

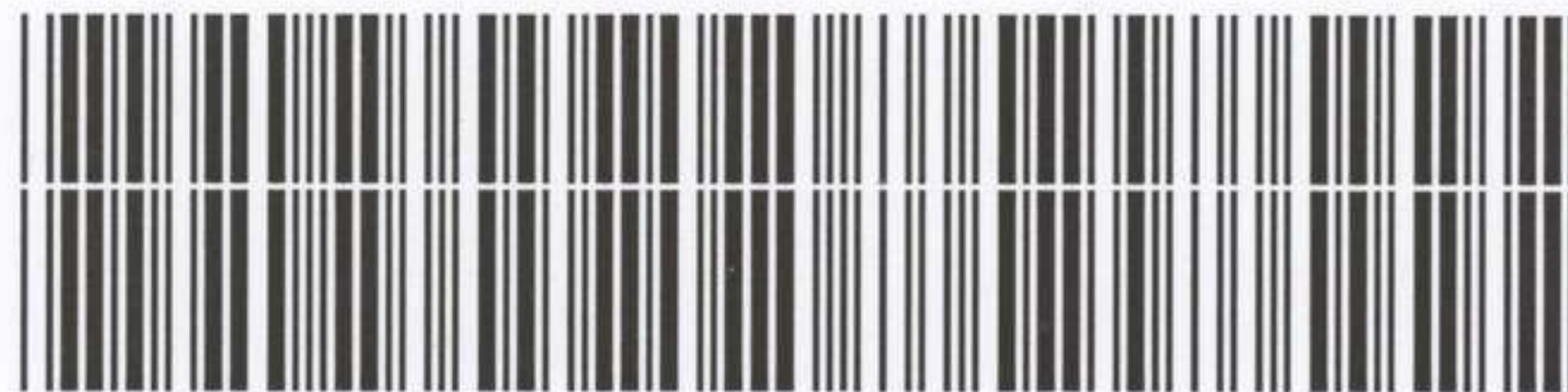
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/48/40

**Title:** 31st Infantry Battalion

November 1918



AWM4-23/48/40



ORIGINALD-U-P-L-I-C-A-T-ET-R-I-P-L-I-C-A-T-EC O N F I D E N T I A L.A U S T R A L I A N . I M P E R I A L . F O R C E .W A R D I A R Y.

of

31st. BATTALION, A.I.F.

for

MONTH of NOVEMBER 1918.Signature of Officer compiling.....*R. P. Hain*.....Lieut.Signature of Officer Commanding.....*H. Freeman*.....  
Lieut-Colonel.



# 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.

## (1) or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

NOVEMBER 1918.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VILLEROY & MOUFLIERES. Ref. Map: Sheet DIEPPE 16/100,000.	1.		<p>There was no Battalion Parade this morning as the Battalion was bathing, and C.O. and Coy. Commanders were attending a conference on Training at Divisional Headquarters held by Brigadier General Guggisberg, i/c Training.</p> <p>In the afternoon the three mile race in the Brigade Sports Programme was held. The first eight of a Battalion to finish counted, and the finishing point was at RAMBURES. The race was won by the 30th. Battalion, with 32nd. Bn. second, and 31st. Bn. third.</p> <p>The day was fine and sunny.</p>	
	2.		<p>A muster parade was held this morning, and all units throughout the Corps held similar parades at 9-30 a.m., the object being to round up all absentees. All men on duty were provided with passes, which had to be shown to picquets searching all the villages and towns in the area.</p> <p>After the parade a simple tactical scheme was carried out on ground to the SOUTHEAST of the village of VILLEROY. The scheme was to show the troops how to take advantage of a "soft spot", i. e. a position in the enemy line which had been abandoned. Two companies attacked, one was in support and the other in reserve.</p> <p>In the afternoon two rugger matches were played on the Battalion ground - one between the 31st. and 32nd. Bns., and one between the 30th. Bn. and 8th. Field Ambulance. The result of the former was even scoring, 7 points to 7, and the latter was won by the Field Ambulance by 12 points to 4.</p>	
	3.		<p>Church Services for C. of E. and O. P. D. were held on the Battalion Parade Ground at 9-30 a.m. The Roman Catholic Service was held in the Church, RAMBURES.</p> <p>In the afternoon the semi-finals of the Boxing Contest were held, and provided a good afternoon's sport for the Officers and men. RESULTS :- Middle weight - Sergt. C. D. P. DRYDEN 31st. Bn. beat Dvr. NORRIS, 31st. Bn. Welter weight : Pte. J. F. BESS, 31st. Bn. beat Pte. HUMPHRIES, 32nd. Bn. Light weight : Pte. H. De L. EVANS beat Pte. Carr both 31st. Bn. Feather weight : Pte. C. A. PEAKES, 31st. Bn. bye.</p>	
	4.		<p>Battalion Parade was held at 9 a.m. After that Os. C. Companies carried out training syllabus till 10.30 when the whole Battalion was handed over to Lewis Gun Officer for instruction in Lewis Gun work.</p> <p>The afternoon was taken up with the final boxing bouts, this Battalion's gains being :- Middle weight : Sergt. C.D.P. DRYDEN, 31st. Bn. beat Pte. SULLIVAN, 30th. Bn. Welter weight - Pte. BESS, 31st. Bn. beat Pte. DOW NIE, 32nd. Bn. Light weight - Pte. MARONEY, 30th. Bn. beat Pte. EVANS, 31st. Bn. Feather weight - Pte. PEAKES, 31st. Bn. beat Pte. MARONEY, 30th. Bn.</p>	



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

31st. BATTALION. A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

NOVEMBER.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, and references to Appendices
VILLEROY & MOUFLIERES.	5		Battalion parade was cancelled on account of bad weather. All Officers and N.C.Os. not on special duties attended a lecture given by the C.O. (Lieut. Col. J. McARTHUR, D.S.O.)	
Ref. Map Sheet DIEPPE 16.1/100000	6.		Battalion parade was cancelled on account of bad weather, training being carried out in billets.	
	7.		The afternoon was so wet that the Brigade Sports were also cancelled.	
	8.		The weather being still bad there was no Battalion Parade, work again being carried out in billets.	
			Bad weather still prevailing.	
			In the afternoon an attempt was made to carry out the Brigade Sports. After three events had been contested the rain fell so heavily as to necessitate a further postponement.	
			Preliminary rounds of Divisional Boxing Contest were held, with the following results for Battalion competitors :-	
			<u>Feather</u> : Pte. C. A. PEAKES. <u>Light</u> :- Pte. H. De L. EVANS. <u>Welter</u> :- Pte. J. F. BESS.	
			<u>Middle</u> :- Sergt. C. D. P. DRYDEN.	
	9.		After a slight frost at night, the sun shone brilliantly from early morning, and the whole day was fine.	
			Brigade Sports were held in the afternoon. Results - APPENDIX. A	A.
			Divisional Boxing finals, contested during the day, resulted in wins for the following Battalion competitors :- <u>Feather</u> : Pte. C. A. PEAKES. <u>Light</u> :- Pte. H. De L. EVANS.	
			<u>Welter</u> : Pte. J. F. BESS. <u>Middle</u> :- Sergt. C. D. P. DRYDEN. <u>Officers</u> : Lt. G. S. DELLIT.	
	10.		Combined Church Parade for C. of E. and O. P. D. was held on Battalion Parade Ground, and R. C. Service in the Church RAMBURES.	
			The day was again fine.	
			The news of the Kaiser's abdication was received and duly celebrated.	
	11.		<del>Training as per 23/11/18</del> Baths were made available for the Battalion at NESTLETTE and underclothing exchanged.	
			Physically refreshed, the troops were mentally refreshed by the news, which awaited their return, of the signing of the armistice.	
	12.		Battalion photographed on parade. Officers, N. C. Os. and various company groups taken separately.	
	13.		No. Battalion Parade on account of bad weather. Training was carried out in billets under Os. C. Companies.	
	14.		Battalion paraded with the remainder of the Brigade on this Battalion's Parade Ground and was inspected by the Brigade Commander, Brigadier General E. TIVEY, C.B., D.S.O., V.D.	



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>In the Nov. VILLEROY &amp; MOUFLIERES. Ref. May. Sheet. DIEPPE 16 1/100,000. Nov.</p>	15th.		<p>Advice has been received that No 4774 Pte. Klemm F.M. "C" Coy. has been Awarded the "D.C.M.". Parades today were in Company Commanders hands and instructions for training were for close order work and smartening up drill of all descriptions.</p> <p>A soccer football match was played on Battalion ground between a representative team of the 8th Brigade, and one from the Engineers and M.G. Battalion. The result was a win for the 8th Brigade team by 2 goals to 1.</p> <p>The weather is sunny but a very cold east wind is blowing.</p>	
	16th.		<p>Company route marches were ordered for this morning from 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. in the Battalion area. After the march men's feet were inspected. There was a conference of Battalion Commanders at Div. Headquarters where the future movements of the Corps, Divisions and Brigade were made known. The A.R.A. competition was held at 1.30 p.m. resulting in a win for 30th Battalion. 32nd Battalion 2nd., and 31st Battalion 3rd. The day was sunny but very cold.</p>	
	17th.		<p>Today being Sunday and the first Sunday after the cessation of hostilities there were thanksgiving services held. The C. of E. and O.P.D. parade was held on Brigade Sports ground at RAMBURELLES at 10.30 a.m. Besides the three Battalions on Parade there was also the M.G. Battalion. The Divisional General was present and after the service he gave an address to the troops. He thanked them all for the good work that they had done in the past and reminded them that there was still some very hard work to do of a ceremonial nature. He announced that this Division amongst others had been chosen to form part of the Army of occupation and that we would be moving within the next week to the Rhine, in the vicinity of COLOGNE and MAINZ. A lecture (with lantern) was given in the afternoon at OISEMONT by Sir Francis Younghusband on the Himalayas and Thibet at which 80 from the Battalion attended and it proved a very interesting lecture.</p>	
	18th.		<p>There were no parades today on account of the Divisional Sports which were being held at ST. MAXENT. The ground was about 10 Kiles. distant and the day was extremely cold, in consequence there was not a large attendance from the Battalion. During the evening there were signs that the hard frost the previous three or four days was breaking.</p>	
	19th.		<p>The Companies were in Company Commanders hands today for parade; all ranks were turned out in full marching order and inspection of billets was made, spare clothing and equipment lying about being collected. Weather is still very cold but fine.</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/15 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VILLEROY & MOUNLIERS Ref. Map. Sheet 16 DIEPPE 16 1/100,000.	20th	Nov.	Today the Battalion and Brigade was to have marched past in column route before the Divisional Commander, but this was cancelled. A practice march past was carried out by the C.O. over the same route with transport. The saluting point was X roads in RAMBURES at the Church. The Battalion marched well and the march was very useful as it made the men warm. The weather is still very cold and frosty. <i>MM</i>	
	21st	Nov.	Companies were in Company Commanders hands and training in close orderwork with fixed bayonets was carried out. Weather is still fine but frosty and very cold. <i>MM</i>	
	22nd		C.O. Adjutant and Company Commanders attended a skeleton demonstration of the review before Divisional Commander, which is to take place tomorrow. Companies were in the hands of the seconds in Command for training in close order work. Weather frosty and cold. <i>MM</i>	
	23rd		A Battalion parade was held on Battalion Parade Ground at 9.30 a.m. to rehearse the review which is to take place this afternoon. "D" Coy. remained over in VILLEROY for lunch. At 1.25 p.m. the Battalion passed the starting point at 1.I.61.19. and marched to the review ground at 1.I.55.58. Companies were 100 strong, and eight vehicles from transport were also present. The troops taking part in the review were 30th, 31st, 32nd Battalions, 5th M.G. Bttn. 8th A.L.T.M.B., 8th, 14th, & 15th Coys. F.E. 5th Pioneer Battalion, and 8th Field Ambulance. Units were formed up in column of Companies in mass, with the transport in rear. At about 3 p.m. the Divisional <i>General</i> rode onto the ground and the General salute was given. After this units marched past saluting base with Companies in line. Units then formed up in their original positions again and the Brigade advanced in that formation about 50 yards. The review passed off very satisfactorily and the discipline of the troops was good. Dress was drill order and all ranks wore felt hats. The review was over by 3.45 p.m. and units marched back to their billets. Weather is fine and frosty. <i>MM</i>	Appendix F
	24th		Church parades were held as follows:- R.C. in RAMBURES Church at 9 a.m.; O.P.D. at 10 a.m. and C.O.F. at 11 a.m. both on Battalion Parade ground. In the evening warning was received that Battalion would be marching out tomorrow to take over billets of one of 15th Brigade Battalions in HUPPY area. Advance parties for the HUPPY area and also one for BERTRY (VALENCIENNES) area left at 7 a.m. the latter travelling with 56th Battalion by train from ABBEVILLE. At 3 p.m. the Battalion moved from VILLEROY to proceed to LIMERCOURT by march route through OISEMONT, PRESNE, DOUBLAINEVILLE, HUPPY. Guides met the Battalion at X roads at 6.J.60.39. <i>1.00.00</i> Battalion E.Qrs. proceeded to Chateau at 6.J.41.51. A&D Coys to GAUMONT C&D Coys to HUCHENNEVILLE. Owing to <i>1.00.00</i> were running 12 hours late the 57th Battalion had orders not to move. <i>MM</i>	Verbal instructions given
LIMERCOURT GAUMONT & HUCHENNEVILLE Ref. Map. ABBEVILLE 14 1/100,000.	25th			



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LIMERCOURT GAUMONT HUCHENNEVILLE Ref. Map. ABBEVILLE 14 1/100,000.	25th Nov.		and in consequence this Battalion had to go in on top of 57th Battalion. All troops were under cover by 9.30.p.m. Transport and Q.M. were situated in GAUMONT. Weather was miserable - many showers of rain during the day. <i>my</i>	
	26th Nov.		At noon 57th Battalion marched out thus leaving plenty of accommodation for our troops. Today was uneventful, and rain started at about 6p.m.. Troops were resting all day preparing for the move tomorrow. <i>my</i>	
	27th "		Battalion moved out of its billets at 11a.m. to march to entraining station at PONT REMY. Entraining party and transport moved off independently. The Battalion arrived at the station at 1.15.p.m. where the cooks were ready with dinner. Entraining commenced at 3p.m. and was completed in a quarter of an hour. The train steamed out at 6.5.p.m. - 1 hour and 10 mins. late. During the day there were sudden showers but luckily, the rain was not continuous. The route taken by the train was - AMIENS, VILLERS, BRETONNEAUX, CHAULANES, PERONNE, ROISEL, and BERTRY - the latter place being the detraining station. This was reached at 9.30.a.m. and the Battalion immediately detrained. <i>my</i>	Verbal instructions given.
Ref. Map. Sheet VALENCIENNES 12 1/100,000.	28th.		At about 8.a.m. rain commenced to fall and continued without intermission throughout the day. On detraining the Y.M.C.A. was ready with hot cocoa for all hands and this was very much appreciated. There was some delay in getting the animals watered and the Battalion did not commence to march to billets until 11a.m. Route taken was MAUROIS, BUSIGNY, and the order of march was "D" Coy. H.Q., "C", "B", "A". Becquigny was reached at 3p.m. and the men were immediately billeted by the advance party. Transport arrived at about 3.30.p.m.. The march was an exceedingly unpleasant and miserable one on account of the soaking rain which fell continuously throughout the march thoroughly wetting all hands. Very soon after arrival in billets the Company cooks had prepared hot stew for the men which bucked them up considerably. In the village of BERTRY it was noticed that the Germans had named one of the streets KAISER WILHELM Str., which has now been obliterated with mud and the street renamed KING GEORGE V STREET. <i>my</i>	
BECQUIGNY 6.F.61.21	29th.		Orders were received at 11.5a.m. that the Battalion would march out at 11.a.m. to RIBEAUVILLE. This was impossible and the C.O. ordered that Battalion would move out at 1p.m. after the men had had their dinner. The Battalion was moving off when a D.R. arrived with an order to remain in present billets as the 53rd. Battalion was occupying RIBEAUVILLE. The day was dismal and slight rain fell. Advice was received that the following Officers had received decorations:- D. D. & L., London, E.C. (Aro266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16 BAR TO "MC" "M. C." Lient. W.K. MORPETH. Capt. G.H. WILSON 2/Lt. J.R. AVERY. <i>my</i>	Verbal instructions given.



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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																							
Ref. Map. Sheet. VALENCIENNES. 12 1/100,000.	30th. Nov.		<p>The day opened fine and sunny with a slight frost. Orders were received that in all probability the Battalion would remain in present billets for about 5 days. It is probable that the 2nd Tunnelling Coy. <del>will</del> also come into this village. None of the inhabitants can say a good word for any of the Germans who have been billeted in the village for the last four years. The gist of the tales being that the Germans took everything and paid for nothing.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Effective Strength</td> <td>42</td> <td>812.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attached.</td> <td>2</td> <td>8.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Strength</td> <td>44</td> <td>820.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detached on Brigade, Div. Leave Etc.</td> <td>9</td> <td>134.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Ration Strength.</td> <td>35</td> <td>686.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Died Of Wounds</td> <td>1</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" " Disease</td> <td>2</td> <td>"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinforcements</td> <td colspan="2">1 Officer and 4 O/Ranks.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O.R. Cases</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Courts Martial.</td> <td>11.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Effective Strength	42	812.	Attached.	2	8.	-----			Total Strength	44	820.	Detached on Brigade, Div. Leave Etc.	9	134.	-----			Total Ration Strength.	35	686.	-----			Died Of Wounds	1	O.R.	" " Disease	2	"	Reinforcements	1 Officer and 4 O/Ranks.		O.R. Cases	3		Courts Martial.	11.		
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*Mr Freeman*  
 Lieut. Colonel  
 CO. 31<sup>st</sup> Battalion A.I.F.

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# APPENDIX

W A R D I A R Y.

of

31st. BATTALION, A.I.F.

for

MONTH of NOVEMBER 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICIES.

NO.

SUBJECT

- / A. Events gained by Battalion at Brigade Sports.
- / B. Syllabus of Training for week ending 2.11.18
- / C. Syllabus of Training for Intelligence Personnel for week ending 2.11.18
- / D. Syllabus of Training for week ending 9.11.18
- / E. Auto-graphed order re Overdrawn Accounts.
- / F. Special order re Review of 8th. Brigade Group.
- / G. Quartermaster's Monthly Report.
- X H. Transport Officer's Monthly Report. (*to follow*)

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11/19



## APPENDIX A.

BATTALION RESULTS IN BRIGADE SPORTS.MILE WALK.

1st. Sgt. D.E. Roberts.

RELAY RACE.

1st. 30th Battalion.  
 2nd. 32nd "  
 3rd. 31st "

440 YARDS.

1st	McDermott	30th. Battalion.
2nd	Giles	32nd. "
3rd.	Bogue	31st. "

12



DAY	DATE	9 - 10	10 - 11	11. - 12.	
MONDAY	28/10/18.	P.T. and B.F.	Musketry, Gas Drill, Rifle exercises.	Battalion Drill.	Specialist training in all branches.
TUESDAY	29/10/18.	P.T. and B.F.	Musketry, Gas Drill, Rifle exercises.	Company in attack formation.	Lectures by Company and Platoon commanders bringing out points of the practice.
WEDNESDAY.	30/10/18.	INSPECTION BY G.O.C. DIVISION.			
THURSDAY.	31/10/18.	P.T. and B.F.	Musketry, Gas Drill, Rifle exercises.	Company in attack practice.	Lectures by Company and Platoon commanders on the practice.
FRIDAY.	1/11/18.	P.T. and B.F.	Platoon and Company Drill	Musketry Gas Drill	Conference at 5th. Div. H.Qrs.
SATURDAY.	2/11/18.	Battalion in attack practice. Lectures by Company Commanders on the practice.			

Hour set apart for P.T. and B.F. to be used as well for smartening up in squad drill.

APPENDIX

B



C C

31st. BATTALION A.I.P.  
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SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL FOR WEEK ENDING 2/11/18.  
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October 2 8th.	<u>IDENTIFICATION.</u>	Disc, Pay book and sholder strap.
" 29th.	<u>OBSERVATION.</u>	How and what to observe.
" 30th.	do	A day's work in an O.P.
" 31st.	do	Sighting of O.P's with reports.
November 1st.	<u>MESSAGES AND REPORTS.</u>	
" 2nd.	<u>PRISONERS and ENEMY PAPERS.</u>	

*my*



D

D

31st. BATTALION. A.I.F.TRAINING FOR NEXT MONTH 31st. NOVEMBER 1918.

9-25 to 10-30. Companies will be in the hands of Company Commander for training. During these hours Platoon Commanders will train their own platoons under the supervision of their respective C. O. A syllabus of training will be submitted to the C. O. at 0900 on 4th. inst. setting out the programme of progressive training.

1030 to 1200. Specialist training in all branches.

LEWIS GUN. All riflemen on parade will report to Battalion Lewis Gun Officer for training on this weapon. Lewis Gunners also report to him.

SIGNALLERS. Signallers will report to Battalion Signal Officer.

INTELLIGENCE. Intelligence personnel and all Officers and H.Q. Co. ~~not engaged in instructing in specialist work~~ will report to C.O.

Battalion Specialist Officers will submit their respective syllabi of the week's training to the C.O. at 0900 on 4th. inst.

Company Commanders will arrange their time of training so that all specialist training can commence at 1030 each morning.

SIGNALLERS. Company Commanders will each detail two men to report to Battalion Signal Officer to be trained as supernumerary signallers. If possible these men should have an elementary knowledge of this subject.

As one syllabus is subject to alteration under exceptional circumstances, but will only be departed from by authority from B. H. W.

H. Q. Co. All H. Q. Co. will report to I.R.C.A. Messines at 1800 on MONDAY, 4th. inst. for lecture on "INSTRUCTION"

"D" COMPANY.

LEWIS GUN. Sergeant LOCENTY will report each day to "D" Coy. to supervise the training on the Lewis Gun.

SIGNALLERS. "D" Company signallers will report to Battalion Signal Officer each day in time to commence work at 1030.

3.11.1918.

*L. H. W.*  
Adjutant 31st. Battalion, A. I. F.

Capt.



Y - OVERDRAWN ACCOUNTS ( A.I.F. Order 723 of 29.6.17 as amended by 1028 of 18.12.17

A.I.F. Order No. 508, dated 27th February 1917 is cancelled and the following substituted : -

1. Except as provided for in A.I.F. Orders Nos 492 and 696, Imprest Holders and other Paying Officers will not make advances to any member of the Australian Imperial Force that will cause the over-drawing of the latter's "Active" pay account, without obtaining through the usual channels the special sanction of the G.O.C., A.I.F.. This special sanction may, in the case of A.I.F. troops in Egypt, be given by the General Officer administering the A.I.F. in Egypt.
2. Where such sanction has been given, or in any cases in which the active pay account is already overdrawn, the Commanding Officer of the Unit must notify, and forward the paybook concerned to, the Chief Paymaster A.I.F., or his representative, the Corps or Divisional Paymaster, who will make an entry in the member's paybook placing him upon a restricted drawing rate to re-establish credit at the earliest possible date.
3. All Imprest Holders and Paying Officers will be held responsible that restrictions of the drawing rates of member's as shown in the paybooks, are strictly adhered to and not exceeded.
4. Men in France and Egypt, if their accounts are already overdrawn, are not entitled to avail themselves of the privilege of A.I.F. Order No. 696.
5. Excepting in those cases provided for in para.1, no member of the A.I.F. will : -

(a) make any payment

(b) accept any payment

if such payment would cause to be overdrawn or further overdraw the active pay of the person named in the paybook, according to the account which appears in the paybook.

Any contravention of these Orders will result in the Imprest Holder or Paying Officer being held personally responsible to make good the unauthorised advances and amounts incorrectly paid, and also in disciplinary action being taken.



F

F

F

7/12

5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

SPECIAL ROUTINE ORDER

by  
Major-General Sir J. TALBOT HOBES, K.C.B., V.D., Commanding  
5th Australian Division.

Headquarters,  
23rd November 1918.

435. REVIEW OF 8th BRIGADE GROUP :

The Divisional Commander desires to express his appreciation and praise of the Review this afternoon of the 8th Brigade Group, the two additional Field Companies, the 5th Divisional Signal Company, the 5th Australian Machine Gun Battalion, and the 5th Pioneer Battalion. The smartness and general turn-out of troops and transport, steadiness on parade, and excellence of the march past, were remarkably good and reflect very great credit on the Brigade Commander, Staff, and all other ranks.

Sturche

Colonel,  
A.A. & Q.M.G. 5th Australian Division.



*G*  
QUARTERMASTERS MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.  
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During the past month the Battalion was in Rest Billets. Great attention was paid to the clothing of the men of Batn. Owing to excessive wet weather big demand was created for boots and also for all grindery, and at present time the boots of the Battalion are in good repair. Fat return for the month was up to the average. Transport was inspected and all shortages indented for. All steel helmets were re-covered with sand bags. Rations for the past month have been up to the average with the exception of meat which has been on the light side. All shortages in the rations were made up, and the Battalion is now complete. Good supplies of comforts were obtainable from the A.C.F. and were much appreciated by the men. All technical stores in the Battalion were inspected by the C.O. and were found correct. All damaged and unserviceable equipment was replaced by new. Return of bread bags and empty boxes was above the average.

5/12/18.

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