

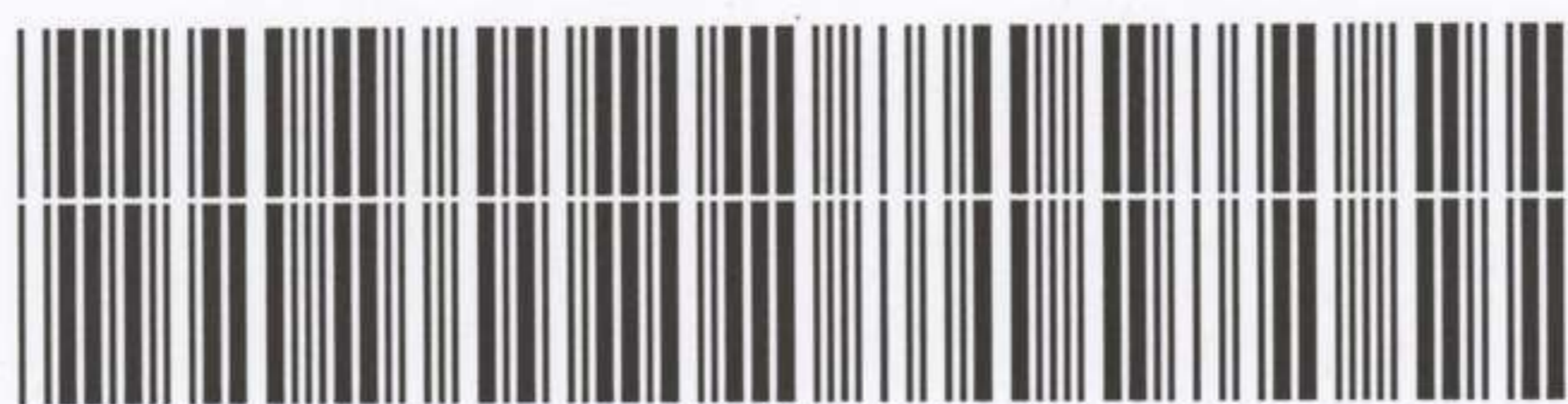
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Infantry

Item number: 23/60/30

Title: 43rd Infantry Battalion

February 1919



AWM4-23/60/30

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

43rd, Battalion, A.I.F.

FOR

February 1919.



Signature of Officer compiling

B. Richards Lieut.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Stannell Lt. Col.

Original

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)



Army Form C. 2118.

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Page 3.

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
RAMBURELLES	Feb.	1.	Cold day with snow on the ground. Battalion organised into three companies in order of precedence and billets reallocated. Bridge tournament held at night.	
		2.	Day continued cold. Church parade held at 11.15 in the <i>marquee</i> . Corps Commander Lt. Gen. HOBBS visited the Battalion for a quarter of an hour in the morning. Afternoon quiet, sing-song at night.	
		3.	Snow still on ground. March and classes occupied the day. Lecture by Sgt. JOHNSON on "the growth of the British Empire".	
		4.	Snow still on the ground. March and classes continued. Euchre tournament held at night.	
		5.	A route march commenced but a heavy fall of snow necessitated its postponement. Classes occupied the day. Plenty of snow-balling took place as the result of the fall. Discussion at night on "Should Bachelors be Taxed".	
		6.	March and classes again occupied the day. A Euchre tournament was held at night. Battle of Messines was discussed at the Officer's Mess.	
		7.	March and classes again occupied the day. Lecture at night on "Growth of the English Nation". Snow still on the ground very heavy frost at night.	
		8.	Bitterly cold morning. Route march held without arms. Classes held as usual.	
		9.	A further heavy frost enabled skating on the village pond. A march and Church Parade occupied the morning the balance of the day being free.	

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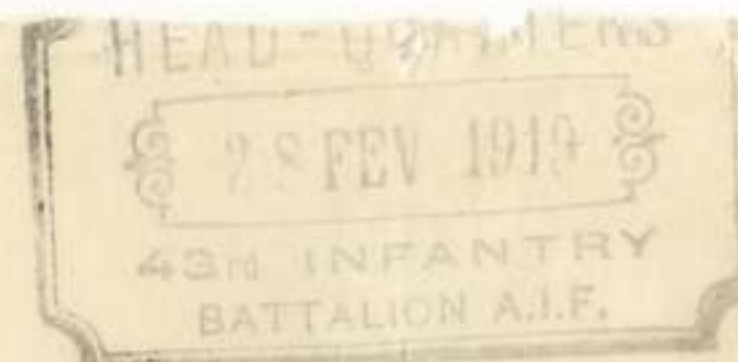
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAMBURELLES	Feb.	10.	Snow still on ground. Another very cold morning occupied with march and classes. An inter battalion Bridge and Draught Tournament held in the afternoon.	
		11.	Snow still on the ground and a nother very heavy frost. March and classes as usual.	
		12.	Another severe frost. Day free to visit the 3rd. Divisional Arts and Crafts Exhibition.	
		13.	Snow still on the ground a warmer day followed another cold morning. Usual march and classes held. Discussion on the Improvemnet of Politics in Australia.	
		14.	A dull morning without frost, rain falling before lunch. Classes continued as usual. Snow commenced to melt.	
		15.	Baths and classes occupied the morning afternoon free. The Divisional Football Team beat the Battalion by 3 goals.	
		16.	Wet day. Church Parade held otherwise day quiet.	
		17.	The day was normal with march and classes. The village had become very muddy as a result of the thaw.	
		18.	A normal day with march and classes and a lecture at night.	
		19.	Dull day with march and classes in the morning. Discussion at night on Reforestation.	
		20.	A full mornings route march followed in the afternoon by classes. Lt.Col. J.FARRELL. D.S.O. was detached as Bde. Commander, Capt. H.S. COPE taking charge of the Battalion during his absence.	
		21.	Dull day with march and classes.	

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Page 3.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAMBURRELLES	1919 Feb. -22.	22.	A wet day cancelled the match, classes and baths occupying the morning. Afternoon free night windy.	
		23.	Day sunny and bright. Church Parade held at 11 a.m., Band Concert given in the afternoon and a lecture by Mr. BERRY on "Sex and the Home Reconstruction." Lieut. MORTON joined from reinforcements.	
		24.	Normal march and classes held throughout the day.	
		25.	March and classes in the morning. Two members of the A.I.F. arranged for by the Y.M.C.A. gave an entertainment in the Marquee during the Afternoon. Lieut MULLALY joined from O.C.B.	
		26.	Morning normal with classes and march. Pictures shown in the Marquee at night.	
		27.	Rain prevented a march but classes were held as usual. Medical examination of the first draft was undertaken through the day. Pictures continued at night.	
		28.	Fine day with march and classes in the morning and pictures at night.	
			<p>The Battalion's ration strength decreased from 57 Officers and 395 O.R. to on the first to ^{Five} 33 and 379 on the 28th, two Officers joined from O.C.B. and one from reinforcements while two six were sent to England for duty.</p>	
			<p>Leave was granted as follows: to England 6 Officers and 30 O.R. Paris. 2 " " 8 "</p>	
			<p>The general health of the Battalion remained excellent throughout the month, the chief complaints being influenza and sore feet, the latter being caused through the shortage of leather to repair boots.</p>	

10/12

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Charles Lt Col. 6 O. 43rd

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WAR DIARY

OF

H 43rd. Battalion. A.I.F.

FOR

February

1919.



LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Education.

[Signature] Lieut.
Compiling Officer.

28 FEB 1919
3rd INFANTRY
BATTALION A.I.F.

----- EDUCATION. -----

Appendix 1.

Summary for month ending 28-2-19.

156 BATTALION CLASSES. The general interest in these classes is being maintained, although the attendance has somewhat decreased owing to general demobilisation of the A.I.F.

The enrolment for the month had averaged 202, and the attendance 182. In this report no account is taken of the number of men who are technically employed within the Unit.

Two very interesting and instructive courses in Orchardring and Motor Mechanics were completed during the month. The class in History under Chaplain Major HUTHNANCE is making splendid progress

PRIVATE TUITION. Several members of the Battalion are receiving private tuition in Advanced Arithmetic, Algebra and Geometry. Sgt. J.A. JOHNCOCK has devoted a great deal of his time and energy to these members and very satisfactory work is being accomplished.

SCHOOLS OUTSIDE THE UNIT. The following are the attendances at the various outside schools etc.

Commercial, Technical and Agri-cultural Schools in France	45
Non-military Employment in England.	15
Undergraduates returned to Australian Universities.	1

	61

LECTURES AND DEBATES. Lectures on the following subjects have been delivered during the month:-

- 1 The growth of the British People.
 - a Celtic and Saxon Times.
 - b Norman Period to the Hundred Years War.
 - c The Tudor and Stewart Times.
 - d England from the reign of Queen Ann to George V.
- 2 The Mother Territory.
- 3 Unionism.
- 4 The present Campaign.
- 5 Proportional Representation and effective voting.

The following questions have been discussed.

- 1 How can Australia improve the standard of her Political Life.

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Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour
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2 Should Bachelors be taxed.

3 Shuld capital punishment be abolished.

BATTALION LIBRARY. A very successful Library has been establish

ed within the Unit. The Agent-General for the Commonwealth was
asked to assist with a contribution of Literature and statistics
relating to Australian History. As result of this a few excellent
books have recently been added. These are written for Australaans
and from an Australian view point.

The total number of volumes is a 162.

BAR

A. J. Zuer.....Lieut.
Education Officer.