

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/23/8

Title: 23rd Australian Machine Gun
Company

March 1918



AWM4-24/23/8



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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

23rd AUST MACHINE GUN COY

FOR

MARCH 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

[Handwritten signature] Capt

Signature of Officer Commanding

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

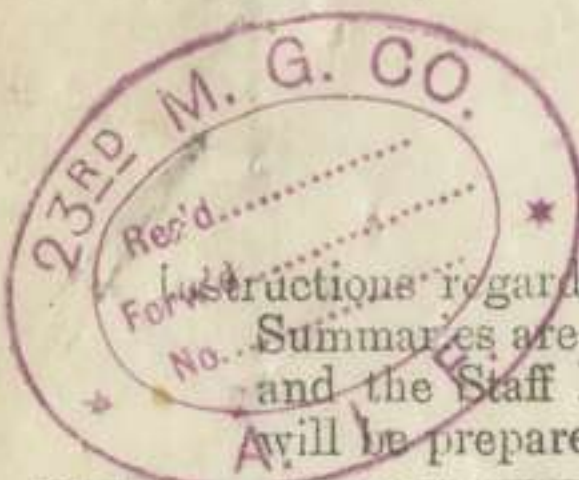
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LE BIZET	1.3.18		<p>Reference Sheet HOUPLINES part of Sheet 36</p> <p>The following targets were engaged during the night viz:- a) LAUNDRY C.S.C. 70.55, W) SOAP HOUSE C.S.C. 70.28. SUSPECTED Coy HQRS, G.6.C. 18.20 No. of rounds fired 1500 Time occupied 11 hours. Enemy Artillery and Machine gun fire at normal activity. Weather quiet, wind from NORTH. In connection with a mine operation, the 113th Battalion against an enemy listening post at C.S.A. 40.50. The Daylight Battery was instructed to "STAND TO" with guns laid for concentration between DURIEZ and SCREENED FARMS. As hostile action was expected from enemy machine gun situated in the LAUNDRY C.S.C. 70.55, a machine gun was specially emplaced at C.15.d. 52.90. A fire intermittently on the LAUNDRY. Signal for "ACTION" of the daylight battery was a RED VERY LIGHT, for "ALL CLEAR" a GREEN VERY LIGHT. Word was received from Artillery Liaison Officer that the operation was postponed - reason unknown.</p>	
			<p><u>LATER</u> It was later discovered that certain necessary weapons of offence did not find their way to scene of operations in time. This emphasises the fact that all ranks must be absolutely familiar with the French system in which they work.</p>	

170



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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Reference Sheet MOUPLINES part of Sheet 36	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
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LE BIZET

23-18

Work on improving camp at MOQUET LINES proceeded with. Flats of roofs are being tarred, and camp generally cleaned up.

FIGHTING STRENGTH

I		II		III		IV		A.		B.	
FIGHTING STRENGTH OF PREVIOUS WEEK		INCREASE DURING WEEK DUE TO DRAFTS etc		TOTALS FROM I + II		DECREASE DURING WEEK CASUALTIES etc		FIGHTING STRENGTH		DETAILS INCLUDED IN "A"	
off	on	off	on	off	on	off	on	off	on	off	on
13	170		1	13	171	1	3	12	168	4	27

Between 9 PM and 3 AM, 1500 rounds were fired on the following targets: (1) DURIEZ FARM, C.S.d. 30.95 (2) SCREENED FARM, C.S.k. 6.4. (3) TRAMLINE, C.S.k. 40.25. (4) ROAD, C.S.d. 40.85. (5) JUNCTION OF ROAD + TRAMLINE, C.S.k. 95.15.

Enemy activity normal. Weather clear during morning, poor visibility in the afternoon.

3.3-18

1500 rounds were fired on the following targets: (1) DURIEZ FARM, C.S.d. 30.93 (2) ROAD IN C.S.d. + C.S.k. between DURIEZ FM. & SCREENED FM. (3) CEMETERY DRIVE C.H.C. 90.80.



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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Reference Sheet HOURLINES, part of Sheet 36 Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>LE BIZET</u>	1.3.18		<p>(4) CELTIC AVENUE, C 11 c. 40.04 (5) JUNCTION OF TRACKS + TRENCHES C 11 b. 86.13. Time occupied 4 hours.</p> <p>Very little Artillery and machine gun activity on our front throughout the period.</p> <p>Weather dull with wind dropping to dead calm at midnight. Visibility fair.</p> <p>Six (6) reinforcements taken on strength from 3rd Aust. Divisional Troop on M.G.B.D.</p> <p>C.O. of the 22nd M.G. Coy. arrived Headquarters at 2 p.m. Arrangements for relief planned on the 5th completed. All papers for relief completed by night.</p> <p>The following targets were engaged position of battery being situated at C 15 a. 95.97. 250 rounds BUILDINGS NEAR RIVER, FRELINGHIEN, C 11 d. 70.55. (2 guns) 250 rounds CENTRE OF ENEMY ACTIVITY, C 11 b. 31.78. (2 guns) 500 rounds TWIN FARM, C 12 a. 65.33 (4 guns) 5000 rounds on CREEPING BARRAGE ON AREA DURIEZ P.M. and SCREENED F.M. to FRELINGHIEN - DEULEMONT RD. Time occupied 1 hour 13 min. from 12 midnight to 1.13 a.m.</p> <p>These barrages were put down in conjunction with large hand ^{on landing} hand made on the left. Enemy activity was again normal. Weather hazy and dull all day.</p>	

170

(Signature)



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

A. Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>LE BIZET</u>	5/3/18		<p>Reference <u>HEAT'S HOURLINES</u>, part of <u>Heat 36</u> <u>B + F. Heat 36</u> <u>CHLAIS</u></p> <p>with light drizzle about 4 P.M. Advance parties of 22nd M.G. Coy. reported and were guided to positions, L.O. being taken round the line. Main body arrived about 6 P.M. - relief completed by 8.30 P.M., when command of the barrage position passed to the 22nd company. Transport was provided for taking the men to the new lines, and a hot meal served on arrival.</p>	
<u>MOQUET LINES</u>	5/3/18		<p>The day was spent in packing lumber, cleaning camp, and disposing of surplus. During the night several amendments to the original MOVE ORDER were received from the 9th Brigade. See Appendices.</p> <p>Awake at 6.30 A.M. - minor parade at 7 A.M. Final packing of stores completed and all transport "hooked in" at 8.45 A.M. Transport moved off 9.20 A.M. Details of March Table, see Appendices.</p>	APPENDIX "A"
	5/3/18		<p>Transport of the 22nd M.G. Coy. marched in at 11 A.M. Personnel of company moved from MOQUET LINES at 1 P.M. marching to STEENWERCK STATION, entrained, train moving off at 2.30 P.M. stop. Proceeded to DEVRES, entrained at 8.55 P.M. Men supplied with hot cocoa and milk.</p>	APPENDIX "B"

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																																																																
			<p><u>Reformed Sheet CALAIS.</u> <u>HAZE BROUCK SA.</u></p> <p>guide to conduct to company billets at BOURNONVILLE. Guide was not familiar with the road; and the march had to be conducted per map. All men and especially NCO to be given as much practice as possible acting as guides.</p> <p>Cook's tent and riding horses moved by omnibus train from BAILLEUL at 5 P.M. arriving DEVRES about midnight and proceeded to company billets.</p> <p>Day spent in allotting of billets, fixing of cook houses, clearing orderly rooms and going over stores etc.</p> <p>5 Reinforcements marched in from M.G.B.D.</p> <p><u>PARADE STATE.</u></p>																																																																																	
BOURNONVILLE	9 3 18																																																																																			
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">ACTUALLY WITH UNIT</th> <th colspan="3">ABSENT</th> <th colspan="3">SICK</th> <th colspan="3">DETACHED</th> <th colspan="3">TOTAL STRENGTH</th> <th colspan="3">ESTABLISHMENT</th> <th colspan="3">WANTING TO COMPLETE</th> <th colspan="3">ATTACHED</th> <th colspan="3">RATION STRENGTH</th> </tr> <tr> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> <th>W/O</th> <th>PL</th> <th>ME</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>17</td> <td>138</td> <td>1</td> <td>12</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>12</td> <td>18</td> <td>159</td> <td>10</td> <td>20</td> <td>155</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>9</td> <td>17</td> <td>138</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACTUALLY WITH UNIT			ABSENT			SICK			DETACHED			TOTAL STRENGTH			ESTABLISHMENT			WANTING TO COMPLETE			ATTACHED			RATION STRENGTH			W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	W/O	PL	ME	9	17	138	1	12		1		5	1	1		12	18	159	10	20	155	2					9	17	138	
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	10 3 18		<p>Work commenced on <u>Appendix</u> as per <u>Appendix</u>.</p>																																																																																	

APPENDIX "C"



6170

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place Date Hour

Reference Sheet CALAIS 13.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

BOURNONVILLE

Conference of officers was held at night with an idea of establishing a plan of training and unity of thought as laid down at the Personnel Commanders conference held on the 26 February.

11.3.18

Normal work of syllabus carried out, the first hour being given to company drill, practicing section Officers and N.C.O.

12.3.18

Normal work of syllabus carried out - much improvement shown in drill. Lt J. O. Tenwick proceeded on leave and Lt. Colman reported back from leave.

13.3.18

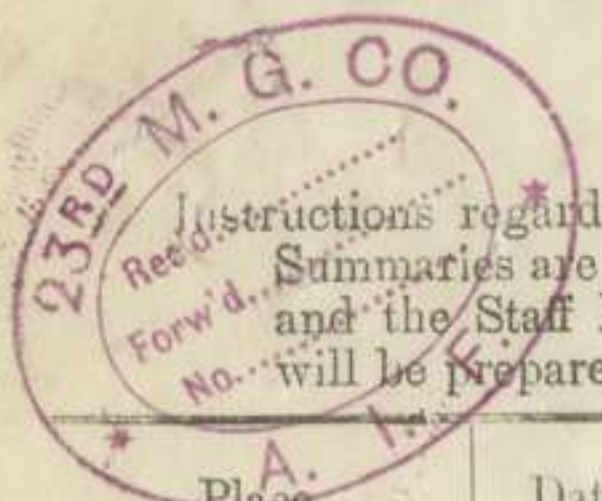
Normal work of syllabus. Lecture was given to N.C.O. in the evening on Map reading by Lt G. H. F. MacMillan.

FIGHTING STRENGTH

I		II		III		IV		A		B	
FIGHTING STRENGTH OF PREVIOUS WEEK		INCREASE DURING WEEK DUE TO DRAFTS etc		TOTALS FROM I + II		DECREASE DURING WEEK CASUALTIES etc		FIGHTING STRENGTH		DETAILS INCLUDED IN "A"	
off	o/R	off	o/R	off	o/R	off	o/R	off	o/R	off	o/R
12	177			12	177			12	177	4	25

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170



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Reference Sheet CALAIS 13.</u>	
BOURNONVILLE	14.3.18		Spent 3 1/2 hrs Mac Miller to make sketch of ground in vicinity of training area with view to barrage work and tactical work. Two NCOs were detailed to assist.	
	15.3.18		For recreational training, a Rugby Football match was arranged with the 9th Aust M. Coy., the company being victorious by 4 goals to 3. Normal work as per syllabus.	
	16.3.18		Test of Elementary training carried out with satisfactory results in most cases.	
	17.3.18		During recreational training an Association Rules match was played with the 9th Company, the company being again victorious by 2 goals to nil.	
			Balance of transport that had moved by road marched in to billets area about 4 P.M.	
			As storage was limited, only guns, tripods, and ammunition were stored at Q.M. Store, the remainder being left in Limbus which were packed along the road.	
			First Battalion Church Parade held at Battalion Headquarters at 11 A.M.	



8170

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BOURNONVILLE	18.3.18		<p>Reference sent CALAIS 13.</p> <p>by Divisional Padre Major Pitt. Ogan.</p> <p>Capt J. Y. Chambers and Sgt McCarthy reported from Machine Gun School at CAMIERES.</p> <p>Major Blacklow arrived from 35th BATT for preliminary preparations regarding the formation of Machine Gun Batt as laid down in new Troop Establishment.</p> <p>Company billets and cook houses were inspected by Battalion Commander and found quite satisfactory.</p> <p>An order received that all returns in future would be rendered from Battalion Headquarters.</p> <p>A daily guard of 1 NCO and three men was detailed to be mounted over Limbas. This was found from Section for duty, 14 men being detailed. The post found out was being arranged partly and acting as Mess Orderly for the Guard. The practice considerably increased the smartness and appearance of the guard formed.</p> <p>Notification received from Battalion of vacancies in Battalion Headquarters.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Reference Head CALAIS B.	
BOURNOUVILLE			Staff and asking for nominations to fill same.	
			During the afternoon company paraded on strong as possible at Battalion parade ground where Battalion Commander spoke to men as a whole.	
			Syllabus of training for week ending 23/3/18 as per Appendices	APPENDIX "D"
	19318		After the first hour on drill, the remainder of parade hours was spent in constructing a 25 yds. range.	
	20318		Company was placed at the disposal of the O.C. Part of the time was spent in finishing work on the range, remainder in inspection of kit etc.	
			A football match being laid down for the afternoon, a return match was played with the 9 th M.G. Coy. This company being by 7 to 11.	
			in a very even and well matched game.	
	21318		Range practice carried out during the morning and afternoon.	
			showed the necessity for extra training in the case of certain men who made it evident that certain guns badly needed the attention of the Gunnery O.C. attended a Conference at Battalion Headquarters where information was given of enemy attack down south, and that Units must be prepared to	

10 170




WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Reference sheet CALAIS 13.	
BOURNONVILLE	22.3.18		<p>move at 48 hours notice</p> <p>At 10 AM first orders regarding move received. No orders for 23rd 17G by received till 4 PM. Immediate arrangements made for getting of blankets and packing of lumber company moved in three parts by (a) Personnel train (b) Ammunition train (c) Transport by road. Personnel train was to enter at LOTTINGHEN at 2.13 PM. Left BOURNONVILLE at 11.15 AM. Did not actually enter and move off from station until 11 PM. Arrived CAESTRE at 9.45 PM. Detained and marched via ECKE to camp at STEINVORDE. All men settled in camp by 12 midnight.</p> <p>(b) Ammunition train arrived to leave DEVRES at 2.45 PM. required to report three hours previously, marched out (1 truck load, 1 motor load, and three riding horses) from BOURNONVILLE at 10.30 AM.</p> <p>(c) Bulk of transport loaded remainder of stores and moved off at 12 noon making via SELLES and LUMBRES. Halting for the night at ESQUERDES.</p>	
	23.3.18		<p>Day spent by most of the company in camp at STEINVORDE. No work was done.</p> <p>Transport moved from ESQUERDES at 10.15 AM staying to LE </p>	



11 170

WAR DIARY

Army Form C: 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Refugee bus HAZEBROUCK SA.	
STEEVENORDE			CROSSE via AROUES and RENESCURE. Orders received by Transport directing them to BLARINGHEM AREA.	
	24/3/15		Orders received at 6.15 am from O.C. to report to Battalion Headquarters at 5.00. O.C. reported as soon as possible. No definite news of operations South yet received but situation appears necessary to deflect certain divisions Southwards as a G.H.Q. Reserve. Orders received for personnel to move with complete kit and one blanket, the remaining blanket and stores to be dumped into C.O. Area compound.	
BLARINGHEM			Company moved off at 7.00 as part of Battalion. Marched to ECKE and ambushed. March by bus to about 2000 yds from ST. SYLVESTRE CAPPEL being the rendezvous of the company. Here buses were changed and move continued to EBLINGHEM via CASSEL. Returned EBLINGHEM and marched to billets at BLARINGHEM via RENESCURE. Transport moved from billets LE CROSSE at 9.15 am and moved to TRANSPORT LINES at BLARINGHEM near company billets via LYNDE arriving 3 P.M.	
			Hot beer prepared for men who settled down to very good billets.	

12 170



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BLARINGHEM	25 3 18		<p>Review 8 AM Breakfast 9 30, when were given the morning to themselves Company paraded at 2 30 PM at Campsite to inspect lines. Lines were found satisfactory in correct fighting order and additional stores added after every inspection being made to reduce stores to an absolute minimum. Supply bagged reported from 2nd Company A.S.C.</p>	
	26 3 18		<p>The day was spent in final preparation for moving out. Stores were again carefully overhauled, guns inspected by sections, and as much stores as were not of vital importance were dumped. Men were paraded at 2 30 P.M. and a thorough inspection of kit made. It was found that a good number of men did not realize the importance of safeguarding their food rations. Revolver and rifle ammunition was made up in every case. By 5 30 P.M. everything was complete for moving out.</p>	
			<p>March out state was as follows: 8 off. 152 of Rats Company moved out at 5 50 P.M., passed starting point BLARINGHEM STATION 6 P.M., marched by easy stages to STEENBRQUE STATION, arrived</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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170

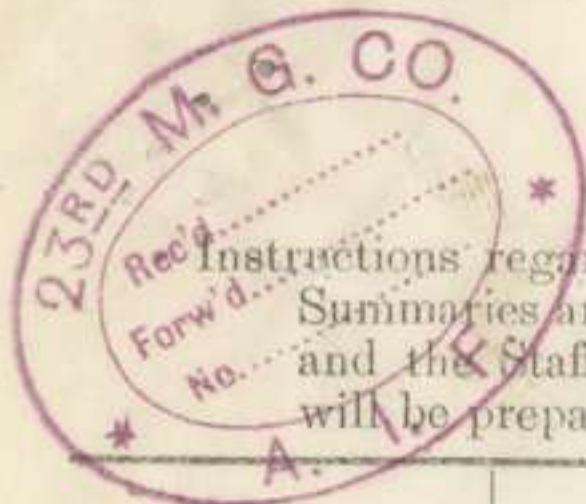
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Place	Date	Hour	Reference sheets LENS 11 AMIENS 17.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>BLARINGHEM.</u> <u>STEENBECQUE</u>				<p>there 8.45 P.M. Train arrived 11 P.M. Entrainment commenced with vehicles by special loading party supplied by the 35th Battalion. Horses were re-entrained and lastly personnel 35 to a truck. By 12 midnight train was ready for departure.</p>	
<u>DOULLENS</u>	17	318		<p>Train left STEENBECQUE STATION 12.15 A.M., arrived DOULLENS 11.15 A.M. after three hours wait outside station due to large amount of traffic. Detrainment complete by 12.15 P.M. Transport moved off at once by road to <u>FRANKVILLERS</u> via <u>BEAUQUESNE</u> and <u>CONTAY</u>.</p>	
<u>FRANKVILLERS</u>				<p>Company marched out about 1500 yds. along DOULLENS-AMIENS road and bivouacked pending arrival of buses. Convoy of buses arrived about 5 P.M. There appeared some doubt as to whether these were for transport of 3rd Divisional Troops. By 6 P.M. it was definitely found that the buses were allotted to 3rd Division Troops at once. Embussed - convoy moved out at 7 P.M. - the convoy moved via <u>MARIEAU</u>, <u>TOUTENCOURT</u>, <u>CONTAY</u> to <u>FRANKVILLERS</u>, where Troops debussed. Troops were billeted in barns in the village. Transport parked in paddock close to billets.</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7893) Wt. W503/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a. Forms (C/21)8/14

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13



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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FRANK VILLERS

28.3.18

Reference sheets AMIENS 17 +
62 D. N. E.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Main guard was posted and all arrangements made for instant moving should this become necessary.

Second-in-command (Capt A. L. Hambus) accompanied Colonel Blacklow (C.O. 3rd Aust Div. M.G. Bats) on a preliminary reconnaissance of the Divisional front. During the afternoon, company moved to billets on the opposite side of the town, so that in case of a move, there would be no necessity to move through the village.

O.C. (Capt D. J. Whitehead) with the second-in-command of the 3rd Aust Div. M.G. Bats (Major J. H. Kelly) made a reconnaissance of the AMIENS line from the AMIENS-ALBERT ROAD from D. 19. C. 80. 05 to D. 26. d 5000. and to ~~the~~ RIBEMONT-SUR-L'ANCRE. Returned to company at 5 P.M. and found them on the road prepared to move off, having received orders to move to RIBEMONT to take over the defence of the village from a mixed force known as "Hedden's Brigade". Company moved off at about 6.30 P.M.

O.C. (Capt D. J. Whitehead) with Adjutant of the Battalion (Capt. G. Brodziak) moved off ahead. Found General Hedden in a concrete

140



15/ 170

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Reference <u>Sheet 62^d N.E.</u> Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>FRANKVILLERS</u>			<p>Machine Gun emplacement at the T roads in D. 27.c 30.40, and made a reconnaissance of the defence of the village. This consisted of isolated infantry posts, and positions for 8 guns for the defence of the village were sited. On the Eastern flank, guns were situated as follows:-</p>	
<u>RIBEMONT.</u>			<p>1 gun about D. 28.c. 20.20 firing in a northerly direction, crossed by 1 gun about D. 27.d. 90.62 firing south-easterly. 1 gun about D. 28.c. 10.60 firing in front of the Sugar factory in D. 27.b. 1 gun crossing with this at about D. 28.c. 20.90 firing south-east. 1 gun on the Northern side of the road at D. 28.a. 40.01 firing along the road towards D. 28 central.</p>	
			<p>Southern flank - 1 gun at about J. 4.a. 20.45 covering the low ruined bridge at J. 4.a. 42.20. 1 gun in J. 3.a. 95.20 covering the ruined bridge in J. 3.c. 1 gun about J. 3.c. 50.85 on the northern side of the river sweeping the approaches to the railway crossing in J. 3.c.</p>	
			<p>Company Headquarters established at J. 3.f. 20.50 with the Transport lines under the trees at about J. 3.a. 30.20.</p>	



WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

170

16

Place	Date	Hour	Reference sheet <u>620 NE</u> Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>RIBEMONT</u>			8 guns were held in reserve. These men were billeted in the Cotton Mill at J. 3. k 00.40.	
			Firing on the front normal throughout.	
	29.3.18		O.C. (Capt D. A. Whitehead) accompanied C.O., 3 rd Aust Div, M.E. Bata. (Colonel A. G. Blackton) on a reconnaissance of the Divisional front which stretched roughly from the ANCRE at about J. 5. k. along grid line to J. 35 d.	
			During the morning a very heavy rainstorm swept the country - the weather was fine during the afternoon.	
			Our troops appeared to be digging along the AMIENS line with posts in front. During the night the line was advanced in certain places. Nothing of further importance from a Machine Gunners point of view happened during the day.	
	30.3.18		During the morning the village of RIBEMONT - SUR - L - ANCRE was shelled with 4.2 H.V. and Howitzers stable containing riding packs received a direct hit, four animals being killed.	

170



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

17

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place Date Hour

Reference West 62° N.E.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

RIBEMONT

O.C. (Capt. A. A. Whitehead) with Major Wells (Second-in-command, 3rd Aust Div. M.G. Batt.) road to HENENCOURT, D.31., and got in touch with the Battalion commanders of the 35th Div. M.G. Batt. and found disposition of these guns, also obtained information that the Division was to be squeezed out by the 3rd Aust. Division along to the left and 4th Aust Division along to the right with the junction about D.30. central.

About 12 noon, preceded by a light barrage and heavy shooting on certain portions of the front, under intermittent shelling of RIBEMONT, the enemy attacked our "Right Brigade" but was repulsed with very heavy casualties. On information being received of the attack, the 8 Reserve guns at once "stood to" with their limbers ready to move into action at any point. At 3 P.M. word was received that the attack was successfully beaten off on all points. The order was then given to "stand down".

31.3.18

O.C. (Capt. Whitehead) in company with Second-in-command (Major J. M. Wells) ^{of M.G. Batt.} made a reconnaissance of the Divisional front which now

17



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

1701
18

~~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.

Place	Date	Hour	Reference <u>Sheet 62^o N.E.</u> Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>RIBEMONT</u>			<p>extended from the village of BUIR SUR-L'ANCRE through TREUX along the road in front of MARRETT WOOD continuing to the copse in J 24 b 9090 swinging back from here to in front of the village of SAILLY-LE-SEC.</p> <p>Nothing of importance occurred remainder of the day.</p> <p><u>11 P.M.</u> News received at of enemy activity in the direction of DERNANCOURT with a possibility of an attack. Orders received (see Appendix) that the company must be prepared to move at half an hour's notice after 5 A.M. to occupy the AMIENS line from the ALBERT ROAD to RIBEMONT. Revue was ordered 3 A.M.</p>	

White Capt
C.O. 23rd M.G. CO. A.I.F.

170



WAR DIARY

OF

23RD AUST MACHINE GUN Coy

FOR

MARCH 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	"A" MOVE ORDER (PERSONNEL)
2.	"B" " " (TRANSPORT)
3.	"C" SYLLABUS OF TRAINING WEEK ENDING 16.3.18
4.	"D" " " " " " " 23.3.18.

Whitehead CAPT
OC 23RD AUST. MACHINE GUN Coy.



APPENDIX 'A'

EXTRACT FROM NINTH INFANTRY BRIGADE ORDER NO.18,
DATED 6th. MARCH, 1918.

- 2. (a) Upon relief in the KORTEPEP Area the Brigade (less Transport) will move by train to the LUMBRES Area in accordance with attached Table "A".
- (b) For purposes of the move, the 9th. Aust. Infantry Brigade Group will consist of:-

9th/ Aust/ Inf. Brigade	11th. Aust. M. G. Co.
23rd. Aust. M. G. Co.	10th/ Field Coy Australian Engineers
9th. Field Ambulance	869th. Company, A.A.S.C.
Mobile Veterinary Section	A.P.M. (details)

APPENDIX B

EXTRACT FROM THIRD AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO.77.DATED 27-2-18.

Para.4. Marching portions of Brigade Groups will move by road and observe the following instructions:—

- (i) Accommodation in staging areas will be obtained on application to Area Commandants concerned, 24 hours in advance.
- (ii) Transport staging through Army Areas will be clear of billets by 10 a.m. daily.

Serial No.	Date	Transport Unit	From	To (Area)	Route	Time to pass starting point
8	7/3/18	23rd+ M.G.Co.	MOQUET LINES	STRAZEELE	deSEULE- BAILLEUL- Road junction X.24.a.70.99. Cross Roads X.22.a.2.2.	9.46.a.m.

170

APPENDIX C

23rd. AUST. MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

WEEK ENDING 16th. MARCH. 1918.



	9 to 10 a.m.	10 to 11 a.m.	11 to 12 noon	2 to 5 p.m.
MONDAY	Drill	Kit Inspection and Cleaning		Recreational Training
TUESDAY	Drill	General Description	Gun Drill	do.
WEDNESDAY	Drill	Mechanism	Gun Drill	do.
THURSDAY	Drill	I.A.	Gun Drill	do.
FRIDAY	Points B.D.A. Care & Cleaning	Stoppages & Minor Repairs	Practice T.O.E.T.	do.
SATURDAY	T.O.E.T.	T.O.E.T.	T.O.E.T.	do.

LECTURES FOR N.C.Os. TO BE GIVEN BY SELECTED OFFICERS.

- (a) Map Reading.
- (b) Duties.
- (c) Work for following day.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. L. ...', written over a dotted line.

.....Capt.
C.O., 23rd. Aust. Machine Gun Co.



3rd Australian Divisional Machine Gun Battalion

Approved 0

170

Syllabus of Training for week ended 23rd March 1918

Day	9 to 10 A.M.	10 to 11 A.M.	11 to 12 noon	1.30 to 2.30 P.M.	2.30 to 3.30 P.M.
Monday 18th	Close order Drill Saluting - 15 minutes	Mechanism and Strapping	Musket and Revolver Practice	Lecture by Commanding Officer in grounds in rear of CHATEAU (Parade as strong as possible)	
Tuesday 19th	do.	RANGE PRACTICES.			Recreational Training
Wednesday 20th	Companies at the disposal of Company Commanders.			Football.	
Thursday 21st	Close order Drill Saluting - 15 minutes	RANGE PRACTICES. 25th range.			Recreational Training
Friday 22nd	do.	Packing Limbers	Standard tests.	T. O. E. T.	Recreational Training
Saturday 23rd	Battalion Parade and March Past Parade ground rear of Chateau.			Dress - Marching Order.	

Companies will parade one fighting limber, packed, at Battalion Hqs on Wednesday at 11 A.M.
 Drunken talk morning half an hour will be devoted to games. The actual times for these games will be left to the discretion to C.C.s.

J.M. W. Cms.
 3rd Aust Div. M. Gun Battalion
 Major
 APPENDIX
 4
 23