

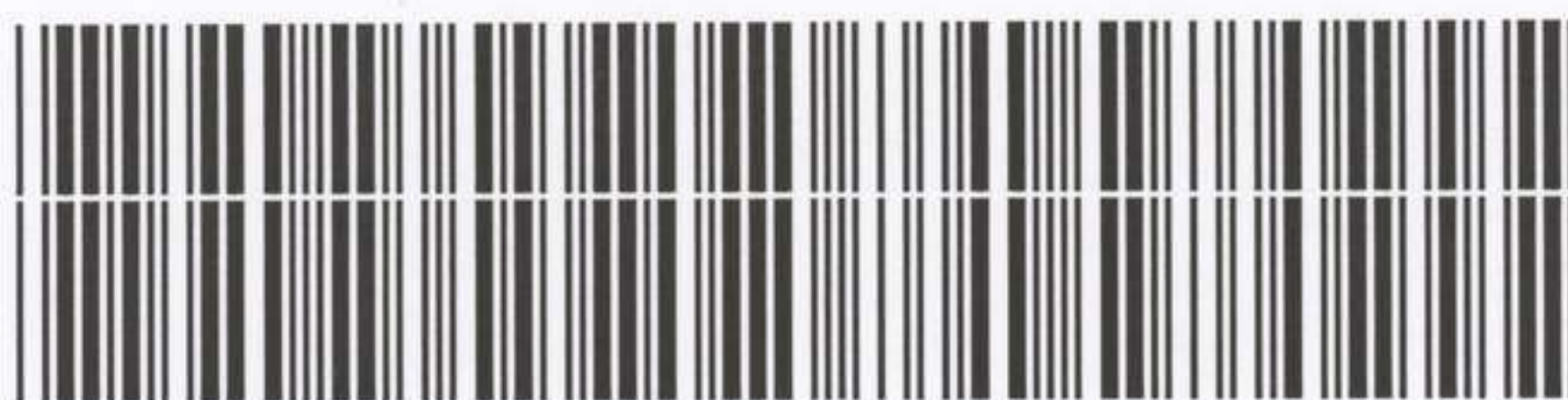
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/60/28

Title: 43rd Infantry Battalion

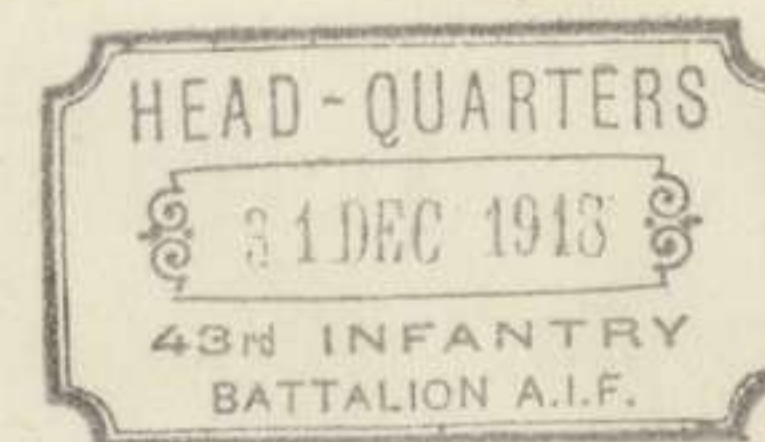
December 1918



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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

43rd. BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

DECEMBER 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling _____ Lt.

Signature of Officer Commanding _____ Lt. Col.

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43rd INFANTRY
BATTALION A.I.F.

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Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VERGIES	Dec		Reference Map VIGNACOURT	
		1.	Quite day with cold wind. Church Parade held at 11.15	
		2.	Regular Educational classes commenced. Platoon Training and ceremonial after 11.00. During afternoon a Cross Country Run was Held, No 2 Coy gaining highest points.	
		3.	Training and Education carried out during the morning. Misty rain during the day. Captain SEXTON, Lieuts CARTER, LEWIS, TIETZEL, KEANE and 50 Other Ranks rejoined the Battalion.	
		4.	Coy. Training and Education in the morning. Afternoon free. No Sports being held on account of rain. Lieut L. S. WATTS rejoined. Debates and Lectures at nights were commenced.	
		5.	Continuation of Training and Education. Coy. Heats for entries for Battalion Sports took place before 11 a.m. Regimental Band gave a concert during the afternoon. Headquarters Coy disbanded and all Headquarters details not required for Administrative work were transferred to No 2 Coy. No 2 Coy was then split up and C and D Coys reformed under command's Major A. T. PATTERSON and A. W. LOTT respectively.	
		6.	Battalion Sports commenced at 10.00 on Football Ground and although the day was dull a very successful meeting resulted. Entries were good and events well competed. No 2 Coy secured highest points for the day. Much credit was due to efforts put forward by the Sports Officer Lieut A. E. OLSSON.	156
		7.	On ceremonial parade the C.O. distributed prizes won at the Battalion Sports the previous day	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918		Reference Map VIGNACOURT	
VERGIES	Dec	7	During the afternoon the Battalion played the 11th Field Ambulance at Football afterna very even game beat the by 5 points.	
		8.	Church Parade at 11.15 a.m. Afternoon and evening free. Preparations commenced for remove on the 9th. Day fine and warm. Ceremonial Parade and Educational classes continued. Final preparations made to leave VERGIES next day.	
		10.	A cold threatening morning. Battalion moved from VERGIES in marching order at 09.20 in order of No 1 Coy, H.Qrs, C.Coy, D.Coy, Transport. A halt for lunch was made at mid-day "W" of OISEMONT and at 13.15 the Battalion reached its destination. No 1 Coy and Transport were billeted in FRAMICOURT with B.H.Q., C and D. Coy's and Q.M.Store at RAMBURELLES about 1½ Kilometres from FRAMICOURT. The afternoon which was wet and showery was spent in settling down. Billets were very poor, the town wet and dirty. The "Q" Branch carted a number of tables and Latrines from VERGIES thus enabling a quicker settlement of billets than was experienced at VERGIES.	
		11.	Continuous rain prevented all but necessary movement. Adjustments were made to billets were necessary and a attempt to start Educational Classes launched. Limited accommodation necessitated a partial programme only being carried out.	
		12.	Rain again continued all day. Education classes resumed and a further settling down of the Battalion undertaken.	

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Place	Date 19	Hour 18.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAMBURELLES	DEC.	I3.	Showery day making the village in a very dirty condition. Classes continued. Lecture at night on politics by Capt. H.S. HUDD.	
		I4	Classes and drill in morning. Football in afternoon NoI. v C & D. Coys, the later winning by six goals.	
		I5	Warm day with a little sun Voluntary Church Parade by Major HUTHNANCE. Debate tonight on "White Australia"	
		I6	EDucation classe continued. Wet day.	
		I7	Education continued. Again showery. Lt. STYANT-BROWNE rejoined from hospital.	
		I8	Intended route march cancelled on account of the rain. so classes were held. Battalion beat Iith. Bde. Signallers at football.	
		I9	Frequent showers of hail all day. Classes continued. Lecture by Sapper INGLIS on "Freetrade and Protection" Lt. G.J. OLIVER M.C. returned from school in England. At I4.30 a two mile inter coy across country run held No. I Coy. gaining highest points. The race was won by L/c SPICER with Sgt RANKINE a second	
		20	No classes held as Battalion was to be photographed. Rain however spoiled this. A boxing tournament was held in the afternoon No 2 Coy. won with No I Coy. second. This gave No 2 Coy	

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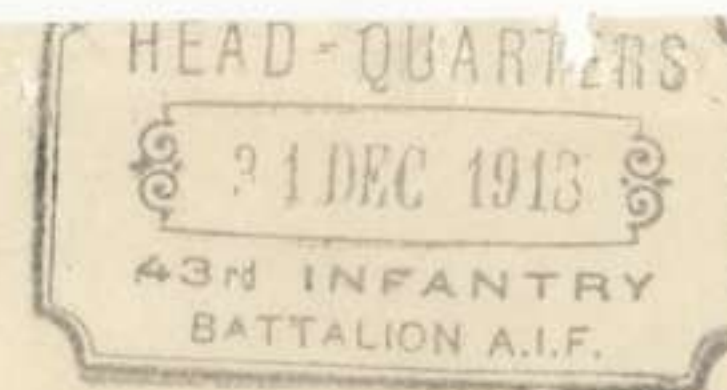
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	Dec	20	the cup for the first of competitions. Lecture on QUEENSLAND was given at night by the C O. BEAN	
			Cap. War Correspondent visited the Battalion for information required the official history	
		21	Route march of six and a half miles in fighting order covering from 9.30 A M till noon	
			Fine morning with rain in the afternoon.	
		22	Church Parade by Padre PHILLIPS. Day dull football match in afternoon. Lieut. THOMAS returned from hospital.	
		23	Wet windy day. Education in the morning, afternoon free. Major MYERS lectured on public health Turkeys for Christmas arrived and preparations for the dinner were made. 41st. car secured	
		24	Education classes continued. Afternoon free. NO1 Coy held a successful Christmas Dinner at 1.30 P M. Afternoon was wet and cold. Carol Parties toured the Battalion at night. Lt. COMMON Regt rejoined the Battalion.	
		25	A beautiful sunny day. Morning at RAMBORELLES spent in erecting marquee and preparing for dinner. During the earling afternoon final preparations were completed. during the course of which the Mayor of the town caused much inconvenience by first attempting to remove some wood of his that had been taken for sitting on, ^{Having failed} failing to do this he attempted to pull the turkeys then cooking, from the oven. On being removed from here he visited the Officers Mess but was frustrated in his attempt to lock the doors. Matters were later smoothed over.	

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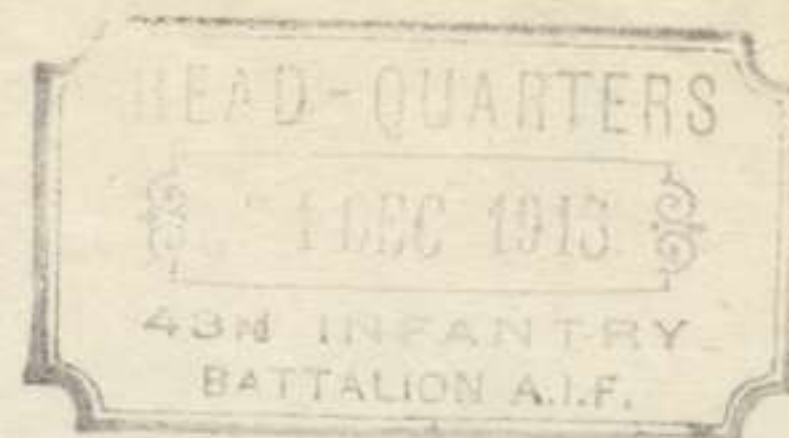
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	Dec	25	At 3.30 P M. the dinner consisting of turkey ham vegetables and plum pudding with wine beer and tea to drink was served, Officers and Sgts. doing the waiting. Supplies were received from Battalion comforts Fund. The band played during the meal. Later in the afternoon the "Q" branch band and Sgts held their dinner followed in the evening by the Officers' meal. Evening was jolly and passed off well.	
		26	Cold wet day, education classes continued, Lieut, and two other ranks, 1915men left the Battalion for Australia.	
		27	Cold windy day, educational classes continued, Stage erected in the marquee.	
		28	Intended route march cancelled on account of rain. Lecture on Education by Lt. I.G.SYMONS.	
		29	Church conducted by Paydre ; 8== MILLS M.C. # held in the marquee. Day again wet.	
		30	Parade and classes continued Dull day during evening inter change of Officers with 44th. Battalion for Bridge Competetion.	
		31	Parades and classes continued. Cold dull day with some what quiet evening.	
			<i>Amell</i> Lieutenant. Col.	
			C.O. 43rd. Batt. A.I.F.	

WAR DIARY

OF

43rd. BATTALION, A.I.F.



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FOR

DECEMBER 1913

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1. C O. REPORT
2. Q M.
3. TRANSPORT OFFICER
4. COMPANY COMMANDERS REPORTS.
5. R.M.O.
6. SPORTS OFFICER.
7. Education Officer

)))

B. Richardson

---Lieut.

Compiling Officer.

43rd. Bn.
A.I.F.

CWD

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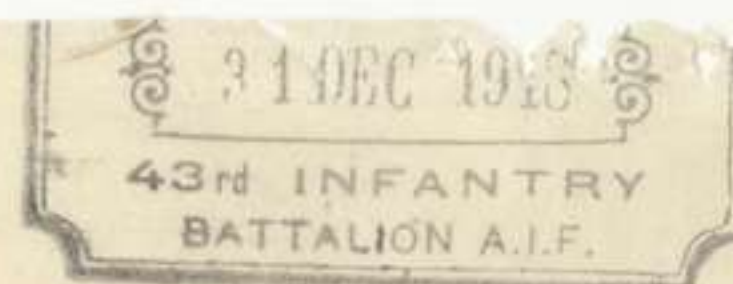
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APPENDIX 1. Page 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	December		<p><u>C/O's REPORT.</u></p> <p>1. <u>LOCATION.</u> From the 1st. to the 9th. the battalion was billeted at VERGIES. On the 10th. the men moved byroad to RAMBURELLES. Head Quarters, C & D Companies were at RAMBURELLES? A & B Companies at LeTRANSLAY and the transport section at FRAMICOURT.</p> <p>2. <u>BILLETS.</u> The new billets are not good, the accommodation being limited owing to the harvest in the barns and the men are very much scattered. Several of the billets were damp and had to be abandoned owing to the continuous wet weather.</p> <p>3. <u>TRAINING.</u> Owing to the continual wet weather out-door work was nearly impossible and to be confined to route marching, inspections and ceremonial.</p> <p>4. <u>EDUCATION.</u> This was continued on the lines of my last report. The men are very keen and welcome the chance of adding to their education. The difficulty in this area has been accommodation for classes. Only one decent room was available and cost the battalion 5 francs per day for rent. We have now a large marquee suitable for concerts and lectures and a hut is in progress of erection.</p> <p>5. <u>RECREATION.</u> A most successful sports meeting was held during the month and prizes amounting to £32- (trophies) were distributed. A Sports Cup has been bought for inter-company matches. The first competition was won by No 2 Coy. The weather has been</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																			
	1918																																						
	December		<p>5. continued against out-door games and the Divisional Football Competition has been postponed Several cross country runs and walking matches were held.</p> <p>6. <u>RATIONS, STORES? EQUIPMENT ETC.</u> Rations have been very good during the month. Stores and equipment are complete and in good order and condition.</p> <p>7. <u>TRANSPORT.</u> The hoses are in fair condition. The issue of forage is very light and there are few opportunities of grazing in this neighbourhood. Most of the vehicles are now painted and the harness is in good condition</p> <p>8. <u>GENERAL.</u></p> <p>(a) Major W.J. KINNISH has been attached to Corps as P.T. advisor.</p> <p>(b) A most successful Xmas Dinner was held, turkeys and hams were procured from LONDON (c) and a first class dinner was provided for all ranks. The 43rd. Trench Comforts in ADELAIDE cabled £250- for cost.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Officers.</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(C) Strength.</td> <td>1/12/18</td> <td>52</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>31/12/18</td> <td>59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d) The following figures in connection with Repatriation are interesting</td> <td>Officers</td> <td>O.R.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total forms completed</td> <td>52</td> <td>460</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>MARRIED</u></td> <td>Guaranteed employment</td> <td>17</td> <td>34</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not guaranteed employment</td> <td>6</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>SINGLE.</u></td> <td>Guaranteed Employment</td> <td>19</td> <td>190</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Not guaranteed employment</td> <td>10</td> <td>198</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>417</td> </tr> </table>		Officers.	O.R.	(C) Strength.	1/12/18	52		31/12/18	59	(d) The following figures in connection with Repatriation are interesting	Officers	O.R.	Total forms completed	52	460	<u>MARRIED</u>	Guaranteed employment	17	34		Not guaranteed employment	6	38	<u>SINGLE.</u>	Guaranteed Employment	19	190		Not guaranteed employment	10	198				417	
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APPENDIX I.

Page 3.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
	1918.															
	December.		<p>(e) LEAVE.</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>English</td><td>Off.</td><td>O.R.</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>3</td><td>57</td></tr><tr><td>Paris</td><td>1</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><u>4</u></td><td><u>70</u></td></tr></tbody></table>	English	Off.	O.R.		3	57	Paris	1	13		<u>4</u>	<u>70</u>	
English	Off.	O.R.														
	3	57														
Paris	1	13														
	<u>4</u>	<u>70</u>														
			<p>(f) During the month 1 officer and 24 other ranks were admitted to hospital, chiefly influenza and minor complaints.</p>													
			<p>(g) Two officers and 15 other ranks returned to Australia. (1915 class)</p>													
			<p>(h) During the month 9 officers and 38 other ranks joined up of which 18 were new men who had never been in FRANCE previously.</p>													
			<p>(i) The VICTORIA CROSS was awarded to T/Cpl. L.C. WEATHERS (see appendix) Unfortunately died of wounds received on the 29th. of August September during an attack near BONY.</p>													
			<p>In conclusion the men seem very happy and are playing the game. Several cases of A.W.L. (overstaying English leave) are the only crimes.</p>													
				<p><i>Stanley</i> Lieut. Col. O/C 43rd. Battalion. A.I.F..</p>												

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VERGIES & RAMBURELLES.	1918 December.		<p><u>TRANSPORT OFFICER'S REPORT.</u></p> <p><u>REPORT OF QUARTERMASTER'S BRANCH FOR DECEMBER 1918.</u></p> <p>The "Q" Service was carried out during the month under normal conditions in billets, there being nothing of special interest to report.</p> <p><u>RATIONS AND SUPPLIES.</u> Rations and supplies were drawn from the A.S.C. and were well up to standard.</p> <p><u>ORDNANCE ISSUES.</u> Demands for maintenance of supplies were regularly executed by D.A.D.O.S.</p> <p><u>SALVAGE.</u> All available salvage was returned to main dump. The area is now completely cleared.</p> <p><u>REGIMENTAL CANTEEN.</u> The canteen was open for business every day. Stocks were more easily obtained than in November. The sales for December were 22,000.90 francs.</p> <p><u>OTHER DEPARTMENTS.</u> The following departments carried out usefull and satisfactory work for the Battalion :- 1. PostOffice. Boot Repairing. 3. Armourers Shop. 4. Tailors Shop.</p> <p><u>SALVAGE.</u> The vigorous policy of camp improvements was carried out during the month. The sanitary conditions are now excellent. 300lbs. of fat was returned to railhead.</p> <p>----- Capt. Q.M. 43rd. Battalion A.I.F.</p>	

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	1918.			
	December.		<u>TRANSPORT OFFICERS REPORT.</u>	
		1	The transport lines were in VERGIES . The horses were well housed. On an average 10 teams per day always left the yards for various duties, including the carting of A.S.C. rations.	
		10	The transport moved to FRAMICOURT behind the battalion . Good accommodation was found here for both men and horses. Up untill the 20th. work was fairly hard including several trips back to VERGIES for tables etc. From the 20th. the A.S.C. began to deliver rations which considerably relieved us. The painting of vehicles is still being carried on with.	
		31	Horses were all in good condition.	
			<div>-----Lieut. Transport Officer. 43rd. Battalion. A.I.F.</div>	

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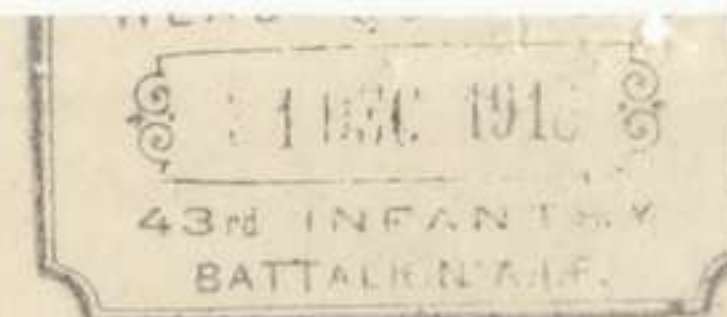
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	December		<u>D. COMPANY REPORT.</u>	
		1	On Sunday a church Parade was held.	
		2	Education classes were started in such subjects as :- English, French, Bookkeeping, Shorthand and Typewriting while "Care and Breeding of Stock" formed a subject. Brigade classes in subjects such as :- Bee keeping, Poultry farming were commenced at HEUCOURT? and continued daily.	
		5	No 2 Company comprising C & D Companies was split into its separate Coys.	
		6	The Battalion Sports were held and were carried out quite successfully. D Coy securing 35 points towards the Cup.	
		9	At a Battalion Parade in the morning the C.O. distributed the trophies won the preceding day.	
		10	The Battalion moved from its billets at VERGIES to RAMBURELLES. The billets were not up to the standard of those left at VERGIES.	
		21	A Battalion route march was held the route being MARTINVILLE + LeTRANSLAY - RAMBURELLES. The day was dull but no rain fell.	
		25	Preparations were in progress for Christmas Dinner.	
		25	At 3.30 the Coy sat down in the marquee to a Xmas Dinner which was exceeding ly good.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VERGIES	December.			
	1	110	<p><u>"NO 1 COY'S REPORT"</u></p> <p>The company has been billeted in VERGIES since the 26th. October. Billets were fairly comfortable though practicably continuous rain caused a certain amount of inconvenience. Light training was carried out, and the education scheme being now in full operation occupied a considerable amount of the mens time. One more football match was played in connection with the Divisional Competition, 43rd. v 11th. F.A. resulting in a win for this Battalion by two goals. Rations continued good and the health of the men was excellent, the influenza epidemic having been successfully checked.</p>	
	10 - 15		<p>The Battalion moved from VERGIES to RAMBURELLES, where Battalion Hd. Qrs. was situated. No 1 Company was located at the village of FRAMICOURT. Billets were good but the village was dirty and on account of the recent heavy rains the troops experienced considerable discomfort. It was</p>	
	15 - 31		<p>therefore decided to obtain better accommodation for the troops if possible.</p> <p>These were found at LeTRANSLAY and on this date (15th.) the Coy. moved to their new billets and the improvement was much appreciated by all. The weather continued exceptionally wet and little training could be carried out. The education scheme however was carried on, the difficulty experienced in having the Coy separated from the remainder of the Battalion having been satisfactorily overcome. The troops evinced considerable interest in the various classes which</p>	

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APPENDIX.4.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices										
	19	18												
	December		<p><u>"C" COMPANY'S REPORT.</u></p> <p>On 5/12/18 C Coy was re-established by drawing two platoons from No 2 Coy and one from B.H.Q.</p> <p>The officers appointed were</p> <table><tbody><tr><td>Major A.T. PATTERSON.</td><td>O.C.</td></tr><tr><td>Capt. R.C. GUNTER.</td><td>M.C. 2nd. i/c.</td></tr><tr><td>Lieut. L.S. WATTS.</td><td>M.C. Platoon Officer.</td></tr><tr><td>Lieut. L. CHALK.</td><td>" "</td></tr><tr><td>Lieut. R.A. CANNAWAY.</td><td>M.C. " "</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>On moving to RAMBURELLES the billets were found to be extremely bad, being damp and scattered while most had very muddy approaches.</p> <p>The month has been extremely wet and owing to state of roads and fields very little military training other than route marches on the roads has been carried out. Inspections of personnel and equipment were conducted daily (excepting holidays) by platoon commanders in billets.</p> <p>Under existing circumstances it is impossible for the men to keep their feet dry and another pair of boots is essential to their health.</p> <p>Every man in the company is attending some form of instruction with the view of keeping his mind occupied and learning something useful.</p> <p>-----Major. O.C. C Company. 43rd. Battalion.</p>	Major A.T. PATTERSON.	O.C.	Capt. R.C. GUNTER.	M.C. 2nd. i/c.	Lieut. L.S. WATTS.	M.C. Platoon Officer.	Lieut. L. CHALK.	" "	Lieut. R.A. CANNAWAY.	M.C. " "	
Major A.T. PATTERSON.	O.C.													
Capt. R.C. GUNTER.	M.C. 2nd. i/c.													
Lieut. L.S. WATTS.	M.C. Platoon Officer.													
Lieut. L. CHALK.	" "													
Lieut. R.A. CANNAWAY.	M.C. " "													

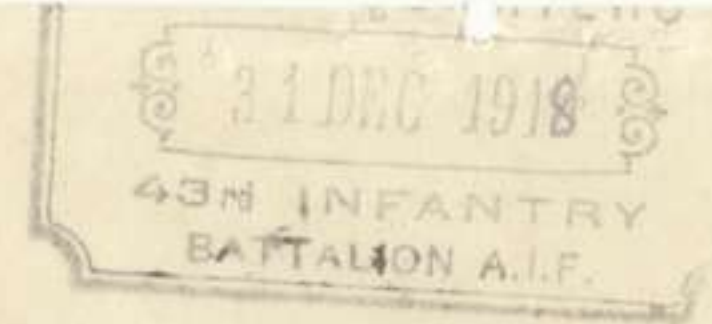
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APPENDIX 5.

Page 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	December.		<p><u>R. M. O's REPORT.</u></p> <p>This month has been very uneventful. We moved from VERGIES to RAMBURELLES and here as in all French villages of its type, sanitation is in a very elementary state. Latrines and drainage had to be instituted afresh.</p> <p>No 1 Company of this battalion was situated in Le TRANSLAY, about 2 kilometres from head-quarters, consequently a medical hut had to be started there as well. One of my A.M.C. men was stationed there in charge. Sick parades were conducted in the two places.</p> <p>Whether it be that the men have become acclimatised to the French winter, or whether the mildness of the winter accounts for it, is hard to say, but still, the fact remains that never have I seen less sickness at this time of the year than prevailed during December. In addition it has been practicably impossible for the men to keep their feet dry as the streets and approaches to billets were continually one mass of mud and water. Apart from a few mild influenza cases and ordinary coughs and colds there was practicably no illness.</p> <p>The area baths were situated at RAMBURELLES and although they did not fulfill all that was asked, still regular bathing helped a great deal to diminish skin affections - such as scabies and furunculosis. Compared to a few months ago these skin troubles showed a marked decrease.</p> <p>With Y.M.C.A. assistance hot drinks were served out nightly</p>	
			<p><i>[Signature]</i> ---Capt. R.M.O. 43rd. Battalion.</p>	

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

APPENDIX 6.

Army Form C. 2118.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918 December		<u>SPORTS OFFICER'S REPORT.</u> Throughout the month a more complete organisation of sports was developed. in the battalion, which up to the move to RAMBOURELLES was successfully conducted. The later part of the month exceptionally wet and intended events had to be cancelled. Football competitions ceased (temporally) on leaving VERGIES as teams were located too far apart for transport and mechanical transport was not available. 1 Inter-company competitions for the Battalion Cup continued regularly in the following events Battalion 2 mile cross country race (125 starters). 4 Battalion football match. 43rd. V Div. Engineers at WORRIEL. Won by 43rd. 6 Battalion Sports held at VERGIES. 7 Battalion football match . 43rd. v 11th. Fidd Ambulance. Won by 43rd. 14 Company football match. No 1 v No 2. 16 Company 3 mile cross country walk 18 Battalion football match. 43rd. v 11th. B.H.Q. Won by 43rd. 19 2 mile teams cross country run, 10 men per company. 20 Boxing tournament. 22 Inter-company football match. 31 Company 3 mile walk.	

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24 DEC 1918
43rd INFANTRY
BATTALION A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

APPENDIX 6. continued.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918 December.		<p><u>SPORTS OFFICERS REPORT continued.</u></p> <p>Company bridge, draught and chess competitions have been held, while other recreational training has also been indulged in, such as boxing, football, running and medicine-ball.</p> <p>The first competition for the Sports Cup was won by No 2 Company. (C & D)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>A. Wilson</i> ---Lieut. Sports Officer 43rd. Battalion. A.I.F.</p>	

ORDER NO.....1.....

Reference Map GUGNACOURT 1/100.000 -

9/12/18.

- INTENTION 1. The Battalion will move by Route March from billets in VERGIES to billets in RAMBORELLES and FRAMICOURT on 10/12/18.
- STARTING POINT. 2. Junction Roads $\frac{1}{2}$ mile "N" of "S" in VERGIES.
- TIME. 3. 09.40
- ORDER OF MARCH. 4. D, O, H.Qrs, No 1 Coy, Transport.
- FORMATION. 5. March in "Three's" 100 yds between Coy's.
- HALTS. 6. From 10 minutes to - to every clock hour, Mid-day Halt 11.50 to 13.00.
- DRESS. 7. Full Marching Order. 50 Rounds S.A.A. per man to be C/rie
- RATIONS. 8. One-third on the man.
One-third on Cooker.
- DUMPS. 9. Blankets (rolled), Officer's Valises, Mess gear, Orderly Room Boxes will be dumped by Coy's as under by 08.30 10/12/18:-
No 1 Coy and H.Qrs - Triangle
O & D Coy - Q.M.Store.
- Each Coy. will detail ONE man to act as Guard on Coy Dumps.
- SLOW PARTY 10. This Party will assemble at 08.45 10/12/18 at Junction Roads, 100 yds E of "S" in VERGIES.
Lieut A. G. PURCHAS will take charge of Party.
- REAR PARTY. 11. A Party consisting of Capt J. T. Moran, MC. Lieut G. H. Ashton, the Pioneers and Q.M. Staff will remain to finalise cleaning up in VERGIES.
- RETURN OF TABLES ETC. 12. All Tables, Food Boxes, Forms and boxes of ant description will be returned to Q.M. by 18.00 9/12/18.
- CLEANLINESS OF BILLETS. 13. Certificates to the effect that BILLETS HAVE BEEN LEFT IN A CLEAN AND SANITARY CONDITION will be rendered to the Adjutant at STARTING POINT.
Also Marching Out States.
- REPORTS. 14. To present Headquarters until 09.15 then to Head of Column.

DISTRIBUTION -

- No 1 File
2 War Diary
3 Brigade
4 No 1 Coy
5 C.Coy
6 D.Coy
7 Q.M.
8 Capt Moran, MC. J.T.

.....CAPT.
Adjutant, 43rd Infantry Battalion, AIF

MARCH ORDER NO.....

156/12/18

Reference Map VIGNACOURT Sheet

1/100,000

- INTENTION 1. The 43rd Battalion will Route March on the morning of 18/12/18.
- STARTING POINT. 2. { *RAMBURELLES* Last House on RAMBURELLES - St. MAXINT ROAD
- TIME. 3. 09.30
- FORMATIONS. 4. March in "3's" 100 yds. between Coy's.
- ORDER OF MARCH. 5. D.Coy, Band, C.Coy, B.H.Q., No 1 Coy.
- DRESS. 6. Marching Order.
- HALTS. 7. At 10 minutes to, to every clock hour.
- ROUTE. 8. Northwards to ABBEVILLE ROAD to Railway Station, thence S.E. to TRANSLAY, RAMBURELLES.
- REPORTS. 9. To Head Of Column.

LC Luckin
.....LIEUT.
for C.O. 43rd Infantry Battalion, A.I.F.

.....

-----A . I . P-----

43RD INFANTRY BATTALION.

P R O G R A M M E

of

S P O R T S.

VERGIES:

6/12/18.

OFFICIALS.

CLERK OF COURSE.

Lieut Shaw.

SPORTS OFFICER

C.S.M. McLaughlin.

Lieut Olsson

No 1 Group. Events 2-3-4-7-17.

JUDGES. Colonel J. Barrell.

Major W. J. Minnish Sgt Ayliffe.

STARTERS. Lieut Price.

" Parrott.

No 2 Group. Events 5-6-8-11-12.

JUDGES. Capt. Morris, C.

Lieut. Martin. Sgt Roberts.

STARTERS. Lieut Roberts, MC.

" Dixon.

No 3 Group. Events 9-10-13-14-15-16-23.

JUDGES. Major A. W. Lott.

Lieut Richardson.

Lieut Symons Lieut Cudmore

BOXING.

REFEREE.

Major A. T. Patterson.

JUDGES:

Lieut Purchas.

Cpl. Conroy.

-----E V E N T S.-----

10.00

100 Yards Championship.

1st Heat.

Q.L.S. Ferguson
Pto Bullock

Sgt Ryan
Cpl Gibson.

Pte Kilmartin.

10.05

2nd Heat.

Pte Creighton
Pte Heinicke

Cpl Dighton
Pte Sullivan.

10.15

2 SOCK RACE

10.25

3 OLD BUFFERS RACE.

10.40

4 SIAMSE RACE.

10.50

5 100 Yds OFFICERS RACE.

11.00

6 BOMB THROWING.

11.05

7 RELAY RACE - FINAL.

11.15

8 OLD BUFFERS RACE - FINAL

11.20

9 HIGH JUMP.

11.25

10 TUG-OF-WAR - H.Q. V No 1 Coy.

11.45

11 100 Yds CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL

L U N C H

14.00

EGG AND SPOON RACE

14.10

1 MILE WALK

14.20

220 yds CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL

14.25

KICKING FOOTBALL.

14.30

FINAL 100 YDS OFFICERS.

14.35

BROAD JUMP

14.40

TUG-OF-WAR - FINAL.

15.00

440 YDS. CHAMPIONSHIP - FINAL.

15.15

MULE RACE.

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43rd INFANTRY
BATTALION A.I.F.

Army Form C. 2118.

APPENDIX 7.

Page 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918 December		<p><u>EDUCATION OFFICER'S REPORT.</u></p> <p>During the present month good progress has been made in the Battalion with regard to Education</p> <p>1. <u>The classes within the battalion.</u> The number of classes has been greatly increased.</p> <p>At the present time there are 13 classes per day, with an average attendance of 316 students. The instructors have shown a keen interest in the work, with the result, that the progress has been most satisfactory.</p> <p>Classes are now being conducted in the following subjects :- French, English, Arithmetic Bookkeeping, Shorthand, Typewriting, Tailoring, Bookmaking, Poultry Breeding, Physiology and Elocution. A class was also commenced early in the month in the CARE AND Breeding of Stock, but the instructor (Sgt. Wilson) was called away to instruct at the 3rd. Divisional Agricultural School, and the class had to be abandoned. The shortage of accommodation and the lack of text-books have been a great drawback.</p> <p>2. <u>LECTURES AND DEBATES.</u> These are conducted during the evenings. The programme includes three lectures and two debates per week. The men are displaying great interest and much enthusiasm in this work, and many pleasant evenings are spent in discussing subjects of national importance</p> <p>3. <u>COURSES OF TRAINING OUTSIDE THE BATTALION.</u> Twenty six men are at present undergoing training outside the battalion. This training includes the following trades :-</p>	

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24 DEC 1918
43rd INFANTRY
BATTALION A.I.F.
APPENDIX 4.

Army Form C. 2118.

Page 2.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918 December		<p>Mechanical Engineering, Mining Engineering, Motor Engineering, Blacksmithing, Engine-fitting and Agriculture.</p> <p>A complete consensus of the men in the battalion has been taken as to their proposed occupations and the courses they would like to take up in order to fit them for these occupations. As far as possible every effort has been made to arrange for these courses and it is intended that every man in the battalion will within a short time have the opportunity of attending the course he wishes to take up.</p> <p><i>A. J. Ives</i> ----- Lieut. Education Officer 43rd. Battalion, A.I.F.</p>	

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APPENDIX 8

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

HONOURS AND AWARDS DEC1918.
~~HONOURS AND AWARDS~~

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER

Lieut. Col John Farrell. no particulars to hand.

MILITARY CROSS.

Captain Eustace James Colliver, During the operations on the SOMME from March to Sept this Officer acting as Adjutant and by his untiring zeal and devotion to duty he greatly assisted in the success of the Unit on many occasions.

DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT MEDAL No 5062 T/Sgt. Ryan, He has been with the Battalion since its arrival in France. He has at all times done excellent service. On the 23rd. May in patrol action at VILLERS - BRETONNEUX he showed great courage when his party was greatly outnumbered, he so led them that they fought their way back to their own lines with a minimum loss. On the 4th. July in the operations in HAMEL he at great personal risk saved 75000 lbs of our ammunition which had been left in a burning building by the enemy. On the 8th Aug during operations east of HAMEL he led his section with great gallantry and in two cases mopped up machine guns that were active in holding up the advance. During the 2nd. Sept during operations north of ALLAINES he most capably led his section by the most covered approach to the enemy stronghold and bombed them out killing many and taking many prisoners.

Farrell

Lieut. Col.

CO.43rd Bn