

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/77/6

Title: 60th Infantry Battalion

July 1916



AWM4-23/77/6

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

60TH BN.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	1916 Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
THIENNE	2nd JULY	1300	Disentrained and billeted at STEENBECQUE	
STEENBECQUE	3rd to 6th	—	Training in Route marching musketry etc.	
"	7th	1045 to 1430	Battalion marched to North eastern outskirts of MOREBECQUE and received instruction in use of Gas helmets and demonstration of gas cloud and effect of Tear bombs. Regimental Transport arrived from ABBEVILLE	See App. A.1. See App. A.2
"	8th	1115 to 2015	Marched with Brigade Group to ESTAIRES via CROIX MARRAIS and MERVILLE arrived and bivouaced at DOULIEU	
DOULIEU	9th	1130	Marched to SAILLY and billeted	
SAILLY	10th	—	Lt. Keene temporarily attached Bde. HQ Lt D B Doyle also attached Brigade HQ. Battalion in close billets	
"	11th	2000	Marched to ROUGE DE BOUT and relieved 49th Bde. in billets.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	12th	0900	C.O. visited sector to be held by Battalion, principally visiting front line trenches. Reference Brigade Trench Map, Area h. Sector extends Q.C. 15.92 to Q.C. 7.8. Battalion engaged on Divisional and Brig. fatigues.	Ref. Order No. 1 attached
ROUGE DE BOUT	13th	—	Battalion absorbed in fatigues to front line trenches.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	14th	—	Battalion engaged on fatigues in front line and communication trenches. Bde HQ moved 600 yards South West along Luvent's Road.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	15th	0530 to 1830	C.O., 2nd in Command, O.C. Companies and all available officers visited front line trenches. Preparations made for assault on enemy trenches tomorrow. Major Elliott detached to Bde HQ	
ROUGE DE BOUT	16th	—	Preparations made for assault on enemy trenches tomorrow. Major Elliott detached to Bde HQ.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	17th	—	Attack postponed owing to unfavourable weather which prevented effective artillery action. Gas alarm 11 p.m. Capt. Hewitt reported for trench duty vice Major Elliott at 1900.	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

60th Battalion

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROUGE DE BOUT	July 18 th	—	Capt. Hewitt returned to his unit. Major Elliott reported back for duty. Further preparations made for postponed assault, now fixed for tomorrow. 60 th Bn. detailed in Brigade Orders as A Bn. in attack.	
TRENCHES ON FROMELLE'S FRONT.	19 th	—	Coy. Cmdrs and all other available officers received final instructions re assault at Bata. Hdqrs. at 10 a.m. Zero time 11 a.m. Head of Battalion moved past Brigade Hdqrs. at 1.30 and marched via V.C. Saps to front line trenches under heavy enemy artillery bombardment. Friendly artillery very heavily bombarding enemy trenches. Battalion established in front line trench by 4.20, Lewis guns excepted, other casualties having occurred, some serious. At 6.44 Battalion scaled parapet and advanced in four waves, the first wave leaving at 6.45, the last at 7. The advance each wave advanced under very heavy artillery, machine gun and rifle fire, suffering very heavy casualties. Advance continued to within 90 yards of enemy trenches. The attack was held up although it is believed some few of the battalion entered enemy trenches. During the night 19/20 a few stragglers, wounded and unwounded, returned to our trenches.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	20 th	—	60 th Bn. relieved by 57 th at 7 a.m. and survivors returned to former billets. Roll call held at 9.30 a.m., 4 officers and 61 other ranks being present. Bata. concentrated in one billet 200 yards N.N.W. of Brigade Hdqrs. Orders received 20 reinforcements to arrive at 6 p.m. Postponed.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	21 st	—	20 Reinf. reported to Bn. Hdqrs. at 10 a.m. 2/Lieut L.H. Pordier attached as acting Adjutant. Bata. under Lieut. Kerr as acting C.O. Search parties searched "No Man's Land" and brought in wounded.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	22 nd	4 p.m.	Major Dugan attached as temporary C.O. Search parties brought in dead and wounded.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	23 rd		Battalion resumed ordinary duties. Supplied Bn. fatigue. Capt. Cameron attached as temporary 2nd i/c. Search parties brought in dead and wounded. 2 officers, 103 other ranks reported as reinforcements. 2nd Lieut. Diamond attached. Reinf. officers, 2nd Lt. Savage and 2/Lt. Geach & 39 other ranks took over WINTER'S NIGHT POST.	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

60th Battalion

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROUGE DE BOUT	24 th		2nd Lieut Bowen detached to 57 th for instruction in trench duties. 2nd Lieut Savage relieved 2nd Lieut Geach at WINTER'S NIGHT POST. Battalion engaged on ordinary routine.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	25 th		2nd Lieut Arter reported for duty. Battalion engaged on fatigues in morning. Battalion reorganised into companies in afternoon.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	26 th		Under Bde. instructions 2nd Lieut Savage relieved at WINTER'S NIGHT POST by 2nd Lieut Geach, and attached to 58 th Battalion for instruction in trench duties. Battalion engaged mostly on fatigues. Training of bombing teams recommenced.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	27 th		Battalion engaged on fatigues to trenches and supply dumps.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	28 th		Battalion engaged on fatigues. 2nd Lieut Diamond relieved 2nd Lieut Geach at WINTER'S NIGHT POST. Platoon at WINTER'S NIGHT POST relieved and strength reduced to 33 other ranks.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	29 th	0600 to 1500	Battalion engaged on fatigues. At 1600 moved to RIFLE VILLA and relieved B1 Coy 58 th Battalion. 58 th Battalion relieved WINTER'S NIGHT POST and 60 th fatigues at 1800. 1st Lieut ^{2nd Lieut} Geach and 2nd Lieut Arter with 90 other ranks moved into 300 yard line to assist 59 th Bn.	See Map 363.W.
ROUGE DE BOUT	30 th		2nd Lieut Diamond relieved 2nd Lieut Geach in 300 yd line at 1000. Remainder of battalion on fatigues to firing line and 300 yd line. Training of bombers continued.	
ROUGE DE BOUT	31 st		Major H.M. Duggan in command of 59 th and 60 th Bns. temporarily amalgamated for trench defence purposes. Battalion in 300 yd line and on fatigues.	

[Lt Pardon, 2nd Lieut Adjutant 60th Bn. Officer detailed