

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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>9th (S) Bttr Royal Fusiliers</u></p> <p><u>Period. March 1st - 31st 1918</u></p>	<p><i>Vol 34</i></p> <p><i>83 D. (7th)</i></p>

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H31 a 75.90 (ROUGE DE BOUT)	1918 March 1 st		Situation normal throughout the day. Usual working parties of 2 Officers and 190 O.Rs. provided - At 8.20 p.m. the enemy heavily bombarded the support and back areas of Bde on left with gas shells and H.E. His barrage caught our Left Coy H.Qn (A. Coy) which sustained 5 direct hits - The heavy fire ceased at 10.30 p.m. Casualties 1 killed 3 wounded, 5 gassed of A. Coy.	
2 nd			The Bn relieved 7 ^t Royal Sussex Regt in the right sub-sector of right Bde Left ROUGE DE BOUT at 4.0 pm - relief complete at 6.20 pm. Dispositions - B' Coy right front, 'A' Coy left front, 'D' Coy in support, 'C' Coy in reserve.	
3			Very quiet night - quiet day. At 4.30 pm our snipers shot enemy sentry opposite left front Coy.	
4			Quiet night. At 12 noon, 3pm and 6" T.M's cut wire opposite Left Front Coy.	
5			Very quiet day - little activity on Bn front.	
6			Situation normal - nothing to report. Inter-Coy relief.	
7			Day quiet - situation normal; 7 ^t Royal Sussex Regt. took over part of our front scanned out a raid with artillery support. Zero hour 4.40 am. 2 prisoners captured. Enemy retaliation nil.	
8			Everything normal - nothing to report.	
9			Enemy medium T.M's moderately active during day also enemy 77mm guns fired on our Support Line & on V.C corner.	

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Right Sub-Sector (Rt Bde)	10		Enemy 77 mm guns active again to-day during the morning. Instructions received from Brigade that Bns were to be reduced for combat to battle strength. All surplus personnel were sent back to the Transport Line in the evening. Corps expected enemy to make an attack in the morning. Starting at 7.30 pm the Bn was relieved by the 7th Norfolk Regt. Relief completed at 9.20 pm. Our relief Bn moved back to billets in SAULLY - Br 34 hrs at the factory.	
	11		Expected attack did not develop. Weather visibility excellent to-day. 5 officers + 250 OR's employed on working parties. At 6.30 pm enemy put shell gas over the railway crossing at SAULLY + fired on shelters close by.	
	12		Weather visibility very good. Some working parties as yesterday provided to-day. At 10.30 pm a hostile barrage was put down on the Support Line of the unit in front of us. Everything normal at 11.0 pm. Official notification received that the following OR has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry & devotion to duty.	
	13		N° 4402 P/C PARKER A Visibility to-day excellent. Usual working parties provided to-day of 5 officers + 250 OR's. At 9.0 pm the enemy shelled a battery situated close to Br 34 hrs. PORTUGUESE reported an expected enemy raid or attack - nothing developed.	
	14		Hostile activity artillery very active again to-day firing on back areas. Towards night the situation became normal. Usual working parties provided again to-day.	
	15		Enemy batteries again very active. A direct hit was obtained on	

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SAILLY	15		Obtained on Bn 24 Ods - which had to be evacuated between 8 - 9 am. During the afternoon Bn 24 Ods were removed to NOUVEAU MONDE in huts near the Church. Situation became normal to-wards evening. The usual working parties were provided.	
	16		D Coy was moved from SAILLY & billeted in the vicinity of Bn 24 Ods. Heavy shelling during the day. During the evening SAILLY cross-roads & Bridge were shelled with 60 HV 5·9 shells between 6 pm and 11 pm. 5 Officers & 250 O/S employed on working parties to-day. Weather visibility excellent. Usual firing on back areas by both sides. Situation normal. Working parties as usual provided.	
	17		Working parties of 4 Officers & 270 O/S provided for work to-day under CRE & Div Signal Coy. Situation normal - nothing to report.	
	18		Very wet day. Slight decrease in shelling activity especially the morning on back areas. The same working parties as yesterday provided to-day.	
	19		Weather visibility good to-day. Everything normal - usual working parties provided.	
	20			
	21		At 10.00 am the Bn ambussed at the Church NOUVEAU MONDE for the Reserve Area. Bn billeted at COTTES. All Cos in billets at 2.30 pm.	
	22		"A" Coy fired on 300 yds Range at AUCHY-LE-BOIS. "B" and "D" Cos. barked at LILLEERS. "C" Coy paraded in accordance with programme of work issued to Cos. Arrangements were made for Inter-Platoon Football Competition.	
	23		"B" Coy fired on 300 yds Range at AUCHY-LE-BOIS. "A" Coy. barked at LILLEERS. Other Companies, and N.C.O's under R.S.M. paraded according to programme. Inter-platoon Football Match 1st round was played off. Very keen platoon spirit shown. All leave cancelled. Also courses.	

M&B DIVISION

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	24		Orders received early in the morning that the Battalion was to move to LAPUGNOY. Battn. moved at 11 a.m. and arrived in billets at 2 p.m. At 8.15 p.m. orders received that the Battn. had to embark forthwith at BURBURE. Battn. marched to BURBURE and left in buses at midnight.	
	25		Travelled all night via ST POL, FREVENT, POULLENS to WARLOY, west of ALBERT arriving there about 9 a.m. At 2 p.m. Battn. moved to HENENCOURT. At 5 p.m. orders received that Battn had to move up to the front line. Reserve personnel left behind. Battn. marched via ALBERT under orders to take up line north of MONTAUBAN. Soon after leaving ALBERT, destination was changed to CARNOY where fresh orders would be received. At 10 p.m. this was again altered and we received instructions to halt by the road side and await orders.	
	26		Waited by roadside until 3 a.m. when orders were received to move back via ALBERT and to take up a position on the western bank of the R. ANCRE in front of AVELUY. Battn. in position at 6 a.m. Battn. in touch with 7th R. SUSSEX on the left, but there was a gap on the right until 10 a.m. when the 7th NORFOLKS came up and filled it. No sign of the enemy during the morning, but from mid-day onwards he could be seen dribbling forward over the high ground east of the River and down the C.T.'s. During the night the enemy made two determined attempts to cross the bridges over the ANCRE, but on each occasion was driven back by M.G. L.G. and rifle fire. At dusk there was much rifle fire from the direction of ALBERT and later we heard that it had been captured by the enemy.	