

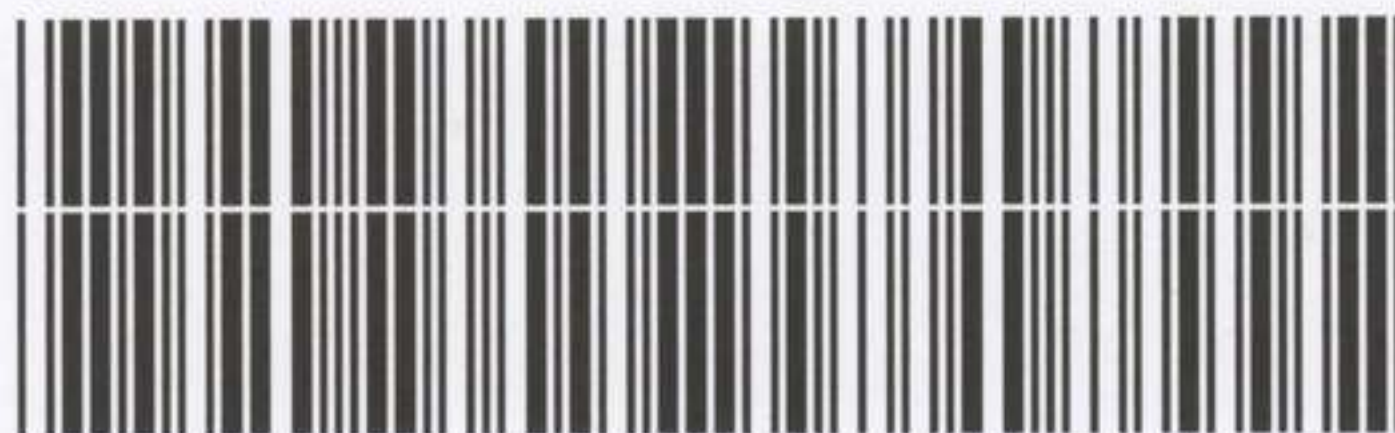
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Flying Corps

Item number: 8/6/8

Title: No 3 Squadron, Australian Flying
Corps

July 1917



AWM4-8/6/8

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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

O F

No 59 Squadron Australian Flying Corps

F O R

July 1917

Signature of Officer compiling

E. G. Knox Captain

Signature of Officer Commanding

David Blake Major

No. 69 Squadron, A.F.C.

WAR DIARY

or

July, 1917, (1)

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
Sth. Carlton			<p>July, (the latter end at all events,) found the Squadron in the throes of mobilization - a no mean task - and the difficulties in the case of No. 69 Squadron were accentuated by a scheme - excellent in itself but which left the Squadron without its C.O. and Flight Commanders. These together with those Pilots who had not completed the Artillery Observation School at BROOKLANDS were first sent there for training and then sent overseas to France on what was popularly known in the R.F.C. as a "Cook's Tour". Squadron, Commander, Flight Commander and Pilots were posted to different R.F.C. Squadrons in the field and in a little over three weeks managed to absorb a fund of information very useful to them when some weeks later they arrived in France for service with their own Unit.</p> <p>Pupils who had not graduated were sent away to other R.F.C. training Squadrons. Training machines were transferred likewise and the service 'buses put in an appearance. Observers who had been selected from different Units in the A.I.F. were posted to the Squadron and the transformation from a training to a service unit was made unostentatiously but not without considerable hard work on the part of the Squadron staff. By the first week in August all the details were complete and the</p>	

No. 69 Squadron, A.F.C.

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

July, 1917 (2)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sth. Carlton			<p>soul satisfying wire "mobilized" was sent to H.Q. (by this time) TRAINING DIVISION, R.F.C.</p> <p>The work of mobilization is not without its difficulties. The personnel must be complete. All pilots must have flown at least five hours on their service machine, in the case of Corps Squadrons must also have done an Artillery Observation School at Brooklands, the Observers must have done an Artillery Observation Course at Brooklands and a Machine Gun Course at HYTHE. The other ranks personnel must be up to strength in each trade and considering the variety and multiplicity of R.F.C. trades this in itself is hard enough. To make matters harder in the case of No. 69 Squadron, the Squadron was at the last minute required to find a Flight Commander for itself in place of Captain H.D.E. RALFE (then temporarily unfit for general service), a Flight Commander for No. 30 Training Squadron, and another for No. 67 Squadron in EGYPT. From the ranks they were asked for 20 mechanics to be sent away to learn to fly - a circumstance which disorganised the various trades.</p> <p>Technical difficulties caused even more worry, the Stores branch having to work night and day to straighten out the affairs of the Squadron to give it a clean sheet for passage overseas.</p>	

No. 69 Squadron, A.F.C.

WAR DIARY

or

July, 1917 (3)

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sth. Carlton			<p>The following Observers arrived on 1/7/17 - 3/7/17</p> <p>2/Lieuts. D. ELLIS, J. R. BELL, K. C. HODGSON, O. PAULL, F. RAE, H. E. ROUGHTON, J. D. HUDSON, E. F. ROWNTREE, F. BRABNER, W. N. E. SCOTT, A. V. BARROW, W. A. J. BUCKLAND, R. H. TAYLOR, E. H. JAMES B. L. LEARMONTH, J. R. BLAIR, O. C. KELLNER, R. H. VINER and F. J. TARRANT.</p> <p>During their short time in England with the Squadron these Observers were given as much practice as possible in the air with camera guns and in artillery observation. with puff targets while on the ground their time was fully occupied with buzzing, picture target and gunnery on the range.</p> <p>The following mechanics marched out on 5/7/17 for instruction in aviation -</p> <p>659 Sgt. A. M. ANDERSON, 647 Sgt. A. P. NORTON, 775 A/Sgt. CHIVERS, W. C., 745, Cpl. BIDDLE, H. A., 779 Cpl. CURRIE, F. T., 541, 1/AM DONAHAY, C., 549 1/AM GARTNER, W. H. 584, 1/AM PENHALL, A. H., 596, 1/AM WHIGHT, O. S., 763, 2/AM HAZELWOOD, N. 590, 2/AM SHEPPARD, F. H., 753 2/AM STONE, C. O., 3001 2/AM GEORGE, L., 715 Sgt. CORNELL, H. G., 525 1/AM BROOK, A. O' C., 531, 1/AM CASEY, R. J., 589, 2/AM J. S. L. ROSS, 693, 2/AM BURTON, G. M. 515, 2/AM ADAMS, A., 524, 2/AM J. L. SMITH, 572, 2/AM H. W. MILLER.</p> <p>The following Officers proceeded overseas on 21/7/17 for attachment to Corps Squadrons for experience.-</p> <p>Major D. V. J. BLAKE, Captain R. S. BROWN, Lieuts. J. L. SANDY, N. L. PETCHLER, H. F. TAYLOR, S. G. BREARLEY, G. I. L. MURRAY, H. N. WRIGLEY, S. G. GARRETT, F. C. BAXTER, A. O. MACGILLYCUDDY.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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July, 1917, (4)

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sth. Carlton			<p>Of these all returned to go overseas with the Squadron on August, 21st except Lieut. G.I.L.MURRAY who was shot down and wounded while with No. 53 Squadron, R.F.C. at BAILLEUL, Lieut. H.F.TAYLOR who crashed badly with No. 5 Squadron, R.F.C., at ACQ and Lieut. F.C.BAXTER who crashed with No. 16 Squadron, R.F.C. at CAMBLAIN L'ABBE.</p> <p>Lieut. R.C.TROUT, who with several other Pilots of the Squadron was sent to COVENTRY on temporary duty as an RES delivery pilot for the R.F.C. was killed at COVENTRY while starting out to ferry an RES to LYMPNE. On crashing the machine caught fire. Lieut. TROUT was buried at COVENTRY.</p> <p><u>PROMOTIONS. OFFICERS, JULY, 1917.</u></p> <p>To be 2/Lieuts. on graduating as Pilots -</p> <p>Cadet F.HOLLIES, 4/7/17, Cadet A.A.T.MALPAGE, 5/7/17. " A.H.McL.PATERSON, 20/7/17.</p> <p>To be 2/Lieuts. on grading as E.O., Class 3.</p> <p>Cadet E.F.WOODS, 17/7/17 (Wireless) Cadet F.B.FELSTEAD, 17/7/17, (Stores)</p> <p>As before stated the first week in August saw the Squadron mobilised and ready for overseas.</p>	