

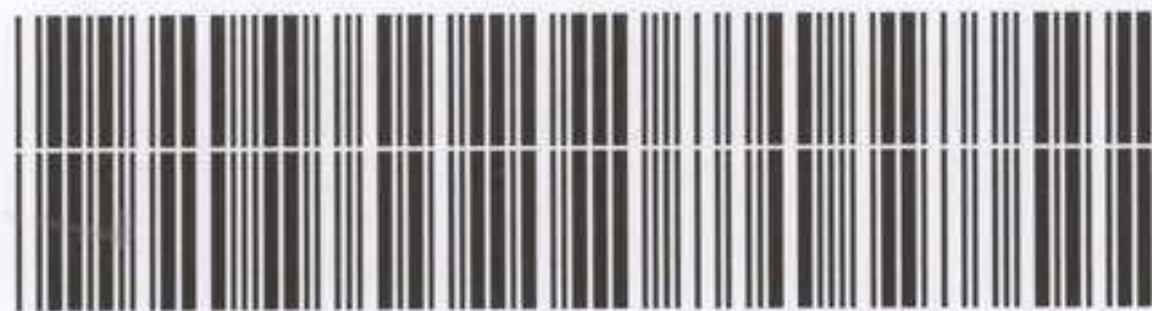
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/67/4

Title: 50th Infantry Battalion

October 1916



AWM4-23/67/4

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 70

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

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50th Bn A.I.F.

Page 10

Place	Date 1916	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tatinghem	1		March Parade. Brigadier visited Bn. 29 reinforcements arrived.	
	2		Divisional Gas Officer visited + fitted greater part of Bn with small box respirator. Also delivered lecture to all Officers & N.C.O.s. 120 men to School Fatigue. Raiding party formed + commenced training under Lieut. In Gore assisted by 2/Lts J N London + R G Goodman.	
	3		120 men to School Fatigue	
	4		120 men to School Fatigue. Evening entertainment at School for 350 men. Bn Raid	
	5		13th Inf Bde will relieve 4th Inf Bde in line on nights of 7/8th & 8/9th Oct.	
	6		49th Bn Right 51st Centre 52nd Left. 50th Reserve. Advance parties sent to PEEBLES today. Part of Raiding Party carrying out revolver practice	
			120 men to School Fatigue. Balance of Bn. to Div Baths + Range Practices	
			2nd Lt. G.O. Long + 4 O.R. transferred to 13th ALTM. Battery. 2/Lt. Mills to hospital injured shoulder. Capt. Loutit returned from leave.	
	7		Orders to move on 8th Oct.	
	8		Marched out from TATINGHEM to STMOMOLIN at 9.45 am. 6 mile march. Entrained at St. Momolin at 1.30 pm. for POPERINGHE travelling by 3 trains on narrow gauge railway. Arrived at Poperinghe 5.30 pm. at 7 pm. commenced march to DICKEBUSCH - 8 miles arrived 10 pm. Moved into reserve HQ + C + D Coys at Dickebusch - A + B Coys at VOORMEZELE. 2nd Lt. H Riggs to Hospital - 2nd Lt. F.W. Davis from Hospital. Strength 23 Officers 626 others. 8 men detached at 2nd Army School. 5 men to Prisoners of War Coy. Major R.R. Jacob (detached) rejoined.	
DICKEBUSCH	9		Whole of Bn. utilised on fatigues. Lieut. H Thornton granted three days leave to Paris.	
	10		Whole of Bn on fatigues. In addition to 11 military medals awarded for	

VOLUME V



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50th Bn A.I.F. Page 11

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1916 DICKEBUCKE	Oct-11		Operations on Somme the following have been made D.S.O. Major L.W. Jefferies Medical Officer A.M.C. attached 50th Bn. Military Crosses Capt J. Churchill Smith and Lieut R.L. Rhodes. D.O.M. No 4226 Sgt (now 2/Lt) A. Mills.	
			All available men on fatigues. No 2989 Sgt J.H. Rogers + 4168 Sgt J.E. Edwards appointed 2nd Lieuts. Dated 7th October 1916. Strength of officers 27	
		12	All available men on fatigues. Major Herbert rejoin from detached duty, resumed command B Coy. C.R.M. Sgt J. Waine app'd 2nd Lieut dated 11th Oct. Strength of officers 28	
		13	All available men on fatigues. Rooms + dugouts prepared for Drying Rooms for wet clothing. Racks erected for drying gun boots.	
		14	All available men on fatigues. Three men wounded (shell fire) one man wounded (rifle fire)	
		15	do Lieut E.J. Rule + 3 others returned from leave. Lieut P.H. Auld + 2 other ranks to 2nd Army School of Instruction. Final papers distributed in connection with polling under the Military Service Referendum Act-1916 (Australia)	
		16	All available men on fatigues. Polling day postponed until 19th inst. 26 reinforcements to arrive tomorrow. 30 Details struck off strength. 10 Enemy shells (4.2) dropped near Bn HQ 8 pm. Portion of enemy line selected for Raid. Strength of Bn 26 Officers 624 others.	
		17	All available men on fatigues. L.O. attended demonstration with contact planes. Lieut G.R. Baynes returned from hospital with 26 reinforcements. One man wounded (rifle fire) Strength of Bn 27 Officers 647 others. 2 men to hospital sick	
		18	All available men on fatigues. Senior Major (Major R.B. Jacob) + 4 other ranks granted leave to England. 4 men to Field Ambulance sick.	
		19	Bn on fatigues. 5 men to Field Ambulance (sick). Following officers received military crosses for Bn's second operations on the Somme Capt J.G. Clark, Lieut H.P. Auld 2/Lt Cheney, + Capt J. Churchill Smith (Bar to previous Cross) No 3188 Cpl G.S. Mortimore awarded	



WAR DIARY

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50th Bn A.I.F. Page 12

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1916			
DICKERBUSCH	Oct 19		P. & M. No 4168 Lt. (now 2nd Lt.) J. K. Edwards & Corporal A. F. Plummer awarded military medals. Polling commenced military Service Referendum Act (Australia) 1916. Pay drawn.	
	Oct 20		Wed day. Rain issue to fatigue parties. all available men on fatigues. Polling completed & papers forwarded London	
	21		do. Advance parties from relieving Bn (10th Royal West.	
	22		Kent 123rd Bde arrived. Orders issued for relief.	
	23		Relief commenced 3 pm. Completed 6:50 pm without any casualties. Casualties during 15 days in Reserve 5 wounded. 27 to hospital sick, mostly influenza. Battalion moved into huts at ALBERTA CAMP near RELINGHELST.	
			Last parties in by 8 pm. Strength of Bn 26 Officers 639 others.	
			Brigade will move tomorrow to PATRICIA - CONNAUGHT Camp area near BOESCHEPE. Box Respirators, Steel Helmets & Surplus Winter Clothing landed in. for transport to Somme front by rail.	
RELINGHELST	24		Resting near Rellinghelst. 2nd Lt. Barltan appointed to Bn dated 21st October, from 1st Anzac Coy. Major (Temp 2nd Lt. A. Salisbury) to be Lt Colonel dated 18th August 1916	
	25		Bn moved to Patricia - Connaught Camp area (BENOIT BOONTE) arrived 10.45 am. WEBHOEK	
WEBHOEK	26		Bn entrained at HOROUTRE SIDING & left at 5 pm. Arrived at ST RIQUIER 4 am, 27/10/16	
BUSSUS - BUSSUEL	27		Bn entered 4th Army Area having left 2nd Army Area on 26th inst. Left St Riquier at 2 pm & arrived BUSSUS - BUSSUEL	
	28		Inspection of Arms Equip. etc. Major Herbert. HQ. Lieut W.R. Boreford & 2nd Lt. S. P. Greene & 9 other ranks transferred to Training Battalion	
	29		Church Parade. Strength of Bn 23 Officers 633 others. Capt. F.H. Hancock returned from Hospital. 3 Reinforcement officers joined	
	30		Strength of Bn 27 Officers 630 others.	
	31		Bn inspected by Div Comdr. Major R.B. Jacob returned from leave. 11 men & 10 mules transferred to Pack Transport Troop	
			Coy & Bn attack practice	

H. Salisbury Lt. Col. C.O. 50th Bn

