

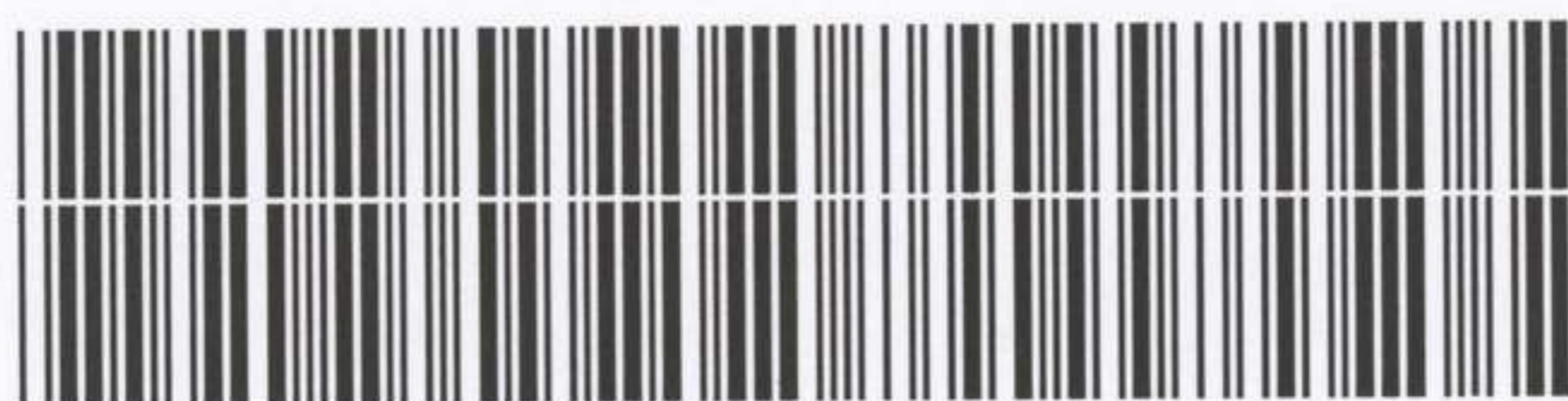
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/58/13

Title: 41st Infantry Battalion

November 1917



AWM4-23/58/13

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.



41st Battalion A.I.F.

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 manuscripts.

Map Ref. 36.D.N.E. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917			
Assingnem.	1 Nov.		Strengtn. 40 Off. 587 O.R. Batta lion carrying out training in accordance with appendix The following nonours and awar ds were bestowed on this Battalion in connection with Battle of BROODSEINDE. Military Cross- Lieut. E.D. PRICE, (D. Coy) 2/Lieut. L.A.G. BOYCE, (C. Coy). 2/Lieut J.W. NOWIE. (Attached 11tn 2.L.T.M.B attery). Distinguished conduct medal. -No. 875 Pte GRAY. J.J. Military Medal. -No. 1863 Cpl MALTY. F., 38 Sgt SMITN. W., 450 Cpl ISON. R. 1873 Pte MacGREGOR. C. 1086 Pte SNALES. J.F.G. 39 Pte ADAM. R.J. 2669 Pte WILKIE. W.J. 2525 L/Sgt JAMES WALLACE. J.A. 2793 Pte CARTER. T. 654 Cpl GRE ENLEES. W. 1026 Pte DURRINGTON. A.A. 2769 Cpl MESN. G.N.	8
	2 Nov.		Strengtn. 40 Off. 585 O.R. (2 O. R. S.O.S.) Promotions. to 2/Lieutenant. 565 C.E.M. WOODFORD. J.E. 1869 Sgt MORIARTY. J.J. 38 Sgt SMITN. W. 560 Sgt NIWILL. R. 2763 Sgt Cpl O'SULLIVAN. T.R.	
	3 Nov.		Strengtn. 45 Off. 575 O.R. (5. O. R. S.O.S. 5. O. R. Promoted)	
	4-11 Nov.		Battalion carrying out training as per appendix	9
	12 Nov.		Strengtn. 42 Off. 591 O.R. (3. Off S.O.S. 16 O.R. T.O.S.) Battalion moved out from Billets at Assingnem Head of column pass ing B.N. Q. at 8 a.m. Starting Point for Brigade Cross roads 1/2 mile S. of U. in Clarques (Map 5. a. Hazebrouck.) Order of march was 42nd-43rd-44th and 41st Battalion. The route was via REBECQ- GL OMBANGNEM -RINCQ- AIRE-BOESEGNEM to LES CISEAUX, where the Battalion billeted for the night. The weatner was cool and there were no stargglers. Distance about 18 miles .	
LES CISEAUX	13 Nov.		At 7.50 a.m. march was resumed. Battalion passing the cross roads W. of T in TANNAY (Brigade Starting Point) to time. The route was through TWIENNES - TANNAY - CRIOMARRAISSE - MERVILLE - NEUF BERQUIN - DOULIEU -to NOOTE BOOM, a distance of 21 miles. Here the Battalion billeted that night and rested the ne xt day. In spite of the distance there were no stragglers. Men with sore feet formed a part y in rear and marched into billets with the band in good order.	
NOOTE BOOM.	15 Nov.		At 10 a.m. Battalion moved of f and marched via LABECQUE - STEENWERCK. -to camp at KORTEPYP. Camp cleaned and fairly dry. 2/Lieut. J. CASSIDY 2/Lieut. W.T. JONES taken on strengtn from Cadet Battalion. The following Officers were placed on regimental supernumery list Capt. N. CUMLEIGH Lieut. J. J. HANLEY, Lieut. J. J. HANLEY , 2/Lieut. E. B. FREEMAN, 2/Lieut. R. TREDENICK and Lieut. J. J. HANLEY	
Korte py p.	16 Nov.		Strengtn. 41 Off. 578 O.R. (1 Off. Lieut. G. S. ARMSTRONG 13 O.R. S.O.S.) Honors and awards. Military Medal. 684 Dvr N. KAN E. 2649 Pte F. J. STUTZ 2272 E. D. ASHTON 723 Pte R. PERKINS.	
	17 Nov.		Carrying out training in acc ordance with senedule No. 10. Weather fine and cold. A great deal of rugby football being played between Platoons and Companies.	

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Alex R. Heron Lt Colonel
Comdg 4th Bn

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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~~INTELLIGENCE~~ SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

41st Battalion A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>1917.</u>			
KORTEPYP	19 Nov		Battalion in reserve to the right Battalion of the left sector holding a frontage from Sunken farm to Sugar Refinery. Reconnaissance of the line made by all Officers and N.C.Os commencing on the 19th and finishing on the 25th. Full information with regard to the posts was obtained from the 37th Battalion A.I.F. (10th Brigade) who were holding the line. Honors and awards. Distinguished Service Order was bestowed on 2/Lieut. W. FRASER for conspicuous gallantry on October 4th. The following Officers are placed on Seconded List- Lieut. E. D. PRICE 2/Lieut. G. S. N. ROBINSON.	
	20 Nov. to 24 Nov.		Strength. 42 Off. 603 men (1 Off. 2/Lieut. L. S. ROBINSON taken on strength from Cadet Battalion 25 O.R. T.O.S. from Reinforcements.) Battalion carrying out training. Football Matches arranged between 41st Battalion 25th and 26th Battalion A.I.F. All matches won by the 41st. Honors and awards. The following Officer has been noted for Mention in future Honor Despatch Lieut. Col A. R. MERON. D.S.O.	
	25 Nov to 31 Nov.		Battalion carrying out Regimental and recreational training as per syllabus No Strength. 44 Off. 648 O.R. (2 Off T.O.S. 2/Lieut. R. TREDENICK from Supernumerary List. 45 O.R. T.O.S. from Reinforcements.) Weather cold and snowery.	11
				<p>Alex. R. Meron Lt Col CO 41st Bn AIF</p>

1st November 1917.

To O.Cs A. Company,
B. Company,
C. Company,
D. Company.

Following will be details of instruction at skill
at arms to ensure greatest possible supervision by specialist Officers.

Musketry.	A. Company.	8.9 am.	Each Day.
	B. Company.	9.10 am.	"
	C. Company.	10.11 am.	"
	D. Company.	1.2 pm	"

Bombing	B. Company.	8 - 9 am	"
	C. Company.	9 - 10am	"
	D. Company.	10 - 11am	"
	A. Company.	1 - 2 pm	"

Lewis Gun.	C. Company.	8 - 9am.	"
	D. Company.	9 - 10am.	"
	A. Company.	10 - 11am.	"
	B. Company.	1 - 2pm.	"

Engineering.			
	D. Company.	8 - 9am.	"
	A. Company.	9 - 10 am	"
	B. Company.	10 - 11 am	"
	C. Company.	1 - 2 pm	"

Rapid Wiring. One Company each day from 2-3pm.

B.F. & P.T. Each Company each day from 5 to 5.30 pm. under Company
Instructors. B.F. & P.T. Officer will supervise one Coy each day. On
Days set down for gas drill 1/2 of Lewis Gun Hour will be utilized.
Lewis Gun Instruction will be carried out by Company Instructors.
Any Time not allotted to skill at Arms will be employed as O.Cs
Companies deem fit.

E. Sheridan. Major.
For C.O. 41st Battalion A.I.F.

41st BATTALION SYLLABUS OF TRAINING 1st - 7th NOVEMBER 1917.

Date November	Time	Subject	Time	Subject.	Remarks.
<u>1st</u>	8 - 9a.m.	Musketry- Care of arms, and loading positions.	1 - 2 p.m.	Engineering laying out and filing on to tasks.	
	9 -10a.m.	Bombing.	2 - 3p.m.	Rapid Wiring.	
	10-10.30a.m.	Lewis Gun Instruction.	3 -3.30p.m.	Bayonet Fighting.	
	10-30-11a.m.	Gas Drill.			
<u>2nd.</u>	8 - 9a.m.	Musketry, Aiming and firing. Fire-discipline	6 -8 p.m.	Night March and use of Gas Respirators.	Route to be notified later.
	9 -10a.m.	Bombing.			
	10 -11a.m.	Lewis Gun.			
<u>3rd.</u>	8 - 9a.m.	Musketry Use of cover and visual training.		Half Holiday.	
	9 -10a.m.	Bombing.			
	10 -11a.m.	Lewis Gun.			
<u>4th.</u>		Church Parade plus 1 Hour ceremonial.			
<u>5th.</u>	8 -9a.m.	Musketry, muscle exercises indication & recognition of targets.	1 -2p.m.	Engineering. Digging Platoon Posts.	
	9 -10a.m.	Bombing.	2 -3p.m.	Rapid Wiring.	
	10 -10.30a.m.	Lewis Gun.	3.-3.30p.m.	Bayonet Fighting.	
	10.30-11 a.m.	Gas Drill.			
<u>6th.</u>	8 a.m.	Battalion Route March.			
<u>7th.</u>	8-9a.m.	Musketry, Rifle Exercises & rapid Loading.		Half Holiday.	
	9-10a.m.	Bombing.			
	10-10.30a.m.	Lewis Gun.			
	10.30-11a.m.	Bayonet Fighting.			

Sgd E. Sheridan Major.

APPENDIX.

SYLLABUS OF OFFICER S TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 9-11-1917.

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41st Battalion.

Date	Time.	Syllabus.	Time.	Syllabus.	Remarks.
<u>November.</u> 5tn	9 -11a.m.	P.T & B.F. 1 hour.	Musketry 1 hour.	1 - 3p.m.	Platoon Organisation & Platoon Drill.
6tn		Battalion Parade.			7 p.m. Lecture.
7tn	9-11a.m.	Relief of trenches. Trench de fences.		Half Holiday.	7 p.m. Trench standing orders.
8tn	9-11a.m.	Rapid wiring and trench rout ine.	1 - 3p.m.	Construction of Vickers & Lewis Gun placements.	7 p.m. Patrolling.
9tn	9-11a.m.	Construction of anti-sniping devices?	1 - 3p.m.	Construction of dugouts- Latrines etc.	Anti-Gas organisation.
10tn	9-11a.m.	Ceremonial Drill.		Half Holiday.	

Officers will parade at Mill Gate at 9.a.m. each morning. Drill Order Rifle and bayonet.

Sgd T.A.FERGUSON Major.

APPENDIX.

OFFICERS
 Classes For ~~EXCISE~~ 1st to 7th November 1917.

Date	Time	Subject	Lecturer.	Place.
1st	7 p.m.	Communication in Battle.	Lieut. Baxter	Btn Mess Room.
2nd	7 p.m.	Lewis Gun Tactics.	Lieut. Wood.	do
5th	7 p.m.	Information F.S. Regs. Pt. 1 Chap. 6.	Major Ferguson	do
6th	7 p.m.	Protection F.S. Regs Pt 1 Chap. 5.	Major Sheridan.	do.

~~Next~~ Classes for N.C.Os 1st - 7th November 1917.

Date	Time	Place	Subject	Lecturer.
1st	3.45 p.m.	Mill Gates.	Siting & Laying out of Platoon Posts	Lieut Fraser.
2nd	3.45 p.m.	do	Use of Rifle and Bayonet in offensive	Lieut. Grant Smith .
3rd	3.45 p.m.	do	Map Reading	Lieut. Mc Gibbon.
6th	3.45 p.m.	do	Duties and responsibilities of N.C.Os	Major Sheridan.

Sgd E. Sheridan Major,
For C.O. 41st Battalion A.I.F.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 10th NOVEMBER 1917.

Date November.	Time	Subject	Time	Subject.	Remarks.
8th	8.30 - 9.30 a.m.	Squad Drill.	1 - 2 p.m.	Musketry Visual Training.	30 minutes of Gas Drill to be devoted to training with mask on.
	9.40 - 10.30 a.m.	Gas Drill.	2.10 - 3 p.m.	Rapid Wiring.	
	10.30 - 11.30 a.m.	P.T. & B.F.	3 - 3.30 p.m.	Bombing.	
9th	8.30 - 9.30 a.m.	Platoon Organisation & Platoon Drill.	1 - 2 p.m.	Coy. Close Order Drill.	
	9.40 - 10.30 a.m.	Musketry - Indication of targets	2.10 - 3 p.m.	P.T. & B.F.	
	10.30 - 11.30 a.m.	Judging distance. Rapid Wiring.	3 - 3.30 p.m.	Gas Drill.	
10th	8.30 a.m.	Battalion Inspection and route march.			
11th		Church Parade - 1 hour ceremonial.			

Sgd T.A. Ferguson, Major.
For C.O. 41st Battalion A.I.F.

SYLLABUS OF N.C.O. TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 10th NOVEMBER 1917.

Date	Time.	Place.	Subject	Lecturer.	Remarks.
November. 8th	3.45 p.m.	Sgts Mess.	Forward communication in Battle.	Lieut. Baxter.	
9th	3.45 p.m.	do	Trench Standing Orders.	Captain W. Uren.	

SYLLABUS OF OFFICERS TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 10th NOVEMBER 1917.

Date	Time	Place	Subject.	Lecturer.	Remarks.
November. 7th	7 p.m.	Officers Mess.	Intelligence.	Lieut. McGibbon.	
8th	7 p.m.	Officers Mess.	Bombing.	Lieut. McLean.	

T.A. Ferguson, Major.
For C.O. 41st Battalion A.I.F.

----- SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 23-11-1917. -----

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Date	Time	Subject.	Time	Subject.	Remarks.
17th	9am-10am 10am-11am	Platoon Drill. Section training.	Half Holiday.		
18th		Church Parade and ceremonial Drill.	Half Holiday.		Time to be notified later.
19th	9-10am 10.10.-11am 11 - 11.30am	Platoon in attack S.S.143. Section training in Opposite arm. Gas Drill.	1.30-2.30pm 2.30-3pm	Platoon Competition. Platoon Rifle Snoot.	See recreational training syllabus.
20th	9-10am 10.10-11am 11-11.30am	Section training in opposite arm. Platoon in close order drill. P.T. & B.F.	1.30-2.30pm 2.30-3pm	Platoon Competition. Platoon Riflesnoot.	A & B Coy snoot on 19th C & D & .Q. on 20th.
21st	9-10am 10.10-11am 11-11.30am	Platoon in attack S.S.143. Sectional training. Gas Drill.	Half Holiday.		
22nd	9-11am 11.30-11.30am	Company in attack S.S.135 to S. S.143. & W.O.3995. Criticism by Company Commanders on mornings work.	1.30-2.30pm 2.30-3pm	D.G. Competition. Rifle Section competition.	C & D Coys 1st hour on range. A & B Coys. last half hour on range.
23rd	9-11am 11-11.30am	Battalion in attack. Gas Drill. S.S.135.	1.30-3pm	Bombers & Rifle Grenadiers Competition.	

Sgd T.A. Ferguson, Major.
For C.O. 41st Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX.

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---RECREATIONAL TRAINING.---

Platoon V Platoon (Inter Company Competition.)

- Platoon Drill. Turnout I.T.Chap.3 Section 75 -80.
DRESS.Fighting Points. Turnout. 10 Points.Drill. 40 Points Total 50
order.
- Rifle Shooting. 10 Rounds per man.)5 Independent.
Every Man to)5 Rapid.
take part. Points. Section with Highest Aggregate. to win.
- Lewis Gun Section To be arranged by Lewis Gun Officer.
- Riflemen. Bayonet fighting over assault course. Finishing with
five rounds rapid at target.
- Bombers section.Three bombs each man at square target (Six by Six)
Range.....25 Yds, 30 Yds 35 Yds.
Points.....2 for each direct hit.
- Rifle Grenadiers.4 shots per pair. Target to be arranged.
10 Points for general efficiency in advance and loading.
- Signal Section. To be arranged by signalling Officer.
- Runners. Carrying and delivering of verbal messages.Locating
Positions on map.
- Scouts. Approaching Position in daylight.
" " at night.
Road Report.

Sgd T.A.Ferguson Major.
For C.O.41st Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX.

RECREATIONAL TRAINING - week ending 30-11-1917.

Boxing.-- 6 Divisions.

Feather Weight- 9 stone and under.
Light Weight. 9-9 and under.
Welter Weight. 10.7 and under.
Middle Weight. 11.6 and under.
Light Heavy Weight. 12.7 and under.
Heavy Weight. Catch Weights.

All men to box. 3 rounds. 2 minutes.

Companies will get their ~~own~~ teams weighed off by Sunday midday and commence the contest by Tuesday 1.30.p.m.

Tug of War. Weights as above.
Pulls to be Company against Company.

T.A.FERGUSON. Major.
For C.O. 41st Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX.

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SYLLABUS OF "15" TALKS BY PLATOON COMMANDERS DURING SMOKO.

- 24-11-1917. Saluting. Guards and Sentries. //
- 27-11-1917. Sanitation and care of feet.
- 28-11-1917. Recreational games and their intention.
- 29-11-1917. Esprit de Corps.
- 30-11-1917. Ceremonial and its effect on close order drill.

T.A. BERGUSON Major.
for C.O. 41st Battalion A.I.F.

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APPENDIX.

4 1st Battalion A.I.F.FOOTBALL PROGRAMME for week 26-11-1917 to 1.12.1917.

- Monday.
26-11-1917. a.m. 5 game s of bum ball against opposite Companies of 42nd Battalion - 15 minutes each way.
2.p.m. Rep. Team 41st Battalion V 42nd Battalion 45 minutes each way.
- Wednesday.
28-11-1917. 1.30p.m. "D"Com pany V "B" Company. 30 minutes each way. (Competition)
2.15 p.m. "C"Co mpany V "A"Company. 30 minutes each way.
- Friday.
30-11-1917. 1.30p.m. "C"Co mpany V winner of B & D Wednesday match. (Competition)
2.45p.m. H.Qrs V A Coy. and loser of Wednsday Competition match 30 minutes each way.

T.A. Ferguson. Major,
For C.O. 41st Battalion.

41st BATTALION SYLLABUS OF TRAINING week ending 1-12-1917.

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Date	Fall in	SUBJECT	DURATION	REMARKS.
24-11-1917	8.30 a.m.	Platoon Drill. Sectional Drill in opposite arms. Sectional Drill each in its own arm. Gas Drill.	1 hour. 1 hour. 1 hour. $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.	
25-11-1917		Church Parade. Ceremonial. Presentation of honour ribbons.		
26-11-1917.	8.30 a.m.	Battalion Parade.		Short talk by C.O. on history of Battalion.
27-11-1917.	8.30 a.m. Company	Platoon Drill. Company Drill. Sectional Training in Opposite Arm. Sectional Training in own arm.	$\frac{1}{2}$ hour. 1 hour. 1 hour. 1 hour.	Platoon Commanders will carry out "Talks" as per syllabus attached.
28-11-1917.	8.30 a.m.	Route March.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ hours.	
29-11-1917.	8.30 a.m.	Platoon in attack. Company in attack. Gas Drill.	1 hour. 2 hours. $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.	
30-11-1917.	8.30 a.m.	Platoon Drill. Sectional training in its opposite arm. Sectional training in own arm. P.T. & B.F.	1 hour. 1 hour. 1 hour. $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.	

APPENDIX.

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