

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/25/49

**Title:** 8th Infantry Battalion

January 1919



AWM4-23/25/49



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
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~~TRIPLICATE.~~

32

Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

OF

EIGHTH BATTALION

FOR

A JANUARY

1919

Signature of Officer compiling

*Smyth Lieut.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Grimesell H Col.*



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II and Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

32

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
BOUFFIOULX (Belgium)	1919															
	Janr.															
	1st		<p>To-day being granted a holiday the troops availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting friends in neighbouring villages.</p> <p>Major R.J. Wallis, M.C. returned from S.O.S. ALDERSHOT and was posted for duty as Second in Command. Capt. W.T. Yates, D.S.O. resumed duty in command of 'A' Coy.</p>													
	2nd		<p>Weather fair. Battalion formed up at 0900 and marched to parade ground. Battalion went through Battalion Drill, Coy. Drill and platoon in attack; afternoon, recreational training. 'B' Grade Football Team played a team from Brigade H.Q. on our own ground. Our team had an easy win.</p>													
	3rd		<p>Lieut. T.W. Johnstone, M.C. proceeded on leave to U.K.</p> <p>Battalion made use of the Baths at the local Coal Mine. The frequent use of these baths is much appreciated by the troops. A good change of underclothing was available. Recreational Training was carried out in the afternoon.</p> <p>Lieut C.P. Cook marched in from Hospital and was posted to 'D' Coy for duty.</p> <table><tr><td>Strength</td><td>Present</td><td>22</td><td>Officers</td><td>512</td><td>Other Ranks</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Detached</td><td>10</td><td>"</td><td>138</td><td>" "</td></tr></table>	Strength	Present	22	Officers	512	Other Ranks		Detached	10	"	138	" "	
	Strength	Present	22	Officers	512	Other Ranks										
	Detached	10	"	138	" "											
4th		<p>Battalion formed up but owing to weather being unfavourable, no training was carried out. Half holiday in the afternoon.</p> <p>During the morning, the Official Photographer visited Battalion and took photos of each Coy, Headquarters Details, Officers of Battalion, Sergeants of Battalion. These have been taken for records in connection with A.I.F. War Museum.</p> <p>Syllabus of training for week ending 11th January, 1919.</p>														
5th		<p>Church Parade was held in Cinema Hall at 1030 in conjunction with the 5th Battalion. Padres Irwin and Petherick officiated.</p>	Appendix 1													
6th		<p>Battalion carried out Ceremonial Drill during the morning to prepare for the presentation of colours in the near future. Afternoon was spent in Recreational Training.</p> <p>Lieut. H. Eccles DCM and Lieut J.H. Pike returned from U.K. Leave.</p>														

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BOUFFIOULX	Jan 7th		<p>During the morning, troops attended a lecture on Chemistry in the Cinema Hall. The lecturer was Private W. Gilbert of this Battalion.</p> <p>Battalion 'C' Grade Football Team played 7th Battalion on 7th Battn Ground where an exciting game, was witnessed and resulting in a win for 7th Battalion by a few points.</p> <p>The following awards appeared in London Gazette, No. 31092, dated 1.1.19.</p> <p>Capt E. Freeman - Awarded Military Cross.</p> <p>Capt A.G. Campbell, D.S.O. ) 399 RSM J.S. Gordon, M.M. )</p> <p>Mentioned in Sir D. Haig's Despatch, dated 8.11.18.</p>	
	8th		<p>Battalion formed up at 0845 and carried out training as per Syllabus.</p> <p>A leave party of 3 Officers ( Capt A.G. Campbell, DSO, Lieuts. H. Fenton &amp; R. Woodhouse ) and 29 O/Ranks proceeded to Brussels for two days leave. These parties will be leaving Charleroi for Brussels every ten days. The railway fares have been reduced and a Leave Club has been established at Brussels for catering for the comfort of the troops on arrival.</p> <p>During the afternoon, a soccer match was played between 5th and 8th Battn teams and resulted in a win for 5th Battalion.</p>	
	9th		<p>Weather very dull but cleared up during the day. Battalion formed up at 0845 and marched to <del>Parade Ground</del> Battalion Rifle Range where Rifle firing was carried out.</p> <p>'D' Coy supplied Brigade Guard of 2 Sergeants, 2 Corporals and 12 men taking over duties at Brigade H.Q. at LOVERAL.</p> <p>Lieut. E.L. Gilmour MM transferred from 'D' Coy to 'B' Coy.</p> <p>Football match between 6th battn and 8th Battn resulted in a win for our team after a fair display of football.</p> <p>A lecture was also given in the afternoon on 'Poultry Farming' by Pte Trebilcock.</p> <p>Lieut. C. Kerr proceeded on U.K. Leave.</p>	
	10th		<p>Battalion made use of baths at the Coal Mine in the morning. Recreational Training was carried on with during the afternoon.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
BOUFFIOULX	Janr											
	10th		<p>Lieut. W.D.N. Hooper proceeded to England on Leave, reporting to Administrative H.Q. London en route for return to Australia. Capt. W.T. Yates, D.S.O. and 9 O/Ranks visited Charbonnage, Bourbon No. 1 - a local coal mine. This mine is recognised as one of the best in the district - the works and machinery being very up to date. An interpreter was supplied by the Belgian Mission and the trip should prove of utmost value to those who visited the workings of the mine.</p> <p>Coys. held a thorough inspection to-day of all kits in order to check deficiencies.</p> <table><tr><td>Strength</td><td>Present</td><td>20 Officers</td><td>482 O/Ranks</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Detached</td><td>13 "</td><td>196 O/Ranks</td></tr></table>	Strength	Present	20 Officers	482 O/Ranks		Detached	13 "	196 O/Ranks	
	Strength	Present	20 Officers	482 O/Ranks								
		Detached	13 "	196 O/Ranks								
	11th		<p>Battalion carried out training as per Syllabus. A lecture had been arranged to be delivered by Rev. W. Weston on "Japan", but unfortunately this had to be cancelled.</p> <p>During the afternoon, 8th Battalion played Brigade H.Q. 'A' Grade football Team on our ground. After a very poor display of football, our team won easily.</p> <p>A gymnasium and boxing rooms have been established and are proving popular resorts for the troops, judging by the number patronising same.</p>									
12th		<p>Battalion Church Parade was held in Cinema Hall, Bouffioulx. 5th Battalion also attended same service. Padres Irwin and Petherick officiated.</p> <p>This Battalion having been selected to provide a Guard for Corp Commander at Corps Headquarters, a Guard consisting of 1 Officer (Lieut T. Anderson, MC, DCM) 2 Sergeants, 2 Corporals, 1 Lance Corporal, 24 men and 1 Cook, proceeded from here by motor lorries to Corps Headquarters. Owing to the Brass Band being out of action, the band of 7th Battn accompanied the Guard.</p> <p>A party of 3 Officers ( Capt W.T. Yates, DSO, Lieut T.H. Witherden, Chap. Irwin) and 20 O.RS proceeded to NAMUR on leave.</p> <p>Lieut. A.D. Temple M/C and Lieut. R.W. Dowling M.C. rejoined from U.K. Leave. 27 O/Ranks proceeded to Base en route to Australia on furlough.</p>										
13th		<p>Weather very dull and cold. Battalion carried on with Training as per Syllabus. In the afternoon, Recreational Training and organised games were carried out.</p>	Appendix ii									

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
BOUFFIOULX	Janr 13th		The Divisional Concert Party "The Sentimental Blokes" is having a very successful run at Chatelet, and the programme submitted to patrons is one that reflects great credit on the artists.									
	14th		<p>The Battalion made use of Baths at Coal Mine in the morning from 0830 to 1200 and every man availed himself of same.</p> <p>Afternoon was devoted to Recreational Training.</p> <p>The re-organisation of the Battalion took place to-day. This has become necessary owing to the large drafts leaving for Australia, and also men leaving for attachment to Workshops etc.</p> <p>The Battalion was reformed, consisting of Headquarters and two Companies - 'A' and 'D' Coy. Capt W.T. Yates, D.S.O. commanding, 'A', and Capt A.G. Campbell, D.S.O. commanding 'D' Coy.</p> <p>Lieut J.H. Pike was evacuated to Hospital.</p> <table><tr><td>Strength</td><td>Present</td><td>20 Officers</td><td>445 Other Ranks</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Detached</td><td>12 "</td><td>208 " "</td></tr></table>	Strength	Present	20 Officers	445 Other Ranks		Detached	12 "	208 " "	
	Strength	Present	20 Officers	445 Other Ranks								
		Detached	12 "	208 " "								
	15th		<p>Owing to wet weather, Rifle Firing was cancelled and Battalion carried on training in billets.</p> <p>The C.O. attended Brigadier's Conference at Brigade Headquarters.</p> <p>Lieut L. Armott returned from Hospital and was posted to 'D' Coy for Duty.</p> <p>The Namur leave party which left the Battalion on 12th inst returned during the day.</p>									
16th		<p>Weather fine. Battalion formed up at 0845 and marched to Parade Ground where training as per Syllabus was carried out. The afternoon was devoted to football, a match between our 'B' Grade team and 7th Battn resulting in an easy win for our team. Five of our eighteen were officers and it is pleasing to note that the Officers of the Battalion are taking a keen interest in the game.</p> <p>Lieut. S.W. Young, M/C.M.M. proceeded on leave to U.K.</p>										
17th		<p>Battalion made use of baths at Coal Mine. A clean change of underclothing was also obtainable.</p> <p>Afternoon - Recreational Training.</p> <p>Lieut. C. Brumby marched in from leave to U.K.</p> <p>2nd/Lieut. R. Corbett marched in from General Reinforcements and was posted to 'A' Coy.</p> <p>2nd/Lieut. H.W. Mott marched out to attend Aust. Corps P. &amp; R.T. School, Barbencon.</p>										

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOUFFIOULX	Janr 18th		<p>Weather fine. Battalion formed up at 0845. The training set down in Syllabus was cancelled and instead, the troops went for a short route march. Afternoon - holiday. Lieut. F. Hickson, M.C. returned from U.K. leave. Extract from Aust. Corps Routine Order No. 7. Honours and Awards. The following Belgian decorations have been awarded. In publishing the names of the recipients the Corps Commander wishes to convey to them his congratulations:-</p> <p>Lieut. Col J.W. Mitchell, D/S.O. - Awarded Croix de Guerre. 3674 L/Cpl W.G. Nottingham, DCM., MM. - " " " "</p>	
	19th		<p>Syllabus of training issued for week ending January 25th, 1919</p> <p>Weather keeping very fine. Battalion formed up at 0915 and marched to Cinema Hall, BOUFFIOULX for Church Parade. The 5th Battalion also attended and Padre Irwin officiated. The Church Parade was held earlier than usual in order that the troops should be present at the departure of their comrades to Australia.</p> <p>After Church Parade, the majority of the 1915 men were formed up. Prior to departure, every man received a farewell message from the C.O. The draft consisted of 3 Off. &amp; 110 O.Rs.</p> <p>The following officers marched out with draft:- Lieut. H.R. Davis, D.C.M. Lieut. C. Brumby Lieut. L. Arnott.</p> <p>In the afternoon a party consisting of 2 Officers (Lieut C.P. Cook &amp; Lieut W.G. Dunn) and 30 Other Ranks proceeded to Charleroi to entrain for Brussels, where they will spend two days leave.</p> <p>Lieut. Col J.W. Mitchell, D/S.O. and Lieut. H. Fenton proceeded on leave to Nice. Capt. P.J.F. O'Shea, D.S.O., M/C and Lieut I.G. Murdoch, M/C returned from U.K. Leave. During the absence of the C.O., Major R.J. Wallis, M.C. will assume Command of Battalion.</p> <p>Strength Present 24 Officers 456 Other Ranks Detached 9 " 177 " "</p>	<p>Appendix III.</p> <p>Appendix iv.</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOUFFIOLX	Janr	20th	Weather very fine. Battalion carried on with Ceremonial Drill but on account of weather being so cold on parade ground, it was decided to have a short route march. Afternoon - Recreational Training.	
		21st	Battalion had use of baths at local coal mine. Capt W.T. Yates D.S.O. proceeded to U.K. on Leave. Lieut. I. G. Murdoch M/C to command 'A' Coy in absence of Capt. Yates. Afternoon - Recreational Training.	
		22nd	Weather fine. The syllabus of training laid down for the day was cancelled on account of re-organisation of Battalion. Battalion is now organised on a One Company basis, consisting of Four platoons, with Battalion Headquarters and Transport. The Company will be known as 'A' Coy - Lieut I.G. Murdoch M/C - Commanding. Capt. A.G. Campbell, D.S.O. proceeded on Leave to Paris. In the afternoon, 8th Battalion 'A' Grade played 6th Battalion 'A' Grade a game of football which resulted in an easy win for our team. The game was a very poor display of football. Our team included several officers.	
		23rd	Battalion formed up at 0845 and carried out a Route March. Dress :- Drill Order. Weather - very chilly with a little snow falling. Recreational Training carried on with in the afternoon. During the morning, the Corps Commander, Lieut-Gen. Sir J.J. Talbot Hobbs, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., V.D. and Staff visited battalion and inspected the billets and Transport. Lieuts T.W. Johnstone M.C. and A.J. Rice D.C.M. returned from U.K. Leave. Lieut. H.W. Mott returned from Corps P. & R.T. School.  <u>Extract from A.I.F. List No. 433.</u>  <u>To be Lieutenants, dated 13th December, 1918.</u>  2nd/Lieut. H.T. Swindells 2nd/Lieut. L. Arnott 2nd/Lieut. A. Brewster D.C.M. 2nd/Lieut. W.G. Dunn M.M.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOUFFIOULX	Janr			
	24th		<p>Weather keeping fine but very chilly. Battalion made use of baths in the morning but a change of clothing was not available.</p> <p>In the afternoon, a lecture was given at the Cinema Hall, BOUFFIOULX, on "Demobilisation and Repatriation" by the Inspector -General of Demobilisation and Rep atriation, Brig-General W.R. McNicoll, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.</p> <p>Strength Present 22 Officers 343 Other Ranks Detached 9 " 169 " "</p>	
	25th		<p>Owing to bad weather condiction, the route march set down for to-day was cancelled. Troops carried on with training in billets.</p> <p>Although the weather was bad, the 'A' Grade Football team played 7th Battln 'A' Grade Team on latter team's ground. 7th Battalion suffered a crushing defeat. The ground was not favourable for football, being too hard and frozen. Nevertheless, a good display of football was witnessed. Syllabus of training for ensuing week issued to-day.</p> <p>2nd/Lieut. G.T. Weatheritt M.M. returned from Cadet Battalion.</p>	Appendix v.
	26th		<p>Weather very chilly - a fair amount of snow falling all day.</p> <p>Church Parade held in Cinema Hall, BOUFFIOULX, at 1030 in conjunction with 5th Battalion</p> <p>The personnel of band, having returned from leave, the Band turned out for Parade after a break of over three weeks.</p>	
	27th		<p>Training carried out as per Syllabus. Snow had been falling heavily the night previous and this morning, there was over an inch on the ground. In the case of it snowing hard and causing blockage of roads, precautions have been taken and parties detailed for clearing the roads.</p> <p>In connection with the Educational Work of the Battalion, several men marched out to-day for attachment to the Corps Workshops, JEUMONT.</p> <p>Strength Present 23 Officers 336 Other Ranks Detached 9 " 169 " "</p>	



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will be prepared in manuscript.			Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Place	Date	Hour		
BOUFFIOULX	Janr 28th		Battalion made use of baths at local coal mine in the morning. A clean change of under-clothing was obtainable. 2nd/Lieuts. R.J. Madden, W.B. Anson, and H.V. May marched in from Cadet Battalion. Lieut. C. Kerr returned from Leave. in Recreational Training was carried on the afternoon. Lieut. E.E. Jones D.C.M., M.M. returned from Leave to U.K.	
	29th		Forming up at 0845, Battalion carried out a short route march. The Battalion Leave party for Brussels (2 officers & 30 O.Rs) assembled at B.O.R. at 1230 and proceeded to Charleroi Station where they entrained for Brussels at 1430. On arrival at Brussels, party will be met by a guide from the Divisional Rest House which has been established for the comfort of all personnel from 1st Aust. Division. During the afternoon, our 'A' Grade Football Team met 5th Battalion team on latter's ground. The game which was very one-sided resulted in an overwhelming victory for our team. At 8 p.m. at the Cinema Hall, Bouffioulx, the dance arranged by the Officers of the Battalion commenced. A large number of the residents of Bouffioulx accepted the invitations issued and the dance proved a very successful function. Dancing continued till 3 a.m. next morning. The musical part of the evening was in the hands of soldier artists. Not the least pleasing feature of the evening was the catering which was excellent. 15 O.Rs were taken on strength of Battalion ex Base.	
			Strength Present 25 Officers 328 Other Ranks Detached 10 " 173 " "	
	30.		Weather very cold and, as a result, syllabus for the day was cancelled. Battalion carried out a short route march. In the afternoon at 1400, the Battalion marched to Cinema Hall, Bouffioulx, where a very interesting lecture was given by Lieut. Col Ross, C.M.G., D.S.O., who chose as his subject the "Life of Stonewall Jackson." Lieut. A.E. Mackay D.C.M. proceeded on leave to U.K. Lieut. C. Kerr marched out for attachment to D.A.D.O.S., 1st Aust. Division.	
31		The Battalion made use of baths in the morning. Afternoon - Recreational Training. The party who proceeded to Brussels on 29th inst returned after a very enjoyable trip. Lieut. R. Woodhouse marched out to U.K. on Leave.		
			<div><div><div>Sullyoung</div><div>Lieut. Commanding Officer, 8th Battalion</div></div><div><div>James Bell</div><div>Lieut. Col Commanding, 8th Battalion, A.I.F.</div></div></div>	
<div>(10342) Wt 10342 103</div>				

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# WAR DIARY

OF

EIGHTH BATTALION

FOR

JANUARY

1919

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject.   |
|-----|--|
| 1.  | Syllabus of Training for Week ending <del>5th</del> Janr. 11th |
| 2.  | Syllabus of Training for week ending 18th Janr.                |
| 3.  | Syllabus of Training for week ending 25th Janr.                |
| 4.  | C.O's Farewell Letter to Members of 'C' Draft                  |
| 5.  | Syllabus of Training for week ending 1st February.             |
| 6.  | Quarter-Masters Report for Month                               |
| 7.  | Transport Officer's Report for Month                           |
| 8.  | Medical Officer's Report for Month                             |

*Smyly*  
 .....Lieut  
 Compiling Officer, 8th Battn A.I.F.

*Smithell*  
 .....Lieut.Col  
 Commanding, 8th Battn, A.I.F.

appendix 1

32.

HEADQUARTERS

8th Battalion, A.I.F.

5th January 1919.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

for week ending 11th January 1919.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Morning.</u> 0900 to 1100	<u>Afternoon.</u> 1400 to 1530.
5th Sunday.	CHURCH PARADE.	
6th Monday.	Ceremonial.	Recreational Training.
7th Tuesday.	Lecture.	Baths.
8th Wednesday.	Ceremonial. Battalion Drill. Company Drill. Platoon Drill.	Recreational Training.
9th Thursday.	Rifle Shooting Competition (To be arranged).	Lecture.
10th Friday.	Baths.	Recreational Training.
11th Saturday.	Ceremonial. Lecture.	Half-holiday.

NOTES ON SYLLABUS.

1. Nature of lectures will be notified later.
2. All men desirous of attending Classes will fall in at 0900 and be marched to class from General Parade.
3. No classes on days set down for Ceremonial.
4. Parade states to be handed to Adjutant at 0830 daily according to pro forma forwarded to Companies.
5. Billets will be inspected daily.
6. Dress for morning parades : Drill order and waterproof sheets.
7. During wet weather training will be as directed in billets.

.....*Summing*.....Lieut & A/Adj  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.

Appendix 2  
32

# HEADQUARTERS

8th Battalion A.I.F.

11th January 1919.

## SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

for week ending 18th January 1919.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Afternoon.</u>
:	0900 to 1100	1400 to 1530.
12th Jany. Sunday.	CHURCH PARADE.	
13th Jany. Monday.	Ceremonial Battalion Drill. Company Drill.	Recreational Training and organized games.
14th Jany. Tuesday.	Baths.	Recreational Training and organized games.
15th Jany. Wednesday.	Rifle Competition all day. Battalion.	Cookers will accompany Midday meal will be served at Range.
16th Jany Thursday.	Battalion Drill. Company in Attack.	Recreational Training and organized games.
17th Jany Friday.	Baths.	Recreational Training.
18th Jany Saturday.	Ceremonial Drill, consisting of 'Presentation of Colours' and 'Trooping of Colours'.	Half-holiday.

### NOTES ON SYLLABUS.

1. On wet days, training will be carried on in billets.
2. On Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, Battalion Parades will be 'Full Strength', Educational Classes being suspended for those days.
3. Billets will be inspected by C.O. or Second in Command daily.
4. Education Classes will be held as per Syllabus issued by Educational Officer.  
Men detailed for these Classes must consider same as 'Parades' and absence from same without satisfactory reasons will be dealt with by disciplinary measures.

...*A. D. Temple*... Lieut & Adjt.  
8th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix 3

HEADQUARTERS,  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.  
18th January, 1919.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 25TH JANUARY, 1919

Date	Morning 0900 to 1100	Afternoon 1400 to 1530
19th Jan. Sunday	C H U R C H P A R A D E	
20th Jan. Monday	Ceremonial Drill Coy. Drill	Recreational Training
21st Jan. Tuesday	Baths.	Recreational Training
22nd Jan. Wednesday	R i f l e C o m p e t i t i o n s	
23rd Jan. Thursday	Route March	Recreational Training
24th Jan. Friday	Baths	Recreational Training
25th Jan. Saturday	Ceremonial Drill (Colour practice)	Half holiday

NOTES ON SYLLABUS.

1. On wet days, training will be carried on in billets.
2. Billets will be inspected by C.O. or Second in Command daily.
3. Education Classes will be held as per Syllabus issued by Education Officer.

*A. D. Temple* Lieut & Adjt  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.

appendix 4

HEADQUARTERS,  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.  
19th January, 1919.

To Officers, N.C.O's and Men of "C" Draft, 8th Battalion.

On the occasion of your departure from the Regiment in which you have served for a long period during the War with great success, I am desirous of taking the opportunity of thanking you one and all for your splendid services and for the loyal support you have given me and my predecessors in Command during many trying and strenuous times.

In the future, I am confident that we will all feel the benefit of the great lessons in comradeship we have learnt during the war with our Battalion, and I am confident that one and all in the future, whether civil or military life, will do your utmost to continue to "Play the Game" as you have done on Active Service and to uphold the honour of our old Regiment.

In conclusion boys, I can only assure you that you carry my very best wishes with you into all spheres of life and that you have a speedy and safe return to our own dear land.

Cheerio and Good Luck!

*J. M. Mitchell*  
Lieut. Col.  
Commanding, 8th Battalion, A.I.F.

Appendix 5  
32  
HEADQUARTERS,  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.  
25th January, 1919.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 1st February, 1919.

Date	Morning 0900 to 1100	Afternoon 1400 to 1530
26th Janr. Sunday	CHURCH PARADE	
27th Janr. Monday	Ceremonial Drill Coy. Drill	Recreational Tng
28th Janr. Tuesday	Baths	Recreational Tng
29th Janr Wednesday	Route March	Recreational Tng
30th Janr Thursday	Rifle Competition	
31st Janr. Friday	Kente Baths	Recreational Tng
1st Febr. Saturday	Route March	Half-holiday <del>Recreational Tng</del>

NOTES ON SYLLABUS

1. On wet days, training will be carried on in billets.
2. Billets will be inspected daily by C.O. or Second in Command.  
to work
3. Educational Syllabus will be made out/in conjunction with Training Syllabus.
4. Days when Brigade Parades or Special Parades are laid down, all men attending Educational Classes will be on parade. Men attending Educational Classes are free from Guards and duties.
5. On very cold days, after ceremonial or Coy. Drill, a short quick route march with strict march discipline may be carried out.

*A. D. Temple*  
Lieut & Adjt  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.

HEADQUARTERS,  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.  
3rd February, 1919.

QUARTER-MASTER'S REPORT FOR MONTH ENDING 31.1.19.

SUPPLIES. During the above period, supplies have not been up to the usual standard, vegetables being particularly light. Towards the end of the month, however, there seemed to be an improvement.

It may be pointed out that owing to there being insufficient sugar, there is a certain amount of wastage in the oatmeal ration.

ORDNANCE STORES.

S.D. Clothing, - Small drawals have been made to meet requirements.

Boots. - The wear and tear on boots has been considerably heavy, and the supply of boot repairing material has been slow in coming to hand. There are still a large number of complaints against the comfort of the English pattern boot.

Underclothing - As usual, changes have been made through the Divl. Laundry. It may be said that 50% of the washed clothing has to be returned owing to the unsatisfactory condition of same. The figures hereunder will indicate the drawals and returns for the month:-

	<u>Received from Laundry</u>	<u>Returned to Laundry</u>
Sox	1150	1383
Shirts	1110	1266
Drawers	960	1010
Vests	470	500

All Ordnance Stores and Equipment have been carefully checked and indents have been submitted to complete shortages.

SALVAGE The following salvage has been returned to A.S.C. and Dumps.

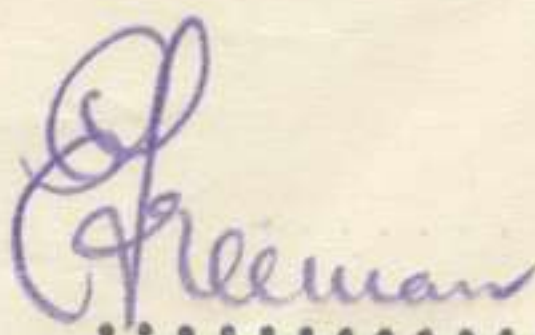
Paper	20 lbs	Cardboard	35 lbs
Cartons	27 lbs	Empty Tins	34 bags
Fat	100 lbs		

SERVICE DRESS The following figures show the amount of drawals and returns to D.A.D.O.S.

		<u>Received</u>	<u>Returned</u>
Jackets, S.D.A.P.		75	70
Breeches do	prs	99	42
Pantaloon	prs	4	12
Puttees	prs	80	25
Greatcoats D.S.		12	6
Hats S.D.A.P.		--	10
Groundsheets		30	--
Box Respirators		--	100
Boots, ankle	prs	11	60
Steel Helmets		--	100
Blankets		--	50
Jerkins		--	150

COMFORTS FUNDS. During the past month the following gifts have been received from Australian Comforts Fund and distributed to the troops.

Cocoa & Milk	7	cases	Cigarettes	1	Case
Milk	3	"	Sugar	2	bags
Curry	$\frac{1}{2}$	"	Custard Powder	28	lbs
Soup	2	"	Playing Cards	4	dozen
Cakes	6	"	Cough Mixture	5	"
Tobacco	1	"			

  
.....Capt.  
Quarter-Master 8th Battalion, A. I. F.

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HEADQUARTERS,  
8th Battalion, A.I.F.  
3rd February, 1919

TRANSPORT SUMMARY FOR MONTH.

At the commencement of the month, the Transport Section were situated with the Battalion at BOUFFIOULX in fairly good stabling at the Pipe Factory.

During the month, 4 limbered wagons were repainted and 3 remain to be done.

The Veterinary Board, consisting of the D.A.D.V.S., B.V.O., and Capt. Burgess, visited the Battalion Transport and classified horses and Mules, and they are now awaiting disposal.

At present, we have not a great demand for work with horse transport and, as a result, a good deal of exercise parades are held.

Five limbered waggons are to be completed with fittings and will carry a spare wheel and pole. The fittings are being completed by No. 3 Coy, A.A.S.C., and so far two limbers have been completed.

The wagon equipment is complete and ready for demobilisation.

The horses are in splendid condition, and during the month two light draughts were evacuated with skin disease. The fodder ration for the month has been up to the usual standard. A better feed is made up by making use of the oat crusher and chaffcutter on the premises.

Demobilisation has resulted in the ranks of transport being depleted to the extent of 14 drivers. These men have been replaced by men from general reinforcements.

*J. Hickson* Lieut.  
Transport Officer, 8th Battalion, A.I.F.

## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOUFFIOULX	1919 Janr	1st	<p>The men are carrying out definite syllabus of training each week.</p> <p>Health of troops remains very good and sick parades average about 6 per day. These cases are mostly colds and sore throats. Vincent's angina is rather prevalent among troops and civilians alike. There is no great prevalence of influenza. Evacuations to hospital are very small. Some difficulty is being experienced in obtaining drugs and dressings. I have complained to the Ambulance but still the matter remains stagnant and not rectified. A.M.C. Details are being rapidly lost due to repatriation, but in this Battalion, old Stretcher Bearers are being trained and instructed in anticipation of others leaving.</p> <p><u>Sanitation</u> - The men's billets are fair. They are sleeping in a factory large enough to hold all and plenty of straw is available. Fireplaces are also available with all necessary precautions against fire.</p> <p>Latrines and urinals are very good now, but it was some time before we could obtain hessian for enclosing same. Night urinals have been provided within the factory. An incinerator, improvised with perforated sheets of iron, has been built and serves the purpose admirably.</p> <p>The water supply comes from the main supply of town and drawn from one central point. Surface wells and other supplies have been forbidden.</p> <p><u>Venereal Disease</u>. As far as gonorrhea is concerned, it is surprisingly low, but chancres (primary syphilis) are comparatively high. For the past month not one case of gonorrhoea has been sent away and there is an average of about 4 always under treatment at Battalion prophylactic hut who do very well. About 10 cases have been cured during month and able to resume full military duty.</p> <p>Also some difficulty is experienced in obtaining argyrol, rubber sheaths, and even urethral syringes. Altogether the V.D. question as far as my Battalion is concerned is very satisfactory.</p> <p><u>Food</u>. Recently there has been a shortage of rations but fortunately with the help of company and Regimental Funds, vegetables etc. have been purchased from surrounding civilians and the men are being satisfactorily fed.</p>	

*P. J. O'Shea*  
R.M.O. 8th Battalion, Capt. A.A.M.C.  
A.I.F.