

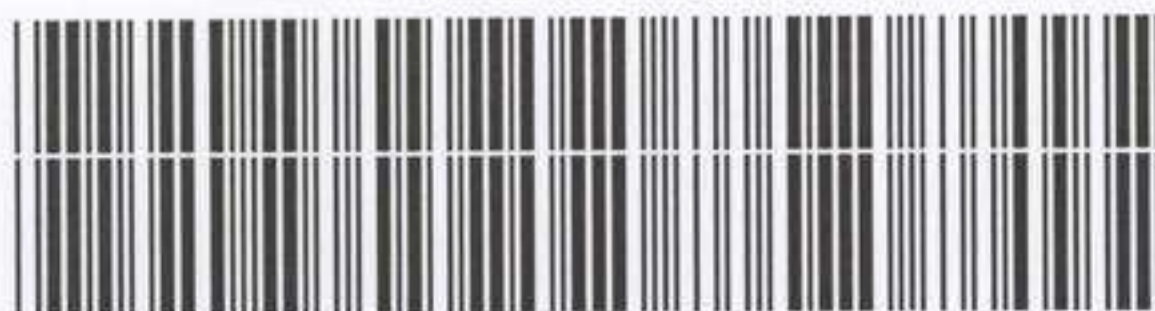
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/43/9

Title: 26th Infantry Battalion

April 1916



AWM4-23/43/9

315

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

26th Bn. A.I.F. Vol II 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Morbecque	1/4/16		Company Training: Physical Training 0930-1015. Musketry Instruction 1030-1130. Afternoon 1500-1730 Battalion Route March with full packs, about 6 miles through Hazebrouck. M.P., Bombas, signaller on specialising	
	2/4/16		Physical Exercises 0930-1015. Raining slightly. Route March by Companies 1300 to 1730. All Ranks warned that use of Cameras is prohibited to British troops. Officers & P.O. found in possession of Cameras after 7/4/16 to be tried by Court Martial.	
	3/4/16		Received instructions to leave Morbecque tomorrow by Route March.	
	4/4/16		Moved from Morbecque 1015, passed through Hazebrouck, BORRE Stazeele, Merris, arriving at Outtersteene at 1800. & billeted for the night. Hot meals prepared on kitchens during march & billeted.	
	5/4/16		Left Outtersteene 1030. Marched through La Verrier, Stenwuelle, La Monagale to L'Hallesbean, where the men were provided with huts & Officers were billeted. Arrived at 4:30 p.m.	
	6/4/16		Billeted at L'Hallesbean. Bn Commanders met G.O.C. and then went to Rue Marie & inspected new billets we will take over. Received notice to march tomorrow. Men billeted until 7 p.m.	
	7/4/16		when march commenced by Companies to Arrandieres, via Erquinham. Lys and took up billeting area of "D" reserve Bn from Scottish Bn (H. Tyneside) at 10 p.m.	
	8/4/16		All men in billets. Defence scheme formulated & discussed with Officers. Received notice to go into trenches on night of 12 th /13 th .	Gen J. Ferguson C/o 26 th Bn

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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26th Br. A.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Rue Marle	9.4.16	--	In billets. Raining. 2 nd in command & asst. Adjutant to visit trenches on 10/4/16.	
	10.4.16	--	Proportion of Officers and N.C.Os. visited trenches to see portion Br is taking over of the firing line.	
	11.4.16		I visited sector of firing line to be taken over by 26 th Br. (A Br.) Adjutant also attended.	
Trenches 57-61	12.4.16		Specialists, m/c. took over during daylight. Br. moved into sector 57 to 61. Took over from C.O. 28 th Br.	
	13.4.16		Generals Sir N.P. Beidwood, J.G. Legge and J. Paton visited trenches. We commenced repairs to beach boards, trenches &	
	14.4.16		draining communication trenches, repairing parapets. Our Artillery active 3 to 4 pm., three shells dropped short into our salient. Our wire in front of 59 requires attention. Received notice to move out of trenches next 17/18.	
	15.4.16		Enemy opened artillery on communication trench, Park Row Avenue. One 77 mm. came right through front parapet into dugout killing Capt Jackson, wounding Sgt Fielding both m/c section.	
	17.4.16		Party of Officers & N.C.Os. proceeded to take over billets from 29 th Br. Handed over to 28 th Br. B Coy	
	18.4.16		less 2 platoons proceeded to Zone De Berg and Paradise Alley. A Coy to Bois Grenier line. 'C' Coy to billets at L'Arme 2 platoons B Coy. to billets south of Rue Marle. A Coy to billets Rue Marle.	
	19.4.16		In billets. Inspected D Company in Bois Grenier lines & 2 Platoons of B Coy. Zone De Berg & Paradise Alley.	
	20.4.16		2 nd in command inspected billeting areas.	
	21.4.16		In billets. 22/4/16. Visited to Berthem by 2 nd in command for 240 French Mortar and silence demonstration	
	24.4.16		Received notice to take over same trenches 57 to 61 on night of 25/26 inst. 25/4/16. Took over without a hitch.	
	26.4.16		Artillery demonstration by batteries supporting 7 th Australian Infantry Brigade at 12.10 pm. French Mortar Batteries carried out ranging simultaneously with the Artillery fire. Enemy retaliated on salient & communications without result.	
	27.4.16		Gas alarm reported from our left. First by sounding of Gas Alarms and by telegram. Our Artillery opened violent fusillade on enemy's parapets. All ranges acted promptly in adjusting Gas helmets. Got signal at 10.15 pm. Stopped artillery 10.30 pm.	
	28.4.16		Generals Russell Johnston (N.Z.) & J. Paton inspected trenches.	

Gen. H. Ferguson
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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26th Battalion A.I.F.

405

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Trenches	29.4.16		Gas attack reported North of Armentieres 12.20 am. Artillery standing by on order of Brigadier Artillery. 3 am to 4 am. enemy shelled salient, also heavy bombing. No casualties.																																																																	
do.	30.4.16		Gas again reported North of Armentieres at 2 am. No trace on our front. Wind unfavourable on Sabert. Alarms not used as information came by wire. All ranks duty warned. Officers seconded during month on dates as shown below. vide List No 2. Appointments & Promotions, 2 nd Inf Div.																																																																	
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