

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

Flying Corps

**Item number:** 8/2/10

**Title:** 1st Wing Headquarters, Australian  
Flying Corps

September 1918



AWM4-8/2/10



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

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DUPLICATE.

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

OF

*1<sup>st</sup> Wing Headquarters A.F.C.*

FOR

*September 1918*

Signature of Officer compiling

*R. G. Brown*  
..... CAPT. & ADJT.  
1<sup>ST</sup> WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*R. G. Brown*  
..... CAPT. & ADJT.  
1<sup>ST</sup> WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.



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# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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1st Wing Headquarters A.F.C.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tetbury.	2.9.18.		As firing from the air is continually being practiced on many Aerodromes and as this may be a source of danger to Pilots from other Aerodromes, a large white diamond must be placed as a warning in the centre of an Aerodrome on which such practices are taking place. Leave to members of the Jewish faith is to be granted from 6th to the 9th Sept. and 14th to the 17th Sept. provided the exigencies of service permit.	
	3.9.18.		<u>Personnel:-</u> Seven Pilots of the A.F.C. are attached for Ferry work with the R.A.F. Central Despatch Pool. 2/Lieut. H. McGilvery, on returning from School of Artillery and Infantry Co-operation, Winchester, is attached to 1st. Wing Effective Pool. <u>General.</u> The Wing Commander regrets to announce the deaths of the undermentioned Officer and Cadet which occurred as the result of Aeroplane Accidents on dates stated. 2/Lieut. W. Parkes. No. 7 T.S. 1.9.18. and Cadet C.T. Watts. No. 8 T.S. 3.9.18. Cadet R.I. Chomley wins Weekly Cam Camera Competition for week ending 1.9.18. Pupils Flying times to noon 1.9.18. 485 Hrs. 25Mins.	
	5.9.18.		<u>Personnel:-</u> Lieuts. G.H. Blaxland and A.R. McComb are posted to 6 and 5 T.S.'s. respectively as Instructors. <u>General:-</u> In view of bad surface and difficulty of repairing same, Bembridge Aerodrome is placed out of bounds to all pupils sent on Cross Country Flights. Pilots must on no account land on Chingford Aerodrome, except in cases of extreme emergency. Civilians are not allowed to enter R.A.F. Camps or Barracks unless in possession of a pass issued by Headquarters.	
	7.9.18		<u>Personnel :-</u> Four Officers posted to 1st Wing Effective Pool. Lieut. F.W. Follett reported to Home Establishment and posted to No. 6 T.S. Minchinhampton as Flying Officer. <u>General :-</u> Aeroplane Engines must not be kept running without anyone in Pilot's seat. Blow lights or naked lights of any description are on no account to be exhibited in sheds in which petrol is stored. The user of the lamp will be held responsible for a fire. Except in cases of extreme urgency Motor Vehicles will not be used for journeys over 40 miles except with special permission from the proper authorities. Any infringement of this order	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tetbury.	7.9.18.	(Contd.)	will be awarded with severe disciplinary action. The Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of 2/Lieut. G.D. Allen which occurred as the result of an Aeroplane accident on 7.9.18.	
	9.9.18.		<u>Personnel.</u> Lieut. G.H. Blaxland posted to No. 6 T.S. to fly S.W.5a. On being posted he ceases to be an Instructor. Lieut. T.A. Humble attached for duty to Central Despatch Pool. <u>General:-</u> When Units make extracts from Orders they must quote authority at the end of such extracts. Mechanics must not smoke in Aeroplane sheds or Hangars. The penalty for the infringement of this order is severe disciplinary action.	
	11.9.18.		Seven Officers of 1st. Wing A.F.C. proceeded to A.F.C. Headquarters, London, for overseas, No. 1 Squadron, A.F.C. Egypt. Lieut. S.W. Robinson reported and posted to No. 7 T.S. Ex No. 1 Squadron, Egypt. Lieut. J.H. Weingarth reported Ex A.F.C. Headquarters, London, and posted No. 5 T.S. Lieut. E. Francis and J.T.L. Ray reported and posted to Nos. 8 and 6 Training Squadrons as Instructors. Fourteen Officers of 1st. Wing A.F.C. proceeded to Finishing Schools 7.9.18. Four Officers reported back on completion of Course on Bristol Fighters at Rendcombe on 6.9.18. Cadet A.E. Collins No. 8 T.S. wins Weekly Gun Camera Competition for week ending 8.9.18. Lieuts. C.J. King and W.G. Gray admitted Hospital 9.9.18.	
	12.9.18.		Lieuts. E.J. Roe, E.W. Eastgate and C. Clarke reported ex A.F.C. Headquarters, London and are posted to 1st. Wing Effective Pool, attached No. 5 T.S. 11.9.18.	
	13.9.18.		<u>Personnel:-</u> 2/Lieut. F.M.H. Proctor promoted to be Lieut. with effect from 20.6.18. <u>General:-</u> All cases of fire occurring at Stations will be at once reported by telegram to Area Headquarters, direct, giving a short statement of the damage done and a rough estimate of the value of the property destroyed. This information will also be reported to Group Headquarters.	

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Tetbury.	14.9.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Lieuts. A.S. Astridge, and G.F. Piper, No. 6 T.S. proceeded to No. 1 School of Aerial Fighting and Gunnery, Turnberry, on 14.9.18.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Nil.</p>	
	16.9.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Lieut. J.S. Mellish posted to No. 8 T.S. as Instructor and is entitled to wear Wings.</p> <p>Lieut. N. Mulroney admitted Tetbury Cottage Hospital, 15.9.18.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Cases have occurred recently of unskilled Pilots carrying passengers. No pupil may carry a passenger until he has completed at least five hours on his final machine and then only with the sanction of the Commander of the Squadron concerned.</p> <p>The Officers Commanding Stations are reminded that they are responsible for the sanitary condition of Contractors' Camps in the neighbourhood of R.A.F. Stations. Whenever necessary they should approach the Resident Engineer or the Official in charge of the Contractors' Camp with a view to getting any undesirable conditions remedied.</p> <p>Pupils flying times, week ending 15.9.18. 331 Hrs.</p>	
	17.9.18.		<p><u>General:-</u> Winner of the Weekly Camera Gun Competition for week ending 15.9.18. is:- Cadet E.A. Collins, No. 8 T.S.</p> <p>Re Army Council Instruction No. 758 of 1918. Army Form W. 3950 has now taken the place of Army Form O1800 and may be issued at the following maximum rates.. Not to exceed 6 return journeys per head per Unit. The number of vouchers supplied to Units will be based on the average strength of Unit, and in no case will be exceeded. It is essential that Railway Travelling should be restricted and only journeys that are considered necessary are to be permitted.</p>	
	18.9.18.		<p><u>General:-</u> All casualties will in future be reported as laid down in Air Ministry Monthly Order No. 908 and repeated to Wing, Group Command and Area Headquarters.</p> <p>No passengers are allowed to travel on Bristol Ration Tender except by written authority of the Station Commander. The N.CO. in charge has strict instructions to leave as soon as his load is complete and on no account must departure be delayed. The tender will not wait for any one.</p>	
	19.9.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Seven Officers of A.F.C. posted Central Despatch Pool. 18.9.18.</p>	

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Tetbury.	21.9.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Eight A.F.C. Officers proceeded overseas to B.E.F. Three A.F.C. Officers attached Central Despatch Pool. 20.9.18. for duty. 2/Lieut. A. Edgar proceeded No. 1 School of Aerial Fighting and Gunnery, Turnberry. 20.9.18. Cpt. E.S. Walker No. 8 T.S. proceeded to attend No. 1 School of Speical Flying, Gosport. 21.9.18.</p> <p>Lieut. A.F. Payne 5 T.S. granted leave 19.9.18. to 24.9.18.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> East Leigh Aerodrome is placed out of bounds for all landings except in cases of absolute necessity of engine failure. In the event of a machine being forced to land the Pilot will immediately report himself to the American Officer in Command, and telephone to his Unit for assistance without leaving the Aerodrome.</p>	
	23.9.18.		<p>Four A.F.C. Officers attached Central Despatch Pool, posted overseas, 23.9.18.</p> <p>2/Lieut. S.A. Round No. 6 T.S. admitted 2nd. Southern General Hospital, Bristol, 22.9.18. as the result of Aero accident.</p> <p>2/Lieut. G.J.W. Mackinolyty promoted Lieut. and E.O. Class II. 1.6.18.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Proceedings of Courts of Enquiry on Flying Accidents intended for Accidents Department will be forwarded direct by the Officer Commanding the Squadron concerned. Proceedings to Group Headquarters will be forwarded through the usual channels.</p> <p>A large number of mechanics have been more or less seriously injured lately in accidents when starting up engines. In many cases the accidents are due to carelessness on the part of the Pilot. The General Officer Commanding considers that these accidents come under the heading of disobedience of Flying Orders.</p>	
	24.9.18.		<p><u>General:-</u> Cases have occurred of Aeroplanes flying dangerous near Airships and in this connection the following orders are republished for information. No "Heavier than Air" machine is to approach within 600 yards than "Lighter than Air" craft.</p> <p>When on patrol if circumstances where doubt may arise, the "Heavier than Air" machine that is obliged to close within one mile of an airship is to turn so as to display colours. Failing this being done, the airship is to open fire as soon as the plane gets within the machine gun range.</p> <p>The attention of all units is drawn to the importance of quoting reference numbers in correspondence, acknowledging letters, when acknowledgement is called for and rendering reports and returns by a specified date.</p>	

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Tetbury,	27.9.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Twenty-seven Cadets posted from Depot to 1st. Wing for further instruction in Aviation and posted various Squadrons.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> 2/Lieut. J.M. Brown wins the Weekly Camera Gun Competition for week ending 22.9.18. The following extracts from Uxbridge Armament School Orders No. 122 dated 20.8.18: is published for information. "The Commandant wishes to bring to notice the following act of bravery. "While the Bagdad "four" were rowing on the Thames near Windsor, a woman was seen to fall into the water, Cadets Gaze and James and 2/AM. Mactaggert, (Australian Flying Corps, attached to "B" Squadron) immediately jumped from their boat into the water to attempt the rescue. The woman had gone down for the third time when Cadet Gaze reached her, dived and brought her to the surface, undoubtedly saving her life".</p> <p>The attention of all ranks is called to the necessity of obtaining permission from land owners for shooting game and rabbits. Tenant Farmers have no authority to grant permission to shoot game or rabbits.</p> <p>Pupils flying times for week ending 22.9.18. 384Hrs. 50Mins.</p>	
	29.9.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Capt. H.N. Wrigley, No. 7 T.S. admitted Tetbury Cottage Hospital, 27.9.18.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Applications for members of the A.I.F. for return to Australia on compassionate grounds should be accompanied by a statement from Applicant agreeing to a debit of 30/-d. being debited in his paybook for cost of cable to Defence, Melbourne, making enquiries.</p> <p>In all cases of loss of Government property it is important that the Police both civil and Military be at once informed. Failure to do this has lead to much unnecessary loss, trouble and correspondence.</p> <p>It has been brought to notice that many Log Books have been incompletely and inaccurately filled up. Wing Commanders will take such measures as will ensure that all Log Books are correctly kept.</p>	
	30.9.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Capt. A.H. Cobby, D.S.O. D.F.C. reported ex No. 4 Squadron A.F.C. B.E.F. and posted to No. 8 T.S. 30.9.18.</p> <p>The Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of the undermentioned Officer which occurred as the result of an aeroplane accident on 30.9.18. Lieut. P.G. Walsh, No. 8 T.S. A.F.C.</p> <p>2/Lieut. S.P. Calder, 6 T.S. reported No. 1 Fighting School, R.A.F. Turnberry.</p> <p>Lieut. R.H. Berriman and 2/Lieuts. R.F. Archer and G.A. Moxham, No. 8 T.S. proceeded No. 3 Fighting School, R.A.F. Sedgeford.</p>	

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Tetbury.	30.9.18.	(C ntd)	<p>The Winner of Weekly Camera Gun Competition for week ending 29.9.18. is - Lieut. S. Dobson, No. 7 T.S.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Officers are continually arriving at the R.A.F. and Army Co-operation School, Winchester, without any bedding. In future Officers reporting at this School will take their bedding with them as none is available for issue.</p> <p>Cases have been brought to notice where so called empty Petrol tins have contained petrol. This must cease immediately.</p> <p>All Hotels in Tetbury are out of bounds to N.C.O's. and men during working hours. i.e., 8-30am. to 12 noon and 1.30 pm. to 5 pm. Strict disciplinary action will be taken in the event of any contravention of this order.</p> <p>Pupils flying times for week ending 29.9.18. 609Hrs. 20Mins.</p>	

*P. H. Brown* CAPT. & ADJT.  
1<sup>st</sup> WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.



N O: 7

GROUP South Western AREA

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

SUMMARY OF WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS for <sup>Month</sup> week ending 30.9.18

1918.

SQDN.	STATION.	No. of Instrs.	No. of Instr Days.	Total Dual Time flown	Dual per Instr Day.	Grand Total Flying Time.	Possible flying hours.	No. of machines Service-able Daily. Average	No. of Machine hours.	Machine hours required to produce One Hours flying.	No of fatal Acci-dents	No. of pupils under Instrn. Eff. Non-Eff. Average	No of Y Pupils. Average	No of Z Pupils. Average
No 5 T.S. M <sup>t</sup> on		6	147	98.25	.67	431.40	223½	13	2825	6.5	1	32.7	20	-
No 6 T.S. M <sup>t</sup> on		6	140	133.00	.95	531.35	223½	13	2788½	5.2	-	34.2	23	1
No 7 T.S. L <sup>t</sup> on		7	156	194.55	1.24	486.55	183½	10	1768	3.6	-	35.5	9	1
No 8 T.S. L <sup>t</sup> on		6	146	144.30	.99	495.20	183½	15	2786	5.6	2	33.3	4	1
		25	589	570.50	.97	1945.30	814	51	10167½	5.2	3	134.17	56	3

*P. A. Mowbray*  
CAPT. & ADJT.  
1<sup>ST</sup> WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.