

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

Flying Corps

**Item number:** 8/2/9

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

August 1918



AWM4-8/2/9



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

437

**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*1st Wing Headquarters Australian Flying Corps.*

FOR

*August* 191*8.*

Signature of Officer compiling

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

Signature of Officer Commanding

*W. A. G.* Lt. Col.  
COMMANDING 1ST WING  
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS.

HEADQUARTERS 1ST WING,  
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS,  
TETBURY,  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.



## 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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TETBURY.	1.8.18.		The Australian Field Post Office working well, and has proved much more efficient than the Civil Post.	
	2.8.18.		2/Lieuts. Keay and Richards reported No. 1 School (Finishing) Turnberry. All Other Ranks reporting to A.F.C. H.Qrs for Medical Examination with a view to selection as cadets must take full kits with them.	
	3.8.18.		Any Individual relinquishing charge of Public Property must give "handing over" certificates. If that individual cannot do so and at the same time obey his movement order, then Group H.Qrs must be advised by wire. Where drivers are supplied with Government Cars, Officers are not allowed to drive such cars. 2/Lieuts. Cox T.C. and Kerr. H.N. proceeded to Finishing Schools at Turnberry.	
	5.8.18.		No Aerial Firing to take place on ranges other to those allotted for the purpose. Air Officers of the Group will attend all inquests.	
	8.8.18.		Courts of Enquiry must not attribute blame to Pilots when an aeroplane accident is an "error of judgment". The "Officer of the Watch" will wear a red band on the left arm. 2/Lieut. Fry wins this week's Gun Camera Competition. The Wing Commander Lieut. Col. W.O. Watt left for France by air in rather tempestuous weather. Compass Navigation was entirely necessary.	
	10.8.18.		Lieut. S.J. Brewer ceases to be attached to 1st Wing A.F.C. on marching out to Air Ministry. Relinquishing his Commission. Chaplain the Rev. F.H. Durnford proceeded to A.I.F. Headquarters for B.E.F. Chaplain the Rev. Norman K.D. reported for duty with 1st Wing. 2/Lieuts. Ryrie, Symons, Truby and Wright proceeded to No. 1 School of Aerial Fighting, Turnberry. Lieuts. Bell, Peel, Frazer and 2/Lieuts. Deamer and Tait proceeded to Artillery and Infantry Co-operation School Winchester. Capt. Clarke A.G. admitted Tetbury Cottage Hospital and Lieut W.A. Holtham to Cirencester Cottage Hospital, result of aero accidents on 8.8.18 and 6.8.18 respectively.	

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TETBURY.	10.8.18		(Contd). When Imprest Account Money is lost by fire, theft etc., a member of the Army Pay Corps will be appointed Member of Court of Enquiry.	
	12.8.18.		<p>Lieut. C.T. Brown, proceeded Overseas as Observer. Nine Officers are posted from various Squadrons to 1st Aust Wing Non-effective Officers' Pool. Lieuts. Robertson, Williams and Mulroney proceeded to Units on reporting back from No. 1 School of Special Flying, Gosport, and Capt. E.J. Jones M.C. D.F.C., Capt. Tunbridge and Lieuts. Mellish and Walsh proceeded to above School.</p> <p>In future, all Pilots, before being sent off on their first solo flight will be tested by an Officer instructor. This ruling also applies to pupils or pilots returned to Dual Control from Solo. In cases of forced landings, where a pilot applies to nearest R.A.F. Station for help, he comes under the orders of the O.C. of that Station until his machine is fit to fly away. The order that Pilots must be strapped into their machines is republished for information. Original and one copy of Court of Enquiry to be sent to Group Headquarters within 5 days of accident. If delay occurs then a report stating reasons must be rendered within the prescribed time.</p>	
	14.8.18.		<p>2/Lieut. H.A. Fisher-Webster is posted from No. 1 School of Aerial Fighting and Gunnery, Turnberry to 1st Wing Effective Officers' Pool.</p> <p>The Wing Commander regrets to announce the Death of 2/Lieut. O.D. Shepherd as a result of an Aero. accident 10.8.18. Capt. R.W. McKenzie and 2/Lieut. D.N. Rees admitted Tetbury Cottage Hospital as the result of an aero accident on 13.8.18.</p>	
	17.8.18.		<p>Lieut. Col. W.O. Watt on returning from B.E.F. resumes command of 1st Wing, Aust. F.C.</p> <p>The Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of the undermentioned Officers which occurred as the result of aero accidents on dates stated:-</p> <p>2/Lieut. Dunn. R.A. No. 8 T.S. 13.4.18. 2/Lieut. Lewis C.C. No. 5 T.S. 17.8.18.</p> <p>The King has been graciously please to approve of the following Honours and awards in recognition of acts of gallantry and devotion to duty.</p> <p>The D.F.C. T/Capt. A.H. Cobby. Capt. H.G. Forrest. Capt. R.C. Phillips.</p> <p>Capt. H.G. Forrest attached to 1st Wing A.F.C. and posted to No. 6 T.S.</p>	

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TETBURY?	17.8.18	(Contd).	New regulation re compulsory Inoculation and Vaccination is published for information. The Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of the undermentioned man which occurred at Tetbury Cottage Hospital (Natural Causes). No. Aus. 2194 1/AM Cubbins. L.G. A.R.S.	
	21.8.18.		<p>List of Authorised Gymnastic Gear on issue published. These are obtainable by all R.A.F. Stations at home with an Establishment of not less than 500. The centre of supply is No. 1 Stores Depot, Royal Air Force, Kidbrooke, London S.E. Stations with less than the required establishment may draw in proportion to the number.</p> <p>Constant waste in Goggles and Masks is occurring through neglect on the part of Pilots and Observers to fold them properly after use. They must be folded according to instructions laid down.</p> <p>Personnel. Capt. Malley G.F. (MC) ex No. 4 Squadron, A.F.C. B.E.F. is posted to Home Establishment as Flight Commander in No. 5 T.S. A.F.C. Eight Officers (Camel Pilots) proceeded to R.A.F. Finishing School, Burcham Newton. Two Officers (R.E.8 Pilots) proceeded to Infantry and Artillery Co-operation School, Winchester.</p> <p>The Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of the undermentioned Officers which occurred as the result of Aeroplane Accidents on 18.8.18. Lieut H. Taylor. M.C. M.M.) No. 8 T.S. 2/Lt. D.A. Ferguson. ) A.F.C.</p> <p>Lieut. H.G.H. Bryan wins the weekly Gun Camera competition. 18.8.18.</p> <p>Pupils flying times for week ending 18.8.18. 756 hours 10 mins.</p>	
	23.8.18.		<p>Personnel. Capt. R.C. Phillips M.C. D.F.C. ex No. 2 Squadron A.F.C. B.E.F., is posted to Home Establishment as Flight Commander No. 6 T.S.</p> <p>Lieuts. Spragg E.R. and Morgan A.J. are posted to Home Establishment ex No. 1 Squadron A.F.C. B.E.F. as Flying Officers No. 7 T.S., A.F.C. Four Officers proceeded to Finishing School at No. 1 School of Aerial Fighting and Gunnery, Turnberry.</p> <p>Notification is published re the danger of strange pilots landing at No. 2 N.A.R.D., Greenhill, Sheffield, owing to the inauguration of a pipe drainage system on the aerodrome.</p>	
	25.8.18.		<p>Personnel. Lieut. F.L. Roberts reported to A.F.C. Headquarters, London for posting to B.E.F.</p> <p>(Continued)</p>	



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TETBURY.	25.8.18	(Contd).	The Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of the undermentioned Officer and Cadet which occurred as the result of Aeroplane Accidents on 24.8.18. 2/Lieut. S.C. Fry. No. 8 T.S. A.F.C. Cadet R.N. Pillow. No. 7 T.S. A.F.C.	
	27.8.18.		<p><u>Personnel.</u> Major R.S. Brown, No. 5 T.S. A.F.C. will perform the duties of Station Commander during the absence of Major G.O.C. Cowper on leave.</p> <p>Capt. R.C. Phillips D.F.C. M.C. No. 6 T.S. will perform the duties of Squadron Commander during the absence of Major. G.A.C. Cowper on leave.</p> <p>Three Officers proceeded to R.A.F. Rendcombe Station to complete 5 hours training on Bristol Fighters prior to proceeding Overseas.</p> <p>2/Lieut. E.L. Spencer posted 1st Wing A.F.C. as Wing Photographic Officer.</p> <p>Six Officers proceeded Overseas to No. 4 Squadron and are in consequence struck off the strength of 1st Wing, A.F.C. Major. G.A.C. Cowper granted leave from 27.8.18 until ordered to report to the Staff Officer for Aviation, London.</p> <p>Four Officers returned from and three Officers reported to No. 1 School of Special Flying, Gosport.</p> <p>No Officer in the Group, below the rank of Wing Commander will visit Group H.Qrs, unless ordered to do so.</p> <p>Cadet W.F. Stewart wins Weekly Gun Camera Competition for week ending 25.8.18.</p> <p>Pupils flying times, week ending 25.8.18, 488 hours, 50 mins.</p>	
	29.8.18.		<p><u>Personnel.</u> The Wing Commander regrets to announce the deaths of the undermentioned Officers and Cadets which occurred as the result of an aeroplane accident on 28.8.18.</p> <p>2/Lieut. R.L. Cummings. No. 5 T.S. Lieut. C.W. Scott. No. 5 T.S. Cadet E.H. Jefferys. No. 6 T.S.</p> <p>When a machine is transferred from one Unit to another, the distinctive marks of the last Unit must be obliterated. The duty of the receiving Unit is to paint on its markings immediately on receipt of machine.</p> <p>Pilots must not land at Shoreham Drome unless on duty or through engine failure.</p> <p>The speed of 12 miles per hour must not be exceeded by Leyland Heavy Tenders.</p>	
	30.8.18.		All members of the A.I.F. must produce their pass when asked for to Civil as well as Military Police.	

D. D. & L. London, E.C.  
(A8001) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms C2..0/14

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TETBURY.	31.8.18.		<p><u>Personnel.</u> Capt. H.G. Forrest D.F.C., Flight Commander No. 6 T.S., transferred to Aust. F.C. Depot. Wendover.</p> <p>No privately owned Motor car or Motor Cycle is to be garaged in any Government Garage or building.</p> <hr/>	



## WAR DIARY

OF

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

FOR

August 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.		Subject.
1.	- - - - - - - - - -	Summary of Weekly Progress Reports for month of August 1918.
2.	- - - - - - - - - -	Return showing Disposal of Pupils who Graduated "B" during August 1918.
3.	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	Sample of Writing paper and envelopes used by Personnel 1st Wing Headquarters. A.F.C.
4.	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	Sample of Writing paper and envelopes used by Personnel A.F.C. at Leighterton Aerodrome.



## APPENDIX.I.

437

No. 7.

GROUP

South Western

AREA

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

SUMMARY OF WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS for the month of August 1918.

SQUAD.	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.	No. of Machine hours.	Machine hours required to produce One Hour flying	No of fatal accidents	No. of pupils under Instrn. Eff. Non-Eff.	No of Y Pupils	No of Z Pupils
5.T.S.	M'Hampton	6	127	149.55	1.18	700.40	328	11	3782	5.40	--	126. 26.	72	6
6.T.S.	-do-	6	106	144. 5.1.36	1.36	641.55	328	9	2993	4.51	2	135. 9.	83	4
7.T.S.	L'terton	8	168	310.55	1.86	1042.30	325	13	4220	4.05	1	190. 6.	52	16
8.T.S.	-do-	5	99	137.10	1.39	679.55	325	12	3942	5.80	4	134. 46.	47	23
Total.		25	500	742. 5.	1.48	3065.-	1206	45	14937	4.87.	7	585. 87	254	49
		66												
Tetbury Glos.														

*Le Juv*  
 Capt & Adj  
 for O.C. Ist Wing. A.F.C.



APPENDIX II.

1st Wing Headquarters, A.F.C.,  
Tetbury, Glos.,

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RETURN SHOWING DISPOSAL OF PUPILS WHO GRADUATED CATEGORY "B" DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST.

Disposal	5 (T) S.	6 (T) S.	7 (T) S.	8 (T) S.	Total
A. Posted to Finishing Schools	4	1	4	3	12 A.
B. In Unit awaiting posting	2	4	8	1	15 B.
C. Retained as Instructors	-	-	-	-	Nil C.
D. Posted to Squadrons Mobilizing	-	-	-	-	Nil D.
E. Killed	-	-	-	-	Nil E.
F. Non-Effective, Sick, Etc.	-	-	-	-	Nil F.
G. Converted to other types	-	-	-	-	Nil G.
H. Posted direct overseas	-	-	-	-	Nil H.
Total Graduations "B"	6	5	12	4	27

Tetbury, Glos.,  
1st September 1918.

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(APPENDIX III.)



TELEPHONE 47.  
T.A. AERONAUTICS, TETBURY.



HEADQUARTERS 1<sup>ST</sup> WING,  
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS,  
TETBURY, GLOS.

-eAPPENDIX IIIe-





No. SQUADRON,  
AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS,  
LEIGHTERTON, TETBURY, GLOS.

APPENDIX IV.