

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/33/3

Title: 16th Infantry Battalion

November 1914



AWM4-23/33/3

WAR DIARY of 16th BATTN. 4th INF BDE A.I.F.

From 1.11.14 to 28.11.14.

H

1st November

Sunday No Training

2nd November

All Companies exercised in Organization & Distribution of Working parties and entrenching. Work good.

3rd November

Training as on 2nd inst continued

Captain WELCH 86th Infantry reported for duty with Depot.

It was decided to grant general leave for a period of 3 1/2 days to members of the Batta to allow them to finally adjust their private business and dispose of their personal effects

~~Major Daniels~~ Major DANIELS reported for duty with Depot.

4th November

Battalion Drill 9.30 to 10.30 am

72 men transferred from Depot to complete Reinforcement Company of 11th and 12th Batta.

Reinforcement Company for 16th Batta formed under

2/Lt - K L ANDERSON. by transfer of 61 men from Depot.

Commanding officer decided to alter Programme of Training and allotted 5th and 6th as well as 7th inst to Section exercises in Free Drizzle and Control in Battle practice 5th inst ABC and D Companies to be exercised on Ground selected for Ball firing with blank ammunition. Cth inst A & B to be exercised with ball ammunition. C & D to observe 7th C & D to be exercised ABC & D Companies exercised in Free Drizzle & Control with Blank Ammunition. E Company issued with Rifles and commenced preliminary Musketry exercises

5th November

Depot Companies issue + Fitting Web equipment.

Wue M297 regarding appointment of Permanent-Instruction
as RS III + Q III S. A20 sent-in reply Appendix A ^{13.}

6th November

A B C + D Companies moved at 8.30 to Practice with
Ball Ammunition. 10 rounds each issued.

Exercise showed insufficient knowledge on part of
Section Commanders

1 Section of each company exercised and practice
discontinued.

It was decided to devote more time to further training
in Fire Discipline and Control. Use of Fire and
Description of Targets.

7th November

A B C + D Companies completed exercise in unbranching
Depots formed into 2 Companies each 101 all ranks.

Third Company to be formed by further recruiting
ordered by D.H.G.

A21 were sent to Brigadier regarding deficiencies in
equipment. Appendix ~~A.13~~ A.14

Programme of Training for week ending 14th November
issued with B.O. 44/14

Return of Strength and progress of Equipment made up
Appendix.

Sunday, No Training

A B C and D Companies exercised in Musketry
Instruction

A B C and D Companies further exercised in Fire Discipline
and Control. E Company "Grouping" 1st Practice of
Musketry Course.

11th November

"E" Company, completed Grouping A, B, C and D Companies exercised in Section Training in the Field.

Captain BAKER. Lancashire Regt reported for Duty with Depot.

It was decided that as it was probable that the Regt. would shortly embark for Brigade Training that General leave be granted to all ranks to permit them to dispose of their private effects and ~~do~~ settle up their private affairs finally. Special Order No 2. was issued setting out the parties to go on furlough the length of furlough and the railway arrangements.

12th November

"E" Company and MGS. embarked for ~~the~~ OSBOURNE for Range Practices. 11th & 12th Battalion Reinforcements also proceeded to ~~the~~ OSBOURNE. Other Companies engaged in Section Training.

District Commandant Colonel BRUCHE inspected Camp. Colonel BRUCHE informed the Commanding Officer that the Regiment would be required to embark shortly for MELBOURNE.

November

Orders received to prepare for Embarkation by following Ships

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------------|
| DIMBOOLA | 15/11/14 | 130 all ranks |
| INDARRA | 21/11/14 | 350 " " |
| OPHIR | 23/11/14 | Reinforcements |
| KATOOMBA | 27/11/14 | 180 all ranks. |

A, B & C Companies completing issues of clothing & equipment - E Company & MGS recalled from Range Practices. It was decided to embark E Company by Dimboola being concentrated personnel of other companies on leave. Programme H 7

- 14th November E Company & MGS returned to Camp.
 Signallers who proceeded to MELBOURNE for training
 A/Coy Woodrow Plus Harvey & Hatcher returned and reported
 in camp. Depot detached from Bath under Major DANIEL.
- 15th November Sunday No training A+B boys received further issues
 of clothing and Bayonets.
- 16th November Final Orders received from D.H.Q. to embark E Coy & Detachment
 Signallers by DIMBOOLA.
 Embarkation orders prepared.
- 17th November Personnel returned from furlough. Embarkation Order
 Operation Order No1 and Embarkation Order issued
 Appendix. "E" Company issued with Bayonets
- 18th November "E" Company less 3 details and 1 Sgt-15 Ptes of Signallers
 embarked on DIMBOOLA.
 Embarkation well carried out. Pay and Allowment of pay
 in Pay books being completed.
- 19th November Allowment of Pay and completion of issues of Bayonets being
 carried out.
- 20th November Preparation for Embarkation. Camp Struck Camp Equip
 ment returned. Operation Order No2 issued.
 Licut DURSTON reported for duty attached to "C" Company.
 A, B, C Companies HQ less details and detachment Signallers
 embarked in "INDARRA" Operation well carried out.
- November On board ship weather very rough unable to do any
 training
- November Weather still very bad. no training. Cabin No 133 fire broke
 out extinguished before any damage done Board assembled to enquire
- November Weather moderated Companies paraded arms cleaned &
 inspected.

25th November Arrived in ~~the~~ ADELAIDE 8 pm
Guard mounted.

26th November General leave granted after cleaning ships
Dailed 5 pm, no absentees.

27th November Companies and Details exercised in Physical Training
and Arms Drill

28th November Arrived in MELBOURNE at 7.30 a.m.
Disembarked at 9 a.m. Transport Wagons not unloaded
from INDARRIA till noon.
Marched to STENCERS ST Railway Station and
embarked for BROADMEADOWS at 10 a.m.
Detrained at BROADMEADOWS at 10.45 a.m. marched
to Camp. Pitched portion of lines.
Supply of tents inadequate.
The following camp facilities were found to be urgently
needed.

- (a) Rubbish Bins
- (b) Shelters for boots at booting places.
- (c) Meal-saps.

Commanding Officer and Adjutant attended a conference
of Commanding Officers 4th Inf Bde with the Brigadier

The ~~South~~ SOUTH AUSTRALIAN quota of
3 companies were taken over by the Commanding Officer
from Major E.K. BAKER.

Personnel in camp night- 28/29th Nov as follows.

616

Remarks

H

| Unit. | Officers | Other Ranks | Total. |
|---------------|----------|-------------|--------|
| Head Quarters | 4 | 64 | 68 |
| A Company | 3 | 114 | 117. |
| B " | 3 | 114 | 117 |
| C " | 2 | 106 | 107. |
| E " | 2 | 112 | 115. |
| F " | 3 | 117. | 120 |
| G " | 4 | 115 | 119. |
| H " | 3 | 114 | 117. |
| Total. | 24 | 856 | 880. |

| In Perth. | | | |
|-----------|----|-----|-----|
| | OF | OR | TOT |
| HQ | 2 | 8 | 10 |
| MGS | 1 | 17 | 18 |
| D. Coy. | 3 | 114 | 117 |
| TOT. | 6 | 139 | 145 |

Embarked in SS
Katoomba.
28.11.14.

Deficiencies in Personnel.

- 1 Captain
 - 1 Lieutenant
- } For Reinforcement Company.

