

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/18/7

**Title:** 1st Infantry Battalion

May 1916



AWM4-23/18/7

A1

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

1 Bu AIF

(Erase heading not required.)

447

Vol 2

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.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
8.30 am 1 May France (N.Z.D.69)	* Rue du Bois shelled by enemies 77 mm guns. Ten shells were fired and one shell struck a building close to Co. Hodges without any damage or casualties resulting.	
2 May	Day passed without incident. Our artillery were to have bombarded in the direction of FROMELLES from 3pm to 5pm but owing to bad light little shooting was done. All work ceased in the trenches at 10pm and fatigue parties were returned. The Co. Hodges moved out of present buildings into Advanced Belle Hodges which are directly opposite on the other side of the road. Enemy did not retaliate in our sector of trenches.	
8.30 am - 11 am 1 May	* Enemy shelled Co. Hodges from two hours and a half. About 40 shells were thrown mostly 4.2" and 5.9". The buildings were badly damaged and 5 casualties resulted.	
3 May	Same precautions were taken as on previous day re case of artillery retaliation. Our guns shelled consistently but <del>no</del> no results could be observed from our front line.	
1930	Relief of Battalion by 3 <sup>rd</sup> Co. commenced	
2120	Relief completed	
4 May	Weather cock house occupied by 17 Coy shelled with	Infantry Brigade Order No. 10.

# 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.)

447

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1200 4 May	H.E. (4.2" and 5.9") shells. Captain Woodford and 6 other ranks wounded. The building was struck but was not rendered unfit for habitation. On supplied fatigues.	
5 May	As a result of shelling, shelter trenches have been dug on the flanks of all billets. Fatigues again supplied.	
6 May	Fatigues again supplied.	
2130 7 May	11 Red green & White signals observed over Bac St. Mans answered by the enemy	
1635	Enemy shelled our communication trenches. Damage nil	
1600/15.8 <sup>th</sup> May	Fatigues again supplied. - Billets strengthened with sandbags do do do	
1200/13.00 9 May	Enemy shelled with HE N 82 7/8. (Ref 26) } No damage do do do 12" N 167-1 }	
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Observation balloons over F. Ronnelles & Aubers. Fatigues as usual.	
1600 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Very quiet on whole front. Billets strengthened against shell fire. A Coy moved from WEATHERCOCK HOUSE to new billets close FLEURBAUC near H 31 central.	
12 <sup>th</sup> May	Fatigues as usual.	
Review of work	Quiet day. Summed up 6 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> inc. Billets were fortified. shelter trenches improved.	

# 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.

447

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
13 <sup>th</sup> May 1916	Quiet day - Fatigue as usual. Enemy very inactive both with planes & artillery.	
14 May	Fatigue as usual.	
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Guiding line to Assembly trenches 5' stakes 12' apart + light wire. Completed the Emergency Road Weathercock - Rue de Bois. Fatigue as usual.	
16.20.17.10.16 May	Enemy artillery bombarded rear supports of P <sup>n</sup> on our right.	
2200 do	Enemy aeroplanes were busy throughout the day. Enemy aeroplanes dropped two bombs near aerodrome ESTAIRES damage nil. Fatigue supplied.	
16.15.17.30 do	Fairly quiet - enemy shelled direction of our billets <sup>near</sup> H 31 Central (ref map 36). Searching for one of our active batteries. Damage nil.	
17 May	Bn H.Q. & Sig. dugout completed in J assembly trenches.	
2130 } do 2200 }	Our artillery bombarded enemy communication trenches. Enemy searched for mobile gun near House de la Tour with shrapnel.	No damage
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Relieved by 10 <sup>th</sup> Pn. 3 <sup>rd</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> Reg. Relief completed. 2215. Took over billets at G 8 and G 4.	
19 <sup>th</sup> May to 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Training carried out.	