

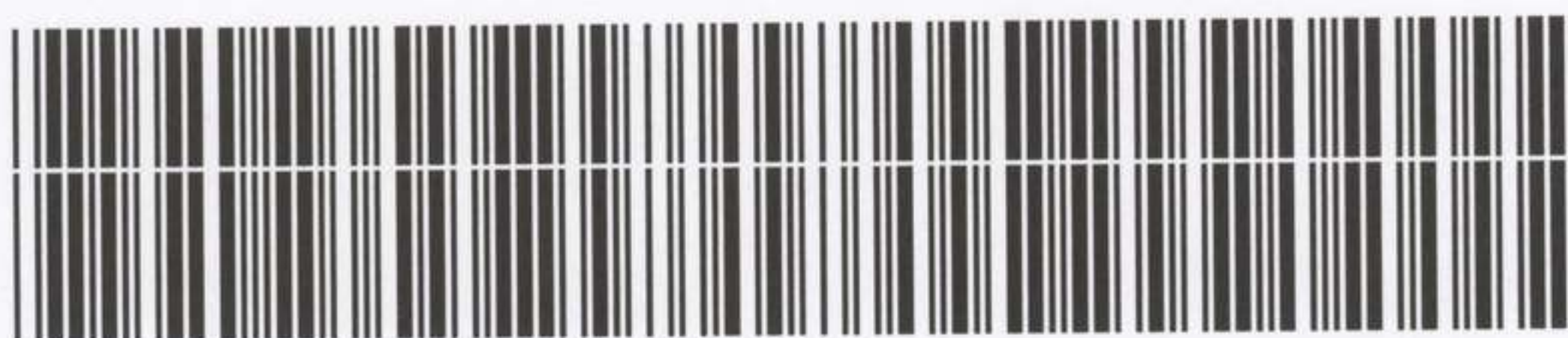
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Flying Corps

**Item number:** 8/9/20 Part 2

**Title:** 6th Training Squadron, Australian  
Flying Corps

January 1919



AWM4-8/9/20PART2



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
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TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

6th TRAINING SQUADRON, AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

FOR

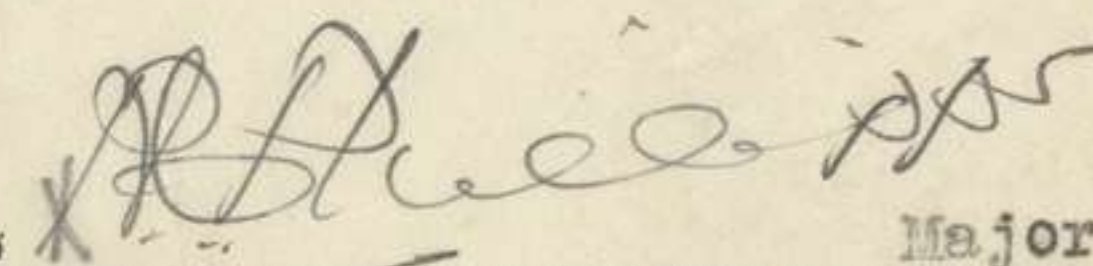
J A N U A R Y 191 4

Signature of Officer compiling



Lieut. and Adj.,  
6th Training Squadron, A.F.C.

Signature of Officer Commanding



Major  
Commanding 6th Training Squadron, A.F.C.



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.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Minchin-hampton.	1.1.19		All ranks returned after 12 days leave. Six new pupils arrived and posted to Squadron Pool. Cadets Matthews and Fry appointed 2/Lieuts. No pupils to fly solo until first flown dual. Raining all Day making Flaggimpossible.	
	2.1.19		The undermentioned Officers marched out to A.F.C. H.Q. London for return to Australian. Lieuts. Norwood, Astridge 2/Lieuts. Fisher-Webster and Hamel.	
	3.1.19		No Flying. Cadet Myers crashed an S.E.5 on first Solo. Crash caused by machine being stalled whilst coming in to land.	
	4.1.19		Authority given to wear 1914-15 Star.	
	5.1.19		Capt. Manuel appointed Flight Commander "A" Flight. 14 New Cadets reported for instruction.	
	11.1.19		Perfect Flying Day. Afternoon usual weekly washout from flying.	
	12.1.19		General Muster parade of entire Station at 1.30 P.M. for distribution of Christmas presents from Australian Comforts Funds. Aerial and Ground Photos taken of Parade. Majors Brinsmead, Barry and Henley were in attendance.	
	13.1.19		Capt. Simonsen posted to Squadron from A.F.C. H.Q. London.	
	14.1.19		Cadet Gulley reported back prior to embarkation for Australia. His face and hands are badly burnt and marred otherwise his health is sound.	
	15.1.19 )		Fortnightly Holiday and all Ranks except fatigues proceed on 48 hours leave.	
	16.1.19 )		Perfect Flying Day. Six Pupils posted from Pool to Capt. Manuel for instruction.	
	18.1.19		Cadets Cavanagh and Matthews F.L. graduated and passed Category "B".	
	19.1.19		Cadets Matthews F.L. and Cavanagh report to S.O.A. for Commissioning. Half Holiday granted by Station Commander.	
	20.1.19		General Muster Parade of all Ranks 10 A.M. Station Adjutant read Demobilisation Orders. At 11.30 Col. Watt O.B.E. O.C. 1st Wing and Major Brinsmead S.O.A.1 arrived. The S.O.A. addressed the Parade and made plain "what was going on behind the scenes in London" Cheers were given for Major Brinsmead.	
	21.1.19		Lieut. Douglas crashed in Sop Pup. Squadron Commanders Conference at Wing H.Q.	
	23.1.19		General Muster Parade held 2 P.M. at which Col. Watt presented to all Ranks copy of the King's Message to the R.A.F. Recommendations for M.S.M. submitted to 1st Wing.	
	24.1.19		Lieut. posted to and to command "B" Flight vice Lieut Douglas to Hospital.	
	25.1.19		Lieut. Robertson stranded at Blandford in an S.E.5 being unable to return owing to Enging	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A10266) WtW 5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 22 Forms/C2118/16



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	26.1.19		Lieut. Robertson's machine being railed from Blandford. Sgt. Hoyes appointed T/W.O.L	
	27.1.19		Five Cadets posted from Squadron Pool to Lt. Cox.	
	28.1.19		Notification of cessation of flying on 15th March 1919 received.	
	29.1.19)		Fortnightly holiday. All ranks except fatigues proceed on 48 hours leave.	
	30.1.19)			
	31.1.19		Cadet Gulley victim of serious Aerplane crash receives commission.	



# WAR DIARY

OF

6th TRAINING SQUADRON, AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

FOR

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JANUARY

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## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Squadron Commander's Report.
2.	Copy of Squadron Record Book.
3.	Weather Report.
4.	Gunnery Report.
5.	Wireless Report.
6.	

*Geo. P. Matthews*  
for Lieutenant and Adjutant,  
6th Training Squadron, Australian Flying Corps.





SQUADRON COMMANDER'S REPORT     January 1919

Generally speaking, January proved a most satisfactory period as far as training was concerned. Impossible weather conditions rendered almost half of the month impracticable for training.

Repatriation and demobilisation under the precedence Roll System was not applicable to Training Squadrons, these being technical Units who expected to resume Normal work after the Armistice was signed. The gradual depletion of the working Staff made the task more onerous on those left. Thus it was that the Squadron passed through a critical period; the mechanics fearing that they were not getting the consideration that they felt they were entitled to. On January 20th a full muster parade was held when all the information concerning demobilisation was read to them by the Station Adjutant. Major Brinsmead S.O.A.I., from London, in a clear concise lecture explained the situation to all ranks. He definitely promised probationary Commissions to all Cadets who had not completed their Training. Their feelings were greatly relieved when Major Brinsmead announced the fact that the Squadrons would be returning as complete units.

Four Pupils graduated and passed Category "B". Category "A" was passed by these pupils.

Thanks to the unfailing care and thoroughness of Instructors no fatal accidents occurred. This makes four months in succession without a pilot or Pupil being even seriously injured and reflects great credit on all ranks concerned.

*W. H. ...*  
Major

Commanding No. 6 T.S. A.F.C.



WEATHER REPORT.

6th Training Squadron, A.F.C.

January 1919.

Day of month	Weather conditions	Possible flying hours
1.	Squadron on 'Xmas leave	N i l
2.	-do-	N i l
3.	Fine and clear , gale later	4
4.	Slight mist, snow and fog later	4
5.	Heavy fog and mist	N i l
6.	Slight mist, clear later	5
7.	Fine and clear	8
8.	Rain and mist	4
9.	Rain, mist and strong winds	N i l
10.	Heavy rain, fine and clear later	4
11.	Early fog, clear later	8
12.	Fine and clear	8
13.	Fine and clear, fog later	4
14.	Heavy fog, mist and rain	N i l
15.	Mist and rain, clear later.	4
16.	Heavy rain	N i l
17.	Heavy rain	N i l
18.	Fine and clear	9
19.	Fine and clear, mist & snow later	5
20.	Rain and snow	N i l
21.	Rain and heavy fog later	N i l
22.	Fine and clear	9
23.	Fine and clear	10
24.	Fine and clear	10
25.	Fine and clear early, rain later	5
26.	Rain and mist	N i l
27.	Showery and snow	4
28.	Rain and snow, clear later	3
29.	Rain and snow	N i l
30.	Rain and snow	N i l
31.	Heavy rain	N i l

*Geo. T. Matthews* 2/19

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WAR DIARY.

6th Training Squadron,  
Australian Flying Corps.

Minchinhampton - Glos.  
January, 1919.

GUNNERY REPORT.

Report of the Ground and Aerial Gunnery Training of No. 6  
T.S., A.F.C. for the month ending 31st January 1919.

High training was dropped and elementary training  
was given on both Vickers, and Lewis guns to new pupils of  
No. 5 and 6 Squadrons.

The pupils numbering 54 were divided into 5 classes  
and attended lectures 2 hours per day, averaging 10 pupils  
per class. Classes as follows:-

9 a.m. to 10 a.m.	Classes No. 1 and 4.
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.	" No. 2 and 5.
11 a.m. to 12 noon.	" No. 3 and 1.
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.	" No. 4 and 2.
3 p.m. to 4 p.m.	" No. 5 and 3.

The classes consisted of 31 pupils from No. 6 T.S.  
and the remainder from 5 T.S.

Vickers instruction lasted 10 days of 19 hours  
instruction in all. Most pupils attended at least 15 hours  
instruction and all but 5 made very good progress.

On Lewis Gun instruction lasted 12 days or 23  
instructional hours altogether.

In nearly every case pupils attended at least 20  
hours for instruction. The pupils grasped the Lewis Gun  
much better than the Vickers, many having had previous  
experience as Lewis Gunners.

Aerial Firing was carried out by 5 pupils several  
of them firing more than once. Details as follows:-  
5,000 rounds were fired scoring 60 bulls and 567 minors.  
Approximately 1 shot in every 8 was a hit.

*Geo. P. Matthews*  
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WAR DIARY.

6th Training Squadron,  
Australian Flying Corps.

Minchinhampton - Glos.  
January, 1919.

WIRELESS REPORT.

During the month of January 1919, 90 pupils  
(Officers and Cadets) have been training in Morse or  
buzzer circuits in both receiving and sending up to the  
R.A.F. standard required - 8 words per minute.

Also instructed and passed out in sending and  
receiving on silent key and lamp, and morse inking machines.

Attendance generally has been good.

Only 24 pupils are now left to complete their  
training in Morse.

*Geo. Matthews*  
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