

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/48/44

Title: 31st Infantry Battalion

March 1919



AWM4-23/48/44

DUPLICATE.
TRIPPLICATE.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

WAR DIARY.

OF

31st. BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

MARCH 1919.

258

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER COMPILING.....

R. Ramsay

SIGNATURE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.....

L. Morrison

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.

31st. Battalion. A.I.F. (Erase heading not required.) M.A.R.C.H. 1919

258

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FELLERIES.	1		Bathing parade and clean change of clothing during the morning. Afternoon devoted to sport and recreation.	
	2		Parades under Company arrangements during the morning with inspection of arms and equipment. Weather cool, but nice and dry. Sports during the afternoon. Voluntary Church parades.	
	3		Inspection of Respirators and equipment during the morning. At 8 p.m. a dance was held in the dance hall. It was a great success, and was attended by some 40 couples, including many in mask and fancy dress. Dancing was indulged in till the early hours of the morning, and refreshments were handed round at 10 p.m. Everybody present appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves, and are looking forward to a record ball previous to the Battalion leaving the village.	
	4		Bath parade and Company parades during the morning. Afternoon devoted to sports and recreation.	
	5		A draft of 2 officers 3 sergeants and 40 other ranks left homeward-bound. Great was their joy at the thoughts of leaving behind France, Belgium and the battle-fields. A large number of the civilians gathered round to bid them "Farewell". Not a few of them had a hard job to hide the tears.	
	6.		that Battalion muster parade and promulgation of orders during the morning. Football and general sports during the afternoon.	
	7		As the battalion is expecting to leave the village in a couple of days time, arrangements were quickly made by both civilians and troops for a final dance. This was held at 8 p.m. when all FELLERIES seemed to turn out to trip the light fantastic. The couples, which easily numbered 60, consisted of both plain and fancy dress. This ball was undoubtedly the most successful ever held in the village during the battalion's rest there, and, according to the civilians, was THE most successful since 1914. Dancing was indulged in till 3 a.m. when all left for their "maisons" thoroughly satisfied with the night's enjoyment.	
	8		The day was spent by the troops visiting their many friends in the village prior to the departure of the battalion.	
	9		At 9 a.m. the battalion fell in ready to move to their new place of abode. A large crowd of civilians gathered to say "Au Revoir", and, judging by the tears shed by a large number of them, were extremely sorry at our departure. Three cheers were given as the battalion moved off. The battalion staged at SIVRY for the night.	
	10.		The battalion moved out at 9 a.m. and about noon arrived at SOLRE ST GERY where they again rested for a night, prior to moving to YVES GOMEZEE.	
	11.		At 9 a.m. battalion marches off to their new village (YVES GOMEZEE) arriving there about 3 p.m. The diggers were no time in "digging in" and making themselves quite at home with the civilians, (as they always do) They soon get settled down and appear to be quite content in their new homes.	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A8004) Wt. W1771/M2/31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

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.

(2) INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

258

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																											
YVES GOMEZEE	12		Company settling down in their new area. No parades were held today. <i>RJR</i>																												
	13		Bath parade for the battalion in the morning with clean change of underclothing. <i>RJR</i>																												
	14		Parades under Company arrangements were held and inspection made of arms and equipment. <i>RJR</i>																												
	15		All probable members of next Quota were medically examined and boarded. <i>RJR</i>																												
	15		Muster parade of the battalion was held. Sports and recreation during the afternoon. <i>RJR</i>																												
	16.		Usual-parades-carried-out. Troops are now quite at home in their new billets, and appear to be quite contented in the village. Voluntary Church parades were held and were fairly well attended. Weather very wet, which does not help to make things pleasant. <i>RJR</i>																												
	17		Company parades. Inspection of arms and equipment. <i>RJR</i>																												
	18		Preliminary steps taken for the amalgamation of the battalion with the 30th. battalion. <i>RJR</i>																												
	19		Usual parades carried out under company arrangements. Troops bathed in the afternoon. <i>RJR</i>																												
	20		Battalion muster parade carried out in the morning. Afternoon devoted to sport and recreation. <i>RJR</i>																												
	21		At 12 noon the battalion, having amalgamated with the 30th. Battalion, ceases to exist, and is now known as "C" Company 8th. Brigade Battalion. <i>RJR</i>																												
As at 1159 on 21.3.1919.			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th data-bbox="1585 1025 1680 1055">Off.</th> <th data-bbox="1885 1025 1980 1055">O.R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1037 1055 1458 1095">Effective strength</td> <td data-bbox="1600 1065 1648 1095">42</td> <td data-bbox="1885 1065 1980 1095">519</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1037 1095 1221 1135">Attached</td> <td data-bbox="1616 1105 1648 1135">4</td> <td data-bbox="1933 1105 1964 1135">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="1569 1174 1996 1184"><hr/></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1056 1204 1385 1244">Total strength</td> <td data-bbox="1600 1184 1648 1214">46</td> <td data-bbox="1885 1184 1964 1214">526</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1056 1244 1246 1284">Detached</td> <td data-bbox="1616 1254 1664 1284">13</td> <td data-bbox="1885 1254 1964 1284">179</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="1569 1324 1996 1333"><hr/></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td data-bbox="1616 1333 1664 1363">33</td> <td data-bbox="1885 1333 1964 1363">347</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="1569 1443 1996 1463"><hr/><hr/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Off.	O.R.	Effective strength	42	519	Attached	4	7	<hr/>			Total strength	46	526	Detached	13	179	<hr/>				33	347	<hr/> <hr/>			
	Off.	O.R.																													
Effective strength	42	519																													
Attached	4	7																													
<hr/>																															
Total strength	46	526																													
Detached	13	179																													
<hr/>																															
	33	347																													
<hr/> <hr/>																															
Died of illness.			NIL																												
Reinforcements			NIL																												
Orderly Room Cases			Nil																												
Courts Martials			2																												
D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2 31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14			Captain. T/Commanding 31st. Battalion A.I.F.																												

258



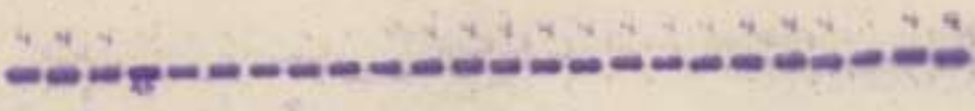
WAR DIARY FOR MARCH 1919

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT.

General routine carried out during the period which the Battalion existed. Good supply of comforts came to hand. The battalion ceased to exist as from noon on 21.3.1919, having amalgamated with the 30th. Battalion.

21.3.1919.

P. G. Sparker Captain.
Q.M. 31st. Battalion A.I.F.



WAR DIARY FOR MARCH 1919.

TRANSPORT OFFICER'S REPORT.

Usual routine carried out during the month.
Balance of animals handed over to 8th. Bde. Battn on 20.3.1919.
Battalion amalgamated with 30th. Battalion as from noon on 21.3.1919.

21.3.1919.

E. P. Foster Lieut.
Transport Officer 31st. Battalion A.I.F.

31st
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BATTN.
No. 21-3-1919

Yves - Gomezée.

Scale 1:2500.

