

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

Flying Corps

Item number: 8/9/5 Part 2

Title: 6th Training Squadron, Australian
Flying Corps

October 1917



AWM4-8/9/5PART2

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

October 1917

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tern Hill.	1917. Oct. 1st		<p>Squadron not yet up to strength, which is as follows)- Squadron Commander, 3 Flight Commanders, 1 Equipment Officer, 1 Adjutant, 4 Assistant Instructors (making eight Instructors with Squadron and Flight Commanders), 1 Regiment Sergeant-Major (W.O. 1st Class, Discipline), 1 Technical Sergeant-Major (W.O. 1st Class), 5 Flight Sergeants, 12 Sergeants, 2 Clerks General, 1 Clerk Pay, 1 Clerk Stores, 19 Engine Fitters, 7 General Fitters, 5 M.T. Fitters, 2 Turners, 23 Riggers, 4 Sailmakers, 24 M.T. Drivers, 4 Motor Cyclists, 6 Carpenters, 3 Armourers, 3 Wireless Operators, 1 Vulcanizer, 2 Storemen, 1 Oxy. Acetelene Welder, 2 Electricians, 2 Coppersmiths, 2 Blacksmiths, 1 Tailor, 1 Shoemaker, 4 Cooks, 12 Batmen. Total Establishment 10 officers, 151 Other Ranks. Total Strength on date 8 officers 136 others. This week 30 T.S. was orderly Squadron for the Station and provided fire piquets and station guard. Cadets Cameron A.C.G., Couston A., Martin C.H., Lord J.S.W., transferred from 29th T.S..A.F.C. Shawbury. "A" Flight, Sopwith Bombers, renamed "B" Flight, and "B" Flight, Avros, renamed "A" Flight. Captain, J.L. Middleton reported back on completion of course at School of Special Flying, Gosport. Lt.-Colonel E.H. Reynolds, accompanied by Major Broun and Captain Brinsmead called on a tour of inspection, and left to-day for Castle Bromwich. Times flown 32 hrs. 5 mins.</p>	
	2nd		<p>2/Lt. R.H. Harmer transferred from 71st Squadron A.F.C. Castle Bromwich. Cadets J.W. Davies and A.W. Adams transferred from 34 T.S. Tern Hill. No.(Aus.) 5041 2/AM Harper J. proceeded to Western Command School of Cookery, Warrington, for instruction. Five reinforcements reported from A.F.C. Depot, Wendover. 2/Lt. W.D. Layton transferred to Brigade Non-Effective Officers Pool. Time flown 35 hrs. 30 mins.</p>	
	3rd		<p>2/Lts. G.B.H. Lefroy, S. Napper, R.H. Edelston, J. Cottle, A.C. Tallent and Cadet L. Benjamin proceeded to Scholl of Aerial Gunnery, Turnberry. DH5 B.4911 received by air from A.A. Park, Lincoln. DH5 A.9286 received from A.R.S. Time flown 12 hrs. 5 mins.</p>	
	4th		<p>Cadet Courtney J.G. A.F.C. granted leave 3.10.1917 to 9.10.1917. No.(Aus.) 68 2/AM Lett A. reported back from Course at School of Technical Training, London. No flying to-day.</p>	
	5th		<p>2/Lt. H.J.W. Collins reported back from School of Special Flying, Gosport. Time flown 70. D. & L. London, E.C. 3. (18009) Wt. 1777/12231 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14</p>	

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Tern Hill.	1917 Oct. 6th		<p>A Court of Inquiry consisting of Capt. J.L. Middleton President, and 2/Lts. G.A. Paul and Lieut. F.W. Kitto as Members assembled to inquire into the accident resulting in serious injuries to No.(Aus.) 6606 2/AM Milburn H. No.(Aus.) 6606 2/AM Milburn H. admitted to Military Hospital, Prees Heath with injuries received as result of an aeroplane accident. Four men granted service leave. 2/Lt. C.B.H. Crosbee granted leave from 6.10.1917 to 10.10.1917. Time flown 10 hrs. 40 mins.</p>	
	7th		No.(Aus.) 1591 2/AM Denham F.C. reported back from Course of Instruction at CF.S. Upavon. Time flown 4 hrs.	
	8th		Captain J.R. Duigan A.F.C. proceeded to School of Special Flying, Gosport. No.(Aus.) 12678 Sgt. Thomson J. marched out to, A.I.F. Headquarters and struck off strength. Avro (Mono.) B.4214 allotted to A.R.S. Time flown 10 hrs. 35 mins.	
	9th		Lieut. H.E.R. Fitchat evacuated to Military Hospital, Prees Heath (Natural Causes). Time flown 9 hrs. 50 mins.	
	10th		2/Lt. J.E. Hobson transferred to 16th T.S. Beaulieu for further instruction. Time flown 22 hrs.	
	11th		Sopwith Bomber A.6904 re-allotted to A.R.S. No.(Aus.) 989 2/AM HILL W.A. reported from 71st T.S. A.F.C. Castle Bromwich. No. 2677 Flight Sgt. Cox F. R.F.C. attached proceed to 53 T.S. Narborough. Time flown 26 hrs. 40 mins.	
	12th		Squadron paraded for pay at 3 p.m. to-day. 2/Lt. C.B.H. Lefroy, H.B. Richardson, C.H. Crosbee proceeded overseas. Time flown 16 hrs. 50 mins.	
	13th		No.(Aus.) 474 2/AM Watkins I. reported from A.I.F. Headquarters. Nine men reported from A.F.C. Depot, Wendover. 2/Lt. Taplin L.E. proceeded overseas. Time flown 22 hrs. 15 mins.	
	14th		Bi-weekly holiday. No flying.	

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Tern Hill.	1917 Oct. 15th		One man admitted to Lord Derby War Hospital, Warrington (natural causes). Time flown 20 hrs. 40 mins.	
	16th		Sopwith Bomber A.5964 re-allotted to A.R.S.. Avro (Mono.) B.4214 received from A.R.S. DH5 A.9287 re-allotted to A.R.S. Sopwith Bomber A.6945 re-allotted to A.R.S. Two men admitted to Military Hospital, Prees Heath, one the result of an accident, one natural causes. Time flown 19 hrs. 5 mins.	
	17th		Cadet J.S.W. Lord was admitted to Prees Heath Military Hospital, natural causes. Time flown 10 hrs. 5 mins.	
	18th		DH5 B.4905 received from A.R.S. 2/Lts. Benjamin L. A.F.C., K. Gottle, A.C. Tallent, and R.H. Edelston, R.F.C. reported from School of Aerial Gunnery, Turnberry. The Rt. Hon. Andrew Fisher, PC., High Commissioner for Australia accompanied by Captain Brinsmead and others on a tour of inspection of the Australian Squadrons paid a visit in the afternoon and addressed officers and other ranks of the Squadron, together with Australian Cadets from RFC Squadrons on the Station, in one of the Hangars, on account of threatening weather. Mr. Fisher expressed appreciation of the Squadron's progress. Time flown 10 hrs. 5 mins.	
	19th		2/Lt. H.C.W. Collins transferred to No. 3 T.D.S. Stockley. Time flown 18 hrs. 20 mins.	
	20th		Station Orderly Squadron for the week. Sopwith Bombers A.6403 and A.6405 received from 43 T.S. 2/Lt. W.J. Warneford transferred from 53rd Battn. A.I.F. as from 21.8.1917. Captain L.P. FAY, MC. transferred from Permanent Super. List. as from 4.9.1917. Captain J.R. Duigan reported back from School of Special Flying, Gosport. Time flown 21 hrs. 5 mins.	
	21st		Time flown 5 hrs. 15 mins.	
	22nd		Cadets G. Cox, E.D. Grant, and G.W. Hope transferred from 29th T.S. A.F.C. Shawbury. Sopwith 2 Seaters A.5239 and A.7781, A.8241, received by air from 25th Wing. Sopwith Bomber A.6903 re-allotted from 30th T.S. to A.R.S. No.(Aus.) 48 Sgt. Player S. N.C.O. Pilot, transferred from 66 T.S. Shawbury. Time flown 11 hrs. 10 mins.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tern Hill.	1917 Oct. 23rd		<p>2/Lt. F.W. Sheppard proceeded overseas. Court of Inquiry assembled by order of Major G.A.C. Cowper to inquire into the cause of the accident resulting in the death of 2/Lt. S.H. Smith, R.F.C. this day. President, Captain J.L. Middleton, R.F.C., Captain W.J. Cooper and 2/Lt. A.S. Paterson, A.F.C. Members. The Court found that 2/Lt. Smith met his death as the result of an accident caused as a result of his having lost control of his aeroplane. Time flown 16 hrs. 40 mins.</p>	
	24th		<p>Service leave of six days granted to four men. Time flown 7 hrs. 20 mins.</p>	
	25th		<p>2/Lts. L.C. Jordan, J.H.T. Davies, T.F.N. Alexander, F.A. Sobey, and A.W. Keight reported from 6 T.S. Castle Bromwich. Lieut. H.E.R. Fitchat reported back from Military Hospital, Prees Heath. Five N.C.Os. transferred to No. 33 T.S. (Nucleus Flight) Tern Hill. No.(Aus.) 6270 Sgt. Carver E. reported to Prees Heath for Course of Instruction in Anti-Gas. 2/Lt. S.H. Smith, R.F.C. buried at Stoke-on-Tern, with full military honours. Party of Officers, Cadets, N.C.Os. and men followed the remains to the Graveside, four officers acting as Pall-Bearers. Gun-Carriage, Bugle Band, Firing Party, were supplied by the Command at Prees Heath. Officers and Cadets at Tern Hill Station, and N.C.O.s. and men of 30 T.S. sent wreaths. XXXXXXXX Time flown Nil.</p>	
	26th		<p>Squadron paraded for pay at 1.15 p.m. 2/Lt. G.H.M. Potts A.F.C. transferred to 66 T.S. Yatesbury. 2/Lt. L. Benjamin and 2/Lt. D.G. Clark proceeded overseas. Captain W.J. Cooper, A.F.C. transferred to A.F.C. Depot, Wandover. One man transferred to No. 1 Command Depot, Perham Down. Lechdeacon Ward addressed all ranks of 30th T.S. in the Regimental Institute at 9, a.m. on V.D. Time flown 45 mins.</p>	
	27th		<p>Time flown 24 hours.</p>	
	28th		<p>Bi-weekly holiday. No flying.</p>	
	29th		<p>Lieut. Stafford A.F.C. transferred from E.F. 2/Lts. G.A. Paul, and A.S. Paterson, transferred to A.Sub-Pool, Hersley Park. 2/Lt. Clark A.G. A.F.C. proceeded overseas. 2/Lt. J.H.G. Davies transferred from 6 T.S. Castle Bromwich. N.C.O. and two men granted 6 days leave. Time flown 11 hours 11 mins.</p>	

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Tern Hill	1917 Oct. 30th 31st		<p>2/Lts. L.C. Jordan, G.F. Bayne, R.E. Cleary transferred to this Squadron for instruction. Time flown 6 hrs. 20 mins.</p> <p>Capt. A.W.L. Ellis arrived from A.I.F. Headquarters, and is attached to No. 33 T.S. A.F.C. 2/Lts. M.R. James, W.C. Yuille, reported for instruction. At the end of the month there was a deficiency on the establishment (10 offs. 151 others) of one officer and eight men. The establishment of aeroplanes is as follows:- 6 Avros, 6 Sopwiths Bombers, and 6 DH5s. The strength at end of the month was:- "A" Flight, 6 avroes, consisting of two with 80 H.P. Gnome engines, 4 with 100 H.P. Mono. engines. "B" Flight, 3 Sopwith Bombers with 130 H.P. Clerget, 2 Sopwith 2 Seaters with 110 H.P. Clerget. "C" Flight 5 DH5s with 110 H.P. le Rhone Engines. The establishment of a Squadron Motor Transport is:- one Motor Car, 6 Light Tenders, 6 Heavy Tenders, 4 Motor Cycles, 4 Repair Lorries, and 4 Trailers. The strength of the Squadron at the end of the month was:- 1 Motor Car, 2 Light Tenders, 6 Heavy Tenders, 4 Motor Cycles, 2 repair Lorries, and 1 trailer. Time flown 27 hrs. 20 mins. Total time flown during month 386 hrs. 26 mins.</p>	

L. P. Bayne
Adjt., A.F.C.