

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

Flying Corps

Item number: 8/2/11

Title: 1st Wing Headquarters, Australian
Flying Corps

October 1918



AWM4-8/2/11

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437

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

1st Wing Headquarters

FOR

October

1918

Signature of Officer compiling

A. H. Brown

CAPT. & ADJT.
1st WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.

Signature of Officer Commanding

A. H. Brown

CAPT. & ADJT.
1st WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.

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
TECBURY	2.10.18		<p><u>Personnel</u>:- the undermentioned Officer is posted as shown. Capt E.W.Cornish (MC) No. 6 T.S.</p> <p><u>General</u>:- N.C.O.'s and men leaving units for Courses of instruction must take the whole of their Kit with them, even if away only a few days. Complaints are constantly received to the effect that men sent to the various firms for instruction state that they have left their Jean Overalls behind.</p> <p>The attention of all concerned is drawn to the necessity of fixing sufficient postage on all official Postal packets in order to avoid the waste of time and labor consequent on surcharges enforced by postal authorities.</p> <p>Every effort is to be made to prevent damage or misuse of the petrol cans. The most frequent causes of damage are :-; (1) use of the tins for other purposes than the transport of Petrol (2) The unscrewing of stiff faucet Caps by means of the sharp edges of the tins, thereby twisting the seam and producing a leakage and (3) the accumulation and retention of tins at Stations under unsuitable storage conditions. These are all readily preventable causes of damage and therefore any instances of tins so damaged should be dealt with under paragraph 670 of the Kings Regulations.</p> <p>On the afternoon of Thursday Oct. 10th, a Wayside calvary will dedicated in the village of Beverston. No A.F.C. vehicle will travel on the Beverston Road between the hours of 3 P.M. and 5 P.M. that day.</p>	
	3.10.18		<p><u>Persomnel</u>:- Lieut. E.R.Spragg proceeded to attend the Aerial Map Reading and Navigation Course Winchester on 3.10.18.</p> <p>During the absence of Major R.S.Brown on leave the duties of Station Commander Minchinhampton will be performed by Capt. R.C.Phillips (MC) (DFC) and the duties of Squadron Commander No. 5 T.S. will be performed by Capt. G.F. Malley (MC)</p> <p>Lieut. R.E. Marsden will perform the duties of Wing Adjutant in the absence of Capt. L.P.Fay (MC)</p> <p>Major R.S.Brown granted leave from 2.10.18 to 5.10.18 and Capt. L.P. Fay (MC) from 3.10.18 to 11.10.18.</p> <p><u>General</u>:- An Officer is invariably to be in charge of firing practices. This Officer need not always be the Wing Gunnery Officer, but he must be definitely detailed as being responsible for safety arrangements.</p> <p>Shoerham Aerodrome is placed out of Bounds as a landing Ground for Cross Country and visiting Pilots, excepting cases of emergency. In the event of forced landings in the vicinity of Shoreham Aerodrome, Pilot should apply for assistance to the nearest R.A.F. Station other than Shoreham</p>	

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(A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16.

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TETBURY	6.10.18		<p><u>Personnel</u>:- Lieut P.K.Schafer reported back from No.1 School of Special Flying, Gosport on 5.10.18.</p> <p>Capt. G.F. Malley (MC) and Lieut F.W.Follett proceeded to S.W. Area Flying Instructor's School Gosport on 6.10.18.</p> <p>Five A.F.C. Officers proceeded to attend Artillery and Infantry Co-Operation School, Winchester on 6.10.18.</p> <p>Three A.F.C. Officers proceeded to attend No. 3 Fighting School R.A.F. Sedgford on 6.10.18.</p> <p>Capt. R.C. Phillips (MC)(DFC) ceased to perform the duties of Station Commander and Capt. G.F. Malley (MC) ceased to perform the duties of Squadron Commander on the return of Major R.S. Brown from Leave. 5.10.18.</p> <p><u>General</u> :- Where Motor Cars belonging to R.A.F. are allotted and a driver supplied, Officers and others are forbidden to drive such cars, the duly authorised Driver alone performing this duty. This order will not apply to duly qualified Officers of the Mechanical Transport Branch of the A.S.C.</p>	
	8.10.18		<p><u>Personnel</u> :- Capt. H.N. Wrigley and Capt. E.J. Jones (MC) (DFC) posted to Air Ministry for Overseas.</p> <p>Eight A.F.C. Officers proceeded to No. 1 School of Aerial Fighting, Marske on 8.10.18</p> <p><u>General</u> :- No fires will be lighted in Offices, Mess Rooms or Hutments without the authority of Station Commanders. Strong Disciplinary Action will be taken in cases of contravention of this order. In cases where fires are absolutely necessary the proportion of Coke used to coal will be 50%.</p> <p>Officers from Wing Headquarters have the privilege of using Station Messes when detained on duty and will conform to Mess Rules in force at the time. Meals will be paid in cash or books of tickets may be bought as the mess Committee may desire</p> <p>Pupils Flying Times for week ending 6.10.18 342 Hours 15 Mins.</p>	
	9.10.18		<p><u>Personnel</u> :- 2/Lieut. I.A. Macdonald reported for No.1 Fighting School R.A.F. Turnberry.</p> <p>Capt. E.S. Walker reported back from No. 1 School of Special Flying Gosport on 7.10.18.</p> <p><u>General</u>:- the winners of the Weekly Gun Camera Competition for week ending 6.10.18 are as follows:- Lieut. G.Burns Lieut. E.F. Nicolson</p>	

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TETBURY	10.10.18		<u>Personnel</u> :- Capt. R.C. Phillips (mc)(DFC) to be temporary Squadron Commander No. 6 T.S. and to be temporary Major while so employed, vice Major Cowper G.A.C.	
	11.10.18		Nine A.F.C. Officers and Cadets posted to Wing from Depot and allotted to various Squadron for further instruction in Aviation.	
	12.10.18		<u>Personnel</u> :- Lieut L. Wharton (MC) posted from A.F.C. Headquarters ex No. 4 Squadron to No. 5 T.S. A.F.C. 12.10.18 Capt. G.C. Wilson will perform the duties of Squadron Commander No. 8 T.S. Leighterton vice Major A.W.L. Ellis (MC) proceeding on leave. <u>General</u> :- After an accident to an Aeroplane involving damage to any of the planes, all planes will be renewed and removed stripped and examined providing the machine has to be dismantled	
	14.10.18		<u>Personnel</u> :- Capt. W.B. Tunbridge is posted from No. 5 T.S. A.F.C. to A.F.C. Depot Wendover. The Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of the undermentioned Officer which occurred as the result of an Aeroplane Accident on 13.10.18 and who is struck off strength of 1st Wing A.F.C. Accordingly. 2/Lieut. G.V. Wicks No. 7 T.S. 2/Lieut's O. Andrews and W.C. Colvin proceeded to No. 2 School of Aerial Fighting Marske. <u>General</u> :- Pupils Flying Times for week ending 13.10.18 419 hours 55 mins.	
	16.10.18		<u>Personnel</u> :- The undermentioned Officer reported for duty at Tetbury Hospital 15.10.18 and is attached to 1st Wing Headquarters from that date. Major H.W.F. Mitchell (MC) A.A.M.C. All units will at once forward to Transport Section Room 28 A.I.F. Headquarters Butts of all completed Books of Railway Warrants, care being taken to ensure that all warrants which have been cancelled with a reason for cancellation marked thereon are attached to same, and will in addition forward a weekly return in duplicate on A.I.F. Form Q 6 to reach the same department not later than 10 A.M. on Monday of each week. In cases where no warrants have been issued a <u>NIL</u> return will be rendered.	

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Tetbury.	17.10.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Capt. E.S. Walker. posted as an Instructor to No. 8 T.S. (Entitled to wear wings). Major H.W.F. Mitchell MC. is appointed O.C. Australian Hospital, Tetbury, and S.M.O. A.I.F. Units at Tetbury, Minchinhampton and Leighterton.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Owing to cases of Scarlet Fever being reported at Yatesbury the Aerodrome and Station are put out of bounds to all ranks from this date. It is notified for information that personnel proceeding to No. 3 Fighting School, should use Heacham Station, as this affords a better train service than Sedgeford.</p>	
	19.10.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Major R.S. DeC. Bennett is posted from A.D.M.S. A.I.F. Headquarters, London, as M.O. Minchinhampton Station, vice Capt. Thompson. (MC.) Cadet R.D. Hooker admitted 2nd. Southern General Hospital, Bristol as the result of an aeroplane accident.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Cases have occurred in which when Officers for whose posting instructions have been received have been on leave, they have been ordered by their Commanding Officer to report to their new Unit at the expiration of their leave. When such circumstances occur, leave should only be granted in the most exceptional cases, or when, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer, in which circumstances it should be reported by telegram to Group Headquarters. Mechanics will not be allowed to smoke when working on Aeroplanes or engines, or when working in Flight Sheds, Repair Shops, etc. Any disobedience of this order will be severely dealt with.</p>	
	20.10.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Major R.C. Phillips. MC. DFC. and Capt. A.H. Cobby, DSO. DFC. and Lieut. G.R. . Brettingham Moore proceeded to attend No. 1 School of Special Flying, Gosport, on 21.10.18. Capt. L.H. Holden. MC. will perform the duties of Squadron Commander, No. 6 T.S. vice Major R.C. Phillips. MC. DFC. proceeding to Gosport</p>	
	22.10.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Capt. E.J. Thompson. MC. and Capt. T.E. Marshall posted from Minchinhampton and Leighterton Stations, respectively to A.I.F. Headquarters, London. 21.10.18. Lieut. (Temp. Capt.) L.H. Holden. MC. promoted to Capt. and Flight Commander from 27.3.18. 2/Lieut. (E.O. Class 3) J.A. Ellison, promoted to Lieut. and E.O. Class 2.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> All members of the A.I.F. who so desire and who have sufficient credit on their pay-books may on pay day draw an additional amount not exceeding £5 for the purpose of buying Christmas presents.</p>	

(A8004) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms C2.16/14

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Tetbury.	22.10.18.		(Contd). The winner of the Weekly Gun Camera Competition for week ending 20.10.18. is:- Cadet Ross. F.Z. No. 8 T.S. Pupils Flying Times for week ending 20.10.18. 507 Hrs.	
	23.10.18.		<u>Personnel:-</u> Capt. G.F. Malley. MC. reported back from South Western Area Instructors School 21.10.18. Lieut. E.R. Spragg, reported back from Map Reading and Aerial Navigation Course, Winchester, on 21.10.18.	
	25.10.18.		<u>Personnel:-</u> Major W.H. Anderson. DFC. proceeded Air Ministry for overseas 24.10.18. Major A.W. Ellis. MC. will perform the duties of Station Commander, Leighterton Station, vice Major W.H. Anderson. DFC. proceeding overseas. Capt. G.C. Wilson, MC. DCM. ceased to perform the duties of Squadron Commander, No. 8 T.S. on the return of Major A.W.L. Ellis. MC. from leave. 23.10.18. <u>General:-</u> Care must be taken when stripping planes that the fabric is removed in as large pieces as possible. Fabric in large pieces fetches from Contractors four times the amount obtained for fabric in small pieces. Further, if fabric has become damp Contractors refuse to purchase. All loose fabric and planes awaiting stripping will therefore be stored under cover and fabric consigned to Centralising Stations will be so packed that it cannot become damp en route..	
	26.10.18.		<u>Personnel:-</u> Lieut. W. Scott. A.Q.M.G. Branch, posted from 1st. Wing Headquarters, to A.I.F. Headquarters, London. 23.10.18.	
	28.10.18.		<u>Personnel:-</u> Lieut. F.W. Follett posted to No. 6 T.S. as Instructor. Lieut. A. Crocker, 2/Lieut. J. Jeffreys, and 2/Lieut. H. Buckingham proceeded Artillery & Infantry School, Winchester, 28.10.18. Lieut. V.R. Bishop and 2/Lieut. G.F. Bicolson proceeded No. 2 School of Aerial Fighting, Marske. 28.10.18.	

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Tetbury.	30.10.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Lieut. D.K. Swann, 2/Lieut. A.F. Stevenson, and 2/Lieut. T.I.W. Kelly proceeded No. 2 School of Aerial Fighting, Marske today.</p> <p><u>General:-</u> Christmas Cards may be obtained by all ranks on strength of 1st. Wing Headquarters from the Wing Adjutant at the following rates:- 9d. each 4/- per half dozen, 7/6d. one dozen. The winner of the weekly Camera Gun Competition for week ending 27.10.18. is:- Lieut. H.G.H. Bryan, No. 6 T.S.</p> <p>Pupils Flying Times for week ending 27.10.18. 243 Hrs. 10Mins;</p>	
	31.10.18.		<p><u>Personnel:-</u> Capt..L.P. Fay. MC. admitted Wellesley House, Officers Hospital, Aldershot, 30.10.18. (Influenza), whilst on Convalescent leave.</p>	

H. Brown

CAPT. & ADJT.
1ST WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.

NO 7 GROUP South Western AREA ROYAL AIR FORCE.
 SUMMARY OF WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS for week ending 28.10. 1918.

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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 Hour 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
5 T.S.	M ^t on	5	126	115.40	.92	519.50	176.5	18	3103	5.97	-	36.3	17	2
6 T.S.	M ^t on	5	134	92.55	.69	438.15	176.5	14	2477	5.65	-	33.1	19	1
7 T.S.	L ^t on	6	144	133.30	.93	409.40	188	10	1923	4.69	1	36.1	11	2
8 T.S.	L ^t on	6	125	119.45	.96	409.30	188	15	2772	6.77	-	39.3	11	2
		22	529	461.50	.87	1777.15	729	57	10275	5.78	1	144.8	58	7

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R. B. Mansfield
 CAPT. & ADJUT.
 1ST WING HEADQUARTERS, A.F.C.