

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/63/14

Title: 46th Infantry Battalion

March 1917



AWM4-23/63/14

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

46th Br.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	<u>March.</u>			
	1.		Moved from BECOURT Camp to BRESLE into Billets.	1902
	1/23		in billets at BRESLE. Training carried out - training programmes attached hereto.	Weekly Return (Strength)
	6.		18 O/R joined from 4th A.D.B.D.	1902
	9.		BRIGADE DAY - trench attack carried out by the whole Brigade - three lines of enemy trenches being the objective. All ranks gaining much instruction thereby.	Syllabus OF TRAINING (3)
	11.		Military Medals & Ribbons were presented at BRESLE by Lieut.Gen. Birdwood to members of the 4th and 12th Brigades. The receiptants of the 46th Battalion being :- 4520 Sgt. James A.V., 1536 Pte DeAbel J.J., 4880 Pte McCarty W.W., 3376 Pte Pengehly H., 3387 Pte McNeil W	1903 LIST OF OFFICERS
	12.		32 O/R arrived from 4th A.D.B.D. Lieut. Speer rejoined the Unit with this draft.	
	15.		Captain Kimber L. reported back for duty - Supernumerary to establishment. <u>Promotions.</u> To be CAPTAINS dated 6/3/17. Lieut. Vanstan G.S. Lieut. Craig L.C.A. To be Lientenants dated 6/3/17. 2nd.Lieuts.-Macknight H.H.R., Master W.F.H., Cornwall E.M., Cowey J.P., Weir N.R., Grant J.A.	
	16		10 O/R received from 4th A.D.B.D. Two Companies "A" & "C" moved from BRESLE to ACID DROP Camp and CINQUE PORTS Camp under Major Edgley J.M. to relieve the 16th Battalion on Road works. <u>Promotion.</u> To be Major dated 6/3/17 Captain V.J.Waine.	
	17		BRIGADE Training operation. The Brigade moving as an Advanced Guard from the direction of RIBEMONT - when in the neighbourhood of the ALBERT-AMIENS road came under Artillery fire from the direction of BRESLE WOOD necessitating attack on the same by the whole Brigade.	

597

Appendix No. 1 APPENDIX No. 1

WEEKLY STRENGTH. 46th BATTALION.

March 31st. 1917.

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>O/R.</u>
March 3rd.	40	972
" 10th.	40	985
" 17th	40	1020
" 24th	40	1062
" 31st.	40	1073

H. Debus
Lt. Col.
 C. O. 46th Battalion.

APPENDIX
1402

Words per Minute
approx. speed buzzed;

A Grade - Number of men so classified	16	14
B. " " " " " "	18	9
C " " " " " "	8	6
D. " " " " " " beginners	11	

9.30 am to 11 am 11 am to 12.30 pm 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.

MARCH 2nd.

A. GRADE.	Visual Station work Morse Flags	Visual Station work shutters	Buzzer practice	Visual station work-shutters.
B. GRADE	Visual station shutters	Visual stations Morse flags	Visual stations Shutters	Buzzer practice
C. GRADE	Visual station Semaphore Flags	Visual stations Morse Flags	Buzzer practice	Lecture - Electricity and magnetism
D. GRADE	Visual stations shutters	Flag drill - Morse	Flag drill - semaphore	Lecture - Electricity and magnetism.

MARCH 3rd.

A. GRADE.	9.30 to 10.30 a.m. Buzzer practice	10.30 am to 12.30 pm Stations - shutters.	1.30 pm to 2.30 pm Visual stations shutters	2.30 to 3.30 pm Visual stations - Morse Flags.
B. GRADE	Buzzer practice	Station work - Morse Flags	Visual stations morse flags	Visual stations Semaphore flags.
C. GRADE.	9.30 to 10.30 am Lecture - induct- ion - leakage	10.30 to 11.30 am Flag drill - Morse	11.30 to 12.30 Station work semaphore flags	1.30 to 2.30 pm Visual stations semaphore flags
D. GRADE.	Lecture - induct- ion - Leakage	Flag Drill - Morse	Flag drill - semaphore	2.30 to 3.30 pm. Visual stations shutters Flag drill - Semaphore

MARCH 4th.

CHURCH PARADE REST.

MARCH 5th.	9.30 to 11.30 a.m.	11.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 3.30 p. M.
A. GRADE	Visual stations -Flags Morse 1 hour. Semaphore 1 hour.	Buzzer practice	Buzzer practice.
B. GRADE.	Visual stations -Flags Semaphore 1 hour Morse 1 hour	Buzzer practice	Buzzer practice
C. GRADE	Buzzer practice	Lecture -Message forms.	Visual tests - Morse Flags 1 hour Semaphore 1 hour.
D. GRADE	Buzzer practice	Lecture - message forms.	Visual tests - Morse flags 1 hour Shutters 1 hour.

REPEAT ON MARCH 6th, 7th & 8th.

W. Davidson
Captain,
Adj. 48th. Batt. A. I. F.

Appendix No. 2

597

4

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

46th BATTALION.

597

Date	9.30 to 10 a.m.	10 to 11 a.m.	11.15 to 12.30 a.m. p.m.	1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
1/3/17	TRAINING & PHYSICAL Fighting. Bayonet	Extended Order Drill	Company in attack on trenches	Route march (if practicable - Musketry)
2/3/17		Battalion	in Attack	Musketry Instruction Rifle Exercises.
3/3/17		Company Drill	Company extended order drill & skirmishing	Attack & re-organization after attack.
4/3/17		Church	Parade	Half - HOLIDAY
5/3/17		Platoon in attack	Company in attack	Musketry instruction Bayonet Fighting.
6/3/17		Battalion	in Attack	Extended order drill (closing to small columns &c.
7/3/17		Platoon Drill	Companies at disposal of Company Commanders	Inspection. Route March.
8/3/17		Rapid Deployment	Musketry Instruction and Rifle Exercises.	Company in advanced & Rear guard.
9/3/17		Platoon in Bayonet Charging	Companies at disposal of company commanders	Kit Inspection.

Appendix No 7

McDonald

Captain,
Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR LEWIS GUNNERS.

46th. BATTALION.

383

Date.	9 am to 9.45 am	9.45 am to 12 noon	2 pm to 4 pm.
Friday 2/3/17	Physical Training & Bayonet Exercises.	General description of Gun - Stripping	Mechanism - Stripping.
Saturday 3/3/17		Instructions for cleaing - Mechanism	Stripping - Elementary drill
Sunday 4/3/17		C H U R C H P A R A D E	R E S T.
Monday 5/3/17		Elementary drill - Tests - Stripping	Mechanism - Magazine Filling.
Tuesday 6/3/17		Stoppages & immediate action - mechanism	Stoppages & probable cause - points before using and after firing.
Wednesday 7/3/17		Range - Grouping & Repetition firing when in action	Range - Application - practicable stoppages Firing when in motion.
Thursday 8/3/17	Range - Swing traverse Firing when in motion	Range - Revolver practice	

Appendix No. 1

McDavidson

Captain,
Adj. 46th Bait. A. I. F.

597

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR BOMBERS.

46th BATTALION.

Date	9 a.m. to 9.45 am.	9.45 am to 12 NOON	2 pm to 4 pm.
Friday 2/3/17	Physical Training & Bayonet Fighting.	Training of CCoy's Bombers Throwing Dummies	Lecture to C Coy's Bombers on Foreign Bombs and demonstration with these bombs.
Saturday 3/3/17		Training of D. Coy's Bombers throwing dummies	Lecture on English & Foreign Bombs Demonstration with these bombs.
Sunday 4/3/17		C H U R C H P A R A D E	R E S T.
Monday 5/3/17.		Training A Coy's Bombers Throwing dummies	Lecture on English & Foreign Bombs Demonstration with these bombs.
Tuesday 6/3/17		Training B Coy's Bombers	Lecture to B Company Bombers on English & Foreign Bombs - demonstration with these bombs.
Wednesday 7/3/17		Trench Tactics	Throwing dummies from trench Throwing dummies into trench.
Thursday 8/3/17		Lecture on Rifle Grenades - Firing Dummy Rifle Grenades.	Throwing LIVE Bombs.

McDavid
Captain,
Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

Appendix IV

PROGRAMME OF TRAINING 10th to 16th March (inclusive)

10th. March	9-0 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.	BRIGADE IN ATTACK.
11th	" "	CHURCH PARADE
12th	" "	COMPANIES ON THE ATTACK
13th.	" "	ADVANCING IN ARTILLERY FORMATIONS AND PRACTISING DEPLOYMENT BY BATTALIONS.
14th.	" "	ADVANCE GUARD WORK BY BATTALIONS.
15th.	" "	ROUTE MARCH (Trench mortar demonstration in afternoon)
16th.	" "	BATTALION DRILL.

Afternoons will be employed in training Junior Officers & N.C.Os

Specialists will train with Battalion on 10th., 14th., & 16th inst. - otherwise separately.

Ref. Programme of Training issued by 12th Aus. Inf. Bde 10th to 16th March dated 7/3/17.

W. Davidson

Captain,
Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

6

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

LEWIS GUNNERS - 46th. BATTALION.

Date	9 a.m. to 9.45 am	9.45 am to 12 noon	2 pm to 4 pm/
10/3/17		Brigade Day	
11/3/17	Physical Training & Bayonet Exercises.	Church Parade	Rest
12/3/17		General Description of Gun Stripping	Mechanism - stripping.
13/3/17		Stoppages & immediate action Mechanism	Stoppages & probable cause - points before using & after firing.
14/3/17		Training with Battalion.	
15/3/17		Range - Grouping & Repetition firing when in action.	Range - application - practicable stoppages Firing in action.
16/3/17		Training with Battalion.	

10/3/17

McDavidson

Captain,
Adj. 46th Bde A. I. F.

Appendix No. 2

597

Appendix No 7

10

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

SIGNAL SECTION

46th BATTALION.

for 12th, 13th & 15th March.

MARCH 12th	9 am to 11 am	11 am to 12 noon	2 pm to 3 pm
A. Grade	Visual station Shutters	Visual stations Semaphore Flags	Aeroplane contact work
B. "	Visual station shutters	Visual stations shutters	Aeroplane contact work
C. "	Flags Semaphore 1 hr Morse 1 hr	Visual stations shutters	Aeroplane contact work
D. "	Flag drill	Visual stations semaphore	Aeroplane contact work

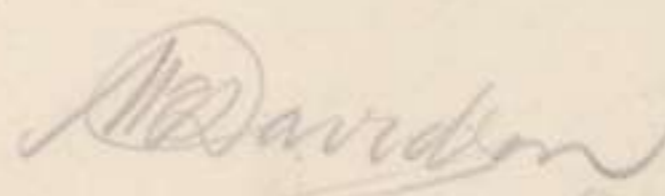
MARCH 13th 9 am to 11 am 11 am to 12 noon

A Grade	(Visual stations long distance Morse	D.D. Messages shutters & Flags
B "		
D. "	Station work semaphore	D.D. messages shutters & flags
D. "	Station work Shutters	D.D. messages Shutters & flags

MARCH 15th. 9 am to 12 noon

All grades company to Battalion work (visual
Semaphore flags, Morse flags, Shutters.

10/3/17



Captain,
Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

65

597

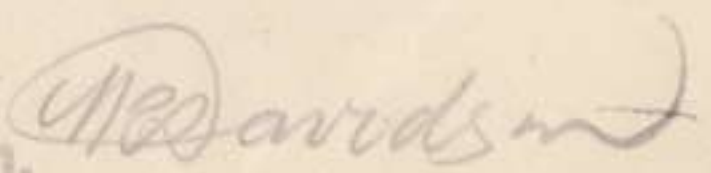
SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

-----ooOoo-----

BOMBERS - 46th BATTALION.

Date	9 a.m. to 9.45 am	9.45 am to 12 noon	2 pm to 4 p.m.
10/3/17		BRIGADE DAY	
11/3/17	Physical Training & Bayonet Fighting.	CHURCH • PARADE	Rest.
12/3/17		Live Bomb Throwing	Live Bomb throwing
13/3/17		Live bomb throwing	Mive bomb throwing
14/3/17		Training with Battalion	
15/3/17		Trench Tactics	Trench tactics
16/3/17		Training with Battalion	

10/3/17


 Captain,
 Lt. 46th Batt. A.I.F.

Appendix No 7

597

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING

46th BATTALION. . - SIGNALLERS 16/3/1917.

Date	W o r k.	
<u>March.</u>	<u>Squad.</u>	
17th.	A. } B. }	Brigade Scheme Visual Communications.
18th.	A. } B. }	C h u r c h P a r a d e.
19th.	A. } B. }	Communication Telephone & Visual Div.n Scheme .
20th.	A. } B. }	Station work with moving stations using DD DD messages in forward area.
21st.	A. } B. }	Training with Battalion.
22nd.	A. } B. }	Elementary Map reading & establishing stations with aid of map cantatt work. Selection of Stations for visual work in forward areas DD DD messages and keeping signal registers.
23rd.	A. B.	Station work (shutters) involving use of telephone. Long distance station work with small flag.

McDermiden
Captain,
Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

10

Program of work for week ending 23rd March 1917.

46th BATTALION.

16/3/1917.

DATE	TIME	WORK
<u>March.</u>		
17th.	9 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Brigade attack and Advanced Guard action.
18th.	"	CHURCH PARADE.
19th.	"	Division Signal Exercise Company and Platoon Drill Extended Order and deployment.
20th.	"	Battalion Close order drill - 1 hour- then Companies at disposal of Coy. Commanders.
21st.	"	Battalions in Advance Guard Action with special reference to communications.
22nd.	"	Musketry & Company drill and Rapid deployment
23rd.	"	Reconnaissance of ground for Night advance Night Operation to consist of a Night march to a point of assembly, a deployment and an advance by compass bearing on to an objective not less than 600 yards away from position of deployment.
24th.	"	Route March 1st Line Transport - distance not less than 6 miles.

Specialists will train in accordance with Syllabus under
 Specialist Officers.

Afternoons will be devoted to sport & training of Officers
 & N.C.Os.

McDavidson

Captain,
 Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

597
12

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

LEWIS GUNNERS.

46th BATTALION.

Date	9 a.m. to 9.45 a.m.	9.45 am to 12 Noon	2 pm to 4 pm
<u>March.</u>			
17th.		B R I G A D E D A Y	
18th.	Physical Training & Bayonet Exercises.	C H U R C H P A R A D E	R E S T.
19th.		General description of Gun Stripping.	Mechanism - stripping.
20th.		Stoppages & immediate action Mechanism	Stoppages & probable cause - Points before using and after firing.
21st.		T r a i n i n g w i t h B a t t a l i o n	
22nd.		Range - Grouping & Repetition firing when in action.	Range - Application - Practicable stoppages Firing in action.
23rd.		T r a i n i n g w i t h B a t t a l i o n	

16/3/17

W. Davidson

Captain,
Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

Appendix No 2

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

-----ooOOoo-----

BOMBERS.

46th BATTALION.

Date	9 a.m. to 9.45 am	9.45 a.m. to 12 noon	2 p.m to 4 p.m.
17/3/17	BRIGADE DAY		
18/3/17	CHURCH PARADE		REST
19/3/17	Live Bomb Throwing		Live Bomb Throwing
20/3/17	Live Bomb Throwing		Live Bomb Throwing
21/3/17	Training with Battalion.		
22/3/17	Trench Tactics		Trench Tactics
23/3/17	Training with Battalion.		

16/3/17

McDavidson

Pltn.
Adj. 46th Batt. A. I. F.

Appendix No. 2

297

LIST OF OFFICERS DOING DUTY WITH UNIT - March 31st. 1917.

46th Battalion.

Rank	Name.		Remarks.
Lt. Colonel,	Denham	H.K.	C.O.
Majors	Edgley	J.	2nd. in command.
"	Waine	V.J.	
Captain.	Clark	G.H.	
	Kimber	L.	
	Davidson	W.R.	ADJUTANT.
	Beddington	F.E.	
	Simonsen	P.W.	
	Vanstan	G.S.	
Lieutenants	Payne	D.B.	
	Syme	W.A.	
	Muriel	A.J.C.	
	Pentland	W.C.	
	Stanton	J.A.	
	Bull	L.	
	Hall	J.K.	
	Speer	C.H.	
Hon. Lieut.	Outhwaite	R.	Q.M.
2nd. Lieutenants	Bishop.	V.R.	
	Coulson	L.L.	
	Barnes	J.H.	
	Brearley	P.C.	
	Pinkham	F.	
	Ridgwell	L.P.	
	Jennings	W.H.	
	Carr	T.J.	
Lieut.	Wallace	A.H.	at 4th A.D.B.D.
	Master	W.F.H.	Hospital.
	Grant	J.A.	"
	Hall	J.K.	"
	Macknight	H.H.R.	Cagny Laundry.

W.K. Duchane
 Lt. Colonel,
 G. C. 46th Batt. A. I. F.