

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/49/44

Title: 32nd Infantry Battalion

March 1919



AWM4-23/49/44

Confidential

259

No.
ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~
~~TRIPLICATE~~

32ND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTN.	
No.
Date

WAR DIARY

OF

FOR

191

LIST OF APPENDICES

Subject

Australian Imperial Force

WAR DIARY

of

32nd Battalion A.I.F.

March 1919

Officer Compiling:-

Anderson, Lt.

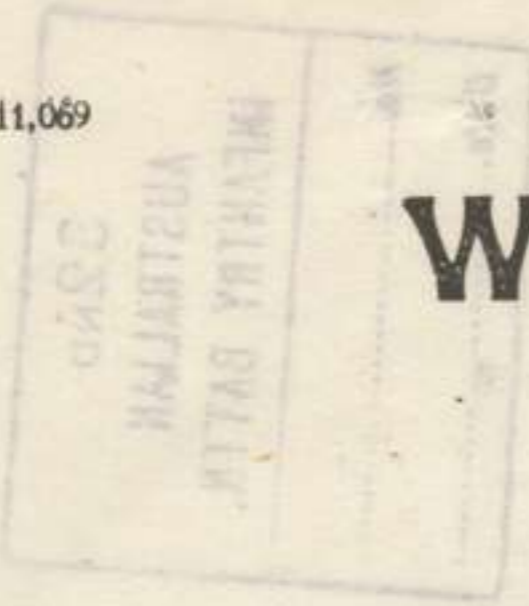
Officer Commanding:-

Wants

CO.

3500th

Major



WAR DIARY

OF

FOR

191

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

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WAR DIARY

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Office Memorandum

War Diary

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No. Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
 Date. Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.
 and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
 will be prepared in manuscript.

~~OR~~
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SARS - POTERIES	1919 Mar. 1		<p><i>Ref map NAMUR. 8. 1/100,000</i></p> <p>Coy. Pdes. Inspection arms, equipment and billets. Physical training. Coy. Route marches. C.O.'s inspection of A. Coy. <u>Weather.</u> Fine and cloudy. <u>Strength</u> 75 Officers - 775 O'Ranks (Present 417 434 Detached 347 291)</p> <p>2 } 08.00 } C. of E. Holy Communion in 8th Field Amb. Class Room. 10.00 } 18.00 do. Lantern Song Service in School Room. 11.00 R.C. Mass in local Church together with civilians.</p> <p><u>Weather.</u> Dull & showery. Order received to effect that <u>dances etc.</u> can be reopened. "A" Coy. held very successful dance.</p> <p>3 Coy. Pdes. Inspection arms, equipment & billets. Physical training. <u>Pay.</u> all ranks of embarkation quota no 14, due to leave on 5th inst., received a special pay. <u>Weather.</u> Fine & dull - heavy rain at night.</p> <p>4 Bathing Parade at Bde. Baths. Clean change underclothes supplied. <u>Weather</u> Showery. <u>Dances.</u> In view of the departure tomorrow of Embarkation Quota 14 special dances were held in both A. & B Coy's halls. Splendid music was rendered and an excellent supper provided.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Reg No 8 NAMUR. 8. 1100.000

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SARS- POTERIES	1919 Feb 5	09.00	<p>Embarkation Quota no 14 moved off after assembling in the "Square" and being addressed by the C.O. (Major B.A. Wark V.C., D.S.O.) The amalgamation of A & B Coys and C & D. Coys. took place and are now under the command of Capt. C.E. Davis D.S.O., M.C. and Capt. J.H. Allen M.C. respectively. Remainder of the day was taken up with reorganisation and interior economy. Weather. Fine & dull. Heavy rain at night.</p>	<p>Officers 5 Privs 10 OR. 130 145</p>
		6	<p>Coy. Training. Inspection Arms, equipment & billets. Physical Training Education Classes as usual. Weather. Cold & stormy. Heavy rain at night.</p>	
		7	<p>Coy. training and Education Classes as usual Weather. Cold & stormy</p>	
		8	<p>Coy. training and Education Classes as usual Weather. Fine & Dull. Strength. With Unit 33 Off. 327 OR. Detached 35 Off, 277 OR. (Total 68 Officers, 604 OR)</p>	
		Noon	<p>Bn. was amalgamated with 30th Bn. Each unit was organised into two Coys - the 30th will be known as A & B and 32nd as C & D. The composite Bn. will be under the command of Major B.A. Wark V.C. D.S.O., pending the return of Lt. Col. F. Street D.S.O. who, on his return, will assume Command.</p>	

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REF. MAP NAMUR. 8. 1/100,000

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SARS POTERIES	1919	08.00	C. of E. Holy Communion in 8 th Field Amb. Class Room.	
		10.00	R.C. Mass in SARS POTERIES Church.	
		11.00	C. of E. Lantern Song Service in School Room.	
		18.00	Dance. A very successful final dance was held in "B." Coy's Hall. Largely attended by all ranks and civilians.	
		19.00	Weather. Heavy showers.	
		10 09.00	Bn. left SARS POTERIES and marched off for the first time with the 30 th Bn. as C & D Coys. of that unit, under the command of Lt Col. F. Street D.S.O.	Order attached
SIVRY (BELGIUM)		11.30	A large number of civilians assembled at the Starting Point to farewell the men. The roads were very heavy owing to the recent rains and continued showers and a good march was nevertheless made via SOLRE-LE-CHATEAU and BEAURIEUX, arriving at SIVRY at 11.30. Cookers supplied hot meals on arrival. The men's packs were taken by motor transport to the final area and they marched in fighting order carrying greatcoats and ground sheets. Blankets were carried per G.S. Wagons from stage to stage. Weather Showery - heavy rain at night.	
SOLRE-ST. GERY		11 09.45	Left SIVRY and marched by most direct route to SOLRE-ST.-GERY which was reached at 11.30. Hot meals were again served on arrival.	
		11.30	Weather kept fine and roads dried considerably with a strong wind. The most noticeable feature of Belgium was the well kept and stocked dairy farms - eggs, cream and fresh milk being for sale.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOLRE - ST. GERY	1919 Feb 12	09.30	Left SOLRE ST. GERY and marched via BOUSSU-LEZ-WALCOURT, SILENRIEUX to the final area at YVES GOMEZEE, which was reached at 15.00. Lunch was partaken of at SILENRIEUX, tea being served from the cookers. It had previously been decided to not to stage at SILENRIEUX and the men finished up the march without any apparent fatigue. <u>Weather</u> Showery.	
YVES-GOMEZEE (BELGIUM)		15.00	Hot meal was ready on arrival and all were comfortably settled quickly in new area.	
"	"	13	Nominal rolls handed over to 30 th Bn. with all necessary documents. Whereabouts of every detached officer and man shown.	
"	"	14	All 32 nd Bn. records checked and forwarded to Base. All Bn. stores delivered by R. Q. M. to D. A. D. O. S. Clean receipts obtained and handed over to Adjutant 30th Bn. as well as all Bn. horses and mules, handed over to 30th Bn. Transport, but same will be <u>Weather</u> . Fine. demobilized by our Transport Officer as called for.	

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WAR DIARY

OF

32nd Battalion A.I.F.

FOR

March 1919.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
* 1	<i>Movement Order</i>
2	<i>C.O.'s report.</i>
3	<i>Q.M.'s do</i>
4	<i>T.O.'s do</i>
5	<i>Education do.</i>
6	<i>Honours & Awards</i>

* *With original only.**[Signature]*

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D
W

COPY NO. 6...

32ND Battalion A.I.F

Movement Order No. 562

MAP. REFERENCE

BRAUNOY. 6, 8, 12. and NAMUR 8 1/100,000

6th March 1919

1. The Western boundary of the Divisional Area will be FRANCO-BELGIAN frontiers as from 16th March 1919.
2. Move to the new Area will be carried out in accordance with time table attached, and will be complete by noon on 14th March.
3. The 5th Brigade will move in two groups Bde. H.Q. 5th A.L.F.M.B. and 31st Battalion, comprising the first group and the 30th and 32nd Battalions forming the second group.
4. No. 1 Group will leave present area on 9th inst and No. 2 group on 10th inst.
5. Staging places to the new area will be SIVRY, SOLRE ST. GEY and SILVERIEUX.
6. Administrative instructions will be issued later.
7. No advance parties, other than those authorised, will proceed to new area.
8. Acknowledge.

Copies:-

- "A & B" Coy.
- "C & D" Coy.
- Lt. Miller
- C.M.
- T.O.
- War Diary
- File.

Issued 1900.

32ND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTN.	
No.	<i>6712/287</i>
Date

Andrews Lieut. & A/Adjt.
32nd Battalion A.I.F.

March Table for No. 2 Group issued with 32nd Battalion Move order No. 56

6th March 1919

<u>Date.</u>	<u>starting point</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Route</u>	<u>Staging place.</u>
10th March	Crater at Cross Roads FOLLERIES +SARS POTERIES and BEUGNIES- SOLRE +LE -CHATEAU Roads.	0900	BUGHIES, SOLRE LE CHATEAU BRAURIEUX, SIVRY.	SIVRY
11th	Junction of SIVRY -SIVRY STATION and BRAUMONT-RANCHE Roads.	10.30	SIVRY starting point, Cross roads near 36 kilo. post SOLRE ST GERY	SOLRE ST GERY
12th	Road bend at top of L. in SOLRE ST GERY	0930	SOLRE ST GERY, BARBEBOUNT Bousu les Walcourt, SILNRIEUX	SILNRIEUX
13th	Cross roads BATTERFER- HAZARETH and SILNRIEUX PHILLIPVILLE Roads.	0930	SILNRIEUX- DAUSSOIS YVES COMBRES.	YVES COMBRES.

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32nd Battalion A.I.F

Copy.....

Administrative arrangements issued in conjunction with Movement Order No. 56 and 30th Battalion Order No.163.

8th March 1919

1. As already detailed advance parties will be ready to move to new area and also the staging area. They will carry unconsumed portion of and 48 hours rations, and will be ready to move at one hour's notice.
2. All packs, plainly marked, less ground sheets and greatcoats, to be stacked in square opposite B.O.R. together with valises of Officers on leave, at 0700 tomorrow 9th inst.
3. Paliasses to be rolled in bundles of 20 and returned to Q.M. store at 0800 on 10th inst.
4. Blankets (2 per man only) to be rolled in bundles of 10, plainly labelled, and stacked in square opposite B.O.R. at 0830 on 10th inst. Blankets of all men on leave, and any surplus, will be sent to Q.M. store by 1800 tomorrow 9th inst.
5. Officers valises, other than mentioned above, to be stacked in square opposite B.O.R. at 0800 on 10th inst.
6. Officers mess gear to be cut down to a minimum and will be called for at 0800 on 10th inst. Any surplus mess gear can be sent to Q.M. store and will be left there until transport returns etc., this also applies to any stores required to be taken forward from Coy. Recreation Halls, decorations surplus S.B.Rs. electric lights fittings and lamps.
7. No guards will be detailed by Coys. to accompany blankets or valises.
8. A party consisting of Lieut. G.H.S. Wright assisted by Lieut. G. Harper M.C. G.M.S. Sturtevant, and 6 men to be detailed by duty Coy. will remain in present area for purpose of collecting all military stores left in the area such as blankets, paliasses, clothing & equipment. All material will be stacked in Q.M. Store until transport returns to collect same. Q.M. will arrange to ration.
9. Cookers will be ready to move at 0830 on 10th inst. and midday meal will be ready on arrival at staging areas and final area. H.Q. Details will be rationed by "A" Coy.
10. Coys. will render to B.O.R. at 0800 on 10th inst. certificate to the effect that all billets have been left in a clean and sanitary condition. All latrines will be properly filled in.
11. Coys will march independently to starting point.
12. Dress As per orders already issued plus S.B.Rs. greatcoat which will be rolled and carried on back. W.P. sheets will be carried under flap of haversack.
13. All water in new area will be chlorinated.
14. Guard at SANS POTERIES station will not be moved until relieved. Q.M. will arrange to ration.
15. Detention Guard will march with its Company.

- Copy. 1 "A & B" Coy
 2 "C & D" "
 3 Q.M.
 4 T.O.
 5 War diary
 6 M1a
 7 30th

32ND
 AUSTRALIAN
 INFANTRY BATTALION

No.
 Date.....

G. Henderson Lieut. & A/Adjt
 For C.O. 32nd Battalion A.I.F.

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Commanding Officer's Report for March 1919. 32nd Battalion.

Company training has been carried out each day and daily inspections of arms and equipment and billets have been held.

Bathing parades have been regularly held at the Brigade Baths and clean changes of underclothing supplied.

Education classes were continued with fairly good results. Several football matches have been played and exciting games resulted.

Dancing has been actively indulged in by all ranks of the Unit at which the most happy relationship has existed between the civilians and ourselves.

On 5th inst. Embarkation Quota No. 14 consisting of 145 all ranks left en route for Australia.

The amalgamation of "A & B" Coys and "C & D" Coys took place on 5th inst.

The amalgamation of the Battalion with the 30th Battalion took place on 8th inst.

The health of all ranks generally has been good.

Reports by Quartermaster, Transport Officer, and Education Officer are attached.

3 rd	
AUSTRALIAN	
INFANTRY BATTN.	
No.
Date.

W. W. W. W.

Major.

Temp. Commdg. 32nd Battalion A.I.F.

3

Quartermaster's Report for March 1919.

During the period 1/8th March 1919 the chief item of interest was the return of Mobilisation Stores to 5th D.A.D.O.S. THULLIES.

On 1st inst Lewis Guns and appurtenances were handed in- the balance of the Mob. Stores other than those in Regimental use, being returned on 8th inst.

Supplies.

Generally speaking the rations supplied were up to the usual good standard; the percentage of bread and frozen meat being maintained. Rations were supplemented by a quantity of Potatoes and other vegetables purchased from Regimental Funds.

G.W. Weaver

Hon. Capt. & Q.M.
32nd Battalion A.I.F.

32ND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTN.
No.
Date.....

(4)

Report on work by 32nd Battalion Transport.
1st to 12th March 1919.

During the period all the Battalion work was satisfactorily carried out viz General work, ration wood and sanitary. Trips were made from Sars Poteries to Thuillies with Quartermaster's Stores for demobilisation, Sars Poteries to Yves Gommezee with packs of men and valises, and from Yves Gommezee to Thuillies with transport vehicles to be demobilized. All vehicles and harness of the transport has been demobilized and the personnel absorbed in the 30th Battalion.

32nd Battalion T/Port Officer.
 A.I.F.

Animals of 32nd Battalion Transport.

The following animals have been demobilized.

Draughts.	Heavy.	6.
"	Light.	6.
Officers.	Riders.	2.

All remaining animals with one exception are in excellent condition. The one mentioned is at present lame, owing to be kicked.

W. C. Staight
 T/port. Officer.
 32nd Battalion A.I.F.

32ND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTN.
No.
Date.

Educational Officer's Report for March 1919.

The work of the Education department as a separate Battalion is now finished owing to the amalgamation of this Battalion with the 30th Battalion and from now will be carried out on the same lines, but under one control.

The eight days of this month have seen little or no change in the education work. The fact that the approval of the a large number of the applications for non-military employment, have reached the Battalion does not effect the report, but will greatly effect the applicants concerned, and will be much appreciated. The classes of the Battalion are to a great extent hampered by the larger Central Schools, drawing from the Battalion all the best instructors, and by the disorganisation caused many students leaving for U.K. and by others being temporary absent to attend central schools

The work will be carried on in such a manner that will enable any soldier to acquire elementary instruction in any minor subject, and still remain with the Battalion until the final demobilization.

H. Hawley Lieut.
Education Officer 32nd Battalion A.I.F.

32ND
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BATTN.

Date.....

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6

Honors and Awards. 32nd Battalion A.I.F. March 1919.

N I L.

Mark Major
Temp. Commdg. 32nd Battalion A.I.F.

32ND
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BATTN.
No.....
Date.....