

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/52/9

Title: 35th Infantry Battalion

March 1918



AWM4-23/52/9

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY



OF

35th BATTALION. A.I.F.

FOR

MARCH. 1918

ACKNOWLEDGED.
26 APR 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

D. McKenzie Lt.

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. G. ... Lt Col.

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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.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Catacombes	1/3/18	~	Working parties were today reduced to 100. The day was overcast.	D.M.
"	2/3/18	7.30 pm.	C' & D' Coy. moved from Catacombes to new quarters in vicinity of Growse Point. The day was cold & a little snow fell during the afternoon.	D.M.
"	3/3/18		Day working parties as usual. Night parties cancelled owing to 9 th Pde. Raid on the Warneton Sector.	D.M.
"	4/3/18	11.45 am.	Zero hour. The 200 raiders included 4 officers and 75 other ranks from this Bn. The operation was a success. One officer and 10 other ranks (Posch.) were brought in, and it is estimated that 50 dead Posch. were left in lines. Much damage was done to the trenches and all objectives were reached. was The raiders remained in the enemy lines for 35 minutes. Very little resistance of any kind was encountered. Our casualties were:- Killed - 2 other ranks. Missing - 1 officer. Wounded 1 officer and 18 other ranks. Lt. Col. J.A. Neilson, D.S.O. 36 th Bn. was O.C. raid.	D.M.
"	4/3/18		Very misty day and visibility bad. Very quiet.	D.M.
"	5/3/18.	12.50 am.	A raid similar to the one of the night of March 3 rd was carried out this morning. Zero hour. The numbers were the same as previous raid, but more resistance was encountered from enemy posts. The operation was a success. Two prisoners were taken, but raiders estimate that 40 dead Posch. were left in the lines. Our casualties were:- Killed. 1 officer (34 th Bn) 3 other ranks. Wounded 1 officer & 2 other ranks. Decorations were published today:- The Military Medal to No 2035 Sgt. H.J. McAlamy. No 758 Sgt. R. Dick and No 2075 Pte Gardiner. A.J.	D.M.

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Catacombes	6/3/18		No 874 Driver J. Leonard won the Corps Light Heavy Weight ^{Boxing} Championship. The following decorations for conspicuous bravery during raid on the morning of March 5 th were published today: The Military Medal to the 1919 Pte. H. J. Holmes. No 2310 Cpl. W. J. Eather and No 2001 Cpl. D. Tonks.	
"	7/3/18	5.30pm	The Bn. was relieved at the Catacombes by the 28 th Bn. A.I.F. and marched to Kortepyp Camp, where it rested for the night. Relief was complete by 7.30pm.	Bn. O.O. No. 60. 6/3/18 Appendix No. 1.
Kortepyp Camp	8/3/18	12.45pm	Bn. left Kortepyp by route march for Stenwerck, where it entrained at 2.30pm. and proceeded to Desvres. On arrival there, at 8pm. it detrained and marched to billets at Henneveux, a distance of 5 miles. Arrived there at 12.MN. at Desvres the men were supplied with a hot cup of cocoa by the Y.M.C.A.	
Henneveux	9/3/18		The day was spent improving billets and clearing equipment. The men are now fairly comfortable, but cooking arrangements are hard owing to scattered billets. The day was bright and warm.	
"	10/3/18	9.30am	Church Parade in Y.M.C.A. Tent. The Brigadier visited the Bn. during the afternoons.	
"	11/3/18	9am	Training was commenced today as per syllabus.	
"	12/3/18		Training as usual. An allotment of leave to Boulogne. (2 off. and 21 other ranks) was commenced today. A lorry leaves Longueville at 12 noon, and returns, leaving Boulogne at 8.30pm. This takes place every second day. Major A. Blacklow returned from leave this evening.	
"	13/3/18	9am	Training as per syllabus. Major Blacklow left this Bn. to take command of the 3 rd Aust. Div. Machine Gun Battalion which has been formed from the 9 th , 10 th , 11 th and 23 rd M. G. Coys. attached to this Division.	

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Hennevensc.	14/3/18	9am.	Medical inspection of the whole Ptn. was carried out by the R.M.O. The remainder of the day was devoted to the cleaning of equipment. Rain at intervals throughout the day.	D.M.
"	15/3/18	9am. 2pm.	Training by Coys. till midday. A Demonstration Platoon in attack on a Strong Pt. " was given to the Ptn. by the Div. Demonstration Platoon. It was instructive and interesting. A concert ^{at night} given by Zigzags was much appreciated.	D.M.
"	16/3/18	2pm.	Training as per syllabus in the morning. Inter-Coy football in the afternoon. A Party at 9th Bde. Hd Qrs. was attended by the C.O. and 2nd in Command. A number of Australian Nurses from Boulogne Hospital were present. The weather was again fine and warm.	D.M.
"	17/3/18	9.30am.	Church Parade in YMCA Hut, after which all Officers assembled at Ptn. Hd Qrs to receive instructions re Platoon Competitions tomorrow. Each Platoon had to work separately, advancing in rushes to targets. At each halt Lewis Guns + Rifle fire were brought to bear, and a certain number of points were given for each shot on the targets. Brigadier Gen. Rosenthal proceeded on leave, - command of the 9th Bde being taken over by Lt-Col. H.A. Goddard, D.S.O. of this Ptn. Major W.V. Blake is now commanding the Ptn.	D.M.
"	18/3/18	9am to 5pm.	Ptn. Platoon Competitions carried out - the winning platoons being Nos. 5, 6, 13, 15. Training was held up on this account.	D.M.
"	19/3/18		Morning very dull. Rain fell from midday till 6pm. Training in billets. A draft of 7 reinforcements arrived today - very good men.	D.M.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Henneveux.	20/3/18		The four winning platoons in the competition, again competed to decide which one would represent the Div. It was won by the 15 platoon. A concert given by Zig-Zags to Machine Gun Div. was successful.	
"	21/3/18	9am.	Training again in full swing. Weather warm.	
"	22/3/18	9am.	Information received that enemy had attacked on a front extending from Arras, south to Lafere.	
		9.30am.	Received ^{instructions} information to prepare to move. Left Henneveux at 6pm. and proceeded by march to Lottinghem, arriving there at 9pm.	
Lottinghem	23/3/18	2am.	Entrained at Lottinghem and arrived at Abele at 8am. Marched to a camp at Waton by 2pm., and the Div. rested for the rest of the day.	
		7pm.	Received instructions to move the next morning. All the ranks on leave and all details have been recalled. All surplus gear stored - including hand instruments.	
Waton	24/3/18	10am.	Embussed at Waton and proceeded to Sercus, arriving at 4pm. The Div. resting in billets.	
Sercus.	25/3/18		Div. rested. Weather fine & warm.	
"	26/3/18	10am.	Left Sercus by march and entrained at Stenbecque at 11.20am. Proceeded to Doullens arriving at 5pm - detrained and marched to Gamechon by 12.M.N. Div. in billets. Lt-Col. H.A. Goddard D.S.O. resumed command of the Div. this afternoon.	BN.O.A. theob. 25/3/18 Appendix theob.
Gamechon.	27/3/18	5am.	Embussed at Gamechon & proceeded to Franvillers - debussed and marched to Hillis by 12 noon - rested till 8pm. then marched to Bonnaf. Div. Hdgqs & 'C' & 'D' Coy billeted in village. 'A' Coy proceeded to Corbie and 'B' Coy to tance for defence purposes.	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 47

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bonnavy.	28/3/18	3pm.	'B' Coy. moved to Tana. in reserve support to 'D' Coy. Weather became dull & rain fell from 5pm. till midnight.	D.M.
"	29/3/18	7pm.	Rains fell till 10 am. when weather became bright. The whole Coy. assembled at Corbie and marched to Bachy.	D.M.
Bachy.	30/3/18	2 am. 9 am. 10 pm.	Arrived at Bachy and billeted in Aerodrome. Assembled for counter-attacks and remained in formations till 5 pm. then returned to billets. Received instructions to move into the line.	D.M.
"	31/3/18	2 am.	Coy. moved forward. 'A', 'C' & 'D' Coys in front line. 'B' Coy and Coy. Higgins remained in Villers-Bretonneux. Front is held by extends from 250' west of Warfusse-Abancourt to 800' west of Harcelcave on the Harcelcave Villers-Bretonneux Road. Weather became wet and cold. Casualties during the night. 1 man killed 4 men wounded	D.M.

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18,000-12/17-8723

WAR DIARY

OF

35th BATTALION. A.I.F.

FOR

MARCH 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Operation Order No. 60. 6/3/18. ✓ |
| 2. | Syllabus of Training. (not available at present
(owing to records being separated from Battalion)) |
| 3. | Operation Order No. 61. 25/3/18. ✓ |

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SECRET.

APPENDIX
Copy No.....

THIRTY-FIFTH BATTALION A.I.F.

OPERATION ORDER No.60.

* * * * *

Reference Map.
SHEET 28 S.W. - 1/20,000.

Battalion Headquarters,
6th March 1918.

INFORMATION: 1. The 9th Aust. Inf. Brigade will be relieved by the 6th Aust. Inf. Brigade in the Left Brigade Area on the 7th and the night of 7/8th March, 1918.

INTENTION. 2. The 35th Bn. A.I.F. will be relieved by the 23rd Bn. A.I.F. on the 7th inst. at the CATACOMBES, and will move to KORTEPYP (A) - (T.26.b.9.5.)

- INSTRUCTIONS. 3.
- (a) GUIDES. Captain SAYERS with special party already detailed, will take over new camp.
 - (b) QUARTERS. Coys. will occupy the same quarters as were previously occupied.
 - (c) MARCH. On being relieved, companies will move out independently.
 - (d) ROUTE. RED LODGE, T.22.c, 40,35., Road Junction
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ T.27.c.90.98., KORTEPYP.
 - (e) PRECAUTIONS. Companies will march by platoons at 5-minutes interval.
 - (f) DEFENCE SCHEMES etc. All Defence Schemes, Duties etc, in connection with "C" Battalion will be handed over to 23rd Battalion, and receipts obtained in triplicate for same.
 - (g) LEWIS GUNS. Lewis Guns with ammunition and magazines will be stacked, under orders from Sergeant PURVIS, at RED LODGE at 10 A.M., 7th inst.
 - (h) BAGGAGE. All Officer's valises and Company Records will be stacked at HYDE PARK CORNER by 10 A.M. 7th inst. Cooks with cooking utensils and Mess gear will go on Ration Train from Hyde Park Corner at 3.30 P.M., 7th inst.
 - (i) REPORTS. On completion of relief, Os. C. Companies will report to Battalion Headquarters.

H. B. Burtine Lieut.,
a/Adjutant, 35th Battalion, A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No.	1.	File.		By	Runner.
2.	C.O. 23rd Bn. A.I.F.			"	"
3.	O.C. "A" Company.			"	"
4.	O.C. "B"	"		"	"
5.	O.C. "C"	"		"	"
6.	O.C. "D"	"		"	"
7.	Transport Officer.			"	"
8.	Quartermaster.			"	"
9.	Medical Officer.			"	"
10.	9th Aust. Inf. Bde. Hqrs.			"	"
11.	Commanding Officer.				
12.	War Diary.				

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file
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APPENDIX 3
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35th BATTALION MILITARY ORDER.

Battalion Headquarters.
25th March 1918.

Reference 5A HAZEBROUK.

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- INTENTION. 1. The Battalion less "G" Coy will move by rail from STERNBECQUE to either DOULLENS or MONDICOURE PAS on the 26th instant.
"G" Coy will leave present billets at 11.15 pm on 25th instant. Special instructions will be issued to "G" Coy to-day.
- INSTRUCTIONS. 2.
- (a). The Bn will assemble at 10.15 am 26th instant on road outside No. 41 billet ("D" Coy).
 - (b). Blankets will be carried on the man.
 - (c). Rations for the 26th inst will be carried in haversacks.
 - (d). Instructions re Officers' baggage will be issued later.
 - (e). Transport will travel by same train as HQ. This includes supply and baggage waggons.
 - (f). Marching out states showing numbers of Officers and C/Pls on parade will be handed to the Adjutant at point of assembly. Transport will show number of men, horses, bicycles, G.S., Limbered G.S., and two-wheeled vehicles. A duplicate of above must be carried by Unit Commandeers.
 - (g). 35th Bn due at STERNBECQUE Station 11 am 26th. Train departs 12 Noon.
 - (h). Transport must be at Station by 8 am 26th inst.
 - (i). Train Discipline. No personnel or stores will be allowed in brake van at each end of train or on roof of trucks. No covered trucks are to be used for baggage.
 - (j). Each Coy -- HQrs -- and Transport will detail a small picquet to see instructions in (i) carried out also at all train stops this picquet will prevent troops leaving the train.

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Yes

INSTRUCTIONS.

(contd).

(k). All doors of covered trucks and carriages on right hand side of train, when on the main line will be kept closed.

(l). On arrival in the new Area 3rd Div will be attached to 10th Corps, 3rd Army.

(m). The co-operation of all officers is required to ensure rapid entraining and detraining and discipline.

Sgd. A.E. YATES, Captain.

Adjutant 35th Battalion A.I.F.