

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/69/8

Title: 52nd Infantry Battalion

November 1916



AWM4-23/69/8

SUMMARY.

52nd BATTALION.

13th INF. BRIGADE.

4th AUST. DIVISION.

Oak Hill
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Date	Place & Time	Remarks and referenc to appendices etc.A
1.11.16.	BUIGNY L'ABBE.	Training of Battalion. Preparation for move. Major E. SUMMERHAYES reported to 4th Brigade Headquarters. Lieut. J.O. SMITH reported for duty: 19 Reinforcements T.O.S.
2.11.16.	MOUFLERS	Marched here. Started at 9.0.a.m., arrived noon, Headquarters and 1 Coy here, 3 Companies at AUCHELLES. Billets fair.
3.11.16.	St. VAST	Marched via FLEXICOURT, left at 8.0.a.m., arrived at 1.0.p.m. Very heavy march.
4.11.16.	" "	Inspection of feet, equipment etc, for shortages. General cleaning up.
5.11.16.	" "	Church parade. Cpl. C.E.A. CHALMERS. left to join Cadet Battalion.
6.11.16.	" "	Brigade stunt., Battalion in attack. Aerial support and co-operation.
7.11.16.	BUIRE.	Marched to VIGNACOURT and ambussed, leaving at 8.0.a.m. ambussed at 10.0.a.m. arrival at BUIRE at 3.10.p.m. Transport was marched as Brigade Transport.
8.11.16.	"	Route march and Coy Training.
9.11.16	"	Route march in morning and Company training in afternoon.
10.11.16.	"	Route march in morning and Company training in afternoon. Everything very muddy for last three days.
11.11.16.	"	Dumped packs, blankets and surplus gear. Brigade stunt in afternoon in fighting order.



DWB

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SUMMARY.

52nd BATTALION.

13th INF. BRIGADE.

4th. AUST. DIVISION.

DATE	Place & Time	Remarks or references to appendices-etc.
12.11.16	FRICOURT	Marched here, left at 8.0.a.m. arrived at 10.30.a.m. bivouaced under canvas shelters. Cold, without blankets.
13.11.16	DELVILLE WOOD	Marched here today. Road very muddy and heavy and traffic congested. Immediately commenced improving dug-outs and shelters.
14.11.16	"	Battalion working partly on road making and in quarry siding. Erecting AID POST for M.D. Very cold night.
15.11.16	"	working on shelters for men, salvaging parties cleaning up and finishing AID POST. Tremendous amount of salvage lying everywhere. Lieuts. WILMOTT.W.F. and ARNOTT.B. returned ex Hospital. Lieut R. DICKSON ex wounded.
16.11.16	"	Shelters and Salvage operations & Fatigues. 1 O.Rank Killed and 2 O.Rs wounded on fatigue.
17 20.11.16	"	Carrying parties and fatigue work absorb all available men in Batta. 1 O.Rank wounded on fatigue.
18 21.11.16	"	Fatigues and working parties, all other men building shelters and dug-outs etc., Salvage operations go on. 76 Reinforcements arrive.
19 22.11.16	"	Battalion working parties take every available man. Capt A.H.FRASER seconded for duty as Staff Captain 4th INF.BDE. Dated 24.10.16. vide A.I.F.List III.

WAR INTELLIGENCE
SUMMARY.

(SHEET 3.)

Dalane Col

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52nd BATTALION.

13th INF. BRIGADE.

4th AUST. DIVISION.

Date	Place & Time.	Remarks and appendices-attached-
		Working parties absorb all Battalion strength.
20.11.16	DELVILLE	
	WOOD	Fatigues and working parties take all available men.
21.11.16		
		Battalion absorbed in fatigues.
22.11.16		
		Brigade working parties use all available men
23.11.16	"	
		Fatigues use all men. 2/Lieut B. TARR T.O.S from 13th Training Battalion:
24.11.16		
		Ditto. (3 O. Ranks Killed and 2 wounded by a shell.)
25.11.16	"	
		Relieved of all fatigue work at 1.0.p.m. Moved out for Front Line and
26.11.16	"	Support Lines. "A" Coy moved out at 5.0.p.m. "B" "C" & "D" at 5 Minutes:
		intervals between Platoons.
28.11.16	FLERS	
		Relief completed at 11.30 a.m. No casualties. Trenches very heavy and
		muddy. Disposition "A" and "C" in Front Line. "D" "B" & 2/3 "C" in
		supports. (2 platoons) (2 platoons)
27.11.16	"	
		All available men working on Front Line, GROVE ALLEY, & HAY ALLEY.
		Misty day. Ground very heavy. Fixed collars in FLERS for drying socks
		etc. 1 Reinft and 5 Details T.O.S.
28.11.16	"	
		"D" Coy and (2 platoons) "C" Coy relieved "A" Coy in Front Line. Relief success-
		fully and quietly carried out. All other men on working or carrying
		parties. No rain yet & everything gradually drying up.
29.11.16	"	
		Everything quiet except for odd snelling. Working and carrying parties
		ON GROVE ALLEY, HAY ALLEY, and Front Line.
30.11.16	"	
		Working parties and carrying. "B" & "C" Coy getting ready to relieve
		"D" & "C". Situation normal. (2 platoons)

Dalane Col
Commanding 52nd Bn

