

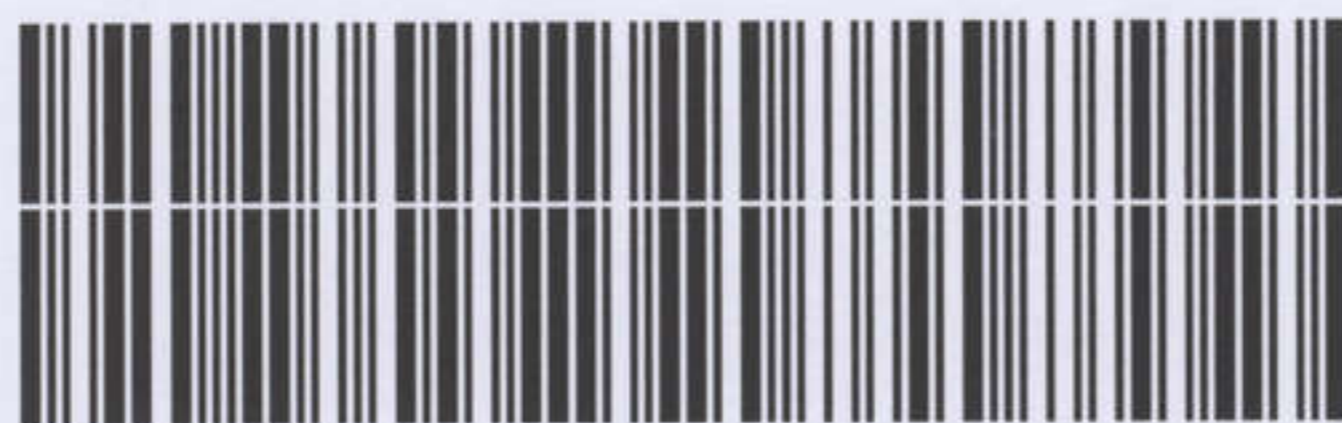
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Railways

Item number: 15/5/11

Title: 4th Australian Broad Gauge Railway
Operating Company

September 1918



AWM4-15/5/11

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF
4th Aust B.C.P. Coy

FOR
Sept 1918 Dunkerque

Signature of Officer compiling

Matulich
M.O

Signature of Officer Commanding

W Russell

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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

361

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dunberquo	Sept 1918		<p>During the month of Sept we have had a very heavy traffic in Coal, Steel rails, Light railway equipment etc pass through our hands, and in addition an enormous Troop movement.</p> <p>Minor derailments and mishaps at the Docks have occurred, but these have caused little or no delays in our working, and are not attributable to my Staff, who are now conversant with the Yards, Roads and Signals and are performing excellent work.</p> <p>The Staff has been practically free from accident causing serious personal injury, and are carrying out their duties efficiently and with a willingness to assist in every way possible to do their share in bringing this world war to a victorious conclusion.</p> <p>The news from day to day of the successes on all fronts of</p>	

No 2

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

361

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dunkerque	Sept 1918		<p>The Allies arms is indeed bright and cheering.</p> <p>Statistics form No 44</p> <p>Specimens Census sheets submitted to the French of Rolling Stock</p> <p>I am pleased to report all members of the Company are enjoying good health, and all necessary arrangements are being made in regard to the coming winter for the comfort of the men.</p> <p>I have had a heating furnace built for the supply of hot water, and pipes connected to the washing benches and bath rooms. This I am endeavoring to make as attractive as possible so as each member may be induced to indulge, and thus inculcate habits of hygiene.</p> <p>Lines operated upon, same as previously reported.</p> <p>Engines operating same as last report.</p>	<p>App No 1</p> <p>" No 2</p>

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dunkerque Cim	Sept 1918		<p>Strength of Company 4th Aust. B. G. R. O. C. 4 off 303 rank & file " " " " " " " " " " " " 3 - 393</p>	
		<p>Our Unit's members never miss opportunities to add fresh laurels to their past reputation for taking prompt action in saving Military property or minimising danger and casualties, at a recent explosion of ammunition at the Dunes Magazine in the close vicinity of the Anage des Dunes Dunkerque (Cause unknown) Lieut Eustace with a party of men without thought of their personal safety transferred a Merry-weather pumping machine (portable) and hose from the Dunes Loco depot to the scene of the bursting ammunition, and endeavored to extinguish the fire caused, which had a good hold of the building, and otherwise rendering any assistance necessary. The action of this Officer and his crew is worthy of Commendation in view of the fact that the work was carried</p>		

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WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dunkerque	14 th Sept 1918		<p>out in the small hours of the morning between 3-10 and it arrived 14th inst, and was a risky undertaking, Sad to relate there was one casualty, A French soldier on sentry.</p> <p>We are now enjoying the privileges of "Blighty" Overseas Leave, and the members of the Unit are being sent as quickly as exigencies of our working will permit, in a short period I am hopeful all will have had that much coveted prize.</p> <p>Many of the men have also availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by Paris Leave with a view of seeing the 'wonders' of that Capital and making comparisons with other cities.</p> <p>Technical Classes covering many subjects are being conducted at our Camps in the evenings and are well attended, the object of such classes is to prevent our members from</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Lambert	Sept 1918		<p>becoming stale in their followings in Civilian life, and also to assist others whose ambitions are for the betterment of themselves when seeking employment after the Military Authorities have no further claim upon their services. In addition to the foregoing, several members of the Unit in their spare time, are giving lessons to the French Railway Staff and French lessons to our own workmates; A lively interest is being manifested in gaining knowledge of the two languages, proficiency in which will tend to simplify our working with the French considerably.</p> <p>The conduct and discipline of the Company is good.</p> <p>The weather during the month has been stormy, with rain and heavy winds.</p> <p>Appendices 1 & 2 are available for reference in diary</p>	<p>W Russell Capt. 4th and BGRAC</p>

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WAR DIARY

OF

4th Cash I.G.A. Co

FOR

Sept 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

*1**Statistics**2**Specimen Census.*

RAILWAY OPERATING DIVISION.

Weekly Return of Broad and Metre Gauge Lines and Depots worked by British Army.

361

Broad Gauge Line (or Depot) *Dumfries* ^{month} Week ending *Sept* 1918

LOCOMOTIVE STATISTICS (Separate Statistics for Petrol Tractors).

Length of Line Worked. Kilometres.	Total Number of Engines on last day of week.	Daily Average Number of Engines.	Daily Average Number of Engines in Steam.	Percentage of Engines in Steam to Total.	Percentage of Engines under, or waiting Repairs.	Percentage of Engines Available but not in Steam.	TOTAL ENGINE KILOMETRES.		TOTAL ENGINE HOURS.		CONSUMPTION OF LOCO. STORES (by Engines only).	
							Loaded, Empty, or Assisting.	Light.	Train Engines.	Shunting Engines.	Coal (tons).	Lubricating Oil (gallons).
	61	63	52	82.54	15.87	1.59	32762	12218	4033	11345	1929.16	896

STOCK AND CONSUMPTION OF R.O.D. COAL (Tons).

Stock on Hand at beginning of week. <i>month</i>	Received during week. <i>(A) month</i>	Used during week. <i>month</i>	Sent R.O.D. Detachments. <i>(B)</i>	Sent other Units. <i>(C)</i>	Stock on Hand at end of week.
<i>B</i> 432.16				15	432.1
<i>C</i> 754.13	2500.10	1929.16	158.10	939.15	227.2

(A), (B), and (C)—In the case of Coal received from or sent to other Units or Detachments give details.

BREAKDOWN CRANES.

Number of Breakdown Cranes.

PERSONNEL STATISTICS.

DAILY AVERAGE NUMBER OF R.O.D. PERSONNEL.								TOTAL STRENGTH of R.O.D. Personnel on last day of week.
Repairs.	Shed Duties.	Running.	Ground Staff.	Employed. <i>(D)</i>	Reserve.	Others. <i>(E)</i>	Total.	
58	99	225	80	141	.	54	657	663

(D)—Includes Q.M.S. and Assistants, Cooks, Orderlies.

(E)—Includes Sick in Quarters, in Hospital, on Leave, in Detention.

Consumption of coal per kilo per Engine.

Coal 31.82
Oil .52

TRAFFIC STATISTICS.

TOTAL NUMBER OF LOADED WAGONS CONVEYED DURING WEEK.										Total LOADED Wagon kilometres.
Troops.	Reinforcements and <i>Remounts</i>	Supplies, Ordnance and General Traffic.	Construction Traffic.	Trains Journaliers.	Ambulance Trains.	French Traffic.	Belgian Traffic.	Civil Traffic.	Total Number of Wagons.	
138	3172	11612	961	.	64	287	19	2108	18961	697917

APPENDIX

*Specimen
Censu*

Recensement Général du Matériel P.V. de toutes les Administrations françaises et étrangères,
y compris les wagons à fruits, à primeurs et à bestiaux G.V.,

le 15 Septembre 1918 à 10 heures

Etat A.

Gare D

& Inspection

Est			P.L.M.			L.O.			Etat.			Etat-Belge ⁽⁶⁾			Midi			Nord et Nord-Belge.			Autres réseaux étrangers ou wagons particuliers			Wagons Anglais			
Couvert	Tombeaux	Plats	Couvert	Tombeaux	Plats	Couvert	Tombeaux	Plats	Couvert	Tombeaux	Plats	Couvert	Tombeaux	Plats	Couvert	Tombeaux	Plats	Couvert	Tombeaux	Plats	Marques du Réseau ou nom du propriétaire	C ou P	Numéros	Marques Nord	Marques Etat		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	

(1) Porter l'indication C pour les wagons utilisés par le Commerce, W pour ceux utilisés par l'Armée Anglaise, F pour ceux utilisés par l'Armée Française, B pour ceux utilisés par l'Armée Belge.
 (2) Avec les couverts, on comprendra les bestiaux G.V. et P.V., les fourgons P.V. et les fourgons à primeurs.
 (3) Avec les tombeaux, on comprendra les faitages, les bacs, les ridelles, etc....
 (4) Avec les plats, on comprendra les wagons à bois, à fer, à laine, à ballast, etc...
 (5) Porter en regard de chaque véhicule, l'indication de son type (C, couvert, T, tombeau, P, plat).
 (6) Indiquer tous les wagons Etat Belge, y compris ceux marqués "Etat"

Le Chef de Gare,

APPENDIX 2