

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

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/37/31

**Title:** 20th Infantry Battalion

February 1918



AWM4-23/37/31

# 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.

## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAYENGHEM	1st Feb		The C.O., R.M.O and Lieut Treacher who did the billeting for the Battalion, went round the Billets and inspected Training ground for the Battalion in the new Area. BAYENGHEM is a very small village of 800 inhabitants and one very small shop. The Billets are very good, 2 Coys and various details being billeted in the CHATEAU. The inhabitants appear to be kindly people and anxious to please and our rest should therefore prove a very pleasant one. The C.O had a meeting of Coy Commanders at 12 Noon and discussed training, and other matters. Syllabus of training was issued to Coy's during the afternoon.	Appen. 1.
	2Feb		The morning was spent in cleaning up and the afternoon Coy parades were held. 1 o.r was evacuated to Hospital sick, 1 o.r marched in under escort and Lieut A.E.Rainey and 4 o.r. proceeded overseas to the 5th Training Battalion. Ceremonial Battalion Parade was held at 9.30 a.m on Battalion parade ground. The C.O addressed the Battalion regarding Training, sports, discipline and leave. The men looked well and smart. The afternoon was a half holiday. 1 o.r evacuated sick, 2 o.rs marched out to Base.	
	3 Feby.		Church parade was held at 11 a.m. The C.O. and the Model Platoon Commander Lieut Treacher rode over to Brigade H'Qrs where all Battalion C.O'S and M.P. Commanders met the Actg Brigadier and proceeded to the Musketry School "Y" Range near LUMBRES to watch a demonstration by a picked Platoon consisting of musketry Instructors and including Officers, going over the assault course for the A.R.A competition. From a musketry point of view, it was very fine indeed, though I think our mens' bayonet fighting has more snap. A demonstration of shooting with Tracer ammunition was then given under the Supervision of Major Bestock, a world wide authority on musketry, his aim being to demonstrate the effect of well controlled rifle fire. This was very fine indeed and I have never witnessed any demonstration which so clearly brought out all that was in the instructors mind. The weather is very good indeed, perhaps a little cold but the ground is dry and good for training. The ordinary routine of war which is of necessity at times monotonous was much brightened by the A.D.M.S. instructing me that 1000 French Letters could be made available for the use of the Battalion at the modest price of 2d each. 1000 were ordered. Capt S.R.Kent, M.C and Lieut S.R.J.Staunton proceeded on English Leave. 2/Lieut O.A.Beattie proceeded to Le Touquet Lewis Gun School. 5 o.r's evacuated to Hospital sick. 1 o.r Transferred to Unit from 5th Field Ambulance.	
	4 Feby.		This morning the Model Platoon after the 9 a.m ceremonial parade, demonstrated to the Battalion, the assault course. A little tracer ammunition, having been salvaged, the C.O. had	

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		11.45 a.m.	<p>the Model platoon demonstrate to the Battalion at 300 yards range a similiar demonstration to that given by Major Bostock. It was very pleasing to note the excellent firing of the platoon and also the very obvious interest shown by the rest of the Battalion. In the afternoon "B" Coy had the use of the assault training ground and the C.O. personally supervised the training which was quite fair considering it was a first attempt. The C.O. arranged for a trench to be marked out on the training ground 400 yards long to be dug for the purpose of training Platoons and Coy's in organised bombing. A meeting of Coy Commanders was held. Several Coy matters were discussed. The A.P.M called and discussed with the C.O. the local Estaminets which are selling spirits contrary to Regulations. The Battalion police have been detailed to watch these Houses. The following promotions have come through viz; Lieut R.J.Dowden to be Captain dated 23.1.18 To be Lieuts; dated 17.1.18, 2/Lieuts, J.B.H.Smith, W.H.Elkington, W.B.Chesher. Capt S.C.Calderwood M.C having returned to Australia is struck off strength. 1 o.r evacuated to Hospital sick. 6 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hos. 3 o.r's rejoined Unit from 5th T.B. Lieuts A.T.Day and A.H.B.Oliver reported back from Paris leave.</p>	
	5 Feby.		<p>Today was an ideal day for training, and 200 men were put on to dig the new Trench, good work was done. The remainder carried out training, "C" Coy using the assault course. The C.O. Lieut-Col A.W.Ralston, C.M.G; D.S.O rejoined the Battalion from English leave and M.G. School 1 o.r evacuated to Hos sick 2 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hos.</p>	
	6 Feby.		<p>The Acting Brigadier called at Battalion H'Qrs at 10 a.m and inspected the Battalion training ground, he was very pleased with the new trench on which 200 men were still at work completing. "C" COY'S Lewis Gunners were firing on our range and "D" Coy used the assault course. A meeting of all Officers was held at 12 noon to discuss points which had arisen in the A.R.A competition. Lieut Blair was appointed sports Secretary for the Battalion and a meeting was held at 7.30 p.m a Sgt and Officer representing each Coy, being present to compile a sports programme for Battalion Sports to be held on the 15th inst. The afternoon was a half holiday and inter Coy football matches were played. 2 o.r's evacuated to Hospital sick. 2 o.rs rejoined Unit from Hos.</p>	
	7 Feby.		<p>It is most unfortunate that rain has started to fall and all parades to-day were held in billets. The C.O. and Second in Command inspected all Billets and Battalion Hospital. 2/Lieut S.S.Burgess proceeded to Divisional Signal School. 2 O.rs evacuated to Hos sick.</p>	

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	8 Feby.		The day was spoilt by rain and most of the day's parades were held indoors. During the afternoon it cleared and the Coy's paraded outside. 17 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hos. 1 o.r from A.I.F.H'Qrs. Lieut W.E.S. Payne marched in from Hospital. Fresh syllabus of training has been issued for next week.	Appen.No 2.
	9 Feby.		The weather has cleared and a full parade was held in marching order on the Battalion parade ground and kits inspected. It was found that a number of men were short of sheep skin waist coats and Cardigan jackets. The afternoon was a half holiday and the Battalion Rugby football team beat the 5th Machine Gun Coy team by a narrow margin. 20.o.r's evacuated sick to Hospital. 2 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. Lieuts C.E.Cameron and H.W.Tripp proceeded to School.	
	10 Feby.		Church parades were held and the Divisional Commander Major Genl N.Smyth V.C. C.B attended the Battalion Church parade. The weather was fine but a high cold wind was blowing and to-wards noon, the heavy drizzle came over. Major W.J.R.Scott was detailed by Brigade to be one of three Officers from the Brigade at a Divisional Staff ride on the 11th inst. The Brigade Major and learner to Brigade Major being the other 2 Officers. The Brigade Major and Major Scott rode over the ground to-day. 2 o.r's evacuated to Hospital sick 3 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. Lieut W.G.L.Bain ceases to be attached to Aus Corps School and rejoined Unit from English leave. Lieut K.I.McMillan returned from English Leave.	
	11 Feby.		Battalion training was carried out as per syllabus. <del>REDACTED</del> Major W.J.R.Scott attended Staff ride under Divisional Commander. The Divisional Commander called at Battalion H'Qrs during the afternoon. 2 o.r's evacuated to Hospital sick. 11 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. 1 o.r. from 5th T.B. and 2 o.r from Reinforcements and 1.o.r transferred to 15th Battalion.A.I.F.	See Appen No.2.
	12 Feby.		The whole Battalion went through the baths to-day. Training was carried out as far as possible. The C.O visited Brigade H'Qrs at 2.30 p.m. Coy Commanders meeting was held at 7.30p.m to discuss equipment and clothing, short and not indented for. The Brigade Major and G.S.O. 2 visited Training ground during the afternoon and were pleased with demonstration given by the Model Platoon.E 2/Lieut O.A.Beattie returned from School.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>BAYENGIEM</u>	<u>13 Feby.</u>	<u>18.</u>	Training was carried out during the morning as per syllabus. The Afternoon was a half holiday and football matches were palyed. 2 o.r's evacuated to Hosp sick. 1o.r to Brigade Sig Section. 2 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. 1 o.r joined Unit from reinforcement. Lieuts E.Lewins and H.E.Banfield returned from English leave.	See Appen No.2.
	14 Feby.		The various ranges on the Battalion Training ground were put into order firing mounds erected, and targets placed at 100 and 200 yards, a Lewis Gun range at 25 yards and 100 yards. Through/out the day every available man was shooting on the range. 1 o.r evacuated to Hospital sick 12 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. 1 o.r from Reinforcement. Capt Morgan-Jones rejoined Unit from 5th Training Battalion.	
	15th Feby.		A holiday was granted to-day in order that the Battalion might hold its sports. The weather was fine but a very cold wind blowing. The sports were held on the Battalion parade ground and all that could be done to make the day a good one for the men was done. Plenty of beer was available on the ground as well as a constant supply of hot tea and biscuits. Same being attended to by one of the Coy kitchens, The Battalion Band was present and played selections At 1.30 p.m a comic fancy dress procession marched from the village to the sports ground headed by the Band, this was viewed by the Divisional Commander and Brigadier and caused much amusement. A good sports programme was carried out, competition being very keen. 2 o.r's evacuated to Hospital sick. 4 o.r's to detention. 1 o.r to 5th Field Ambulance. 2 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. Lieut C.E.Clark re rejoined Unit from Hospital.	
	16th Feby.	10.15 a.m	Operation memo No.14 received from Brigade instructing Battalion as to movements in the event of a rapid movement forward by Motor lorry convoy. Baths were available in the morning and full use were made of them. The afternoon was a half holiday. The Sgts played the Officers football the Sgts winning by 11 points to 8. A heavy frost during the night. 1 o.r evacuated to Hospital sick 1 o.r rejoined Unit from detention. Lieuts W.H.G.Guard and G.Hough returned from English leave. Capt J.M.Moore proceeded to 4th Army Gas School.	
	17th Feby.	5 p.m	Church parades were held in the morning and the afternoon was a half holiday. Battalion order No.12 issued reference move forward as per Brigade operation memo No 14. 1 o.r evacuated sick to Hospital 1 o.r rejoined Unit from Hospital. Lieut J.B.H.Smith proceeded on leave to Paris Plague.	Appen. No3

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BAYENGHEM.	18 Feby.		The day was fine but cold. The G.O.C Brigade inspected the Battalion and Transport on Battalion parade ground at 10 a.m. The G.O.C remarked that he was pleased with what he saw on the whole. The Battalion Transport and Cookers especially especially were praised. The remainder of the day was spent in Musketry and training on Battalion ground. New Syllabus of training was issued for coming week 2 o.r.'s evacuated sick to Hospital. 2 o.r.'s rejoined Unit from Hospital.	Appen No 4
	19 Feby.		"C" and "D" Coy's proceeded to "X" range on Army Musketry Range LUMBRES, shooting started at 8.30 a.m on the 200 yards range and finished at 1.30 p.m. on the 300 yards range. Musketry generally was only fair due to bad visibility and the excessive cold which made it difficult for rapid fire. The remainder of the Battalion carried out training on the Battalion Training ground. 3 o.r.'s evacuated sick to Hospital. 18 o.r.'s rejoined Unit from Hospital. 1 o.r. rejoined Unit from Base.	
	20 Feby.		"A" and "B" Coy's proceeded to "X" range carrying out the same programme of yesterdays work by "C" and "D" Coy's. The visibility was much better, though it was still very cold, but the musketry showed a decided improvement. "C" and "D" Coy's worked on the Battalion parade ground during the morning. The afternoon was a half holiday. 2/Lieut M.Blair proceeded on Paris leave Capt S.R.Kent, M.C returned from English Leave. 1 o.r. evacuated to Hospital sick. 1 o.r. to 5th Field Ambulance. Lieut S.R.J.Staunton returned from English Leave. Lieuts K.E.Lohan and A.T.Day proceeded on English leave.	
	21 Feby.		The day was cold and frosty but fine and the 16 platoons of the Battalion were put through an eliminating test for the forthcoming A.R.A. Competition. The best platoon in each Coy being selected. The results were as follows. Lieut Treachers Platoon "A" Coy, Lieut Balmano's platoon "B" Coy, Lieut ANthon's platoon "C" Coy and Lieut Beattie's platoon "D" Coy. 3 o.r.'s evacuated to Hospital sick. 1 o.r. returned to Unit from Hospital and 1 o.r. transferred to Divisional H'Qrs.	
	22 Feby.		The weather was very sharp and a cold wind was blowing when the Battalion started at 9.30 a.m for an all day rpute match. Each Coy being accompanied by its Field Cooker to provide hot tea for the men at the mid-day halt. The route taken was follows, from BAYENGHEM through ACQUAIN through WESTBECOURT and returning through SENINGHEM to BAYENGHEM at 2.30 p.m. The Battalion band accompanied the Battalion. 2/Lieut H.C.N.Winkworth returned from School. The C.O. and Major J.H.McDonald M.C attended a conference at Brigade H'Qrs to discuss	
		2.30		

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BAYENNGHEM	22 Feby		the forth-coming Brigade sports and Transport competitions. 3 o.r's evacuated to Hospital sick.	
	23 Feby.	12 noon	Training was carried out on the Battalion parade ground during the morning by "A" "B" & "D" Coy's. "C" Coy complete with Kitchen moved out to "X" Range at Musketry School for Duty. A meeting of all Officers was held at which the C.O spoke of coming operations and the methods of defence and counter attack to be adopted in the event of an enemy attack. The afternoon was a half holiday. 1 o.r evacuated to Hospital sick. 3 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. 3 o.r's marched out to detention. 2/Lieuts L.C. Balmano and O.M. Shepherd proceeded to 10th Corps Infantry School.	
	24 Feby.		Church parades were held during the morning and the Battalion Band played a programme in the afternoon. Syllabus of training was issued for the coming week 1 o.r evacuated sick to Hospital. 2 o.r's rejoined Unit from Hospital. 2 o.r's from Reinforcements.	Appen 5
	25 Feby.		To-day the 4 best platoons in the Battalion have their Illementation test in order to find the Battalion representative for the Platoon for the A.R.A Competition. It was held on the Brigade A.R.A. Course near the Battalion Ground. The weather during the morning was impossible with heavy rain and a gale of wind blowing which meant postponing the Competition till 1.p.m. when the weather cleared, though a heavy wind was still blowing. Lieut. Treacher's Platoon, from "A" Company, won and thus becomes the Battalion Platoon to take part in the forthcoming Brigade Competition. Lieut. Anthon's Platoon, from "C" Company, was the Runner-up. Lieut. G.E. Clarke proceeded on duty to England. Capt. J.M. Moore returned from School. 1 O.R. evacuated to Hospital sick, 3 O.Rs. rejoined Unit from Hospital. Lieut. S.G. Burdus returned from Paris leave.	
	26 Feby.		50 % of the Officers in the morning, and 50 % in the afternoon attended a Staff ride under G.O.C Brigade near LUMBRES. The men carried out on with training in the morning and baths in the afternoon.	
	27 Feby.		The Brigade A.R.A competition was held at "Y" Range Musketry School near LUMBRES, the best Platoons in each Battalion competing, and the result was:- Lieut Treachers Platoon 20th Battn 1st, 19th Battn 2nd, 18th Battn 3rd and 17th Battn 4th. Our platoon put up a very fine performance but the Lewis Gun might have been better. The platoon will now represent the Brigade in	





**WAR DIARY**

OF

20th. Battalion, A.I.F.

FOR

February,1918.

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**LIST OF APPENDICES.**

No.	Subject.
1.	Syllabus of Training.
2.	Syllabus of Training.
3.	Battalion Embussing Order No. 12.
4.	Syllabus of Training.
5.	Syllabus of Training.
6.	Transport Officers Review.
7.	Quartermaster's Review.

20TH. BATTALION, A. I. F.

~~Appendix~~ APPENDIX

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING - WEEK ENDING 8th FEBRUARY, 1918.

Day & Date.	9.30 to 10 am.	10am to 10.30am.	10.30 to 11am.	11am to noon	2 to 3 p.m.	3 to 4 p.m.	REMARKS
Saturday 2nd.	Bn. Parade & Inspection	P.T. & O. Gs.	Close Order (Drill (Sections)	Musketry	HALF	HOLIDAY.	Musketry to include muscle exercises and Bolt Manipulation
Sunday 3rd.	Church Parade for all Ranks. Time and place to be notified in B. R. Os.						
Monday 4th.	Bn. Parade & Inspection	P.T. & O.Gs.	Platoon Drill	Demonstration by Model Pltn.	A. Coy. Assault Course Other Coys. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Musk. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr B.F.	Other Coys. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr O.Gs. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Coy.Drill	
Tuesday 5th.	Bn. Parade & Inspection	B. Coy. Assault Course. Other Coys. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr P.T&O.Gs.	Other Coys. Coy. Drill	Other Coys. Musketry	C. Coy. Assault Course. Other Coys. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr B.F. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Pltn Drill	Other Coys. Route March by Coys.	
Wednesday 6th.	Bn. Parade & Inspection	D. Company Assault Course Other Coys. P.T & O.Gs.	Other Coys. Close Order drill by Platoons	Other Coys. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Musk. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr Lecture by Pltn.Coms. "March Dis"	HALF	HOLIDAY.	
Thursday 7th.	Bn. Parade & Inspection	Battalion Route March (Drill Order)	Band will attend.		A. Coy. Assault Course. Other Coys. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. Musk. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. B.F.	Other Coys. P. T & O.Gs.	
Friday 8th.	Bn. Parade & Inspection.	B. Company Assault Course Other Coys. P.T. & O.G.	Other Coys. B.F.	Other Coys. Musketry	D. Coy. Assault Course Other Coys. Pltn. Drill	Other Coys. Outpost Scheme.	

BAND will be on Parade Ground by 9.20 a.m. daily.  
 ALL SPECIALISTS will attend Bn. Parade daily and report to their respective Instructors at 10 a.m. for Specialist Training.  
 BATMEN will fall in outside B.O.R. at 10 a.m. daily.

*J. McDonald*  
 .....Major  
 A/C.O. 20th. Bn., A.I.F.

*Appendix 1*

20TH. BATTALION, A. I. F.  
 SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 15th. FEBRUARY, 1918.

( M O R N I N G . )

APPENDIX

D A T E .	9 to 9.30 a.m.	9.30 to 10 a.m.	10 to 10.30 a.m.	10.30 to 11 a.m.	11 to 11.30 a.m.
Saturday 9th.	Bn.Parade & Inspection	Gas Drill	Close Order Drill & Rifle Exercises	Musketry	P. T. & O. G.
Sunday 10th.	CHURCH PARADES for all Ranks. Time and place to be notified in Bn. R. O.				
Monday 11th.	"A" Bn.Parade & Inspection	A S S A U L T C O U R S E .			
	"B" do.	Close Order Drill.	Gas Drill.	B. F.	Musketry
	"C" do.	O R G A N I S E D B O M B I N G .			
	"D" do.	Close Order Drill.	Gas Drill.	B.F.	Musketry
Tuesday 12th.	Bn.Parade & Inspection.	All day - R O U T E M A R C H - Battle Order. (with felt hats) Band will attend.			
Wednesday 13th.	"B" Bn.Parade & Inspection.	O R G A N I S E D B O M B I N G .			
	"A" do	Gas Drill	PLATOONS	IN	OFFENSIVE ACTION.
	"C" do	do	do.	do.	do.
	"D" do	do	do.	do.	do.
Thursday 14th.	"B" Bn.Parade & Inspection.	A S S A U L T C O U R S E .			
	"D" do	O R G A N I S E D B O M B I N G .			
	"A" do	Gas Drill	B. F.	Indication of Targets & Judging Distance.	Extended Order Drill
	"C" do	R A P I D W I R I N G .			
Friday 15th.	"A" Bn.Parade & Inspection.	Gas Drill	Artillery Formation and Normal Attack Formations.		
	"C" do	do	do	do	do
	"D" do	do	do	do	do
	"B" do	Musketry.	do	do	do

Appendix 2

ALL SPECIALISTS and MODEL PLATOON will attend Bn. Parade daily. MODEL PLATOON will train under Lieut. Treacher and will be used for demonstration purposes. SPECIALISTS will report to their respective Instructors at 10.30 a.m. daily. BAND PERSONNEL and BATMEN will parade under R.S.M. at 10 a.m. daily in front of B.O.R. in Drill Order. Coy. Commanders will be responsible that all Batmen attend this Parade.

20TH. BATTALION, A. I. F.  
SYLLABUS OF TRAINING WEEK ENDING 15th. FEBRUARY, 1918.

*Appendix* **APPENDIX**  
 (AFTERNOON) 89

DATE.	1.30 to 2 p.m.	2 to 2.30pm.	2.30 to 3 p.m.	3 to 3.30 p.m.	3.30 to 4pm.	PLACE OF PARADE	REMARKS.
Sat. 9th.		HALF	HOLIDAY.			BAYENGMEN	
Sun. 10th.	Church Parades as per Morning Syllabus.						
Mon. 11th.	"A" ORGANISED BOMBING.						
	"B" Judging Dis. Extended Platoons in Offensive Action as per S.S.143.	Order Drill				BAYENGMEN	Musketry to include rapid loading, muscle exercise, belt manipulation and adjustment of sights.
	"D" do.	do.	do	do	do		All GAS DRILL will be carried out per S.S.620
	"C" ASSAULT COURSE.						
Tues. 12th.	ROUTE MARCH. as per Morning Syllabus.						
Wed. 13th.		HALF	HOLIDAY.				
Thurs. 14th.	"B" Gas Drill RAPID WIRING.					BAYENGMEN	Judging distance and indication of targets to be carried out by Section Commanders and will include Fire Orders to be acted upon by Sections.
	"D" ASSAULT COURSE.						
	"A" Artillery Formations. RAPID WIRING.						
	"C" Gas Drill. Artillery Formations. Extended Order Drill.		Judging Dis. Indication of Targets.	B. F.			
Fri. 15th.	"A" ORGANISED BOMBING. Half Battalions in					BAYENGMEN	All Extended Order Drill to include passing of messages.
	"C" do do ) Organised Bombing.						
	"D" RAPID WIRING. ASSAULT COURSE.						
	"B" ASSAULT COURSE. Extended Order Drill.						

Should Musketry arrangements be available, this Syllabus is liable to amendment.

Coy. Commanders will ensure that Platoon Commanders and N.C.Os. are instructed in the work, to be carried out each day, on the previous night, and will, therefore, be 'au fait' with the training when they come on Parade Ground.

LEWIS GUNNERS will train under Coy. arrangements as follows:-

"A" Coy.	will shoot on Lewis Gun range on Monday and Thursday morn	
"B" Coy.	" " " " " " " "	aftern.
"C" Coy.	" " " " " " " "	Tuesday & Friday morning.
"D" Coy.	" " " " " " " "	afternoon
Model Platoon	" " " " " " " "	Wednesday & Saturday morn

*A. W. Malton*  
 ..... Lieut. Col.  
 Commanding 20th. Battalion, A. I. F.

appx 11

ORDERS NO. 12.

Headquarters, 17th. February, 1918.

Reference Map -  
HAZEBROUCK 5A 1/100,000

COPY No. 12.....

1. In the event of a rapid move forward being ordered, a Motor Convoy for the dismounted personnel of the Battalion will be available.
2. Companies will be prepared to move at four hours notice on the warning message "Stand by to embus" followed by a Zero hour.  
Dress:- Full marching order without blankets.
3. Embusment will probably take place on BAYENGHEM - COULONBY Road, - head of column at BAYENGHEM. Capacity of each lorry - 25 all ranks, - permanent bus parties will be told off immediately.
4. Units will move with full pouch ammunition (120 rounds per man, which will be maintained) and an additional 50 rounds per man in bandoliers 48 hours rations will be carried. Four boxes of Mills Grenades (undetonated) will be placed in each lorry.  
The 50 rounds per man and Bombs will be drawn and retained in bulk in Company billets and a certificate to this effect rendered to B.O.R. by 9.30 p.m. to-night.  
Lewis Guns and full complement of Magazines will be carried by Companies in Busses.
5. Os. C. Companies will ensure, as far as possible, that one officer travels with each Lorry.
6. Possibly Companies will work on 5A HAZEBROUCK 1/100,000 Maps. A Certificate will be rendered by Coy. Commanders to B.O.R. by 9.30 p.m. to-night that all officers are in possession of one.
7. Lieut. D.H. Anthon M.C. will act as Battalion Embussing Officer. He will be thoroughly conversant with the Battalion Embussing strength, and on the "Stand to" order will report to Brigade Embussing Officer.
8. Further details will be notified later.
9. A C K N O W L E D G E .

*[Signature]*  
.....Lieut.  
Adj. 20th. Battalion, A.I.F.

DISTRIBUTION, issued through Signals at 5 p.m.

- |          |        |                              |
|----------|--------|------------------------------|
| Copy No. | 1.     | C.O.                         |
|          | 2.     | O.C., A. Coy.                |
|          | 3.     | O.C., B. Coy.                |
|          | 4.     | O.C., C. Coy.                |
|          | 5.     | O.C., D. Coy.                |
|          | 6.     | Transport Officer.           |
|          | 7.     | Quartermaster.               |
|          | 8.     | 5th. A. I. Brigade.          |
|          | 9.     | Brigade Embussing Officer.   |
|          | 10.    | Battalion Embussing Officer. |
|          | 11.    | File.                        |
|          | 12/14. | War Diary.                   |

20TH. BATTALION, A. I. F.  
SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 23RD. FEBRUARY, 1918.

~~Appendix 4~~ 9  
 (M O R N I N G.)

D A T E	9. to 9.30 a.m.	9.30. to 10 a.m.	10 to 10.30. a.m.	10.30. to 11. a.m.	11. to 11.30 a.m.
Monday 18th. "A" ) "B" ) "C" ) "D" )		INSPECTION	BY	G.O.C.	
Tuesday 19th. "A" "B" "C" "D"		ASSAULT ORGANISED SHOOTING SHOOTING	COURSE BOMBING ON "X" ON "X"	RANGE RANGE	
Wednesday 20th. "A" "B" "C" "D"		SHOOTING SHOOTING ORGANISED ASSAULT	ON "X" ON "X" BOMBING COURSE	RANGE RANGE	
Thursday 21st. "A" "B" "D" "C"	Bn. Parade & Inspection do. do. do.	Gas Drill do. do. do.	Musketry do. do. do.	Indication of Targets & Judging Distance do do do do	B.F. do do
Friday 22nd. "A"	Bn. Parade & Inspection	ROUTE MARCH ALL DAY. Battle Order, with felt hats. Band will attend.			
Saturday 23rd. "A" "B" "C" "D"	Bn. Parade & Inspection do do do	Musketry do do do.	Gas Drill do do do	Artillery Formations do do do do do do	

Appendix 4

ALL SPECIALISTS and MODEL PLATOON will attend Bn. Parade daily. MODEL PLATOON will parade under Lieut. A.R. Treacher and will be used for demonstration purposes. SPECIALISTS will report to their respective Instructors at 10.30.a.m. daily. COY. SIGNALLERS will train with their Coys. every morning and report to Signal Officer for Specialist Training at 1.30 p.m. daily. BAND PERSONNEL and BATMEN will parade under R.S.M. at 10.30a.m. daily in front of B.O.R., in drill order. Coy Commanders will be responsible that all Batmen attend this parade.  
 Lieut. E. LEWINS, M.M. - Musketry Officer; Lieut. W.G.L. BAIN - Lewis Gun Officer.

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20TH. BATTALION A.I.F.  
SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 23rd. FEBRUARY, 1918. (AFTERNOON.)

DATE	1.30 to 2 p.m.	2 to 2.30p.m.	2.30 to 3 p.m.	3 to 3.30 p.m.	3.30 to 4 p.m.	PLACE OF PARADE	REMARKS
Mon. 18th.	"A" "B" "C" "D"	G.O. in Gas Helmets	Rifle Exercise	Close Order Drill	Extended Order Drill	Artillery Formations.	BAYBUSHEN
			ASSAULT ORGANISED RIFLE	COURSE. BOMBING. RANGE.			
Tues. 19th.	"A" "B" "C" "D"		ORGANISED ASSAULT SHOOTING	BOMBING COURSE. ON "X" RANGE.			BAYBUSHEN.
Wed. 20th.	"A" "B" "C" "D"		SHOOTING HALF do	ON "X" RANGE. HOLIDAY. do.			
Thurs. 21st.	"A" "B" "C" "D"	Extended order Drill to include passing of messages.	PLATOONS	IN OFFENSIVE ACTION. as per S.S. 143.		BAYBUSHEN	Gas Drill, rapid adjustment of Helmets and passing of messages. Musketry, rapid bolt manipulation & muscle exercises.
Fri. 22nd.			ROUTE MARCH.	as per Morning Syllabus.			
Sat. 23rd.			HALF HOLIDAY.				Musketry, rapid leading and adjustment of sights.

Should Musketry arrangements be available, this Syllabus is liable for amendment.  
 Coy. Commanders will ensure that Platoon Commanders and N.C.O's. are instructed in the work, to be carried out each day, on the previous night, and will, therefore, be en fait when the training when they come on Parade Ground.  
 Lewis Gunners will train under Lieut. W.G.L. Sain as follows:- A. Coy. will shoot on Monday afternoon.  
 B. Coy. on Tuesday & Thursday mornings. C. Coy. on Wednesday & Saturday mornings. D Coy. on Thursday afternoon.  
 Model Platoon will shoot on Tuesday afternoon.

*J. M. Robertson*  
 .....Lieut. Col.  
 Commanding 20th. Battalion, A.I.F.

*Appendix 4*  
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DATE .	9 to 9.30 a.m.	9.30 to 10 a.m.	10 to 10.30 a.m.	10.30 to 11 a.m.	11 to 11.30 a.m.
Monday 25th.	Elimination Firing on "X" Range, A.R.A. Competition. (1Platoon per Coy.) Bn. Parade & Inspection.	Gas Drill	Platoons in attack in semi-open warfare.		
Tuesday 26th.	Bn. Parade & Inspection.	COMPANIES IN ATTACK. All Officers will attend Staff Ride -50% in morning, 50% in afternoon- in preparation for a scheme of Bn. in attack.			
Wednesday 27th.	Brigade Elimination Firing on "X" Range, A.R.A. Competition. "B" Bn. Parade & Inspection. "D" de "A" de "C" de	Gas Drill	ORGANISED BOMBING. Platoons in Offensive Action as per S.S.143 carried out in Gas Helmets		
Thursday 28th.	Bn. Parade & Inspection.	COMPANIES IN ATTACK.			
Friday 1st.	Bn. Parade & Inspection.	Battalion Scheme in conjunction with 19th. Battalion.			
Saturday 2nd.	Bn. Parade & Inspection.	Gas Drill	Close Order Drill & Rifle Exercises.	Musketry in Gas Helmets.	P.T. & O.C.

ALL SPECIALISTS and MODEL PLATOON will attend Bn. Parade daily. Model Platoon will train under Lieut. Treacher and will be used for demonstration purposes. SPECIALISTS will report to their respective Instructors at 10.30 a.m. daily. BAND PERSONNEL and BATMEN will parade under R.S.M. at 10 a.m. daily in front of B.O.R. in Drill Order. Coy. Commanders will be responsible that all Batmen attend this Parade. The Battalion will be required, before going back to the line, to go through two Gas Exercises under direction of Div. Gas Officer. First exercise will take the form of troops holding a trench in a gas cloud, the second will take the form of an attack on a trench following up a Gas Attack.

*appd.*  
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DATE.	1.30 to 2 p.m.	2 to 2.30 p.m.	2.30 to 3 p.m.	3 to 3.30 p.m.	3.30 to 4 p.m.	PLACE OF PARADE.	REMARKS.
Mon. 25th.	"A"	ORGANISED	BOMBING.			BAYENGMEM	Musketry to include rapid leading, muscle exercises, belt manipulation and adjustment of sights. ALL GAS DRILL will be carried out as per S.S. 620.
	"C"	do	do				
	"B" Gas Drill	Platoons in Offensive Action	as per S.S. 143	carried out in Gas Helmets.			
	"D" do	do	do	do	do		
Tues. 26th.	ROUTE MARCH. Officers who attended Staff Ride in the morning will take charge.						
Wed. 27th.	HALF HOLIDAY.						BAYENGMEM
Thurs. 28th.	BATTALION IN ATTACK.						
Fri. 1st.	BRIGADE SCHEME.						
Sat. 2nd.	HALF HOLIDAY.						

Should Musketry arrangements be available, this Syllabus is liable to amendment. Coy. Commanders will ensure that Platoon Commanders and N.C.Os. are instructed on the previous night in the work to be carried out each day, and will, therefore, be au fait with the training when they come on Parade Ground.

*[Signature]*  
 .....Lieut. Col.  
 Commanding 20th. Battalion, A. I. F.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
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Transport report for month of February 1918 by Lieut J.R.V.C.Lindesay.

1st Feby. '18.

On the morning of 1st Feby, at 9 a.m Transport moved RENESCURE area en route to BAYENGHEN. Weather foggy and cold. Roads in fair condition. Arrived at Bayenghem at about 4 p.m. Horses stood the trip well, considering the loose condition of roads. No facilities for Transport at BAYENGHEN Villa in winter months. Not sufficient unused Barns and sheds in village to put all the horses under cover. Field previously used for Transport in a very bad condition. Watering facilities for horses excellent a clear stream running through the village.

2nd Feby '18.

Men and horses much refreshed after a good nights rest and previous days trek showed little effect. Usual stable routine carried out. Rest of morning spent in improving Transport conditions. Afternoon spent in erecting harness sheds and delivering the Battalion rations. After evening meal, section were paid.

3rd Feby '18.

Usual stable routine. Inspection of rifles, Equipment, Kits and etc etc. Shortages and etc indented for. Very few articles required. Afternoon Transport Church parade. Men dismissed until evening stables excepting those on duty. Battalion rations delivered. Weather good.

4th Feby. '18.

Usual stable routine. Wagon despatched to ST OMER for Canteen goods. General cleaning and overhauling of harness pack saddles, and vehicles. Two maltese and one limber wheel received to replace U.S. Also charger class 2 to complete establishment. First line transport crew Battalion ration from A.S.C. Weather exceptionally fine.

5th Feby '18.

Usual stable routine, continuation of harness cleaning. One wagon despatched to Division to draw practice bombs for training purposes. Numerous Officers chargers used. Weather fine. Horses were inspected by Capt Fletcher V.O. 2nd Div M.V.S who expressed satisfaction at their condition.

6th Feby. '18.

Usual stable routine. Weather cold and foggy Rations drawn and delivered.

7th Feby '18.

Usual stable routine. Weather wet and roads starting to cut up. Horses showing the effect of open billeting after having been in closed shed during the greater part of winter. The section was inspected by the C.O. who expressed satisfaction as to the efficient state of Transport.

8th Feby, 1918.

Weather continues to be wet and cold. Suitable accomodation secured for remainder of horses. Transport personnel moved out of tents into barn billets. Rations were drawn for the Battalion, also straw for bedding for the troops.

9th. Feby, 1918.

Usual stable routine. Weather cold, and roads muddy. Wagons were supplied to carry Footballers to and from the ground. The section was given a half holiday with the exception of duty men.

10th. Feby, 1918.

Weather cold. Rations were drawn and delivered from Railhead. Afternoon - Church parade.

11th. Feby, 1918.

Wagon despatched to Boulogne for Battalion Canteen stores.

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12th. Feby, 1918.

During the day all horses were inspected by the D.V.S., Major Macindoe, who expressed keen satisfaction as to cleanliness and condition of horses.

13th. Feby, 1918.

Usual stable routine. Weather continues to be wet and muddy.

14th. Feby, 1918.

During the day a wagon was despatched to St. Omer to obtain BEER for the battalion sports.

15th. February, 1918.

All possible men were granted leave to attend the Battalion Sports.

16th. Feby, 1918.

Usual Transport routine.

17th. Feby, 1918.

The day was spent in a general clean up of the Transport Section and lines.

18th. Feby, 1918.

At 10.a.m. the Transport Section was inspected by the G.O.C., 5th. A. I. Brigade who was extremely pleased with the efficiency and general cleanliness, and complimented the Sgt. Cook on the upkeep of his Field Kitchens. The G.O.C. remarked that it was one of the best sections he had ever inspected. The remainder of the day was a holiday.

19th. Feby, 1918.

Usual stable routine. Weather bright and frosty.

20th. Feby, 1918.

Usual routine for day. Weather wet and roads muddy.

21st. Feby, 1918.

Weather now good. All harness was thoroughly overhauled.

22nd. Feby, 1918.

Kitchens and Water-carts accompanied the Battalion on a Route March in order to supply the men with a hot midday meal.

23rd. Feby, 1918.

Order received from Brigade to have all vehicles painted and cleaned. This was accordingly carried out.

24th. Feby, 1918.

The painting of vehicles was commenced but discontinued at midday in order that the men should participate in the half holiday.

25th & 26th Feby, 1918.

Usual stable routine.

27th. Feby, 1918.

All harness and equipment was thoroughly overhauled and cleaned.

28th. Feby, 1918.

Usual stable routine. Orders were received from Brigade re early move, and arrangements were accordingly made.

20TH BATTALION A.I.F.

Appendix No 7  
by

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Quartermasters report for month of February 1918

Q.M. & Hon Capt S.R. Kent, M.C.

SALVAGE.

During the month the following salvage was returned to 2nd Div Salvage Coy and receipts obtained:-

- 16.2.18 6 Bags of empty S.A.A. Cartridge Cases.
- 19.2.18 1 " " " " " "
- 21.2.18 5 " " " " " "
- " 1 " Ammunition bandoliers.
- " 9 " Empty S.A.A. wooden cases.
- 22.2.18 25 " " " " " "
- " 12 Sandbags of empty S.A.A. cartridge cases.
- 26.2.18. 8 empty S.A.A. wooden cases.
- " 1 empty Mill's Bomb box.
- " 1 sandbag of Ammunition bandoliers.
- " 2 sandbags of empty S.A.A. cartridge cases.
- 27.2.18. 13 Mill's Grenades empty boxes.
- 28.2.18. 1 bag S.A.A. empty cases.
- " 1 bag S.A.A. empty bandoliers, and 1 Grenade box.

It will be noticed however that the work of collecting Salvage has practically ceased after moving back from the front line area.

SALVAGE RETURN OF SURPLUS PAPER & CARDBOARD.

During the month the following amounts were salvaged and forwarded to 15th. A.A.S.C.

Paper 133 lbs. Cardboard 130 lbs.

RETURN OF SURPLUS UNDERCLOTHING & WOOLLEN MATERIAL RETURNED TO SENINGHEM BATHS, LUMBRES AREA.

- 21.2.18. Socks pairs 90. Singlets 14. Shirts 8. Drawers 7. Mufflers 5.
- 23.2.18. Cardigan Jackets 31. Socks pairs 10. Shirts 4. Singlets 1. Drawers 1.
- 24.2.18. Shirts 5. Singlets 5. Drawers 6. Socks pairs 14. Mufflers 3. Abdominal belts 2.
- 25.2.18. Socks pairs 35. Drawers 4. Shirts 1. Singlets 4. Abd. Belts 4. Mufflers 9.

During the month Brigade baths were allotted to the Battalion on 3 occasions, and men's underclothing exchanged while at the baths.

TOMMY COOKER REFILLS. - as per contract arranged direct with Tommy Cooker Coy., England. The following refills arrived safely during the month.

12 cases, each containing 100 refills - Total 1200 at a cost of 6d each. Case Nos. were :- 57/68 inclusive. These refills will be carried in bulk until such time as they are required when the Battalion again moves forward, and, into the front line trenches.

RATIONS.

The supply of Rations during the month have been very satisfactory, and with no complaints to make.

FRESH BREAD.

Bread had been issued to the men during the month on an average of 1 loaf, 2 lbs, to 3 men. It has been found to be in a particularly good condition after the bags have been opened in the Battalion Q.M. Store, and with an average of 1 loaf per bag of 50 loaves broken. When in the forward area the average of broken and crumbled bread received is approximately 5% per day.

MEAT.

The issue throughout the month has chiefly consisted of Beef, and the actual weights of the meat have been very satisfactory.

TEA.

About the 1st of the month the Tea issue was reduced from  $\frac{5}{8}$  oz to  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. per man per day. While we were receiving the  $\frac{5}{8}$  oz. issue the men were, and could have 3 hot teas per day. Now that the issue has been reduced the men will not be able to get 3 hot teas per day regularly and while out of the line.

HORSE FODDER.

Oats were reduced 2 lbs per horse for all horses from 30.1.18.

CRUSHED OATS.

From 16.2.18. half of the daily issue of oats were crushed. This we consider very satisfactory and necessary particularly for old horses suffering from bad teeth.

FRESH VEGETABLES.

The issue of  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. per man per day throughout the month was very satisfactory, and consisted of 2oz. Onions per man per day, and the balance made up of Potatoes and Carrots. Mainly on account of the large number of Roasts the men have had during the month, extra potatoes for baking purposes were required and approximately 800 kilos ~~xx~~ were purchased during the month and paid for out of Regimental Funds.

COOKING ARRANGEMENTS DURING MONTH.

After arriving in BAYENGHEM no time was lost by the Regimental Pioneers in building strong baking ovens in every Company billet. The men have had either Baked or Boiled meat, with baked or boiled potatoes on an average of every alternate day for midday meal, and stews have really been a meal of the past. Porridge has not been on issue and the breakfast meal has been Bacon and tea, and on an average of every 4 days Rissoles extra. For the last daily meal boiled or baked rice, or biscuit puddings, and with the issue of dried fruits added have been prepared. The men have had hot tea generally 3 times per day.

TRAVELLING KITCHENS.

The Battalion was inspected by Brig. Gen. R. Smith, C.M.G., D.S.O. on the 18th inst. and no complaints were made. Sgt. Thompson (S/Sgt. cook) was highly complimented on the cleanliness and general upkeep, and appearance of the kitchens.

WET CANTEEN.

It was found unnecessary to open a Wet Canteen on account of the large number of Estaminets in the village, ~~xxx~~ An amount of £5.16.7 was however paid into 2nd. Div. Field Cashier on the 25th inst. to the credit of Reg. Trust Account. This amount refers to profits out of beer and whiskey sold on the grounds at Reg. Sports Meeting held on 15.2.18.

COMFORTS FOR THE MEN.

For the month approximately 1400 francs were spent out of Reg. Trust Funds for special stores and supplies as under, for the benefit of the men on the whole.

Comforts for the men - Contd.

Curry powder. Custard powder. Potatoes. Dried herbs. Straw for billets. Emery paper. Brasso polish. Flour. Condensed Milk. Sweet biscuits, etc.,

AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND.

2 large packets of Reading matter were received from the Comforts Fund on 21.2.18 and issued throughout the Battalion.

Y.M.C.A.

An issue of 1 packet of Cigarettes for approximately at the rate of 1 packet for 2 men were issued as Comforts from the Y.M.C.A. on 1.2.18 They proved to be very acceptable, as at the time, Cigarettes were unprocurable in the village.

AREA STORES.

On entering BAYENGHEM a quantity of area stores were taken over as under :-

Latrine seats, hessian for latrines, Bell-tents with floor boards, iron wash-bowls for the men, collapsible wooden tables and forms for Officers, Pallises for billets and filled with straw issued from A.A.S.C.

FAT RETURN.

The return of best quality fat to the 15th. A.A.S.C. amounted to 657 lbs for the month.

RETURNS OF EMPTIES TO 15th. A.A.S.C.

Bread bags 182, Oat sacks 180, Empty Port and Bean cases 21, Empty oil drums 14, Potatoe sacks 4,

D.A.D.O.S.

A large number of Indents were placed with D.A.D.O.S. during the month and the most serious Indents were as follows:-

Jackets S.D. 60., Breeches D.S. pairs 39., Puttees pairs 56., Boots ankle pairs 89., Gloves Woollen pairs 80., Hats felt 60.

Before leaving the forward area Indents for shortages of Stores and Equipment were placed with D.A.D.O.S. and the stores received.

REGIMENTAL SHOEMAKERS.

Indents on D.A.D.O.S. were heavier than usual for the month of February for Shoemaker's expendable stores, leather sole, Benl soles, half billed rivets etc., This is explained by the fact that the men were doing quite a lot of walking and marching on the hard roads.

REGIMENTAL TAILORS.

3 in number were continually kept busy repairing barbed-wire cuts and rips in Jackets, greatcoats and breeches, and the renewing of Reg. Colour patches.

20TH BATTALION.A.I.F.*appx*

Review of work for month of February 1918 by Lieut-Col A.W.Ralston, C.M.G.D.S.O.  
.....

The Battalion spent the month Of February at BAYENNGHEM, Pas-de-Calais, under ideal weather conditions. The billeting accommodation was good and the Officers and men were well housed and the combination of good weather conditions and fine living quarters together with close attention by Officers, to the mens' comfort, the health generally of the Battalion showed a marked improvement. At the commencement of the month there were no fewer than 29 men in the Battalion Hospital suffering from Influenza and Trench Fever, and during the month this number diminished to three cases.

To relieve the training of monotony, Sports were held and football matches were inaugurated and all events were enthusiastically followed by non-competitors, and keenly contested by competitors. The training has been all round with the exception of Musketry, which has been specialised in, other subjects thoroughly taught being, Organised Bombing, Trench clearing, Bayonet fighting, Tactical exercises and general drill work.

Platoon Competitions were held with the idea of choosing the best platoons to represent the Battalion at the Army Rifle Competition. No 1 platoon of "A" Coy, under Lieut A.R.Treacher, won the competition, and then the Brigade opportunity was taken during the spell to re-fit and re-equip the men and everyone was given favorable bathing facilities, and efforts were made in other directions to-wards making the lives of all concerned, as comfortable and happy as possible. The G.C.C, 5th A.I.Bde, inspected the Battalion during the month and was favorably impressed.

February 1918.

The 1st. February found the Battalion settled in the village of Bepenghem-lez-Leninghem. 'A' & 'B' Coys are billeted in a large Chateau, in large well aired rooms. 'C' & 'D' Coys. are in barns, sleeping in straw. These latter billets are not rain proof, the roofs would allow a little rain to come through and the walls of a lot of barns are perforated and the sleeping quarters somewhat draughty. Fresh straw was obtained locally from farmers at once for a lot of the barns and several days later supplies of straw and palliasses were drawn from A.S.C. The pioneers were put on to patching up the walls of the draughty barns and thus rendered them more habitable. Latrines were conspicuous by their absence. Deep pit latrines were dug and latrine seats, some fly-proof but majority not, obtained from the Area Commandant, so that all Coys. had latrine seats excepting the Transport Section. Later on more latrine seats were available and with some hessian and extra seats lids, they were all made fairly fly proof. Adequate number of urinals and grease traps were built. Solid refuse from kitchens was collected by neighbouring farmers for their pigs. The water for the unit was drawn from a well. A permanent daily fatigue of three men pumped water into water cart where it was chlorinated. The water ~~was~~ tested and one scoopful only was found necessary for chlorination. Orders were issued forbidding use of water from any other source and Regimental Military Police were responsible for the carrying out of these orders. Hot water was provided by cooks for washing of mens dixies after all hot meals. During the past month, the men's food has been excellent, roasts and boiled meat with extra supplies of vegetables, sugar, etc., replacing the monotonous stews. On arriving in this new area, brigade Baths were built but owing to certain delays were not available for this Battalion for about ten days. This was a great pity as the men had not had baths for some time before leaving the last camp. The men were, generally speaking, very dirty and lousy, underclothing and tunic collars greasy and dirty. Boils on neck at collar level were prevalent and numbers of men had boils on their bodies. Arrangements were made for men to wash their collars with soap and water and clean them with benzine. P.U.O. cases increased daily but the majority of these turned out to be Influenzal attacks, only a few definitely Trench Fever. On the second day of the month a battalion Hospital was commenced. R.A.P. was situated in a barn which was large and airy. Stretchers were raised a couple of feet from the straw, making beds for 7 patients. Owing to large number of P.U.O. cases palliasses were obtained and extra beds made on the straw, accommodation being provided eventually for 19 patients. Clean changes of clothing for incoming patients were got from brigade Baths. Two dozen pyjamas were got from the Red Cross per 5th. Australian Field Ambulance. Patients sponged themselves down on admission to Hospital in a tub on a waterproof sheet. Magazines, reading matter and daily papers were brought out of regimental funds. A special cook was made available for Battn. Hspl. and with medical comforts and light diet food stuffs from the ambulance, turned out good food for the patients. At the end of the week to ten days, there was a marked decrease of boils in the unit and P.U.O. cases gradually became fewer in numbers. On 13th. Feb. the medical establishment of the unit was inspected by the A.D.M.S. in presence of Lt. Col. Ralston. On the 14th. Feb. the remaining two ambulance details (L/Cpl. Jakeman and Pte. Clague) were returned to the 5th. Aust. Fld. Amb. The men drawn from the Battn. to replace these ambulance details are learning their job quite well.



On the 24th. Feb. the water details were lectured to and instructed in chlorination of water etc. by Divisional Sanitary Officer.

On the 27th. Feb. stretcher drill instruction was given by R.M.O's at 5th. Aust. Fld. Amb. A special stretcher squad has been formed in the Battn. for the brigade sports composed of one stretcher bearer from each Coy.

Forty three O.Rs' were inoculated with T.A.B. for the month. Battalion blankets have been commenced to be sterilized in Foden Lorry on the 28th. Feb. Allotment of baths during the past fortnight for the battalion has been very good and clean changes of fairly new clothing obtained, frequently for the men.

During the month one man was marked for base duties by the A.D.M.S.

No case of V.D. occurred in the going on leave to St. Omer during the past month. A blue light tent was established alongside the R.A.P. and all men returning from leave to St OMER in the evening reported to the tent to sign their names whether having treatment or not. Any cases of V.D. which have occurred during the month were infected whilst on leave to England, whilst one case occurred from Le HARVE.

No. of cases treated in hospital during past month... 56

No. of men returned to Duty after treatment in Hspl.. 48

No. of men evacuated to Fld. Amb. from Battn. Hspl..... 8

Sgd. C. D. Bateman, Capt.

R.M.O. 20th. Aust. Inf. Battn.