4.30 p.m. Starting point being raised at scheduled time - the 10th Bde becoming directly under the orders of the 4th Division Commander. The Bns moved forward in artillery formations and bivouaced in HAMILTON VALLEY running 3rd from CERISEY. Quiet night all ranks thankful for the sleep.	
do	10		In HAMILTON VALLEY (P. 10. d.) The Battalion transport lines received the attention of Brits artillery during the early hours of the morning - 1 driver - 2 mules killed. All ranks in the Bns sleeping on the ground. Wounded Brits brought on this morning found lying on the ridge E of HAMILTON WOOD evidently left behind owing to the hurried retreat. An officer from HQ and each boy was sent forward to reconnoitre routes to front line - this, as a preliminary to a move forward. From a position between FL and SL a fine view of the stunt on our left was obtained - the tank line is about 4500' from our present position. Our draught barrage appeared to be excellent. The established and infantry movement being easily followed. Boys are particularly keen to get forward. The established line is forward beyond VAUVILLERS, FRAMERVILLE. Orders have been received from Bde that a night march through enemy territory is projected with the intention of establishing a line forward of PROYART, thus shutting the enemy territory between the projected line and the present line running N-S from MERICOURT-SUR-SOMME. The weather is ideal for movement being peculiar to our Australians early autumn. It appears almost providential the absence of rain would greatly impede operations. Bde Order NO instructs as to the WRAFUSE due East. Of what use the tanks are to be in the darkness is debatable. We passed through our outpost line approx 11.15 p.m. a beautiful night - dark, but starlight - the tanks rumbling along advertising our approach. Our troubles commenced on reaching LA FLAQUE dump in enemy territory. M.Cs firing on the direction of the tank sounds.	627. SE (France)

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Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
O. 27. C. 20. 40	Aug 10	✓	<p>The columns moved along the road the 37<sup>th</sup> Bn accompanied by 3 tanks, the 38<sup>th</sup> Bn followed by 40<sup>th</sup> Bn, also accompanied by 3 tanks - then the 39<sup>th</sup> Bn. The m.g. fire increased in intensity and the E shut down on the columns a barrage - it was hell let loose. Luckily there were enough ditches on the side of the road which afforded certain cover. So heavy was the fire that the columns was held up - the tanks apparently in the darkness being unable to cope with the strong points causing the trouble. About midnight word came through that Col. Haas flight was killed and after a short consultation the 37<sup>th</sup> Bn was to retire through the 38<sup>th</sup> Bn which was to dig on the side of the road. In the darkness it was a difficult matter to sit trenches and get an idea of the enemy positions. At 2.30 a.m. the Bn had sufficient cover to make a determined stand. Later on word was received from Brigade that we were to vacate all positions South of the road, as the 20<sup>th</sup> Bn was hopping roads and from the time of its occupation till evacuation was constantly under intense artillery and m.g. fire in the end the building being destroyed. The Bn then moved to LA FLAQUE dump occupying an old "Boch" dug out. Tanks retired as soon as the Battalion had dug in.</p>	
do	11 <sup>th</sup>		<p>A heavy fog enveloped the country side when morning broke - the roar of covering artillery to the 20<sup>th</sup> Bn advance on our right shutting off all other sounds - by 6.30 a.m. they had come up in line with our right flank which had been in the air since our establishing a line. The morning fog found the Bn dug in on the LEFT of the main road from approx. R. 27. d. 4.3 to R. 27. c. 30. 40. On the fog thinning the increasing light showed that A Coy had dug in within 90' of the Bochs strong point which yielded 10<sup>th</sup> Lt. Col. 13 Ofs. as prisoners. In the afternoon a post of 14 Bochs surrendered to D Coy, the surrender being due to the daring of Sgt. J. LEWIS and Pl. E. H. G. SMITH who throwing discretion to the winds hopped out of the trench and rushed the post - the determined rush of the gallant pair causing the Bochs to "kammer" thus two dangerous nests of E. M.G. were wiped out. The Bochs have during the day been subjected to a great amount of sniping by "MGs" and "Whop-bangs", but so far have had few casualties. The village of PROYART is on the left of the line and from its forward buildings preparations are afoot for pushing on the line at dawn of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. The Bn have been moved to R. 26. C. 30. 40. The former position at LA FLAQUE corner becoming untenable owing to its destruction by shell fire by night.</p>	<p>Co. D S.E. France</p>
R. 26. C. 30. 40.	12 <sup>th</sup>		<p>A Coy under its O.C. Capt. FAIRWEATHER, M.C., pushed out with the intention of establishing the line from AVENUE CROSS (R. 28. C. 60 30) Nth along road running through R. 28. 22 which would mean the gaining of our original objective. The attack was made without artillery preparation and consisted of wiping out machine gun posts - the No. 27 Grenade being a useful accessory. This particular type of work assures that with the covering fire of our MGs (4 Nos) success must eventuate. By night the outpost line was established ahead of PROYART. During the night 12/13, line was taken over by 4<sup>th</sup> Bn of E. Yorks who were unfortunate enough to have 2 Ofs and 30 OAs casualties from E bombing while moving up. Total prisoners taken by the Bn this day was 5 Ofs 55 OAs, chiefly Prussians 252<sup>nd</sup> Regt and Machine Gunners. Our casualties for our enterprise of this description were exceedingly light - Sgt. MCCOLL being the officer killed - Sgt. SCHLITZ, M.C. and WARRNOCK, Sgt. H. F. POOLE assuming command of the Coy. Casualties for the operation were:</p>	
Q. 14. d.	13 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Reoccupied in HAMILTON VALLEY, most of the day being spent by all ranks in making which was necessary after the strenuous rush just accomplished. An Australian mail came to hand together with a large amount of hot bath near Sully. Some prepared for the arrival of the Bochs still continue his bombing attacks on the valleys here. A preliminary movement order was received from Bde - the movement to be in the direction of HARBONNIERS. Our observation balloons pushing forward with the advance.</p>	
do	14 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Another perfect day - Bns still in HAMILTON VALLEY - awaiting orders. The Bns had a hot bath near Sully. Some prepared for the arrival of the Bochs still continue his bombing attacks on the valleys here. A preliminary movement order was received from Bde - the movement to be in the direction of HARBONNIERS. Our observation balloons pushing forward with the advance.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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38th Battalion. A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Q. 11. d.	10th		The morning broke with slight ground mist. There is an indication in the atmosphere that rain is approaching. Though the days are not the early mornings are rather sharp, the troops being without blankets and overcoats naturally felt the keen morning air though one never heard a grumble. Troops from the various Cos had a bath in the SOMME, the heat of the sun making such very pleasurable. The men are gradually losing that strained expression due to their being experienced under very adverse circumstances.	
do	16		A balloons section moved into HAMILTON VALLEY and was a great source of interest to our troops. The day broke with a slight ground mist which eventually dispersed ushering in a perfect autumnal day. The day was occupied by making up all shortages, and receiving the attention of tailor bootmaker etc.	
do	17		There seems to be every prospect of rain the wind being in the correct direction after a long run of fine weather. One can only expect it to break. No orders from Bde yet as to what task is before it. During the evening notification was received from Bde stating the 1st and 3rd Australian Divisions were to act as Corps Reserve - remaining in HAMILTON VALLEY. Training to be carried out as per syllabus. Col. HURRY, D.S.O. visited the Cos today.	
do	18		Day broke with a slight drizzle which gradually faded up as the sun rose. Church parade conducted in Hamilton Valley - sun still very powerful. Col. HURRY, D.S.O. is again with us, as a visitor. The boche continued his night bombing stunt in our locality.	
	19		A cloudy sky but still the rain holds off. The battalion carried out training as per syllabus attached - there is no doubt as to the advisability of such for the purpose of reorganisation - and cohesion is necessary to the welfare and efficiency of a fighting unit in the war zone. The afternoons being devoted to organised games and swimming etc.	
	20		Cloudy sky, rain apparently close at hand. Cos carried out training as per schedule. The apparent weather change has dispersed and the continuance of summer weather conditions seems assured. Acting under Bde instructions officers are reconnoitering the positions held by the liaison force Nth of the Somme - the 9th A.I.F. Bde holding the front line slightly forward of ETINHEM. The nucleus moves to CORBIE. P. Bogle in charge.	
	21 <sup>st</sup>		A heavy ground fog ushered in the day which was spent in HAMILTON VALLEY though by 9.30 am this was dispersed by the heavy bright sunburst. All seem to be preparing an early move. This route followed was through CERISY crossing the SOMME at CHIPILLY then along the road in the SOMME VALLEY to TRILLY LAURETTE then N.E. along MORLINCOURT ROAD to destination. The move was made in bright moonlight distances between Cos 200 - 100' between platoons. Move completed by 1 am.	
K. 25. C. 8. 8.	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Encircled in K. 25 resumed training as per syllabus - afternoon being spent in swimming parades by platoons. Boche still continuing his bombing stunts especially in the valley and vicinity of woods in the hopes presumably of catching fire lines. The weather was exceedingly hot this made bathing very desirable. Bde still awaiting orders. The rest is proving beneficial to the men.	Order received from Bde to vacate HAMILTON Valley & bivouac in K. 25. N of Somme.
do	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Rain was ushered in by the opening of our artillery in a heavy barrage. North and South of the SOMME VALLEY line. Training as per syllabus has been carried out and evening parties organised. Received warning note from Bde that we take over from 9th A.I. Bde holding the line. About midday advance order from Bde to take over F.L from 38th Div. Line taken over L. 3. d (chalk pit) to R. 4. d. 9. b. C Coy (Capt. DENCH) on left. D Coy (Sgt. POOLE) on right. A Coy (Sgt. HODGSON) and B Coy Capt. BERTIE in support on L. 4. d. 4. b. Reliefs completed 3 am. During the early morning Sgt. BAXTER and party rushed a Boche M.G. post which had been troublesome since the movement in morning rather foggy.	
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Continuous and heavy shelling and M.G. fire during the early morning. Heavy artillery shoots on F.L area during the day principally 5.9 from the direction of MAMETZ. Capt. DENCH while organising a stand on his left flank by the 19th Division which had given ground - was killed by sniper bullet 6.45 am. Sgt. BARKER being wounded severely at the same time - later on Sgt. COLLIN being slightly wounded. Heavy shelling in vicinity of B.H.Q. and F.L. throughout the night. Preparations for a stunt and everywhere apparent. A message rocket from Sgt. BAXTER (chalk pit) distance 1400' approx - landed in sight B.H.Q. - proving the effectiveness of such in some degree of warfare. This was followed by the McCoy who rushed through gas artillery traps to recover cause. 40' x 37' from west of B.H.Q. Establishing posts on E of town - 38' ton right flank conforming to the movement.	

Final use.

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*28th Battalion A.I.F.*

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
L. 19. b. 4. 8.	August	25	<p>Bosch in numerous parties were observed opposite our front just forward of CEYLON WOOD commanding observation of all our movements. Relieved by 42nd Bn night 24/25 relief completed by 10.30 am Bn moved out and bivouacked in L. 19. b. The Bn becoming reformed. Post to 10.30 H. 1. Bde. for its attacks for the acquisition of high ground L. 5. b. c., L. 11. b. c., L. 17. b. c. beautiful moonlight night - barrage opened up at 12.30 a.m. Disembarked in L. 10. b. glorious weather, clearing up after a. stupendous rain. A heavy thunderstorm during the night which washed out most of the bridges. During the whole period of occupation of this area the Bn was worried (during its all hours stay here) by intermittent aerial shelling.</p>	
G. 8. c. 30. 40.	27 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Acting under Bde instructions the Bn moved forward to L. 17. c. 20. 50 as Bde ordered. Capt COLLINS returned from Army School and took charge of D Coy. The move to the new area being completed by 10 a.m. Two Coys A and B moving forward and coming under control of 37<sup>th</sup> Bn. B Coy being sent forward at 2 p.m. to extend the line held by 37<sup>th</sup> Bn East of SUZANNE from G. 9. c. 50. 50 to SOMME. A Coy held in reserve approx G. 8. c. 30. 40 moving on during early hours of night with C Coy to mop up peninsulas and establish line G. 9. c. 10. 16 clearing ROYAL DRAGOONS WOOD. A Coy established bridge head guards at ECLUSIER and FRISE crossings. Word received the Bn to be relieved by 35<sup>th</sup> Bn which was cancelled later in view of further hostile action by the Divisions. A. B. &amp; C Coys in the line. A from approx G. 10. d. 80. 50 to G. 10. d. 40. 30. B Coy in support G. 15. b. 60. 60 to G. 10. c. 20. 40. C Coy under Lieut. Murie attached to Capt. Scarborough Coy of 37<sup>th</sup> Bn at 9.20 a.m. instructions received from Bde that 37<sup>th</sup> Bn would work as a separate unit under its A.C.O., This necessitated a slight readjustment of Bn dispositions. Coys are practically on a three platoon basis for strength. Light rain during afternoon. B.H.Q. in G. 8. c. 30. 40.</p>	
G. 8. c. 30. 40.	28 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Morning broke with light drizzling rain. Artillery has during the last 24 hrs moved well up into position in SUZANNE - MARICOURT valley. Patrol from A Coy crossed the river at ECLUSIER and got in touch with first division. C Coy established a bridge head post guarding Vaux bridge. Both these bridges had been demolished by the retiring Bochs, and later were repaired by 3<sup>rd</sup> West Pioneer. B Coy captured near SUZANNE light Miners. Guns marked 1.4.613. 1916 and 1 heavy M.G. and carriage No. 3703. Spanish. 08.</p>	
H. 29. b. 2. 2	29 <sup>th</sup>		<p>at 7.30 am B Coy ordered to cross at VAUX BRIDGE and reconnoitre the peninsula on opposite side of river crossing bridge at 9.30 a.m. Report received from Bde that LODGE WOOD not occupied by enemy - by noon B Coy could be distinguished moving well out to the canal in G. 18. b. Control post was established at bridge head about 3 p.m. C and D Coys moved out to attack from line established by 9<sup>th</sup> Bde - it being stated that they had established a post slightly forward from CURLU toward river. D Coy moved through and on 8th of CURLU. C Coy on higher ground 1st of CURLU. as soon as D Coy entered the town they struck strong opposition which was only subdued by determined effort on the C Coy part. During this action the C Coy suffered casualties but succeeded in establishing a post 150<sup>ft</sup> East of Bridgehead in G. 6. d. the party being chiefly responsible for the result being the platoon commanded by Lt POOLE, Lieut RIDDELL being severely wounded during the action. B.H.Q. established in H. 29. b. 2. 2. D Coy captured 4 M.G.s in their advance. Capt Peter M.C. took over command of C Coy.</p>	<p>11 x later sent G. 10. b.</p>
			<p>In the early dawn patrol pushed forward from the line and reconnoitred ground forward from CURLU and by midday had passed through HEM and well on to MONACU. Orders were given for a move on CLERY-SUR-SOMME. The Battalion moving out in artillery formation covered by a troop of 13<sup>th</sup> A.L.H. Co soon as the L.H. cover came under observation of the enemy hostile shelling commenced during which Lieut. DUTTON was killed. The Battalion fought its way forward and by 10 p.m. had established itself in a line NORTH EAST of CLERY running in a north westerly direction. B Coy on right approx H. 5. b. c. extending to left where A Coy linked up at H. 5. b. 70. 10. D Coy continues the line to H. 5. b. 20. 50 where C Coy joined up and continued to COPSE. 5. H. 5. b. 90. 00 This was the position at 10 p.m. 24<sup>th</sup> Bn. The 40<sup>th</sup> Bn forming a defensive flank. Since 2 p.m. on 26<sup>th</sup> most of what A and B Coys moved up and extended line EAST of SUZANNE the Bn has secured by fighting a depth of</p>	

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

38<sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
A. 29. 6. 2. 2. H. 3. d. 1. 6.	August	30	<p>9000' from the enemy. At 3.15pm the 37<sup>th</sup> Bn moved through the 38<sup>th</sup> Bn to continue the attack. The 38<sup>th</sup> Bn becoming automatically Reserve Bn to the 10<sup>th</sup> A.I. Bde. Bn has been fighting continuously for 8 1/2 hours. P.M.H. 4.2.d.11.6. 'A' Coy captured a German Field Piece (N. 5. 6. 90. 05) Cal 15.2 No. 11. 16/19607. 1918.</p> <p>Holding ground won and acting as Bde Reserve. C.O. of Bn called to conference at 7.30pm. (H.S.C. 7.2.) Object continuation of attack - objective trench system running N.W. through 1.2.C and a. The dispositions for the attack 38<sup>th</sup> Bn on right, Bq Bn on left to take over from 37<sup>th</sup> Bn moving forward under barrage which opened at 6.0am the Bn frontage extended CANAL - du - NORD to approx. 1.2.a.50.50. Dispositions of Coys were 'F' on right, 'D' Coy, centre 'C' Coy on right 'B' Coy moving in close support. The objective was gained by 7.15 a.m. Took over the line from the 37<sup>th</sup> Battalion, relief complete by 4.20 a.m. The final instructions for the attack being received by Coy Commanders at 5.25am Barrage to open at 6.0am. At 5.30am the Bn opened up a heavy shoot on the front line and valley in H. 6.a and H. 20.c &amp; b under the barrage the Bn advanced on its objective - the red line being - INFERNOTRENCH - ZOMEOTRENCH - MORAYATRENCH. which was reached by 4.15am when reorganisation and consolidation took place. The Bn holding from the CANAL - du - NORD on the South, to trench junction at 1.2.a.5.7 many heroic deeds done by members of the Bn and under investigation that to ensure that deeds of each received a well merited recognition. Major Maudslayi A.C. Battalion was killed the a bursting shell about 6.35 a.m. - the control of the attacking Bn falling on the shoulders of the Adjutant R. Robbins who shouldered his manifold duties with promptitude and ability at approx 10 am word was received from Bde that Col. HENDERSON, D.S.O., C.O., 39<sup>th</sup> Bn would take the dual command of 38<sup>th</sup> &amp; 39<sup>th</sup> Bns. The Colonel just up from a severe bout of influenza had virtually to allow Maj Robbins to carry the direction of the 38<sup>th</sup> Bn on his shoulders at 11.50pm an order from Bde stated the 38<sup>th</sup> Bn would be relieved by 43<sup>rd</sup> Bn moving through under the protection of a barrage at 5.0am. The Bn Bn was at this time was situated in VAN TRENCH on the forward slope of a ridge overlooking BERLIN COPSE. The relief was through in the forward area at 6.30am - the barrage opening at 5.0am preventing A and B Coys moving till the barrage slackened. The Bn moved to squares H1 and H2 where they bivouacked. Communication through the operation was an eye opened as to how easy control can be lost - showing the necessity for complete organisation in methods suitable to anti-open warfare. The whole communication between B.H.Q. departments similarly. In this type of rapidly moving warfare, visual work needs the organisation and institution of a tactical expert. For it is on communication that information for higher authority depends and while moving under shell and M.G. fire a messenger has good chance of not reaching his destination.</p>																			
H. 6. a. cent	31		<p>Casualties for August.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>KILLED</td> <td>of Wds</td> <td>Wounded</td> <td>Missing</td> <td>Acc. Inv.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>of Bn</td> <td>of Bn</td> <td>of Bn</td> <td>of Bn</td> <td>of Bn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fighting Strength</td> <td>18</td> <td>45</td> <td>251</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </table> <p>Total advance from 20 Aug. 12000'</p>		KILLED	of Wds	Wounded	Missing	Acc. Inv.		of Bn	of Bn	of Bn	of Bn	of Bn	Fighting Strength	18	45	251	-	-	
	KILLED	of Wds	Wounded	Missing	Acc. Inv.																	
	of Bn	of Bn	of Bn	of Bn	of Bn																	
Fighting Strength	18	45	251	-	-																	

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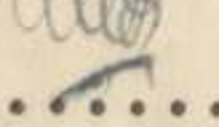
W A R D I A R Y

O F

38TH. BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

S E P T E M B E R 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling .....  .....

Signature of Officer Commanding..... Lt -Col.  
C.O. 38th. Battalion A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

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or  
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(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

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	1918			
d.8.8.	1st Sept		Bivouaced in squares H.1. and H.2. - period spent in sleep and cleaning up after a strenuous run.	
	2nd Sept		Still bivouaced in Squares H.1. and H.2. Q.M. particularly busily engaged in bringing the equipment etc up to fighting strength. The short rest has already shown the excellent recuperative qualities of the Australian.	
	3rd Sept		Still bivouaced in Squares H.1. and H.2. refitting and reorganising as a fighting unit.	
	4th Sept		Weather dull prospects of rain. reorganising with a view to intensive L.G.Training.	
	5th Sept		Warning order by phone from Brigade to be ready to move out at an hours notice-fighting order-object the rapid pushing forward of the advance.- noon the order to move forward received from Brigade- location I.2.d. B.H.Q. I.2.c.30.10. Passed S.P. )Cross roads H.1.d. at 5.30 p.m. On route a thunderstorm was encountered. This enabled those unfortunate enough to miss a bath to remedy such neglect. Another good object served was the settling of the dust which during the early part of the march had almost been insufferable. MENIN ROAD traffic was surpassed here. All bivouaced by 8 p.m.- the end of a perfect day.	
I.2.c.30.10	Sept 6th		Rested at I.2. c. and d.- warning order received from Brigade re battle order- 3rd Div.(A.I.F.) stated as per map attached. Advance parties from B.H.Q. and Coys moved forward to reconnoitre forward area held by 11th A.I.Bde.- the line Bn. of which was then fighting for TINCOURT. All the villages and camps on from CLERY-SUR-SOMME have been systematically destroyed by the HUN Many "Booby traps" have been discovered by various <del>white</del> units.'Tis wise to be wary in this area from now on. Conference at 8 p,m, at B.H.Q. re work of 37th and 38th Bns which are to take over the duties of VANGUARD from 41st and 44th Bns. A peaceful night slightly disturbed by the advent of hostile bombing machines. Weather bright and clear after the previous nights thunderstorm.	
I.2.c.30.10	Sept 7th		Battalion moved from I.2.c. and d. to J.20.a. ready to take over line held by 41st Bn. The outpost line was supposed to be through K 12 18 24 Central east of ROISEL and HERVILLY. Guides supplied by the outgoing Battalion lost their direction and it was not till 4 a,m, that the relief was completed. A complete reconnaissance seems to be the better solution for taking over in this type of warfare, leaving behind as advance party sufficient of the ingoing Battalions Scouts to act as guides in. Col. Hurry D.S.O. commanded the Vanguard Troops comprising which were 37th and 38th Bns A.I.F. 10th A.L.T.M.Bty, 2 Sections 10th Machine Gun Coy and 1 troop 13th A.L.H. supported by artillery. The 37th Bn. operated on right- 38th on left- The right flank of British division operating on our left was the 24th Welsh. On our right flank was 29th Bn. A.I.F. The 38th Bn. was responsible for approximately 3000' frontage the 37th Bn for approximately 2500'. B.H.Q. K.21.c.4.9. Officers taking part in the operations were:-	

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	1918			
	Sept 7th		<p><u>B.H.Q.</u> C.O. Col. Hurry D.S.O., Lt. Robbins, Lt. Dunn, Lt. Crispe, Lt. Churchill, Capt. Davis D.S.O. R.M.O.</p> <p><u>A Coy</u> O.C. Lt. Whitehead, Lt. Bult <u>B Coy</u> O.C. Lt. Bogle, Lt. Sandiford, Lt. Wilson <u>C Coy</u> O.C. Capt Peters M.C., Lt. Mallock <u>D. Coy</u> O.C. Capt Collins, Lt. Potter</p>	
K.21.c.40.90	Sept 8th		<p>At dawn it was found that the BLUE LINE had not been occupied by the relieved Vanguard and orders were issued by the C.O. to gradually push forward the O.P. line under protection of A.L.H. patrols. This was successfully accomplished by 9 p.m. when 40th Bn moved through and established line in old trench system running N and S through L.1 7 13 Central Forward B.H.Q. at K.23.a.10.60. the Battalion automatically becoming Support Battalion to Vanguard.</p>	
K.21.c.40.90	Sept 9th		<p>Battalion acting as support Battalion location BLUE LINE each Coy selecting a rendez vous for the whole Coy should it be necessary to reinforce the O.P. line. Bleak wind blowing which caused a good deal of inconvenience to the troops who are without blankets and packs, effects of exposure to inclement weather becoming apparent.</p>	
K.21.c.40.90	Sept 10th		<p>Battalion still acting as support Battalion. Advance parties of 1st A.I.F. Division visiting area. They are to take over operations of Vanguard the 4th and 3rd <del>Divisions</del> <sup>Battalions</sup> taking over O.P. line. On night of 10/11th Sept the 3rd A.I.F. Bn relieved the 38th Bn. - the Battalion moving to hutments in J.10.b. During the move out hostile bombing planes were exceptionally busy. The Battalion reached its destination approximately at 1.30. a.m. where the Quartermaster Lt. TELFER had prepared hot cocoa, rum and biscuits which were greatly appreciated by all. Marched out from line 15 officers 250 Other ranks Casualties 2 killed.</p>	
I.10.b.0.0.	Sept 11th		<p>Battalion spent most of the day in sleep. It is proposed to retain a couple of Bosch M.Gs captured recently and use them in instructing all L.G. personnel in their use. The weather after a long fine spell appears to have been broken as rain has been intermittent during the last 24 hours with a particularly keen wind blowing.</p>	
I.10.b.0.0.	Sept 12th		<p>Battalion resting I.10.b. Hot baths <del>still allotted to Battalion</del> under Brigade direction at DOINGT. Battalion to continue training in L.G. and Bosch M.G. Persistent rumours one Battalion in the Brigade is to be cut out and distributed among remaining Battalions</p>	
I.10.b.0.0.	Sept 13th		<p>Still resting in S.10.b. Hot Baths still allotted to Battalion. Packs and all Battalion gear returned from bulk store, CORBIE. Concert arranged from local talent by Chaplain FREER, a glorious treat and very successful, presided over by Col. Hurry D.S.O. About 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. area visited by hostile bombing planes one of which was brought down in flames another apparently in difficulties made off.</p>	

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I.10.b.0.0.	Sept 14th		Still in rest area I.10.b. Baths still at disposal of Battalion. Pay for all ranks to be drawn from Divisional Paymaster at DOINGT- payment of all members of Battalion. Amount of pay issued 10610 francs=£358-13-4. Though our Canteen Sgt puts forth mammoth efforts in his endeavours to obtain a varied assortment of commodities, so beset with conditions of buying is he that his efforts after a pay seem of little avail. A beautiful days cricket match in which the Col. made top score.	
I.10.b.0.0.	Sept 15th		Sunday the Weather still perfect. Padre conducted Church service in the vicinity of the camp. R.C. Church parade BUSSU. The 37th Battalion to be divided 2 Coys 38th Battalion 2 39th Battalion The Prime Minister of Australia, Hon W.M.Hughes to visit the Battalion. Unfortunately nothing eventuated re this visit. Another bombing Hun plane brought down during his nocturnal visit. Cricket match during the afternoon.	
I.10.b.0.0	Sept 16th		Training as per syllabus attached. weather perfect. Concert by 10th Brigade troupe specially enjoyable item - still in bivouacs in this area.	
I.10.b.0.0.	Sept 17th		Heavy thunderstorm during the night. Training proceeding as per syllabus. All ranks improving under these present conditions.	
	Sept 18th		Divisional Baths at PERONNE at disposal of Battalion during the morning. During the afternoon training and organised games carried out as per syllabus. Weather sultry and showery.	
	Sept 19th		Strong Northerly wind blew during day. Musketry carried out as per syllabus. Camp concert arranged and organised by Capt FREER. Very successful.	
	Sept 20th		Weather showery and windy. Training carried out as per syllabus. Orders received that 10th A.I.Bde is to be reorganised on system of 3 battalions per Brigade. The 37th Battalion is to be divided between 38th 39th and 40th Battalions as per amalgamation order attached, to be completed by 12 noon 21st inst. Working parties have been engaged in erecting shelters for that portion of 37th Battalion to be transferred to this Battalion, and every welcome is being made to give them a hearty welcome.	
	Sept 21st		Training carried out during morning. Working parties still preparing accomodation for receiving 37th Battalion personnel. Half holiday has been granted by C.O. 8 Officers and 23 Other ranks marched in from 37th Battalion Position with regard to remaining other ranks who are to be transferred to this Battalion appears to be rather obscure, a protest against the breaking up of their battalion having been entered by them. The 3 senior officers of the 37th Battalion who marched in today received orders from Brigade to return to their original Battalion for the purpose of maintaining discipline. In the meantime order regarding amalgamation remains in abeyance.	

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I.10.b.0.0.	1918			
	Sept	22nd	During morning Battalion went for a route march for 1 hour, after which Church Parade was conducted by Padre FREER. Hostile aircraft active during the morning. Heavy rain during the morning, afternoon.	
	Sept	23rd	Divisional Baths at PERONNE at disposal of Battalion during morning. From today rations are being reduced up to 33%. Afternoon - Training continued. Lecture delivered to Officers of Battalion by A.D.M.S. Division on Prevention of Sick Wastage. Reconnoitring parties go out to have a look at area over which practice stunt is to be carried out tomorrow. Concert organised and conducted by Padre FREER. A great success.	a
	Sept	24th	Practice <del>orders</del> stunt carried out as per operation etc orders attached. Actual attack was carried out successfully, good control being maintained throughout. Contact work with aeroplanes was not successful owing to the time fact that at no time during the operation were any contact planes distinguished, either by streamers, horns or light.	
	Sept	25th	Training continued. During evening another excellent concert was organised by Padre FREER. <del>Another</del> A number of Americans who are camped adjacent to us attended and contributed items. Under existing conditions a great improvement is noticed in the discipline and general appearance of the men. Orders received (copy attached) that original orders re 37th Battalion is to take effect from tomorrow and arrangements are to be made for receiving personnel. Later order received cancelling previous orders and stating that the Brigade is to go into battle on a 4 Battalion basis, 37th Battalion personnel attached to this Battalion <del>and</del> therefore to their Battalion tomorrow.	
	Sept	26th	Weather continues fine. Route March to DOINGT as per syllabus takes place. Concert given by Divisional concert party at DOINGT was greatly enjoyed by all ranks- returned to camp at about 5.30 p.m. Orders received that Brigade will move forward tomorrow afternoon to bivouac near Rensey RONSSOY (F21 Sheet 62c N.E.) Battalion has been reorganised into 4 Companies	
	Sept	27th	During morning preparations made to move forward. Colonel and Adjutant attend conference at Brigade Hqrs. Billeting party of 1 Officer and 5 N.C.Os go forward to square F20 where Battalion is to bivouac. Reconnoitring party makes reconnaissance of route to new area as far as VILLERS-FAUCON, Battalion moves off at 6.50 p.m. starting point passed as per schedule Route taken via BUSSU, TEMPLEUX-LA-FOSSE, LONGAVESNES, VILLERS FAUCON, STEMILIE to RONSSOY WOOD	
	Sept	28th	Arrived in bivouacs in F20 and 21 at 2 a.m., tea provided shortly after arrival. Area in which Battalion is bivouaced was heavily shelled with gas and H&E H.E. Enemy bombing planes were also active during the early morning. C.Os' conference at Brigade at 10 a.m. Operation orders issued copy of which is attached. The day was passed very quietly, the men sleeping most of the day. Route towards BROWN LINE reconnoitred during the afternoon.	

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F.18.c.4.5.	1918 Sept	29th	<p>Reveille was blown at 5.30 a.m. and preparations for move forward commenced. At 5.50 a.m. the barrage for the stunt opened and enemy immediately replied with gas shells. At 7.15 a.m. Battalion moved off in artillery formation in the following order:- "A" Coy, B.H.Q., "C" Coy, "B" Coy, and "D" Coy. The route towards the Brown Line to be taken was as follows:- South of village of RONSSOY to Cross roads in A 21 d thence through ORCHARD POST thence to R in road of BELLICOURT ROAD, thence North Easterly to Guillemont Farm where it had been arranged that the tanks to cooperate with the Battalion would be met. The advance was carried on as above until POT TRENCH was reached when the Battalion was held up by M.G. fire coming from direction of BONY "A" Company took up a position in Dog Trench, the remaining Companies and B.H.Qrs disposing themselves in shell holes west of this trench. From information gained it was apparent that the Yanks had not mopped up properly. A Coy were then ordered to push forward and attempt to clear up the situation. This Coy advanced in half sectional rushes from shell hole to shell hole. The M.G. fire became exceptionally heavy and the heavy casualties were suffered. At 9.50 a.m. "C" Coy moved forward and occupied DOG TRENCH "B" Coy occupied position in CAT POST (F.24.a.3.8.) with "D" on their left. Hostile artillery was very active. "C" Coy suffering heavy casualties. Very little information is being obtained as to the progress of "A" Coy "C" Coy sends forward a small patrol but it almost immediately becomes casualties. Capt Peters M.C. later goes out and locates "A" Coy, Hqrs in a shell hole about 100' east of DOG TRENCH, the remainder of the Company consolidating positions in shell holes within about 50' of the wire in front of SOUTH GUILLEMONT Trench. At 11 a.m. it is reported that Capt Fairweather, O.C. "A" Coy had been seriously wounded in the neck and Lt. Callan had been killed. Later it is reported that Capt Fairweather died about 10 minutes after he was hit. Lt. Whitehead is now in charge of "A" Coy. At 12.30 p.m. information is received that the Americans are everywhere on the Green Line and that the M.Gs holding us up are a few that they have failed to mop up. The Battalion together with 39th and 49th Battalions is therefore to push forward and get in touch with the Americans in front of us. At 3 p.m. the advance <del>under-exceptional-heavy-M.G.-fire</del> is continued "C" Coy moves out of DOG TRENCH and pushes forward from shell hole to shell hole under exceptionally heavy M.G. fire Lt. Mallock, "C" Coy is wounded in this advance "C" Coy moves forward to shell hole positions in the vicinity of the wire west of SOUTH GUILLEMONT Trench where the advance is definitely held up at 4 p.m.</p>	

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Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
F.18.c.4.5.	Sept	29th	<p>At 5.55 p.m. a smoke barrage is put down, the wing drifting the smoke down CLAYMORE VALLEY The Brigade on our right are thus enabled to push forward and A and C Companies are also enabled to push forward to South GUILLEMONT Trench where posts are established. Right post "C" Coy is established at A 19 b 30.10 where they are in touch with 41st Battalion. Left Post "A" Coy at A.13 d.3.1. This Coy fails to gain touch with 39th Battalion on its left. Whilst holding this trench a party of 30 Americans under Lt. DONNACKER 108th I.R. U.S.A. is incorporated in posts held by our troops. At 7 p.m. Battalion Headquarters moves to F.24.a.2.8. During the night patrols are pushed forward but obtain no information.</p>	
F.24.a.2.8.	Sept	30	<p>At 4.30 a.m. orders are received that 11th Brigade with 2 battalions of 9th Brigade would attack at 6 a.m. approximately squares A 26 and 27 on a battalion frontage in a northerly direction and take up a line through A 8 Central to the Knob inclusive. The 10th Brigade is to clear up the ground in A.14.c.0.3. During this operation "B" Coy captures 5 heavy and 4 light M.G.s and recaptured 4 Hotchkiss guns taken by the enemy from a disabled tank. These guns were abandoned before "B" Coy reached the position. The attack from the South appears to be held up South of BONY At 8.30 a.m. "A" Coy moves forward up BREAD LANE and establishes itself in CLAYMORE TRENCH. The position is now as follows B, C, and A Coys in CLAYMORE TRENCH with right flank at A.14.c.10.15 and left flank at VICK Lane where liason was established with 39th Bn. "D" Coy are in support in DOG TRENCH. At 9.50 a.m. "C" Coy pushes forward one platoon up BONY AVENUE and establishes posts at A.14.c.5.3. from which BONY was under observation. A patrol is pushed along this trench about A.14.d.4.4. where it came under M.G. fire from village and had to withdraw. "D" Coy moves forward from DOG TRENCH to SOUTH GUILLEMONT TRENCH and establishes Headquarters at A.19.c. 70.30. At 6 p.m. it is reported from Brigade Headquarters per phone that tomorrow morning this Brigade in cooperation with 9th Brigade on right is to push forward possibly as far as the KNOB Definite orders are to follow later. Post in BONY AVE. + 73 AVENUE is withdrawn to CLAYMORE TRENCH. AT 8.30 orders are received per phone that proposed stunt for tomorrow mentioned above has been cancelled. During the night patrols are pushed forward but no definite information is obtained.</p>	<p><i>Handwritten note:</i> Barrage ordered at 6 a.m. and B Coy pushed forward pushing this A &amp; C Coys &amp; takes up a position in claymore trench. Coy HQ being at A.14.c.0.8</p>
A.13.c.95.35	Oct	1st	<p>At 6 a.m. Advance Post in BONY AVENUE is re-established at A 14 c 80.25. At 8.35 a.m. "C" Coy commence to push forward up BONY AVENUE towards the village. No opposition is met with and Company enters the village at 9.45 a.m. At 10 a.m. "B" Coy proceeds to mop up the village while "C" Coy continues to push forward towards LE CATELET TUNNEL. Posts are established and touch gained with 39th Battalion on left at A 15 b 80.10. At 2.30 p.m. orders are received that 37th Battalion would push forward and occupy the KNOB with left flank on Canal Tunnel end in A 9 b facing N and N.E. along 120 contour and right flank at about A.10.c.2.2. 40th Bn. would push out and occupy Bony Point in touch with 37th Bn. on left at A.15.b.80.10.</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE - SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
A.13.c.95.35.	Oct	1st	<p>and right flank on Brigade right boundary. 39th and 38th Battalion would be disposed in main HINDENBURG system as support to 37th and 40th Battalions respectively, 38th Bn. in A.15.b. At 2 p.m. positions as above are established with the exception that 39th Battalion carried out task of 40th Battalion and vice versa. Disposition of 38th Battalion at this time is as follows B and C Companies in that portion of the Hindenburg Line in A.15.b. A Coy in BONY AVENUE. Battalion Headquarters is now at A.13.c.95.35. Whilst taking up new position as above Capt W.J. Collins O.C. "D" Coy is wounded. During the remainder of the day with the exception of intermittent shelling nothing else of importance took place. At 2 a.m. orders received that continental time was to be adopted forthwith. Yesterdays positions of Companies were maintained. Enemy artillery is moderately active during the day, particularly in the vicinity of BONY. At 12.15 warning order received that the Brigade would be relieved tonight by 151st Brigade. In accordance with orders received the Battalion was to withdraw to bivouac area in rear of Ronssoy Wood. Withdrawal commences at 16.30 and is complete by 17.45. Battalion in position in Bivouacs mentioned above by 19.55. On arrival a hot meal, cocoa and rum are provided by Q.M.</p> <p>Casualties for operation 29th Sept to 2nd Oct      Total Casualties from 1st Sept to 2nd Oct 1918</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Killed</td> <td>2 Officers</td> <td>11 other ranks</td> <td>Killed</td> <td>2 Officers</td> <td>16 Other ranks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Died of wounds</td> <td></td> <td>2 other ranks</td> <td>Wounded</td> <td>3 "</td> <td>88 "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wounded</td> <td>2 Officers</td> <td>87 other ranks</td> <td>Missing</td> <td></td> <td>3 "</td> </tr> </table>	Killed	2 Officers	11 other ranks	Killed	2 Officers	16 Other ranks	Died of wounds		2 other ranks	Wounded	3 "	88 "	Wounded	2 Officers	87 other ranks	Missing		3 "	<p><i>3 PM</i></p> <p><i>D Coy in support in that portion of Hindenburg line in A.15.c</i></p>
Killed	2 Officers	11 other ranks	Killed	2 Officers	16 Other ranks																	
Died of wounds		2 other ranks	Wounded	3 "	88 "																	
Wounded	2 Officers	87 other ranks	Missing		3 "																	

F.20.a.3.6.  
(Sheet 62 N.E.)



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A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .

W A R D I A R Y .

O F

38TH. B A T T A L I O N A . I . F .

F O R

O C T O B E R 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling.....*W. L. Smith*.....

Signature of Officer Commanding.....Lt-Col.

C.O. 38TH. BATTALION A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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*File Copy*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
D.17.d.0.1.	1918 Oct 3		Battalion moves from bivouacs near RONSSOY to area in vicinity of AIZECOURT. We are to remain here probably only one or two nights when we will move back to a rest area. The weather is fine and the troops although very tired after the strenuous fighting are pleased at the prospects of an extended rest. Orders received from Brigade re move to PERONNE area, 38th Bn. are to occupy the camp in I.10.b. vacated by us on 27th Sept.	
	Oct 4		At 02.15 orders were received that orders re move received yesterday are cancelled and that the Battalion is to stand fast until further orders. Orders received at 07.15 that billeting party are to report to Div. Wing DOINGT at 10 a.m. carrying 24 hours rations. Packs valises etc are to be brought to this camp from store at PERONNE. Muster parade held at 11.00 to check casualties, take shortages etc. Nucleus personnel and band arrived from Reinforcement wing.	
BAILLEUL	Oct 5		At 08.30 Orders which had been delayed at Brigade received for move to rest area near ABBEVILLE Bath parades at 11.00 and moves to D.23 - Sheet 82 E N.E. from where we are transported by light Railway to PERONNE. After lunch Battalion moves to entraining point at FLAMICOURT and entrained at 16.15. Arrive at detraining Station Pont Remy at 23.45.	
	Oct 6		Arrived at Billeting area at 02.00 A and B Coys are billeted in BELLIFONTAINE C and D Coys and Headquarters in BAILLEUL. Billets are very comfortable.	
	Oct 7		Weather showery. Battalion Baths have been established at BELLIFONTAINE and are at disposal of Coys.	
	Oct. 8		A considerable amount of rain has fallen during the night and the roads are very muddy. Training is to commence immediately and Battalion is to be reorganised on a 4 Coy basis, Coys being organised on a 4 platoon basis. Bootmaker Tailor and Barber are being kept very busy.	
	Oct.9.		Training carried out as per syllabus.	
	Oct 10,11,12th		Training as per syllabus.	
	Oct 13th		Church service by Y.M.C.A. Representative Mr. Hanlin	
	Oct 14th		In accordance with instructions from higher authority the 37th Battalion will organise as two Coys and amalgamate with the 38th Bn. Personnel from 37th Bn. will form A and B Coys of 38th, whose personnel will form C and D Coys. A and B Coys 38th amalgamated to form new C Coy, C and D Coys formed new D Coy.	
	Oct 15,16,17th		Training proceeded as per syllabus.	
	Oct 18th		Battalion H.Q. moved to Sorel and Wanel to occupy new billets.	
	Oct 19th		Inspection by the Acting Brigadier Lt-Col Jess. The remainder of the old Bn. moved to Sorel and Wanel to billets. The whole Battalion (including old 37th Bn) is now billeted in Sorel and Wanel less a portion of the Transport section that remained at Bailleul on account of scarcity of water supply in the other two villages.	

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	1918			
Sorel	Oct 20		Church parade by Mr. Hanlin Y.M.C.A. Representative	
	21-25th		Training proceeded as per syllabus. The weather has been cold with light rain, which was however insufficient to seriously interfere with training.	
	Oct 26th		Brigade Sports meeting was held today in the neighbourhood of HOCQUICOURT. The championship was won by 10th Field Ambulance.	
	Oct 27th		Billets are on the whole good. The villages of Sorel and Wanel are much cleaner and more sanitary than were Bailleul and Bellifontaine. Facilities for training are also better. The wisdom of leaving the bulk of the transport at Bailleul has also been proved, as the animals have improved in condition immensely mainly owing to the fact that they have excellent water.	
	Oct 28th		Training proceeded as per syllabus. Football practice is now in full swing and a complete divisional programme has been arranged.	
	Oct 29th - 31st.		Training as per syllabus. Winter clothing has now arrived and is being issued underclothing was issued some days ago, also the second blanket. Cardigans Jackets, gloves etc have now arrived.	
	Oct 31st.		<u>HONOURS and AWARDS</u> The following decorations have been awarded to this Battalion since the last similar entry in this diary.	
			<u>MILITARY MEDAL.</u>	
			3136 Pte PRICE G.F.	) D.R.O. 15/9/18.
		1228 L/Cpl LEWIS J.G.		
		7011 Pte WILLIAMS T.G.		
			2645 Pte SMITH A.E.G.	) D.R.O. 15/9/18.
			1008 Pte TAYLOR P.H.	
			452 Pte ALLITT J.H.W.	
			6976 Pte CHIVERTON G.	( Div. Special order of 25/10/18
		2934 Sgt LOW J.S.	6968 Pte CASSIDY W.	
		2887 L/Cpl PHILLIPS A.S.	979 E/Cpl ROBERTSON J.M.	
		2862 Pte MEIKLE C.S.	1004 L/Cpl STEWART C.	
			444 Sgt COLE H.R.	(
			814 Sgt BAUM H.A.	( Div. Special Order of 26/10/18
		967 Cpl PEGLER A.E.	2640 Pte STEVENS H.J.	
		951 Cpl NEWTON C.E.	1246 Pte McGOY F.C.	
		2552 L/Cpl De La Ray F.J.	3363 Pte SCOTT D.	
		398 Pte TODD A.J.	3020 Pte AMIET H.	
			3140 Pte PURCELL G.V.	

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	1918 Oct 31st (contd)		<p><u>HONOURS and AWARDS (contd)</u></p> <p><u>DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER.</u></p> <p>Captain TOWL P.G. - Div. Special Order of 18/10/18.</p> <p><u>MILITARY CROSS</u></p> <p>Lieut BAXTER F.J. D.R.O. 19/10/18.      Lieut SANDIFORD N.W.W. ( Div. Special Order 28/10/18 Lieut EASON J.F. (</p> <p><u>BAR TO MILITARY CROSS</u></p> <p>Lieut BAXTER F.J. Div. Special Order 28/10/18.</p> <p><u>CROIX de GUERRE (avec etoile de bronze)</u></p> <p>1852 Pte HOLLINGWORTH H.      D.R.O. 18/10/18.</p> <p><u>DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL.</u></p> <p>2090 Sgt. HEANEY J.R. (      Div. Special Order 28/10/18. 5025 Cpl. GRINTON A.V. (      Div. Special Order 28/10/18. 876 Sgt. GILMOUR A.C. (</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOREL	Nov 1		Training carried out as per Syllabus. Weather fine and warm.	
	2		Training carried out during morning. Divisional Football competition commences today and 38th Battn defeats 3rd Div. Sig. Coy in match played at HALLENCOURT.	
	3		Church Parade held in Y.M.C.A. Tent SOREL. Inspection of Billets by C.O.	
	4th. 5th. 6th.)		Training and tactical schemes carried out as per Syllabus.	
	7th. 8th.)			
	9		Football match played against 39th Battn resulted in a win for the 39th after a very interesting and keenly contested game. Weather continues fine.	
	10		Church Parade held in Y.M.C.A. Tent SOREL.	
	11		Telegram received from Brigade at 07.45 stating that the Armistice had been signed. Training proceeds.	
	12. 13		Training as per Syllabus	
	14		Inoculation of personnel by M.O. Holiday granted for 3rd Div Sports at HALLENCOURT. Weather very cold.	
	15		No parades are held today on account of Inoculation yesterday.	
	16		Weather fine but cold. Football match played against 10th Bde Hqrs won by us.	
	17		Church Parade conducted by new Padre, Chaplain BROWN. Thanksgiving service for Officers held in Chateau at SOREL in the evening. C.O. attended conference at Brigade. On his return a conference of all Officers was held at 15.30. Our probable movements in the near future were explained by the C.O.	
	18		Weather fine but cold. Daily Routine put back half an hour. Training proceeds.	
	19		Training as per Syllabus - Afternoon - Football match played against 40th Bn. resulted in a win for the 40th Bn. after a very hard game. A considerable amount of interest is being displayed in the Divisional Football contest.	
	20th. 21st. 22nd		Training carried out as per Syllabus.	
	23rd.			
	24		Church Parade conducted by Padre BROWN. Inspection of Billets by C.O.	
	25		Route March carried out as per Syllabus. Drizzling rain at intervals throughout the day, but weather continues mild. In afternoon Battn Football team proceeded by Motor Lorry to BRAY to play 10th Field Amb. The game which was well contested throughout resulted in a win for our opponents. Under the supervision of the Chaplain a commencement has been made with the formation of Educational classes. There were very satisfactory attendances at the opening classes, in Arithmetic, Bookkeeping etc. An endeavour is being made to locate within the Battalion Lecturers on subjects of interest. Censorship regulations have been relaxed and it is now permissible to refer in correspondence to the location of units.	

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOREL	Nov. 26		<p>A clear mild day but ground very sloppy owing to yesterday's showers. Divisional Convalescent Depot for Influenza cases at BAILLEUL has been closed down. This epidemic which has caused a number of deaths in the Division seems to be now well under control.</p> <p>A Brigade Ceremonial Parade was held today in the vicinity of LIERCOURT. In the absence of the Brigadier at a conference of Bde Commanders at Corps H.Qrs Lt-Col LORD.D.S.O. took command of the Parade. In the afternoon the LIERCOURT Baths were at the disposal of the Bn.</p> <p>In the evening a farewell was given to the Adjutant, Capt A.FRASER, M.C. who had received orders to proceed to the Training Bn at FOVANT on 27/11/18 vice Lt TODD, M.C. to France.</p> <p>Major POLLARD 39th Bn reported during the day to take command of 38th Bn during the absence on leave of Lt-Col HURRY. D.S.O.</p>	
		27	<p>Lt-Col HURRY D.S.O. proceeded on 14 days leave to U.K. Owing to bad weather conditions Musketry training as per Syllabus was not carried out. Training in morning consisted of a route march in direction of FONTAINE.</p> <p>Owing to the illness of Lt. J.C.TODD, M.C. Capt A.FRASER, M.C. did not proceed to U.K. for a tour of duty with the Training Battn. The previous instructions being cancelled at the last minute.</p>	
		28	<p>Owing to bad weather conditions route march as provided for in Syllabus did not take place. Coys were engaged during the morning in indoor work.</p>	
		29	<p>Weather continues bad. Football match arranged on SOREL ground with 3rd Pnr Bn was postponed. A conference of C.Os and Adjutants was held at Bde Hqrs at 10.30 to discuss the Repatriation Scheme. Major POLLARD and Lt. ROBBINS attended.</p> <p>Companies were engaged during morning in indoor work</p> <p>A Conference of all Officers was called by the C.O. at 16.30 to discuss matters mentioned at the Bde conference. The Repatriation Scheme proposals, Educational Training, Training Syllabus and the anticipated movements of the Division were referred to and discussed. The C.O. stated that it was the wish of Higher Commands that full publicity be given to the proposals of the Dept of Repatriation and asked that Coy Commanders discuss the scheme proposed with the men and ascertain their views. There does not appear to be any likelihood of a move forward for the next two or three weeks.</p>	
		30	<p>A clear bright day. During morning Bn proceeds on a route march in direction of ALLERY. In the afternoon a Football Match took place between our team and that of the 3rd Pioneer Bn on the SOREL ground. The game resulted in a win for our opponents.</p>	

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SOREL	Nov 30		<p>The following decorations have been awarded to this Battalion since the last similar entry in this diary.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BAR TO MILITARY MEDAL</u></p> <p>No. 29 Sgt E.S. BEARD. M.M. - 3rd Div. Special Order 4-11;18</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MILITARY MEDAL</u></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">876 Sgt GILMOUR A.C.</td> <td style="width: 50%;">899 Pte HEDGECOCK E.E.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1640 " LEBNER H.W.</td> <td>1689 " SHILLINGLAW E.S.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>440 " RAYBOULD A.J.B.</td> <td>240 L/Cpl COOKSON W.W.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>441 Pte BLAKELEY W.T.</td> <td>2337 Pte HAYTHORNE A.B.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2182 Cpl PATON P.W.</td> <td>7141 " McMASTER A.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2446 Pte McPHERSON A.</td> <td>1048 Sg<sup>t</sup> LEHMAN F.M.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">3rd Div Special Order 4/11/18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>BAR TO MILITARY CROSS</u></p> <p>Lieut (T/Capt) C.H. PETERS. M.C.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MILITARY CROSS</u></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Lieut A.W. SMITH</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;"><u>MILITARY MEDAL</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>" A.L. BOOL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">644 Pte J.J. MURPHY.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" P.J. TELFER</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	876 Sgt GILMOUR A.C.	899 Pte HEDGECOCK E.E.	1640 " LEBNER H.W.	1689 " SHILLINGLAW E.S.	440 " RAYBOULD A.J.B.	240 L/Cpl COOKSON W.W.	441 Pte BLAKELEY W.T.	2337 Pte HAYTHORNE A.B.	2182 Cpl PATON P.W.	7141 " McMASTER A.	2446 Pte McPHERSON A.	1048 Sg <sup>t</sup> LEHMAN F.M.	Lieut A.W. SMITH	<u>MILITARY MEDAL</u>	" A.L. BOOL	644 Pte J.J. MURPHY.	" P.J. TELFER		
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**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*B. Battalion A.I.F.*

FOR

*December 1918*

Signature of Officer compiling

*B. Bull G.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Amory Hill*  
*CO 38007*



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Soul	Dec 1st		Band Parade conducted by Padre BROWN. Lieut CRISPE, Bn. Education Officer, who had been attending a refresher course in England, returned to day and at once commences work to enlarge upon the Bn. Educational Scheme already started by Padre BROWN.	
	2nd		Bn. proceeds on route march as per syllabus. Weather conditions have slightly improved but the ground is still very sloppy. In the afternoon a lecture was given to all officers by Lieut CRISPE on the proposed educational scheme to be carried out in the Battalion.	
	3rd		Brigade Parade, which was to have taken place to-day is postponed until tomorrow. Lecture on the subject held at HALLENCOURT at 10.30. This is first of series of lectures on agricultural subjects to be held during the week. Owing to bad weather conditions some sun training was carried out in belts by those who did not attend the lecture.	
	4th		Brigade ceremonial Parade cancelled. During the morning the latter succeeded on a route march in the direction of HALLENCOURT. Lecture on Agricultural Work at HALLENCOURT at 10.30 was attended by 106 other ranks from this Battalion. In the afternoon a football match was played against 3rd Div. Sig. Coy. Although the ground was very sloppy the game was well contested and resulted in a win for our opponents.	

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Soel	5 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Training carried out as per syllabus. This morning's lecture at HALLENCOURT on "Agriculture" was attended by 4 Officers and 152 Other Ranks. These lectures are proving very interesting and, as will be shown by the increasing attendances, are arousing a considerable amount of enthusiasm amongst the men.</p> <p>Orders received that next week's syllabus is to be drawn up on the following basis: - 1 1/2 hours military work to be done each morning, the remainder of the morning to be devoted to educational work. Those not desirous of taking on educational work are to complete 3 1/2 hours military work during the morning. One morning in each week is to be devoted entirely to military work.</p>	
	6 <sup>th</sup>		<p>This morning's lecture at HALLENCOURT on Orchardry was attended by 8 Officers and 297 Other Ranks. Musketry as per syllabus was carried out by the remainder of the Battalion.</p>	RBB
	7 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Lecture at HALLENCOURT on Fertilizers attended by 8 Officers and 218 Other Ranks. Remainder of day proceeds on route march as per syllabus.</p> <p>Orders received per phone that present area is to be cleared by 11 AM on 10<sup>th</sup> inst and that the division are to move to the GISEMONT area which is about 10 miles to the west of present location. Bidding party proceeds to new area. The villages allotted to this bath are: VISMES, HANTECOURT and FRETTEMEULE.</p> <p>for the 39<sup>th</sup> Football match played against 39<sup>th</sup> Bn, resulted in an easy win</p>	RBB

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SOREL	Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>		Church Parade conducted by Padre Brown in Y.A.C. tent. Inspection of billets by CO	RBB
	9 <sup>th</sup>		Training carried out as per syllabus. Baths at LIERCOURT at disposal of Battalion during the day. Order received from Brigade to move to new area.	RBB
VISMES-AD-VAL	10 <sup>th</sup>		Battalion moves to new area by road as per route set out in Order No 98 attached. Arrived at VISMES-AD-VAL at 15.30. Billeting arrangements are as follows: - Battalion HQ, C & D Coy in VISMES-AD-VAL. A & B Coys in FRETTE-MEULE. Transport Section in HANTECOURT. The billets in this area do not appear to be as comfortable as those in SOREL & WANDEL.	RBB
	11 <sup>th</sup>		Companies at disposal of Company Commanders. Day spent in making billets more comfortable. Weather unsettled.	RBB
	12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	Training and Educational work carried out as per syllabus.	RBB
	14 <sup>th</sup>		Training during the morning consisted of a route march to TOURS and return. The CO, Lt Col HURRI DSC returned from leave.	RBB
	15 <sup>th</sup>		Church Parade conducted by Padre BROWN. Inspection by billets by CO. A conference of all officers was held in School Hall at 19.30 to discuss the demobilisation question and the correct method of filling in the Repatriation forms.	RBB
	16 <sup>th</sup>		Weather conditions interfere with training. Companies are to commence at once on the work of completing the Repatriation forms. A Battalion Demobilisation Officer and an officer from each company have been appointed to supervise the work.	RBB

WAR DIARY

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VISAYAS-AL-VIA	10/17		Musketry and Lewis Gun training carried out in billets. Educational work proceeds as per syllabus.	RBB
	18 <sup>th</sup>		This morning's training consists of Blue Order Drill Musketry Training Company drill and a demonstration of rapid firing with trench mortars by Lt NARIEK. Killing in of Reproduction forms under supervision of Company Officers proceeds. Educational work carried out as per syllabus.	RBB
			Arrangements are being made for Christmas Dinner for the Battalion. A sum of £450 has been sent by 10 <sup>th</sup> Brigade's Comforts Fund for use of this Brigade. This amount is to be allocated to units on a per capita basis. The amount allotted to this Battalion is £138.	RBB
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Weather showery and cold. Lewis Gun + Musketry Training in billets during the morning.	RBB
	20 <sup>th</sup>		Morning's training consists of route march in direction of ERCOURT. Weather continues cold and wet.	RBB
	21 <sup>st</sup>		Company training on Battalion parade ground. Education Officer lectures to C + D Companies in room on the "Principles of the Educational Scheme".	RBB
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Church Parade conducted by Padre Brown. Inspection of billets by G.O.	RBB
	23 <sup>rd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup>		Adverse weather conditions interfere with outdoor training. Indoor work, such as musketry and rifle training, carried out. Educational work proceeds as per syllabus.	RBB

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VISMES-AU-VAU	25 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Shipping, Ketchikan proceeded successfully. Parcels received from 10<sup>th</sup> Red Comfords fund distributed to all ranks. The Christmas packages provided for the men proved to be excellent and great credit is due to the Coys and Company for their untiring efforts in the provision of such an excellent report was due. A Bath Officers dinner was held at VISMES-AU-VAU at 1900 and a very enjoyable evening was spent.</p>	RBB
	26 <sup>th</sup>		Boxing Day. A holiday had been granted and the opportunity is taken by all ranks to recuperate after yesterday's festivities.	RBB
	27 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> - 29 <sup>th</sup>		Adverse weather conditions interfered with training laid down in syllabus. Work consisted of indoor training, in billets under company arrangements.	RBB
	30 <sup>th</sup>		Weather has improved considerably. Training carried out as per syllabus.	RBB
	31 <sup>st</sup>		Weather conditions again interfered with outdoor training. Training continues in billets. Educational work proceeds.	RBB

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VISMES-AU-VAL	Jan 1919	1st	New Year's Day - A holiday has been granted and the day was passed quietly, weather conditions making it quite impossible for any sports or football matches to take place.	B
		2nd	Weather still unsettled. Two wooden huts have been issued to the battalion. These are being erected (one in VISMES-AU-VAL and the other in FRETTE-NEUVE) and will be placed at the disposal of the Education Officer for use as class rooms.	B
		3rd	Weather conditions have improved considerably. Training carried out as per syllabus. An additional wooden hut has been received and is to be erected in VISMES.	B
		4th	Training proceeds. A conference of Battalion Commanders and Adjutants held at Brigade Hqs. at 14.30 clock to discuss Demobilization and Repatriation questions, etc.	B
		5th	Church Parade conducted by Padre Brown in School Room at VISMES.	B
		6th	Training and Educational work proceed as per syllabus. A conference of all officers held at VISMES at 14.30 clock to discuss certain military questions lent down from Corps, such as, equipment and arms to be carried by the Infantry in future wars.	B
		7th	Training as per syllabus has been cancelled and a thorough Kit Inspection and check of Demobilization Stores substituted, orders having been received that units are to submit returns for deficiencies as soon as possible.	B

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
- 110 4th	8 <sup>th</sup>		Training proceeds as per syllabus. Weather fine but cold.	B
	9 <sup>th</sup>		Brigade ceremonial Parade takes place on 38 <sup>th</sup> Ball's Parade ground. The Inspector General of Education, A. I. F. addressed the whole parade on matters concerning education and reformation.	B
	10 <sup>th</sup>		Weather still and showery. Training and education work proceed as per syllabus.	B
	11 <sup>th</sup>		Training and education work proceeded with as per syllabus. Weather fine but cold.	B
	12 <sup>th</sup>		Church parade held on parade ground by Chap. Captn Brown. The following officers, 1915 category left at 9 am to report to HQ. Homebony Road en route for Australia:- Lt J. Gunn. Lt J. Eason MC - Lt R. Bult.	B
	13 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine but very keen. Training and education work proceeded with as per syllabus.	B
	14 <sup>th</sup>		Training and education work proceeded with as per syllabus. Divisional Vet. Offr held an inspection and classification of all horses and mules on Battalion strength. Weather mild and fine.	B
	15 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine & cold. Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Route March to Carroo cancelled.	B

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Kisumu - Kenya - Tal	16 <sup>th</sup>		Weather showery and cold. Training and education work carried out as per syllabus.	
	17 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Lt Col. Hurry (S/O) goes to brigade as acting Brigadier General.	
	18 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Route march to town. Football match at Gamachel A+B Coys. v 3 M.G. Bussell. A+B Coys. 4 goals 12 pts. 3 M.G. 8 goals 10 pts.	
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine but very cold. Lt Col. Hurry returns from brigade. Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Lunch parade held on parade ground by Capt. Chap. Brown.	
	20 <sup>th</sup>		Weather keen but fine. Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus.	
	21 <sup>st</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Football match between A+B Coys. resulting in a victory for A+B Coys. score 49.2 pts to 49.2 pts. A piano was purchased for the use of the Garrison.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Thames - au - Val	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus.	§
	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Weather fine + frosty. Brigade ceremonial parade held at 11 am. Inspection and farewell address by G.O.C. who stated it would in all probability be the last opportunity of holding a brigade parade ere the mobilisation commenced. At 11.45 am a conference was held by G.O.C., Battalion commanders & Adjutants.	§
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Instructions received from Brigade for Col. Lt. Col. Hurry to proceed to Havre.	§
	25 <sup>th</sup>		Weather dull & cold. Col. delivered a farewell address to a battalion muster parade.	§
	26 <sup>th</sup>		Col. left for Havre. Lt. J. Holding & Lt. C. Bennett left for London en route for Calais. Church parade held by Padre Brown at 11 am in Hissen hut.	§
	27 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Weather dull & cold.	§
	28 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Concert held in Hissen hut.	§

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Trines -an-tal	29 <sup>th</sup>		muster parade. Reorganisation of companies. A+B Coy forming "draft" Coy which includes all ranks on first draft for Australia. Weather cold and snowing.	
	30 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus.	B
	31 <sup>st</sup>		Weather conditions bad. Cold & snowing. Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus.	B
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Honours and awards in Military Cross.</u></p>	
			<p>Lieut. A. Robbins } Extract from "London Gazette" Supplement No 31092                  " P. Aitken } of 4/19.</p>	
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Strength of Unit</u></p>	
			<p>Average daily strength      Offrs. 46      Ranks 650.</p>	
			<p>do do      " do      do 37      do 525.</p>	

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**WAR DIARY**

OF

*38<sup>th</sup> BATTALION. A.I.F.*

FOR

*FEBRUARY 1919*

Signature of Officer compiling

*Joavis Lint.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

WAR DIARY

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Temer -all-Val.	1 <sup>st</sup>		Weather cold + snowing. Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. A Coy. comprised of men for first demobilisation quota were medically inspected.	B
	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Church parade held in Girls School at 11 am. The Corps Commander visited the unit at 2 pm. He gave a short address to some of the men. In the afternoon a dance was held in the "Nissen Hall" by the NCOs + men of the unit and 30 members of the W.A.A.C. who journeyed from Abbotsville. The girls were entertained at dinner by the NCOs + men and left for Abbotsville at 8 pm.	B
	3 <sup>rd</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. A good entertainment was given by the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div. "Loose" concert party at 6.30 pm. in the Nissen Hall. The party are remaining and showing at the unit for three nights.	B
	4 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Performance of "Loose". A "Bridge" tournament commenced for men of the unit. Weather cold and snowing.	B
	5 <sup>th</sup>		Outdoor training not carried out owing to heavy snow falling. Educational work carried out as per syllabus.	B
	6 <sup>th</sup>		Brigade Parade cancelled. Educational work carried out as per syllabus. Fine weather but very cold. Interesting debate held in the "Nissen Hall" - "Prohibition in Australia".	B

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Tismul- au-tal	7 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine and cold. Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus.	B
	8 <sup>th</sup>		Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus.	B
	9 <sup>th</sup>		March Parade held at 9.30 am in Girls School, Tismul-au-tal.	B
	10 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine and cold. 25 members of W.A.A.C. journeyed from Abbeville; a dance was held by the men.	B
	10 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine and cold. Commencement of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Div. Arts and Crafts exhibition at Martainville. Day for 10 <sup>th</sup> Brigade.	B
	11 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine and cold. Training and Educational work carried out as per syllabus.	B
	12 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine but chilly. Educational work and Training carried out as per syllabus. Progress of first Quota was made with Medical Boards.	B
	13 <sup>th</sup>		Weather Fine. Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a lecture on Australia was given by Mr McCall of the YMCA in Nissen Huts.	B
	14 <sup>th</sup>		Weather Fine during morning after midday slight rain fell. In the evening a social was given by Officers of unit.	B
			Sisters of 3 A.G.N and Officers of W.A.A.C. at very enjoyable evening.	B

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	15 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather wet and dull Training and educational work carried out as per syllabus. Progress was made with Draft companies. After midday the G. O. C. <sup>3<sup>rd</sup> DIVISION. A.L.F.</sup> made Presentation of medals to several members of Draft companies.</p>	
	16 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather wet and dull. Church Parade was held in the square in Visines-Au-Val. After Church Parade Brigadier General Jess. of 10<sup>th</sup> Ardet Brigade spoke to draft companies. At 11.30 Special parades were held in order to check the quota. Each man was handed 541 Form. After lunch a dance was held in the "Nissen Hut" by the N.C.O.'s &amp; men of the unit and 30 members of the W.A.A.C. who journeyed from Abbeville. The girls were entertained at dinner by the N.C.O.'s &amp; men and left for Abbeville at 8 PM.</p>	
	17 <sup>th</sup>		<p>On the morning of 16<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> inst the 1<sup>st</sup> Quota of this Battalion proceeded via Blangy to A.G.B.D. Le Havre for Demobilization. The routine was as follows: Reveille 3 AM Breakfast 4 AM move off from S.P. at 5.30 AM as per special order issued. The Battn Quota moved off in Fighting Order and had a motor lorry attached for picking up of stragglers. On reaching the cross roads of Walleblery Boulencourt the Y.M.C.A. provided hot</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices .
continued	17 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Cocoa and Biscuits for all concerned. They then proceeded through Blangy to the square where each individual received his pack, after, they proceeded en route to the Station where they entrained. The train was comprised of many German Trucks which had been handed over to the Allied forces. At the Station the G.O.C. of 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust division presented several of the men with medals they had won during past operations. The train finally moved off at 9.35 for Le Havre. The weather was fine and slight rain fell during the day. Many of the men who were left in Vieux Au Val had a dance in the evening. <i>Jed</i></p>	
	18 <sup>th</sup>		<p>weather rainy and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a dancing class was held for the men in the 'Nissen Hut'. <i>Jed</i></p>	
	19 <sup>th</sup>		<p>weather fine. Education work was carried out as per syllabus. In the evening the Padre lectured to the men in Nissen Hut at Vieux.</p>	
	20 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather changeable. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a smoke concert was held for the men in the Nissen Hut. A very enjoyable <i>Jed</i></p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Continued	20 <sup>th</sup>		evening was spent by all. The 40 <sup>th</sup> Bn concert party entertained the members concerned.	
	21 <sup>st</sup>		Weather fine in the morning, at dinner time rain fell heavily until evening. The Bn less 2 M Str and transport proceeded to new billets at Bosmerard. They left Vannes au Val at 1 PM and arrived at Bosmerard <sup>at 3.30 PM.</sup> The Village and Billets were not as comfortable as those in Vannes au Val.	
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Weather wet and cold. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quota company was formed and later in the day many men proceeded to Abberville by motor lorry to a return dance given by members of the W.A.A.C.'s. They all had an enjoyable time and returned at 11.0.	
	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Weather fine. Church Parade was held in "YMCA hut" at BOUTLEY COURT.	
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a lecture was given in the "YMCA hut" Progress was made with 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quota re Demobilization.	

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	25 <sup>th</sup>		Weather cold and dull. Education Work and Training carried out as per Syllabus. (I. G. O. C). The Inspector General of Education visited this Battalion during the day. Card Tournaments were held for men not engaged in duties during the afternoons.	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		Weather changeable inclined to be rainy. General Birdwood visited the 10 <sup>th</sup> Brigade and interviewed Commanding Officers and Adjutants of each Battalion at Brigade Headquarters. MARTANVILLE. Educational work & Training carried out as per Syllabus.	
	27 <sup>th</sup>		Weather dull and inclined to be rainy. Educational work & Training carried out as per Syllabus. In the evening the members of the Battalion were entertained in 'YMCA HUTS' BOVILLANCOURT by members of the YMCA. A very enjoyable evening was spent by all.	
	28 <sup>th</sup>		Weather fine. Education work carried out as per Syllabus. Football matches were played in the afternoon. In the evening the 10 <sup>th</sup> Field Amb. entertained the members of 38 <sup>th</sup> & 39 <sup>th</sup> Bns in the 'YMCA HUT' BOVILLANCOURT.	
			— Strength of Unit —	
			Average daily strength	Officers 31      O. Ranks 339
			do do Ration do	do 24      do 252

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Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*38<sup>th</sup> Battalion A.I.F.*

FOR

*March* 191*9*

Signature of Officer compiling

*James Lewis*

Signature of Officer Commanding

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MARCH	1 <sup>st</sup>		Weather fine. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the afternoon the 38 <sup>th</sup> Bn played 39 <sup>th</sup> Bn football, the former won by many points. In the evening the 10 <sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Concert Party entertained members of both Battalions in "V.M.C.A. HUT, BOUILLANCOURT." J.R.	
	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Weather fine. Church Parade was held in "V.M.C.A. HUT, BOUILLANCOURT." Lieut Col. Bragg from D.H.Q. Inspected the Bn 2.30. AM and gave the C.M. 36 Hours notice to have all mobilization stores equipment etc washed, cleaned & packed and handed into D.A.D.O.S. This was considered a very difficult task. J.R.	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>		Weather wet and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. Card Tournaments were held in the afternoon and in the evening a Dancing class was held in the "CHATEAU BUSMENARD." J.R.	
	4 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. All stores mobilization and equipment were handed over to D.A.D.O.S. Despite the fact that only 36 Hours notice was received to complete such a task much reflects on the efficiency of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Master and staff as all stores were thoroughly cleaned and packed & delivered J.R. in the given time. Card Tournament continued at BUSMENARD.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARCH.	5 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. Card Tournaments continued and also Dancing classes in CHATEAU BUSMÉNARD	
	6 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. This Battalion came under the CO of 39 <sup>th</sup> Battalion for <del>discipline</del> and <del>the</del> necessities of the P.M.'s department. It is expected that by the end of this month or during the coming month they shall be administered by the 39 <sup>th</sup> Bn to allow P. Cadre of 38 Bn to proceed on next quota to enable them to finalize records at A.I.F. Hqs London.	
	7 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet. A Lecture on 'Somme BATTLES' was given to 38/39 Bn by Brig. Gen. Jess of 10 <sup>th</sup> P.I. Brigade in the 'YMCA HUT' BOUILLANCOURT. In the evening dancing classes were held at Busmenard.	
	8 <sup>th</sup>		Weather Fine. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a concert was held in the 'YMCA HUT' BOUILLANCOURT	
	9 <sup>th</sup>		Weather Fine. Church parade was held in 'YMCA HUT' BOUILLANCOURT	
	10 <sup>th</sup>		Weather Fine. The Qm and staff returned from VISMES-RO-VAL. Education work carried out as per syllabus.	



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BOUILLANCOURT	MARCH 17 <sup>th</sup>		Weather Fine. Education work carried out as per syllabus.	
1919.	18 <sup>th</sup>		In the evening Lena Ashwell's Concert Party gave a splendid entertainment to all in the Y.M.C.A. "Hut" BOUILLANCOURT. <i>J.D.</i>	
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Weather Fine. Education work carried out as per syllabus.	
	20 <sup>th</sup>		Many officers NCO's & men were medically examined by Medical Board. Progress was made with 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quota of this Battalion. In the evening a Dancing Class was held in The CHATEAU BUSMÉNARD for members of the unit. A large percentage of men passed a very enjoyable evening. <i>J.D.</i>	
	21 <sup>st</sup>		Weather Fine. Education work carried out as per syllabus. Dancing class held in "Chateau BUSMÉNARD". <i>J.D.</i>	
			Weather Fine. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a concert was given in the "Y.M.C.A. Hut" BOUILLANCOURT. <i>J.D.</i>	
			Weather Fine. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a Dancing class was held in Chateau BUSMÉNARD. Very enjoyable concert was given by all present. <i>J.D.</i>	

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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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VILLAINCOURT ARCH. 1919.	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Weather Fine. Progress was made with second quota of this unit. In the afternoon a football match was held between 38 <sup>th</sup> & 39 <sup>th</sup> Battalions. In the evening a cinematograph concert was given to members of the Battalion in Chateau BUSMENARD.	
	23 <sup>rd</sup>		Weather Fine. Church Parade was held in Y.M.C.A. HUT BOUILLANCOURT. Final allotment was received for Embarkation Quota No 29. In the evening church service was held again in Y.M.C.A. HUT BOUILLANCOURT.	
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Weather cold wet. Heavy snow fell during the day. In the evening a dancing class was held in Chateau BUSMENARD.	
	25 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening Pln Officers held special dinner in at Officers Club ABBEVILLE. This was considered to be a send off dinner to officers of No 29 Quota. Dancing class held at Busmenard.	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet & cold. Education syllabus carried out as per syllabus. Dancing class was held in Chateau Busmenard.	
	27 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet. Education syllabus was carried out as per syllabus. In the evening dancing class was held in Chateau BUSMENARD.	

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BOUILLANCOURT. MARCH 1919.	28 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. In the evening a cinematograph concert was held in the CHATEAU BUSMENARD. <i>JA</i>	
	29 <sup>th</sup>		Weather wet and cold. Education work carried out as per syllabus. Progress was made with 17 Coy. 29 Quota. In the evening a dancing class was held in CHATEAU BUSMENARD. also CARD Tournament. <i>JA</i>	
	30		Weather fine. Church Parade was held in YMCA Hut. BOUILLANCOURT. Later in the day heavy snow fell. Progress was made with 2nd Coy. <i>JA</i> Presidential Rolls were amended.	
	31 <sup>st</sup>		Weather fine. Progress made with 17 Coy 29 Quota. In the afternoon there was a football match arranged between the 138 Coy and 10 <sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance. The former won by 2 points. Later in the day heavy snow fell. <u>STRENGTH of Unit</u> AVERAGE DAILY STRENGTH DO <del>REMARKS</del> DO 29 OFFICERS. 3090 RANKS 23 DO 234 DO	



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Place	Date 1919	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
B BOUILLANCOURT	April 1st		Weather fine. Progress was made with "A" Coy 29 Quota of the Unit. In the evening a concert was held in the Y.M.C.A. Hut, BOUILLANCOURT.	
	2nd		Weather fine. Muster parade of Quota Company was held at BUSMENARD and all papers were checked and handed over to O.C. of Company. Each individual concerned received his A.I.F. Form 541. In the evening a dancing class was held in the Chateau, BUSMENARD.	
	3rd		Weather fine. "A" Company of 29 Quota moved from BUSMENARD at 1300 en route for GAMACHES at which place they joined other units of No. 29 Quota.	
	4th		Weather fine. "B" Coy, 38th Battalion moved from BUSMENARD at 1000 to join 39th Battalion at BOUILLANCOURT. The last Routine Orders of the 38th Battalion were issued this day, owing to Administration being taken over by 39th Battalion.	
	5th		Weather fine. Educational Schools are now being conducted by the 39th Battalion.	
	6th		Weather fine. Church Parade was held at 10.00 in the Y.M.C.A. Hut. Chaplain Brown conducted the service.	
	7th		Weather fine. <del>38th Coy 29 Quota (Genl Gellibrand) visited the Battalion</del> The Quota from this Battalion for the Australian Burials Detachment was ordered to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Villers Bretonneux.	
	8th		Weather fine. G.O.C. 3rd Division (Genl Gellibrand) visited the Battalion.	
	9th		Weather unsettled. 38th Coy left GAMACHES for Australian Base, Le HAVRE with "29" Quota. The Quota from this Battalion for Australian Graves Detachment, left for Villers Bretonneux.	
	10th		Weather cold and showery. A lecture was given by the Padre in the evening; subject "AFRICA".	
	11th		Weather cold and wet. A cinema show was given by Chaplain Brown in the Y.M.C.A. Hut in the evening.	

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BOUILLANCOURT	April	12th	Weather cold and wet. A Debate was held in the evening at the Y.M.C.A. Hut; subject :- "Should Bachelors be Taxed?". Debaters:- Sgt Bell 39th Bn. Pte Madden 38th Bn.	
		13th	Weather fine. Church Parade was held at 10.00 in the Y.M.C.A. Hut; Chaplain Rankin conducted the service.	
		14th	Weather cold and wet. A concert was given by members of the 38th/39th/40th Battalion in the Y.M.C.A. Hut, in the evening.	
		15th	Weather cold and wet. A Lecture was given in the Y.M.C.A. Hut in the evening by Mr Allen (Y.M.C.A. rep) Subject :- "Alsace-Lorraine".	
		16th	Weather cold and wet. A Lecture was given by Mr Allen (Y.M.C.A. rep) in the Y.M.C.A. Hut Subject:- "Joan of Arc".	
		17th	Weather in morning fine; a few showers fell in the afternoon. A Lecture was given by Mr Allen in the Y.M.C.A. Hut :- Subject:- "The People of France".	
		18th	Good Friday. Weather dull but dry. A voluntary Church Service was conducted by Chaplain Brown in the Y.M.C.A. Hut. In the evening a debate was held in the Y.M.C.A. Hut, Subject:- "Should Australia have a Standing Army or continue the Compulsory Training System?". A cinema show followed.	
		19th	Easter Saturday. Weather fine. A Lecture was given by Mr Allen (Y.M.C.A. rep) in the Y.M.C.A. Hut.	
		20th	Easter Sunday. Weather fine. Church Parade was conducted by Chaplain Brown at 10.00 in the Y.M.C.A. Hut. A Lecture was given by Mr Allen on "Shakespeare's Works".	
		21st	Easter Monday. Weather fine. A Lecture was given by Miss Baxter (Australian) in the Y.M.C.A. Hut in the evening.	

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BOUILLANCOURT.	April		Weather fine. A Picture Show was given by Padre Brown in Y.M.C.A Hut.							
	22									
	23		Weather dull. Miss Baxter gave a lecture in the Y.M.C.A Hut in the evening. Subject:- "The Industries of Australia"							
	24		Weather dull, but dry. 38th Company of No. 45 Embarkation Quota moved to GAMACHES Concentration Camp at 13.00. This was the full complement of the 38th Battalion.							
GAMACHES.	25		"ANZAC DAY". Weather unsettled in morning, but fine in afternoon. No. 45 Quota held sports in which many of the 38th Coy competed, winning a fair share of the events. A dance was held in the evening, many of the French ladies of the village being in attendance, and who greatly assisted in giving the "Diggers" a good time.							
	26		Weather cold and wet. A Picture Show was given in the Y.M.C.A. Tent, GAMACHES.							
	27		Weather cold and wet. Church Parade was held at 10.00.							
	28		Snow fell in the morning; clearing up in the afternoon. Progress for re-organization was made.							
	29		Weather stormy and rain fell. Pay Day for the Quota; which was evidenced by the storming of many strong and weak points in GAMACHES. Casualties were light!							
	30		Weather stormy and cold. The whole of the Battalion is with No. 45 Quota and is proceeding on the 3rd prox. to LE HAVRE, en route for ENGLAND. This will be the last report for the 38th Battalion.							
			The strength of the remaining portion of the Battalion included in No. 45 Quota is as follows:-							
			<table> <tr> <td>Officers.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W.Os &amp; Sgts.</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Ranks.</td> <td>89</td> </tr> </table>	Officers.	10	W.Os & Sgts.	12	Other Ranks.	89	
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			<table> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>111</td> </tr> </table>	Total	111					
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*Final at*