

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

Flying Corps

Item number: 8/10/1

Title: 7th Training Squadron, Australian
Flying Corps

October 1917 - March 1918



AWM4-8/10/1

WAR DIARY

Army Form

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24/10/17.		A Nucleus Flight was selected by the Adjutant A.F.C. Training Depot, Wendover, and Captain H.D.E. Ralfe R.A.A. & A.F.C. from 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. was posted as O.C.. 2/Lieut. G.W. Walker was posted as E.O. (Stores) and Lieut. N.B. Corkhill from 8th M.G. Coy., as Gunnery Officer.	
	25/10/17.		The nucleus Flight (strength 3 Officers, 1 Sergeant, and 31 Other Ranks) marched out to Yatesbury, Wilts and were attached to No. 66 Training Squadron, R.F.C. for duty.	
	1/11/17.		The Nucleus Flight as above became the 32nd Training Squadron, A.F.C. and Squadron Order No. 1 was issued.	
	13/11/17.		The following N.C.O's marched in from No. 29 Training Squadron, Shawbury and were taken on Strength 13/11/17 :- No. Aus. 1311 F/Sgt Archer R.L. Rigger. No. Aus. 1049 Sgt Davies J.W. Fitter No. Aus. 26 Sgt King R. "M.M" Rigger No. Aus. 1854 Cpl Sinclair W. Clerk.	
	26/11/17.		The following promotion was promulgated :- No. Aus. 1788 2/A.M. Swinbourne T.A. promoted to 1st Class Air Mechanic as from 25/11/17. and then further promoted to Corporal as from 26/11/1917.	
	8/12/17.		A Muster Parade was held at 10 a.m. at the Flight Office, when each man recorded his vote on the Reinforcements Conscription Referendum.	
	22/12/17.		The following cable-gram was received from Sydney by Mre Reynolds, President of the Australian Flying Corps Comforts Fund :- "Inform Officers Commanding Flying Squadrons, Christmas Boxes delayed. Convey our greetings to all. From Flying Comforts Depot, Sydney dated 11/12/1917."	
	28/12/17.		No. Aus. 698 2/A.M. Pick F.A. was transferred to A.F.C. Depot, Wendover and struck off strength.	
	31/12/17.		No. Aus. 10269 2/A.M. Hulme A.E. transferred to A.F.C. Depot, Wendover and struck off strength.	
	5/1/1918.		No. Aus. 1854 Cpl. Sinclair W. transferred to A.F.C. Depot Wendover for posting overseas.	
	1/1/1918.		The following 2nd A.M's were promoted to 1st A.M's :- REXXANE .	

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	1/1/1918.	(Contd)	No. Aus. 100 2/A.M. Eckhardt H.G.	No. Aus. 577 2/A.M. Moore G.	
			" " 9546 " Horne M.J.	" " 9337 " Bell G.W.	
			" " 1441 " Eastoe C.C.	" " 1448 " Fredericksen N.C.	
			" " 4227 " Ramsay R.G.	" " 1722 " Armour H.	
			" " 1766 " Main H.C.	" " " "	
	9/1/18.		2/Lieut G.W.Walker E.O. 3rd Class was promoted to Lieut & E.O.2nd Class.		
	19/1/18.		In accordance with A.I.F. Orders, this Squadron was renumbered from No.32 Training Squadron,A.F.C. to No.7 (T) Squadron, A.F.C.		
	26/1/18.		1 Warrant Officer, 1 Sergt and 28 2nd A.M's were taken on strength from A.F.C.Depot, Wendover and detached for temporary duty with No. 8 (T) Squadron, Cirencester, Glos.		
	28/1/18.		1 Flight Sergt and 4 2nd A.M's were taken on strength from A.F.C.Depot Wendover and were detached for temporary duty with No. 8 (T) Squadron, A.F.C. Cirencester, Glos.		
	13/2/18.		8 O/Ranks ceased to be attached to No. 8 (T) Squadron, Cirencester and joined Nucleus Flight at Yatesbury. 3 O/Ranks marched in from A.F.C.Training Depot, Wendover.		
	14/2/18.		8 O/Ranks marched in from A.F.C. Depot Wendover and were attached to No. 8 (T) Squadron, Cirencester for temporary duty.		
	15/2/18.		1 1/AM marched in from A.F.C.Training Depot.		
	20/2/18.		Headquarters of the Squadron moved to Leighterton, Glos. and took up its quarters at Lasborough Farm about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from Leighterton Aerodrome. 35 O/Ranks ceased to be attached to No. 8 (T) Squadron for Temporary Duty.		
	23/2/18.		Major W.H.Anderson from 3rd Squadron, A.F.C. took over command temporarily. Squadron having been taken on the strength of 1st Wing, A.F.C. ceased to attached to 21st Wing, A.F.C. Nucleus Flight arrive from Yatesbury, Wilts.		
	28/2/18.		Captain T.E.Marshall, A.A.M.C. was posted as Leighterton Station Medical Officer and attached to this Squadron,		

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	1/3/18.		1 Sergt promoted Flight Sergeant. 6 1/AM's made Corporals. 12 2/AM'S appointed 1st A/M's. 1 Transport Sergt, 5 M.T.Drivers, 2 Motor Cyclists and 2 M.T.Fitters transferred to Leighterton Station M.T.Section, but remained attached for rations etc. 1 Sergt 1 Cpl and 9 O/Ranks of Leighterton Transport Section attached to Squadron for rations etc.	
	8/3/18.		No. 7 (T) Squadron, A.F.C. is appointed Station Squadron and Lieut S.Shenton Gordon, 21st Battln was posted as Adjutant. 5 batmen marched in.	
	12/3/18.		Major W.H.Anderson detached for temporary duty with 24th Wing, R.F.C.	
	16/3/18.		1 A.A.M.C. Orderly marched in from 1st A.D.H., Bulford. First Pupil 2/Lieut D.R.Williams, is taken on the Strength.	
	19/3/18.		Major W.H.Anderson ceased to be attached to 24th Wing, R.F.C.	
	21/3/18.		The following machine was received by Air from No.59 T.S., R.F.C., Rendcombe:- D.H.6 B/2775	
	23/3/18.		Squadron Office moved from Lasborough House ^{Farm} to Aerodrome. One 1st A/M transferred overseas.	
	24/3/18.		D.H.6 B/2819 received by Air from No.59 T.S., R.F.C., Rendcombe.	
	25/3/18.		1 Cpl & 2 A/M's marched out to A.F.C. Depot for transfer overseas.	
	26/3/18.		Flying Officer(2nd Lieut V.R.Abbott) reported his arrival. Major W.H.Anderson marched out to School of Special Flying Gosport. The following Machines were received by Air :- R.E.8 d/4977 and R.E.8 D/4975	
	27/3/18.		6 Pupils reported their arrival. 2/A.M. Paterson promoted ^{appointed} Actg Cpl. One 2nd A/M marched in from 3rd Squadron, A.F.C.	
	28/3/18.		One 2nd A/M marched in from No.6 T.S., A.F.C.	
	30/3/18.		Lieut D.C.Allardice reported his arrival as A/E.O.(Stores).	

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	25/10/17. to 30/3/18.		<p>The following are a few general remarks covering the period under review which could not conveniently be placed under any particular dates.:-</p> <p>Metereological <u>Metereological Notes</u>:- Flying was not commenced at this Aerodrome until 21st March on which date the first machine was received by air. The ewather conditions at that time were very variable and flying was possible for about 10 hours per day; but this was often hindered by fog, mist, rain etc.</p> <p><u>Strength and Accommodation.</u> The men were accommodated at Lasborough House until such time as the huts on the Aerodrome were completed and much difficulty was experienced in finding sufficient room for all. The position was eased somewhat whenx the first hut on the Aerodrome was ready for occupation but the scattered nature of the accommodation generally renderss administration extremely difficultx, <i>especially in the absence of telephone communication</i>.</p> <p><u>Medical.</u> The health of the troops on the whole whole has been excellent and this is the more gratifying as the men have been unavoidably much crowded together.</p> <p><u>Discipline.</u> The conduct of the tropps has been excellent and they have won a good name name for themselves in the surrounding district; their were no crimes of any description for the first month or so, but as the number strength increased a few minor cases have necessitated the holding of an occassional Orderly Room. The local civilians have shown great kindness to both Officers and men and they have been repaid by the men, for the greater part behaving in an exemplary manner.</p> <p><u>Training.</u> The Training of Pupils has been carried on under a good deal of difficulty; which has gradually become less as greater facilities for Ground Instruction and apparatus have come to hand.</p> <p><u>Establishment.</u> It has been found difficult to conform to the R.F.C. establishment as this provides for a large number of women and there is no serious shortage of men in the A.F.C. The necessity for women workers is not pressing.</p> <p>-----</p>	