

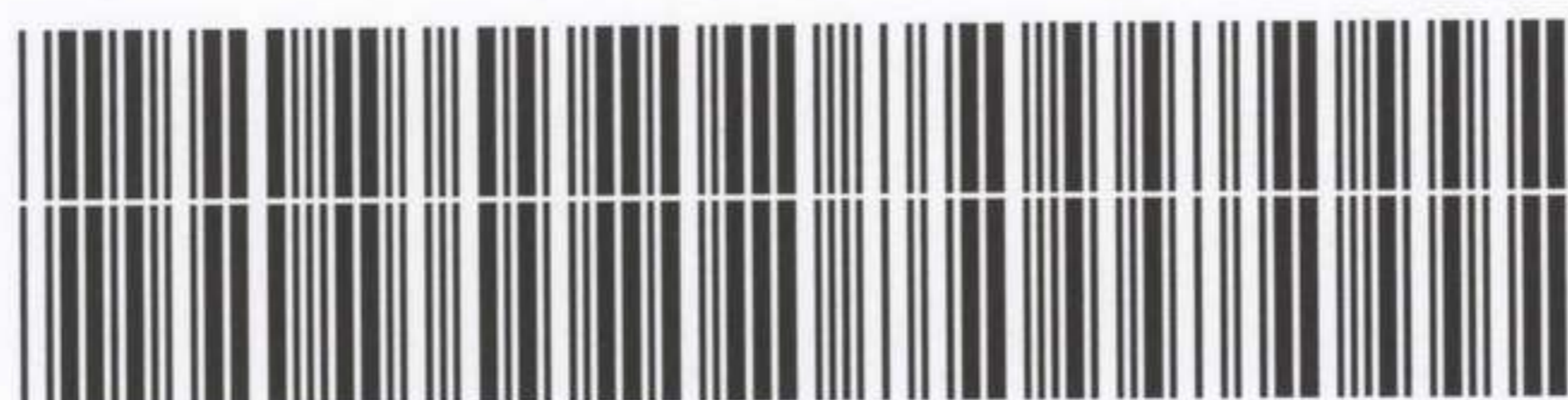
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/31/38

**Title:** 14th Infantry Battalion

December 1917



AWM4-23/31/38

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118. 14<sup>th</sup> Bon

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>FRESSENNE-VIELE. ABBEVILLE.</p> <p>Map ref. 1/100.000</p>          <p>MCISLAINS. HAUT-ALLAINES Area.</p> <p>Map ref. 620 C.18.2</p>	1917.	Dec. 1st.	<p>Training as per programme. Afternoon - Football Matches. Lieut-Colonel W.J. Smith to U.K. leave. Major D.Thomson M.C. commanding Unit. Strength, 39 Officers 693 C/Ranks; - (Establishment, Attached, and Detached). 48 747 -</p>	Appendix 1
	2nd.	<p>Brigade Church Parade. R.C. Mass at FRESSENVILLE. Afternoon, Half-holiday. 2/Lieut. A.J. Naylor to U.K. leave. Estab. &amp; Attached, Strength, 41 Officers, 684 O.Ranks.</p>		
	3rd.	<p>Musketry practice. Preparations for early move. Strength, Estab. &amp; Attached, 41 Cff. 696 O.Ranks.</p>		
	4th.	<p>Cleaning of billets; Inspection of Companies by Company Commanders. Lieut. F.G. Griffiths to 1st Anzac School. Preliminary Move Order issued. Strength, Est. &amp; Attached, 38 Cff. 695 O.Ranks.</p>	Appendix 2	
	5th.	<p>Inspection of billets and Company's equipment by G.C.'s, 2/Lieut. G.J. Huse and billeting party proceed to PERCENNE. Estab. &amp; Attached, 38 Cff., 703 O/Ranks.</p>		
	6th.	<p>Move Order No. 69/17 issued. "C" Company, 5 Officers and 100 C/Ranks proceed to PERCENNE as Detraining Party, under command of Captain W.R. Wadsworth M.C. Estab. &amp; Attached, 38 Cff. 704 695 C/Ranks.</p>	Appendix 3	
	7th.	<p>Battalion entrains 6.4 p.m. at WCINCCURT; Detrains PERCENNE-FLAMECCURT. March to MCISLAINS area. 2/Lieut. E.R. CHUBB from 1st Anzac Corps School. Estab. &amp; Attached, 39 Cff. 704 C/R.</p>	Map ref.	
	8th.	<p>Erection of ablution places, latrines, and general improvement of camp area. Lieut. W. JACKA from Seconded List, 4th (new 13th) T.B. Estab. &amp; Attached, 40 Officers, 704 C/Ranks.</p>		
	9th.	<p>Battalion baths. Training, platoons in attack and retirement. Afternoon, Football matches. Captain W.R.M. Beamond evacuated sick to hospital. Strength - Establishment, Attached and Detached - 48 Officers, 769 C/Ranks.</p>		
	10th.	<p>Church parade - cancelled owing to inclement weather. Cleaning and inspection of huts etc. Afternoon - Half-holiday. Estab. &amp; Attached, 39 Cff. 702 O/Ranks.</p>		
	10th.	<p>Training - tactical exercises, platoon as advance guard and Company as Advance Guard. Estab. &amp; Attached, 39 Cff. 701 O/Ranks.</p>		

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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## or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MCISLAINS. AMIENS, Map.ref.  62C. c.18a	1917.			
	Dec.	11th.	Morning - Voting on Referendum Question. Afternoon, Training, Company as Advance Guard to Battalion. Lieut. W.J.HODGES from U.K.Leave; Lieut.H.J.A.SCHUTZE to U.K.Leave. Establishment and Attached, 39 Officers, 706 O/Ranks.	
		12th.	Battalion baths, issue of clean underclothing available. Afternoon, Football matches. Strength, Established and attached, 39 Officers, 705 Other Ranks.	
		13th.	Brigade Tactical Operations, as per Training Order No.3 herewith. Establishment & Attached, 39 Cff. 706 O/Ranks.	Appendix 4
		14th.	Morning- Company training, advancing in Artillery formation; Afternoon, Route Marches. Lieut. T.H.Griffiths to School. Estab.& Attached, 38 Officers, 702 C/Ranks.	
		15th.	Brigade Tactical Operations, as per Training Order No.4. Afternoon, Football matches. From Reinforcements - Lieut.L.E.BALL. Estab.Attached & Detached - 49 Cff. 776 C/Ranks.	5
		16th.	Cleaning of Camp area, and salvaging. Afternoon - half-holiday. Estab.& Attached, 39 Cff. 709 C/Ranks.	
		17th.	Erection of earth walls round huts as protection against bombs. Salvaging operations. Lieut. L.H.Ebbett from School. Estab.& Attached, 40 Officers 714 C/Ranks.	5A
		18th.	Battalion Baths; Salvaging. To Hospital, Captain P.J.Hayes. From Hospital, Lieut. G.Clarendon Hyde. From U.K.leave - Lieut-Captain W.J.Smith, Lieut. R.Wood. Estab.and attached, 42 Cff., 717 C/Ranks.	
	19th.	Cleaning of Camp area, preparatory to move. Special Order 70/17 issued (copy herewith) 2/Lieut. S.De Arauge from school. Estab.and attached, 43 Cff. 718 C/Ranks.	Appendix 6	

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 100

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## ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MCSLAINS.	1917.			
AMIENS.	Dec. 20th.		Move off 8.50 a.m., moving to TEMPLEUX-la-FCSSE, taking over camp from 52nd Battalion. Afternoon, parties detailed for road work. 2/Lieut. W. J. Puiten from hospital. Etab/ & Attachee, 44 Cff. 726 C/Ranks.	
TEMPLEUX la-FCSSE.	21st.		Parties detailed for work on roads. Training -- Organisee games, afternoon. Etab. and Attachee, 44 Cff/ 717 C/Ranks. 2/Lieut. A. J. Naylor from leave.	
	22nd.		Road fatigues, to minimise effect of thaw. Etab. & Attached, 45 Cff. 715 C/Ranks. Detached, 5 " 65 "	
	23rd.		Party of 5 Cff. 200 other ranks detailed for work on Corps line; 2 Cff. 50 other ranks for road fatigue. 2/Lieut. V. E. Hall from Reinforcements. Etab. & Attached, 46 Cff/ 723 C/R.	
	24th.		Training - Morning, platoon schemes; afternoon, Company schemes: (Rearguard to a force withdrawing from position. Battalion baths. Lieut. S. J. J. Garten from seconded list. Etab. & Attached, 47 Cff. 723 C/R.	
	25th.		Christmas Day; Church parades. Festivities. Etab. & Attached, 47 Cff. 723 C.R.	
	26th.		Working parties detailed for work on Corps line and road fatigues. Proceeded to leave, Captain Trumble (Medical Officer) & Chaplain T. McVittie. Marched in, Captain C. Friend (MCff.) from schools, Lieut. F. G. Griffiths, 2/Lieuts. T. H. Griffiths, F. T. Larter. Etab. & Attached, 49 Cff. 737 C/Ranks.	
	27th.		Training, Morning, Battalion Scheme (rear guard to a force withdrawing). Afternoon, rapid loading, platoon drill, respirator drill. Etab. & attached, 49 Cff. 729 C/Ranks.	
	28th.		Brigade Tactical scheme, as per Special Order attached. Est. & Att. 49 Cff. 727 C/Ranks.	Appendix 7
	29th.		Road fatigues detailed. Captain W. G. Laver reports from Hospital. Lieut. H. J. A. Schutze from leave. Est. and Attached, 50 Cff. 724 C/r.	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEMPLEUX- 1a-FOSSE	1917. Dec.	30th.	<p>Morning - Church Parades. Fatigue parties detailed for work on Corps Line and roads. Etab. Attached &amp; Detached, 54 Cff. 78B C/R.</p>	
		31st.	<p>Baths. Morning - Inspection of kit and equipment. Bayonet fighting instruction. Major A.R. Cox from Senior Officers School ANDERSHOLT; Captain J. Mackay to 13th Training Battalion. Captain A.R. Blainey M.C., and Lieut. F.C.W. Symonds to leave. Etab. Attached and Detached, 54 Cff. 783C/R.</p>	

..... *W.B. Jackson* ..... 2/Lieut.  
A/Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

14th Battalion A.I.F.  
9th December 1917.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING

400

Day and Date.	7 a.m. to 7.30.	Forenoon			Afternoon.		
		9 to 10 a.m.	10 to 11	11 to 12.	2 to 3 p.m.	3 to 4 p.m.	
Sunday, 2/12/17.	Roll call & promulgation of orders.	church parade; inspection of <sup>Rules</sup> <del>books</del> by C.O.; S.M.			Half holiday.		
Monday, 3/12/17.		Platoon drill;	Musketry Instr- Bayonet Fighting.		Saluting;	Extended order	
Tuesday, 4/12/17.		Platoon drill.	Bayonet Fight-	Musketry	Extended order	Platoon drill;	
Wednesday, 5/12/17.		Route March.	Not less than 7 miles.			Organised Games.	
Thursday, 6/12/17.		Platoon drill.	Musketry	Bayonet	1 hour Saluting.	Company drill,	
Friday, 7/12/17.		Brigade Route March.	Instruction.		Lecture,	(Ceremonial).	
Saturday, 8/12/17.	Platoon drill.	Platoon drill		Organised Games.			

Notes. Specialist training will be conducted by specialist officers and N.C.O.'s. as per Syllabus attached.  
Musketry. Allocation of Range for week - Monday, "A" Company; Tuesday, "B" Company;  
 Thursday, "C" Company; Saturday, "D" Company.

30/11/1917.

(Signed) A.S. Basingy Capt. n.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion.

*appendix 1*

APPENDIX. 1

<u>Day and date.</u>	<u>Morning.</u>	<u>Afternoon.</u>
Monday, 3/12/17.	A. and B. Companies - Range practice. C. and D. " Elementary Trigonometry.	A. and B., Elementary Trigonometry, C. and D. Range practices.
Tuesday, 4/12/17.	C. and D. " Range practice. A. and B. " Elementary trigonometry.	C. and D. Elementary Trigonometry. A. and B. Range practice.
Wednesday, 5/12/17.	Route March.	Organised Games.
Thursday, 6/12/17.	A. and B. Range practice. C. and D. Steppages - Elementary.	A. and B. Steppages - Elementary. C. and D. Range practice.
Friday, 7/12/17.	Route March.	
Saturday, 8/12/17.	Steppages; cleaning and inspection of Gear.	Organised games.

30/11/1917.

(Signed) A.J. Saylor 2/Lieut.  
L.C.C., 14th Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX. 1

appendix 1.

200

14th Battalion A.I.F. Syllabus of Training in SIGNALS for week ending 8th December 1917.

Hours of Training.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
9 to 10.30 a.m.	Tests.	Stn. Work.	XXXXXXXXXX.	Observation & Verbal Messages.	XXXXXXXXXX.	Huzzer Board.
10.30 to 12 noon.	Tests.	DD. DD. Messages.		Flag drill.	..	Verbal messages.
2 to 3 p.m.	Training Manual Sig.	Lecture and Huzzer Unit.	....	Signal Office work.	..	....
3 to 4 p.m.	Drill.	Compass.		Fullorphone.	..	....
-----						
SIGNALS CLASS.						
-----						

30/11/1917.

(Signed) H. Bear Lieut.  
Sig. Officer, 14th Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX. I

*Appendix I*



APPENDIX 2

C.C's., Companies.

PRELIMINARY MOVE ORDER. 4/12/17.

Copy No. ....

The Battalion entrains tomorrow, 5th inst., at WGINCGURT.  
Time to be notified later.

5 Officers and 100 other ranks from "C" Company, will proceed by first train. They will be the detraining party for the Brigade. C.C., Company, will accompany the party.

Preliminary detail to be carried out to-day.

1. Draw ammunition and complete each man to 120 rounds.
2. All Lewis Guns, magazines filled and the whole packed in limbers.
3. See all ranks completed with extra days' ration to be carried on the man.
4. All stores etc. to be at the following places by 2 p.m. today:-

B. C. and D. Companies at CHATEAU,  
A. Company and Headquarters at Battalion Orderly Room.

Officers' valises and all other surplus kit and boxes to be dumped at above places by 3 p.m. today.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 .....Captain.  
 Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

*Appendix 2*

APPENDIX 2

SECRET.

Copy No. 8

14th BATTALION A.I.F. : SPECIAL MOVE ORDER No. 69/17.

By

5/12/1917.MAJOR D. THOMSON M.C. COMMANDING.

Reference Maps, ABBEVILLE 1/100,000.  
AMIENS. 1/100,000.

1. The 14th Battalion, less 5 officers 100 other ranks, "C" Company and 1 Cockerand team, will entrain at WOLINGHAT on 6th December 1917.  
Detraining station, PERONNE.
2. Units will entrain as follows:-  
Troops at 4.34 a.m.  
Transport at 5 a.m.
3. Units will be formed up in column of route, Head of Column at TRAFRE-  
FRIVILLE Cross-roads at 3.30 a.m. in the following order:-  
Headquarters, Brass Band, Pipe Band, A., B., C., D., Companies.  
Transport will move under orders of the Transport Officer in time to reach  
entraining Station by hour named.
4. Cockers will move to Entraining Station at 5 p.m. to-night under command  
of Quartermaster. Company cocks will accompany them and prepare breakfast  
by 4.30 a.m.
5. Captains J.A. Mitchell M.C. and W.R.M. Beaman are appointed Entraining  
Battalion Entraining and Detraining Officers. They will communicate with  
Brigade Entraining Officer, Captain W.S. Bone M.C., 13th Battalion, today.
6. No troops are to enter the station yard until the R.T.C. is ready to entrain.
7. Breastropes for horse trucks to be provided by Units; lashing ropes for  
vehicles will be provided by R.T.C.
8. Troops will carry Full Marching Order, Blankets, and Waterproof sheets;  
also 1 day's dry ration and iron ration.
9. The wet ration will be carried on the cockers.
10. 2 guides from each company and two from Headquarters will report to Chief  
Entraining Officer, Captain Mitchell M.C., at Battalion Orderly Room at 6  
p.m. today.
11. All billets are to be thoroughly cleaned out today during daylight, and  
again before marching out.  
The Senior Major will inspect right half of Battalion and Headquarters,  
and the Captain of the Week the left half of Battalion at 3 a.m.
12. "A" Company will supply train guard of 1 officer 3 N.C.O.'s and 20 men.
13. Special attention to be paid to preserving discipline during entraining  
and detraining and during the journey.
14. Attached copy of orders for movements of troops by rail to be strictly  
adhered to.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Copies to all concerned, as per file.

*D. R. Blaney*  
.....Capt n.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

*Appendix 3.*

14th Battalion A.I.F. APPENDIX

TROOPS  
ORDERS FOR TRAVELLING BY RAIL.

1. A N.C.O. or private will be placed in charge of each compartment. He will be held responsible that no one leaves the compartment without permission.
2. All ranks are forbidden to travel on the footboards of trains, or between the carriages.
3. All ranks are forbidden to leave their carriages excepting at such stations as may be ordered.
4. When entraining or detraining, this is to be carried out quietly.
5. Men will be told off to compartments under the orders of C.C's. Companies after they have been notified which are their carriages.
6. At all stopping places the C.C. Guard will place his sentries at all exits from the station, recalling them in sufficient time to get aboard before the train starts.
7. Troops are forbidden to shout when passing through stations.
8. All ranks are forbidden to attempt to quit the train when in motion.
9. C.C's. Companies will detail sufficient officers to supervise their portion of the train and to ensure these orders are complied with.

*AR M... [Signature]*

*appendix 3.*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

APPENDIX 3

14th Battalion A.I.F. SPECIAL TRAINING ORDER No.3. 12/12/17.

by  
MAJGR D. THOMSON M.C. COMMANDING.

1. The Battalion will take part in Brigade tactical manoeuvre tomorrow, 13th inst.
2. Tactical scheme attached.
3. Battalion will parade at 9.20 a.m. on Battalion Parade Ground. Dress - Fighting Order; mid-day meal to be carried.
4. Geckers will leave camp in time to pass the starting point (Crossing at C.12.d.5/5) at 11 a.m.

*AR Blount*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

Tactical Scheme to accompany Special Training Order No.3.

12/12/17

Reference sheets 62C. and 57C.

1. The enemy outposts are approximately on the line RANCCURT-C.12.central-Road Junction in D.13.a  $\frac{1}{2}$  ST. PIERRE FARM - AIZECCURT -LE-BAS.
2. The 4th Australian Division is holding the sector MCISLAINS exclusive, to D.19.central, with outposts in touch with enemy outposts about 400 yards distant. The 1st Division and 2nd Division are on our left and right respectively.
3. The patrols of the 4th Brigade holding the whole Divisional front reported at 8 a.m. on 13th December that the enemy had appeared to have thinned out his outpost line. This was confirmed by aeroplane reconnaissance about the same time, and signs of withdrawal appeared general along the whole ANZAC Corps front.
4. A general forward movement is ordered, the 4th Australian Brigade acting as Advance Guard to the 4th Australian Division, with the 12th and 13th Brigades as support and reserve respectively. The 6th Infantry Brigade on the right, is Advance Guard to the 2nd Division, and the 3rd Infantry Brigade on the left for the 1st Division.
5. OBJECTIVE 4th INFANTRY BRIGADE IS RIVERSIDE WOOD.
6. The Advance Guard composed as under will advance at 10 a.m. with its right approximately on Road Junction D.13.C.- D.13.a.central- D.8.central - SIGI DU BCIS.-V.25.central. The CANAL DU NORD forms the left boundary between the 4th and 3rd Brigades.

Vanguard.

15th Battalion,  
42nd Battery,  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  section 4th M.G. Coy.  
1 section 4th Field Company.

Right Flank Guard  
13th Battalion.

Left Flank Guard.  
14th Battalion.

Main Guard.

4th Brigade Forward party.  
16th Battalion.  
11th F.A. Brigade, less 42nd Battery.  
4th M.G. Coy less  $\frac{1}{2}$  section.  
4th A.L.T.M. Battery.

7. The 14th Battalion plus 1 section 4th M.G. Company, are detailed as left flank Guard. A Company will take the extreme left flank, B.C. and D. Companies, to the right in that order.

*Appendix H.*

SPECIAL TRAINING ORDER No.3. Tactical Scheme, continued.

8. Movement from the Jumping Off line to first point of deployment will be in artillery formation. After passing that point, Companies will move in four waves, twenty five yards between one and two, seventy-five yards between 2 and 3, and twenty-five between 3 and 4.
9. Advanced Brigade Headquarters will be in C. Company, 15th Battalion's dugout C.18.d.central. ....

Notes.

1. Object of the exercise,
  - (a). To practise protection on the march.
  - (b). To practice communication within the Brigade, and with formations on the flanks.
  - (c). To practise dealing with unexpected situations, created by the 33% of Units.
  - (d). Advancing under artillery fire.
2. The cutpost line is the line of posts.
3. ~~The 15th~~ There must be no movement of patrols on either side before 9.50 a.m.
4. The Brigade Group, less the 15th Battalion, to rendezvous in C.24.a and b. ready to advance at 10 a.m.
5. The enemy sector opposite the 4th Brigade sector will be subdivided into 4 sub-sectors. To each sub-sector will be allotted the 33% - the 14th Battalion quota on the right, 15th Battalion next, then 16th Battalion, with the 13th Battalion on the left. The senior officer of each quota will take command and distribute his machine guns and men in depth as agreed on with dispositions settled on.
6. Machine guns will be simulated by the rattle of tins, and a rifle held perpendicularly indicates troops are under its fire, rifle held horizontally above head indicates advance held up. Umpires will see that no troops advance until such action is taken by leaders as would overcome the opposition.
7. The exercise will consist of four phases -
  - 1st phase - The action of the Vanguard up to a stage when it can advance no further without support.
  - 2nd phase - Based on information (which will be sent by intelligence dogs) received from the Vanguard Commander and aerial observation in which it is found necessary to attack RIVERSIDE WOOD with three Battalions after a 5 minutes bombardment,
    - (a) 3rd phase. Relief by 12th Brigade.
    - (a) 4th phase. Withdrawal.
    - (a). These two phases will not be carried out by troops but will form the basis for instruction of Officers and N.C.O's. on the ground at a later date.
8. 2 sections 4th Machine Gun Company will be employed on barrage work in 1st phase and again in 2nd phase. Half section will be allotted 13th, 14th and 16th Battalions in the 2nd phase.

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix 4

Secret.

APPENDIX. 5

14th BATTALION A.I.F. TRAINING ORDER No. 4.

14/12/1917.

by  
MAJOR D. THOMSON M.C. COMMANDING.

Reference Sheets 52.c. and 57.c.

1. The enemy outposts are approximately on the line RANGCOURT - C.12. central - Road Junction in D.13.a. - ST. PIERRE PANS - AIZECOURT - le-BAS.
2. The 4th Australian Division is holding the sector MOULAINS (exclusive) to D.19. central, with outposts in touch with enemy outposts about 400 yards distant. The 1st Division and 2nd Division are on out left and right respectively.
3. The patrols of the 4th Infantry Brigade holding the whole Divisional front reported at 8 a.m. on 15th December that the enemy appeared to have thinned and his shortest line. This was confirmed by aeroplane observation about the same time, the signs of withdrawal appearing general along the whole Anzac Corps front.
4. A general forward movement is ordered, the 4th Australian Infantry Brigade acting as Advanced Guard to the 4th Australian Division, with the 12th and 13th Brigades as support and reserve respectively. The 6th Infantry Brigade on the right is Advanced Guard to the 2nd Division and 3rd Infantry Brigade on left for 1st Division.
5. CONJUNCTIVE FOR 4th INFANTRY BRIGADE IS RIVERSIDE WOOD.
6. The Advanced Guard composed as under will advance on the line D.13. central D.7.d. central - small copse D.2.a., at 10 a.m. with its right approximately on Road Junction D.13.c. - D.13.a. central - D.3. central - BUI DU BOIS - V.25. central. The CANAL - DU - NOIR forms the left boundary between the 4th and 3rd Divisions.
 

<u>Vanguard.</u>		<u>Right flank guard.</u>
(C.C. Lieut-Col. D.G. Marks M.C.)		14th Battalion.
15th Battalion.		
42nd Battery.		
2 Section 4th M.G. Coy.		
1 Section 4th Field Coy.		
<u>Left flank guard.</u>	<u>Main guard.</u>	
15th Battalion.	4th Brigade forward party.	
	15th Battalion.	
	11th P.A. Brigade less 42nd Battery.	
	4th M.G. Coy, less 2 Section.	
	4th A.M.F.S. Battery.	
7. Advanced Brigade Headquarters will be in "C" Company, 15th Battalion's dugout C.18.d. central.
8. The 14th Battalion is detailed as right flank guard and will form up in order from right to left, A.B.C.D.  
C.C., D. Company, will detail an officer and man to keep direction by means of compass bearings.

NOTES.

## 1. Object of the exercise:-

- (a). To practise protection on the march.
- (b). To practise communication within the Brigade and with formations on flanks.
- (c). To practise dealing with unexpected situations created by the 33rd of Units.
- (d). Advancing under artillery fire.
- (e). To practise attack formations.

2. The Outpost line is the line of posts.

3. The 15th Battalion relieved the 45th Battalion in the line on night 14/15th December on a 3 Company frontage with outposts as stated in para. 2.

4. The 15th Battalion to be in position at 9.30 a.m. Patrols sent out an hour earlier are at 9.30 a.m. only able to reach the MOULAINS-wood.

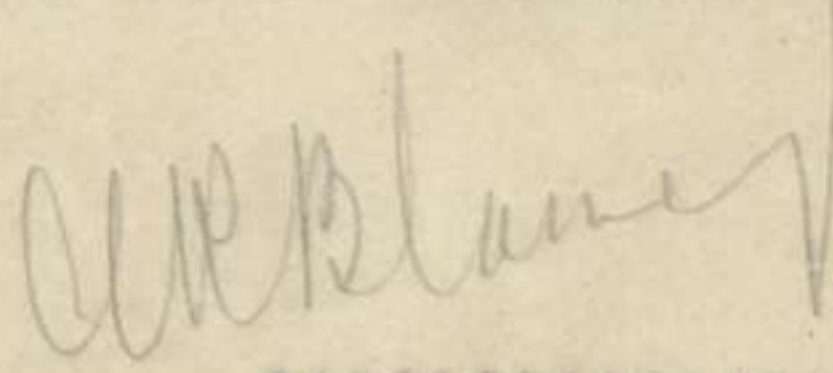
TRAINING ORDER No. 4. 14/18/17.

4. (contd).

Reads on account of Machine Gun fire from enemy's outpost line (exact position of these hostile machine guns will be pointed out on the ground.

5. There must be no movement of patrols on either side before 9.30 a.m.
6. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ The Signal Officer will synchronise watches with Brigade Signal Officer at 8.30 a.m. on 15/18/17.
7. The 33rd Personnel will parade at 7.45 a.m. Dress, fighting order; white hat bands to be worn. Each Company's quota will take 3 tins and sticks to beat to represent machine gun fire. Captain P.J. Hayes to command the party.  
After capture of positions the party will join their respective Companies.
8. C.O., A. Company, will detail a party of 4 officers and 8 men to represent 22nd Battalion of 6th Brigade on our right flank. This party will carry BLUE flags.
9. The enemy sector opposite 4th Brigade sector will be sub-divided into 4 sub-sections. To each sub-sector will be allotted the 33rd - the 14th Battalion quota on right, 15th Battalion next, then 16th Battalion, with 13th Battalion on left. The Senior Officer of each quota will take command and distribute his machine guns and men in depth as agreed ~~upon~~ with dispositions settled on.
10. Machine guns will be simulated by the rattle of tins and a rifle held ~~vertically~~ perpendicularly indicates troops are under its fire; rifle held horizontally above head indicates advance held up. Umpires will see that no troops advance until such action is taken by leaders as would overcome the opposition.
11. All Commanding Officers will act as umpires with their own units, taking notes for future guidance and instruction. Major CORMIGAN will umpire with the 14th and 15th Battalion quotas, Major PARKS M.C. doing likewise with the 13th and 16th Battalions quotas.
12. The exercise will consist of 4 phases:-  
  - First phase. The action of the Vanguard up to a stage when it can advance no further without support.
  - Second phase. Based on information (which will be sent by intelligence dogs) received from the Vanguard Commander and aerial observation in which it is found necessary to attack RIVERSIDE WOOD with 3 Battalions after a five minutes bombardment.
  - (a). Third phase. Relief by 12th Brigade.
  - (a). Fourth phase. Withdrawal.
- (a). These two phases will not be carried out by troops but will form the basis of instruction for Officers and N.C.O.'s on the ground at a later date.
13. 2 sections 4th M.C. Company will be employed on barrage work in first phase and again in second phase.  
3 sections will be allotted 14th, 15th, 16th Battalions in second phase.

Appendix 5



.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

14th Battalion A.I.F. TRAINING SYLLABUS, 17/12/17 to 22/12/17.

Day and date.	References, 9 to 12 noon.	Afternoon 2 to 4 p.m.
Monday, 17/12/17.	Construction of bomb-proof parapets round huts, Cleaning of Camp site, and Salvaging.	Same as morning.
Tuesday, 18/12/17.	Platoon Schemes. All Platoon Commanders to prepare schemes beforehand.	
Wednesday, 19/12/17.	9 to 11.30 a.m. Each platoon working as Advance Guard to a Company. March on Compass bearings, returning as a Rear Guard. 11.30 to 12 noon. Gas respirator drill.	Trench draining and sanitation.
Thursday, 20/12/17.	Move to new Area.	Cleaning of Equipment Arms etc. Lecture by M.C. "Trench feet".
Friday, 21/12/17.	Company schemes. Ground to be reconnoitred and scheme prepared on Thursday.	8 to 2.30. Rapid loading with ball ammunition against banks etc. 2.30 to 3.30. Platoon drill. 3.30 to 4 p.m. Gas respirator drill.
Saturday 22/12/17.	Battalion/ scheme.	Organised games.

(Sgd) A.P. Blainey  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix 5<sup>A</sup>



14th Battalion A.I.F.

SPECIAL ORDER No. 70/17.

18/12/1917.

by  
LIEUT-COLONEL W. J. SMITH COMMANDING.

Reference Map sheet 52J/ 1/40,000.

1. The 14th Battalion will move to TAMPEUX-LE-FORGE in relief of 52nd Battalion 13th Australian Infantry Brigade, on 20th December 1917.
2. Head of Battalion will pass starting point (battalion orderly room) at 9 a.m. Order of March, Battalion Headquarters, Brass Band, A., B., Pipe Band, C., D., Transport.
3. Interval of 100 yards between Companies and 200 yards between last Company and Transport will be observed.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*W. J. Blaney*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to all concerned, as per file.

ADMINISTRATIVE.

1. DRESS. Full marching order with biscuits and waterproof sheets rolled round packs.

2. ROUTINE. Reveille, 6.30 a.m.  
Sick parade, 6.45 a.m.  
Breakfast, 7.15 a.m.

All Officers' valises to be stacked at Quartermaster's store by 8 a.m. Mess boxes by 8.15 a.m.

All heavy baggage and stores will as far as possible be moved on 19th inst.

Cockers will be fixed and fires lit prior to moving so that tea can be issued immediately on arrival in camp.

The present camp site is to be left perfectly clean. Usual certificates to be submitted at 8.45 a.m.

C.O., "D" Company, will detail a party of 1 N.C.O. and 12 men to remain behind with the pioneers to burn all refuse etc.

*W. J. Blaney*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

*Appendix 6*

Headquarters,  
14th Battalion A.I.F.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BRIGADE TACTICAL EXERCISE  
28th December 1917.

Reference Map Sheet 620.

1. NARRATIVE.  
As a result of offensive operations on 24-26th December 1917 the Germans have been driven back to the line CHERY-BAUF-ALLAINES-BRIENCOURT-LIERRAMONT-VILLIERS-TEMPLUX-le-GERARD, thus forming a salient having its apex at LIERRAMONT out of which his troops have been forced on night 26/27th December 1917.
2. (b). The 110th Regiment (13th and 14th Battalions) after being driven out of LIERRAMONT, is in fighting touch with British outposts which occupy the high ground in D.12.c. and d. and D.13.a.



2. On 27th December 1917, the date fixed by Higher Command, the 2nd Guards Reserve Division and 3rd Bavarian Division issued orders for the evacuation of the LIERRAMONT salient.  
The 110th Regiment (13th and 14th Battalions) on a frontage of about 1200 yards will begin to withdraw at 10.30 a.m. to the high ground between BOIS-de-TINGOURT and TEMPLUX-la-FOSSÉ, the centre of direction being a true bearing of 198 degrees from the left flank of outpost line held by the Regiment. The 14th Battalion will form the rear party, with 13th Battalion and 4th Machine Gun Company in support. *(main guard)* on the right and 68th Regiment on the left (represented by men with flags)

3. DISPOSITION. On the night 27/28th December 1917 the 14th Battalion relieved the 13th Battalion outposts established on high ground in D.24.a. and b. and D.19.c., and established touch with the British posts on the high ground in D.18.c. and D and S.13.  
The disposition of the 14th Battalion at 10.30 a.m. will be as follows -  
"D" Company, plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  section 4th M.G. Coy, on left (D.24.a).  
"C" Company, in centre (D.24.b).  
"B" Company, on right (D.19.a).  
Each covering a frontage of 400 yards as indicated to Company-Commanders during personal reconnaissance.  
"A" Company, plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  section (3 guns) 4th M.G. Coy. in support;  
3 platoons in position on high ground in D.24.c and d.; 1 platoon in position near AGAST COPSE.  
Battalion Headquarters at AGAST COPSE.  
Advanced Battalion Headquarters in Sunken Road at D.24.central.  
Future movements of Battalion Headquarters will be communicated by runner.

(a). During the withdrawal, the right of "D" Company will be the flank of direction.  
Lieut. G. Clarendon Hyde will check direction for the Battalion by compass. In addition, each Company Commander will have direction checked at frequent intervals, during the withdrawal, by compass.

(b). The withdrawal to the series of positions selected by the officer who made the reconnaissance, and which were pointed out to all commanders on the ground on 27th December, should be carried out expeditiously.  
The formations adopted must of necessity depend upon the amount of pressure displayed by the enemy in following up.

4. All units to be in position by 10.15 a.m.
5. The scheme to be explained to all ranks prior to commencing.

200

2.

- 6. Tins will be carried by Lewis Gun Section and beaten when the gun would normally be in action. All guns will be taken out, also a few magazines per gun.
- 7. O.C., "A" Company, will detail 1 Officer and 6 runners to report to C.O. 13th Battalion at his Headquarters at AGAST CCPSE at 10.15 a.m.
- 8. The Signalling Officer will establish visual station at Advanced Headquarters and Battalion Headquarters - to be in position by 10.15 a.m.
- 9. 2 Runners per Company will report to Battalion Headquarters (AGAST CCPSE) at 10.15 a.m.
- 10. The greatest care must be exercised in the inspection of rifles before and after the exercise. Certificates that all rifles have been examined and magazines found empty will be submitted before the Battalion marches off, and again before being dismissed.
- 11. Reports will be forwarded to Advanced Battalion Headquarters until completion of withdrawal from outpost position.
- 12. Watches will be synchronised at 8.30 a.m.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*AR Blaney*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to,

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Copy No. 1. 4th A.I. Bde. | Copy No. 7. Sig. Co. |
| 2. 13th Bn.               | 8. "A" Coy.          |
| 3. 4th M.G. Coy.          | 9. "B" Coy.          |
| 4. File. (Noted).         | 10. "C" Coy.         |
| 5. C.O.                   | 11. "D" Coy.         |
| 6. L.C.                   | 12. Adjt.            |

14th Battalion A.I.F.  
27th December 1917.

O.C.'s Companies.

Memore Brigade Tactical Exercise.

As the ground is peculiarly adaptable every opportunity should be taken to deter the enemy's advance by means of skillfully laid ambushes. This will necessitate careful reconnaissance and choosing of positions by selected officers and H.C.O.'s. in advance. The value of the employment of Lewis Guns both as regards their fire power and surprise effect should not be overlooked.

In addition to their peculiarities as quoted above, the value of employment of Lewis Guns in selected positions will prove of great use for covering fire during withdrawal.

*AR Blaney*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

*Appendix 7*

Headquarters,  
14th Battalion A.I.F.  
30th December 1917.

Instructions for Brigade Tactical Exercise.  
1st January 1918.

Map reference 62C.

The Tactical Exercise recently carried out by the 4th Australian Infantry Brigade will be repeated on 1st January 1918.

1. All Officers, except 4 per Company, will assemble at 2 p.m. on Monday, 31st Inst., under Company Commanders and reconnoitre the area over which their respective Companies will operate. All N.C.O.'s. of and above the rank of Sergeant will attend.
2. The positions previously selected at which a stand is to be made by the several parties comprising the Rear Guard would appear to have been satisfactory, but in some cases an improvement in the method of approaching and holding same could be effected. There cannot be any set method; to meet all eventualities, the formations adopted and rate of movement must depend largely on the (1). Nature of ground; (2). Amount of cover available; (3) Intensity of enemy fire; (4). rate of movement of opposing troops. It is difficult to estimate (3) when there is no actual fire, but the remaining factors stated above must always be taken into consideration and it is with this object in view that the reconnaissance is being made. Each Company sector possesses its own peculiarities and difficulties, and the best method of overcoming them will be decided upon by Company Commanders, and explained to the Officers and N.C.O.'s. who in turn will explain to the men.
3. It has been decided within the Brigade that owing to the din of battle and the wide area covered by units during an action that voice control becomes extremely difficult, if not impracticable. If therefore becomes necessary to adopt signals, (which are understood by all ranks) for changing from one formation to another. To avoid confusion arising by men of different companies conforming to signals given by leaders other than those of their own companies, it is thought best to adopt a different set of signals in each Company. If the signals laid down in training manuals do not provide for all contingencies, improvised signals must be used.
4. During the last exercise the value of using Lewis guns and small parties of men as ambushes was very noticeable. In a Rear Guard action it is comparatively an easy matter to arrange S.A.A. dumps at specified points prior to the withdrawal from the outpost line. In order to practice this, C.C.'s. Companies, will detail individuals to select site for such dumps. It will not be necessary to actually place the ammunition in position, but all concerned should be made acquainted with the localities. The advantage of this is that ammunition mules could at once proceed to Regimental Reserve to replenish. The disadvantage is that, if not carefully controlled, there is likely to be a wastage if the ammunition is not required at any one place and has to be carried back from point to point;— proper organisation of ammunition carriers should overcome this disadvantage.
5. Machine Guns with Support Company of rear party. In consultation with Brigade Machine Gun Officer it was considered best after the Machine Guns of that support Company had fulfilled their role, up to and including the main feature (high ground WEST of TINOCURT WOOD) to allot a specific task to them further in rear towards the ~~xxxx~~ village of TINOCURT. In this case they would occupy previously selected positions and be in readiness to cover the further withdrawal. An alternative would be to employ them on the main ridge, but as there were already 12 machine guns in position there this was considered unnecessary. The advantage of the former is that a proportion of the machine guns allotted to the rear-guard could repeat this movement, and thus ensure that the best fire value of this arm was obtained by having guns placed in previously reconnoitred positions from which lines of fire had already been laid out.

- 6. All Units to be in position by 10.15 a.m.
- 7. The scheme to be explained to all ranks prior to commencing.
- 8. Tins will be carried by Lewis Gun Section and beaten when the gun would normally be in action. All guns will be taken out, also a few magazines.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Copy Issued as per File, to all concerned.

*AR Blaney*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.  
No. 7. Adjt.

- Copy No. 1 File (Noted).
- 2. "A" Coy.
- 3. B. Coy.
- No. 4. C. Coy.
- 5. D. Coy.
- 6. L.G.C.

SECRET.

Copy No. 7.....

110th REGIMENT ORDER No. 1.

by  
LIEUT-COLONEL W. J. SMITH COMMANDING.

Reference Map FRANCE sheet 62 C. Edition 1.1/ 4C, CCC, 30/12/17.

INFORMATION. (1). Our forces are holding the line CLERY-HAUT ALLAINES-DRIENCOURT-LIERANCOURT-VILLERS-TEMPLEUX-GERARD. Our troops withdrew from the LIERANCOURT Salient on night 30/31st December. We are in touch with British troops on the high ground in D.18.c. and d. and E.13.a.

Patrols report BRITISH concentration N.W. of AIZENCOURT-le-BAS dispersed by our artillery. Small parties still remain in BOIS-de-EPINETTE. The 61st and 68th Regiments will co-operate on our right and left respectively.

INTENTION. (2). This Regiment will ~~be responsible for~~ cover the withdrawal of our main force which is moving on a bearing of 198 degrees. Time of commencement of withdrawal, 10.30 a.m. 1/12/18

DISTRIBUTION. (3). Distribution of Rear party and Main Guard as per margin.

Rear Party.  
Commander Major D. Thomsen M.C., 14th Bn.  
14th Battalion,  
1 section M.G. Coy.

Main Guard.  
Commander Lieut-Colonel W. J. Smith.  
13th Battalion  
4th M.G. Coy (less 1 section).

DIRECTION & AREA TO BE COVERED.

- (4). a. Lieut G. C. Hyde, 14th Battalion, will be responsible for maintaining direction of the Regiment by compass bearing; the Regiment will move on a bearing of 198 degrees covering an area of 1000 yards. In addition each Company will detail a responsible individual to check direction by compass bearing.
- b. The right and left flanks of regiment during withdrawal has been indicated to all officers during personal reconnaissance.
- c. During withdrawal the right flank of "D" Company will be the flank of direction.

TRAIN TRANSPORT. (5). Train Transport will clear TINCCOURT by 8 p.m. tonight and move to K.31.d. on the TINCCOURT-HANCCOURT Road where it will rest with the leading waggon facing in a southerly direction ready to resume the march.

AMMUNITION RESERVE. (6). A reserve of ammunition has been established at J.5. and 7C4C Central.

(continued).

110th Regiment, Order No. 1 (continued).

REPORTS.

7. Reports to Regimental Headquarters at J.5.d.7040. Subsequent movements of Headquarters will be notified to all concerned.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*AR Blaney*

.....Captain.  
Staff Officer 110th Regiment.

Issued by Signals at .....  
Distribution - To all concerned,  
as per File Copy.

Headquarters,  
14th Battalion A.I.F.

17<sup>th</sup> B<sup>n</sup> -  
REAR-GUARD ORDER

by  
MAJCR D. THOMSON M.C. COMMANDING REAR GUARD.

Reference Map sheet 62 C.

1. NARRATIVE. As a result of offensive operations on 28-30th December 1917 the Germans have been driven back to the line CLERY-HAUT-ALLAINES, DRIENCOURT-LIERAMONT-VILLERS-TEMPLEUX-le-GEERARD, thus forming a salient having its apex at LIERAMONT out of which his troops have been forced on night 30/31st December 1917.

The 110th Regiment (13th and 14th Battalions) after being driven out of LIERAMONT, is in fighting touch with British outposts which occupy the high ground in D.18.c. and d. and E.13.a.

2. On 31st December, the date fixed by Higher Command, the 2nd Guards Reserve Division and 3rd Bavarian Division issued orders for the evacuation of the LIERAMONT Salient.

The 110th Regiment (13th and 14th Battalions) on a frontage of about 1200 yards will begin to withdraw at 10.30 a.m. on 1st January 1918 to the high ground between BCIS-de-TINCOURT and TEMPLEUX-la-FOSSE, the centre of direction being a true bearing of 198 degrees from the left flank of outpost line held by the Regiment. The 14th Battalion will form the rear party, with 13th Battalion and 4th Machine Gun Company in support (Main-Guard). The 61st Regiment co-operating on the right and 68th Regiment on the left (represented by men with flags).

3. DISPOSITION. On the night 31st December/1st January the 14th Battalion relieved the 13th Battalion outposts established on high ground in D.24.a. and b. and D.19.c., and established touch with the British outposts on the high ground in D.18.c. and d. and E.13.a. The disposition of the 14th Battalion at 10.30 a.m. will be as follows -

D. Company, plus $\frac{1}{2}$ section 4th M.G. Coy.	on left (D.24.a).
C. Company,	in centre (D.24.b)
B. Company,	on right (D.19.a).

Each covering a frontage of 400 yards as indicated to Company Commanders during personal reconnaissance.

A. Company, plus  $\frac{2}{3}$  section (3 guns) 4th M.G. Coy in support; 3 platoons in position on high ground in D.24.c. and d.; 1 platoon in position near AGACHE COPSE.

Battalion Headquarters ~~xxxx~~ at AGACHE COPSE.

Advanced Battalion Headquarters in Sunken Road at D.24. centre.  
Future movements of Battalion Headquarters will be communicated by runner.

(a). During the withdrawal the right of D. Company will be the flank of direction.

Lieut. G.C. HYDE will check direction for the Battalion by compass. In addition, each Company Commander will have direction checked at frequent intervals, during the withdrawal, by compass.

(b). The withdrawal to the series of positions selected by the officer who made the reconnaissance, and which were pointed out to all commanders on the ground on 31st December, should be carried out expeditiously.

The formations adopted must of necessity depend upon the amount of pressure displayed by the enemy in following up.

4. All Units to be in position by 10.15 a.m.

5. The scheme to be explained to all ranks prior to commencing.



6. Tins will be carried by Lewis Gun Section and beaten when the gun would normally be in action. All guns will be taken out, also a few magazines.
7. O.C., "A" Company, will detail 1 Officer and 6 runners to report to C.O., 13th Battalion at his headquarters at AGACHE COPSE at 10.15 a.m.
8. The Signalling Officer will establish visual station at Advanced Headquarters and Battalion Headquarters - to be in position by 10.15 a.m.
- 9/ 2 Runners per Company will report to Battalion Headquarters (AGACHE COPSE) at 10.15 a.m.
10. The greatest care must be exercised in the inspection of rifles before and after the exercise. Certificates that all rifles have been examined and magazines found empty will be submitted before the Battalion marches off, and again before being dismissed.
11. Reports will be forwarded to Advanced Battalion Headquarters until completion of withdrawal from outpost position.
12. Watches will be synchronised at 8.30 a.m.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*A.R. Lamer*

.....Captain.  
Adjutant 14th Battalion A.I.F.

Issued to

Copy No. 1. 4th A.I. Bde.  
2. 13th Bn.  
3. 4th M.G. Coy.  
4. File (Noted).  
5. Adjt.

Copy No. 7. Sig. O.  
8. A. Coy.  
9. B. Coy.  
10. C. Coy.  
6. D. Coy.