

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/65/36

Title: 48th Infantry Battalion

January 1919



AWM4-23/65/36

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

206

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGINAL

~~DUPLICATE~~

~~TRIPLICATE~~

COPIES OF WAR DIARY FOR THE MONTH OF

JANUARY 1919.

Compiled by

Arthur

Captain

48th Battalion

A.I.F.

J. E. Holt
MAJOR.
COMMANDING 48TH BATTALION. A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAUL-SORT.	1919 1 Jan.		New Year's Day - Battalion fell in for roll call and then were dismissed for the day, leave being granted to surrounding villiages.	
	2 "		The football eighteen left to play a match against the 27th. Battalion at CHARLEROI. The battalion carried out training according to syllabus.	
	3 "		The battalion was training as usual. Notice was received that General Bird wood would be visiting the battalion the following day. The Australian Rules Football Team were defeated by 4 goals 3 behinds, this being the first defeat of the season. The 27th. Battalion have promised us a return match.	
	4 "		The battalion marched down to the Esplanade and were addressed by General Birdwood, every man seemed very pleased to see his old commander again and were enthusiastic. General Birdwood was introduced to all officers.	
	5 "		The day was fine. Church parade was held in the Pierrot Hall, the remainder of the day was at the mens' disposal.	
	6 "		The day was very wet and training was carried out in billets.	
	7 "		A Route March was carried out. The men went very well and finished fresh. In the afternoon a football match was played between the Western Australian members of the battalion and the South Australian players. The match was very exciting, the South Australians winning by 1 goal 2 behinds. This leaves each State with two wins each.	
	8 "		The day was one of the best we have had in Belgium. Headquarters Details played "C" Company Australian Rules football, Headquarters winning by three goals. "B" Company went to the Recreation Hut. This hut is under the supervision of Lieut. Black, the battalion sports officer, and is used as a gymnasium. All the apparatus in the hut has been made by members of the battalion. Each company look forward with enthusiasm to the morning the hut is allotted to them. In the afternoon 30 men went out to play rugby football. A bridge tournament has been started in the mens' reading room, 26 pairs have entered for this tournament. Dancing commenced today; this form of amusement seems very popular, and men who previously were unable to dance are taking this opportunity of learning before returning to Australia. The following figures are interesting :- To day 72 men played football; 200 men were dancing; 120 men went to the Recreation Hut, and 52 men played bridge. Thus every man was employed in some form of amusement, and the result shows that sport pays.	
	9 "		One company went to the Recreation Hut and the remaining three carried out training. In the afternoon we played the 45th. Battalion Soccer and beat them by 1 goal to nil, thus avenging our last defeat. To-day 2 Officers and 42 other ranks returned to Australia, everyone wishing them the best of luck.	
	10 "		The day was very wet and trainig was carried out indoors.	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 82 Forms/C2118/16.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAULSORT	1919			
	11 Jan.		Route march cancelled owing to rain, and the men carried out training in the billet.	
	12 "		Sunday the day being wet. Church parade at 9.30 am.	
	13		It has been decided that the Battalion will publish Education Orders just the same as its own Routine Orders, each Company Clerk to keep nominal rolls of all pupils attending any courses thus enabling everything to come directly under the Adjutant. The morning parade was carried out as usual and in the afternoon our Soccer Team defeated a combined team by 7 goals to nil.	
	14		As the men had washed their equipment the day previous a route march was carried out in fatigue dress, distance covered 10 Kilos.	
	15		Training was carried out in the morning as per Syllabus. At night the officers gave a ball, thirty young ladies being invited, the hall was well decorated and everybody enjoyed themselves.	
	16		Conference of C.O.s was held in the morning and the Battalion carried out training as per Syllabus. In the afternoon the 46th Battalion played this Battalion Rugby, our team winning by 3 goals to nil after a most exciting and strenuous game. Captain Twining handed over the duties of Adjutant to Lieut. T.T. Morley MC. this making the third change in Adjutants since March 3rd 1916.	
	17		The day was fine, one Company went to the Recreation Hut, one Company to the Baths the remainder carrying out ordinary training.	
	18		The day was cold for a change, training was carried out as usual, one Company going to the Recreation Hut, and one Company to the baths. Brig-Gen. Leane having returned to Brigade Headquarters; Lieut-Col. S.L. Perry resumed command of the Battalion. In the afternoon a football match was played between our first Australian Rules Team and the first team of the 18th Field Ambulance, both sides played short our team winning very easily.	
	19		Church Parade as usual. In the afternoon leave was granted as usual to the surrounding villages.	
	20		Parades were held as usual in the morning. In the afternoon the 45th Battalion played us Soccer, the match resulting in a win for our team by 1 goal to nil, and our Rugby team played the 46th Battalion, beating them by 3 points to nil.	
	21		Route march was carried out by the Battalion in the morning, in the afternoon dancing was held in the hall. Draft comprising three Officers and 61 other ranks left for Australia. 9 of our Australian Rules Team which was undefeated in the Brigade prior to the start of demobilisation were in this draft.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAULSORT	1919 Jan. 24		Two Companies went to the Recreation Hut, and the remaining two Companies were on various fatigues, in the afternoon Brigade guard was changed. Our Rugby team played a team from the Engineers the match being keenly contested and resulted in a win for the Engineers by three tries to nil.	
	23		This morning it snowed this being the first fall since the Battalion arrived at Waulsort, ice was also noticeable on one of the locks. In the afternoon the 46th Battalion played us Australian Rules football the match resulted in a win for the 46th Battalion by 6 goals 14 behinds to 1 goal 1 behind. Our Battalion which has been weakened of most of its good players put up a very determined game, but was unable to beat the 46th Battalion who still retain most of their own players. The Match was played on the ground of the 46th Battalion 10 kils away from here, so we were unable to gain the support of any barrackers, while those of the 46th were there in full force, and attempted to stir their players on to all sorts of dirty work. Twice on the field it was necessary for a 48th Officer to appeal to their barrackers sense of sportsmanship as Australians.	
	24		Today the Recreation Hut was open to all men free from fatigues. The Divisional Sports Meeting had to be cancelled.	
	25		Battalion carried out Route March in the morning about 300 men being on parade In the afternoon the 46th Battalion palyed the 48th Battalion Soccer result being a draw. Heavy frost made the ground too hard for accurate shooting for goal.	
	26		Snowed very heavily during the night and by daylight there was 3 inches of snow on the ground. Church parade was held at 10 am.	
	27		During the night there was another heavy fall of snow, and in the morning everyone seemed "snow fighting" mad. Three Companies went to Recreation Hut. A Lecture was held at DINANT on "Practical Use of Machine Guns" in final stage of the War". The Lecture practically gave the use of Machine Guns as adopted by the A.I.F.	
	28		In the morning a Route March was carried out, the ground was found too slippery to travel over for any great distance, so Unit only went as far as HASTIERE and returned to Billets.	
	29		An outbreak of Influenza has occurred in the Battalion 23 men have been evacuated during the past 48 hours. Gargling has been ordered twice daily. Final preparation for draft of 4 Officers and 70 other ranks to proceed to Australia, were made. A farewell supper was held in Hotel Grand at 11 pm, to bid goodbye to Lt-Col Perry, Capt. Twining, Lt. Rafferty and Lt. Edwards who were proceeding to Australia in the morning. There were also present Brig-Gen. R.A. Leane; Lt-Col Corrigan 46th Battalion and Lt-Col Loutit 45th Battalion.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading, not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAULSORT	1919 Jan. 30		<p>The day was bitterly cold. The draft of men returning to Australia marched off at 9 am, under command of Capt. Twining, a large number of the Battalion had assembled, and the part marched off to the following order "Form fours! Right! To Australia Quick March"! Educational classes and Duties absorbed practically all remaining men of Battalion, so no parade was held.</p> <p>The ground is still covered with snow and roads frozen. Indoor recreation and physical training was availed of to keep the men occupied during the morning. Unfortunately at present there is no skating to provide the men with additional sport and exercise.</p>	
	31			

R.Q.M.'s WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAULSORT	January		<p>During the past month the Battalion has been stationed at Waulsort.</p> <p>Rations generally, with very few exceptions, have been well up to the mark. Facilities for cooking and dishing up to the men have been good. The food question generally has never been better.</p> <p>All regimental equipment has been checked, preparatory to being handed in under the existing demobilisation conditions, and in cases where it has not been required for Battalion use, it has been withdrawn and stored under the Quartermaster's supervision.</p>	

M. Hammond
Capt,
Quartermaster 48th Battalion.

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16.

TRANSPORT OFFICER'S WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAULSORT	January		<p>During the month the work carried on by the Transport Section has been very satisfactory. Many changes have taken place. Sgt. Schrocroft DCM MM, Cpl. Rogers (Farrier) and practically all the Drivers have left for Australia. Men who enlisted in 1917 and 1918 have taken on the duties and are carrying them out in excellent style.</p> <p>The horses and mules are receiving good attention, and are in excellent condition. Shoeing has been kept well up to the mark.</p> <p>The issue of fodder, though good in quality, is fairly light especially in hay.</p> <p>All the vehicles are in good condition. Several new tailboards were made and fitted in by our own Pioneers; and many other repairs made.</p> <p>Necessary attention has been given to the repair and cleanliness of harness and this equipment is in excellent order.</p> <p>Generally everything with this Section is very satisfactory.</p>	

acw Kingston s/Lieut.
TRANSPORT OFFICER.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WAULSORT	January		<p>The battalion has remained in area of Waulsort during the month of January. The accommodation for the troops is very satisfactory and the men are very comfortably housed. The rations have considerably improved during the month, and supplies have been augmented by gifts from Comforts Funds and by purchases made from Regimental Funds. Sanitation of the area has been very satisfactory. Good Prophylactic measures for V.D. have been provided by the Field Ambulance in the village and in consequence venereal disease has been greatly diminished. The number of men evacuated with venereal disease during the month is 3. An epidemic of Influenza suddenly manifested itself on January 29th. 23 patients were evacuated to Field Ambulance within 48 hours. The cause is considered partly attributable to failure of gargling and to tendency to overcrowding and lack of ventilation in billets during the present cold weather. Steps have been taken to remedy the defect and the epidemic is now abating. Recreational training has been indulged in very enthusiastically during the cold weather. Indoor sports and dancing have both proved very popular attractions. The number evacuated to Hospital during the month is 36.</p>	<p>1200 E. H. H. H.</p>

E. H. H. H.
Capt,
R.M.O.

A5834 Wt. W4973 M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF

JANUARY 1919.

of

48TH BATTALION, A. I. F.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| 1. | Syllabus of Training for | fort. ending | 25/1/19. |
| 2. | " | (Recreation) Fort. ending | " |
| 3. | " | (Education) " " | " |
| 4. | " | for Fort. ending | 8/2/19. |
| 5. | " | (Recreation) fort. ending | " |

J. E. Hoff
Major,
Commanding 48th Battalion.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR FORTNIGHT ENDING 25/12/1919.

DATE	9am to 12-30 pm.	2pm to 3-30pm.
SUNDAY 12	CHURCH PARADE	
MONDAY 13	CO's Inspection, Battalion Drill, Bayonet Fighting,	SOCCER 48 V Combined team.
TUESDAY 14	Route March, Route depending on rise of River, 12 noon Foot Inspection.	Organized Sport and Games.
WEDNESDAY 15	Musketry, Target Practice on range, Bombing practice and instruction.	Organized Sports and Games.
THURSDAY 16	Company Drill, Guards and Sentries.	RUGBY 48 V 48 Aust. Rules 48 V F.A.M.B.
FRIDAY 17	Smart Platoon Drill, Bayonet Fighting, Rifle Exercises.	Organized Sports and Games.
SATURDAY 18	Route March, Route decided later, foot inspection	Organized Sports and Games.
Sunday 19	CHURCH PARADE	
MONDAY 20	Battalion Drill, Bayonet Fighting, Games,	SOCCER 45 V 48
TUESDAY 21	Route March Fighting Order, foot inspection.	SOCCER 46 V Combined Team.
WEDNESDAY 22	Musketry, Range practices, cleaning Rifles	Organized Games and Sports.
THURSDAY 23	Platoon Drill, Rifle Exercises, Company Drill,	SOCCER Combined Team V 45
FRIDAY 24	Musketry on Range, Musketry Instruction,	Organized Sports and games.
SATURDAY 25	Route March, Fighting order, foot Inspection,	SOCCER 48 V 46

In the Field.
9/1/19.

C. H. Lawrence
MAJOR
COMMANDING 48TH BATTALION. A.I.F.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

48TH BATTALION SPORTS SYLLABUS :- FORTNIGHT ENDING 25/1/19.

SUNDAY 12.	AUSTRALIAN RULES.	RUGBY	SOCCER	BICYCLE TOURS.
MONDAY 13		TRYOUT 1st & 2nd Teams	48 V combd Team	"C" Coy.
TUESDAY 14			TRYOUT 1st & 2nd Teams	"D" "
WEDNESDAY 15	"A" Co V "D"			"HQ" "
THURSDAY 16	48 V F.A.	48 V 48		"A" "
FRIDAY 17	"B" Co V "C"			"B" "
SATURDAY 18	F.E. V	TRYOUT 1st & 2nd Teams		"C" "
MONDAY 20	48 V 48		45 V 48	"D" "
TUESDAY 21			48 V combd team	"HQ" "
WEDNESDAY 22	"A" Co V "B"			"A" "
THURSDAY 23			45 V combd team	"B" "
FRIDAY 24				"C" "
SATURDAY 25			48 V 48	"D" "

MORNINGS:- Each day one company at gymnasium on BASKET & MEDICINE & FOOTBALL other days P.T., Field Games & Handball on Battalion Parade Ground.

- The above Syllabus is subject for alteration to work in with Brigade Sports Programme.
- To encourage Rugby & Soccer Football two games have been arranged for each between first and second teams and in view two objects:-
 - One good Battalion Team of each.
 - One Company Team for each.

The above needs all possible help from the Officers so as all the men will have a chance to play; The Companies are not too strong and by working three teams from each company competition for first place in sports will be keener therefore much more enthusiasm will be shown by the men
- If any man in the Battalion is a good exponent of any sport, Company Sport Officers are requested to encourage him with the view of entering into the Yankee Olympic Games.
- BOXING. Names of Competitors for Brigade Boxing Championship February 10, 11 & 12th (All weights except fly) to be given into Lieut A.N.G. Black by Saturday so as systematic training can be arranged.
- In Football Fixtures to encourage Competition it was thought advisable for the teams selected to have the morning for training under the Company Sports Officer. On days when route marches are on the two teams could report to Lieut. A.N.G. Black at the Gymnasium.

in the Field.
9/1/1919.

A. J. Wainwright
MAJOR
COMMANDING 48TH BATTALION. A.I.F.

903

48th BATTALION.

EDUCATION SERVICE.

SYLLABUS of CLASSES held under the EDUCATION SERVICE.

SUBJECT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	PLACE.
ARITHMETIC		1-45 to 2-45 p-m	10-45 to 11-45 a-m 1-45 to 2-45 p-m		10-45 to 11-45 a-m 1-45 to 2-45 p-m	1-45 to 2-45 p-m	Room 25 Hotel Grand. Room 25 Hotel Grand.
BOOK KEEPING	10-45 to 11-45 a-m			10-45 to 11-45 a-m			Hotel Moderne
FREEHAND DRAWING	10 a-m to 11 a-m			10 to 11 a-m			Y. M. C. A.
FRENCH (ADVANCED)	1-45 p-m 2-45 p-m			1-45 p-m 2-45 p-m			Room 26 Hotel Grand.
FRENCH (ELEMENTARY)			10-45 a-m 11-45 a-m		10-45 a-m 11-45 a-m		Hotel Moderne. Room 26 Hotel Grand.
LOGIC	3 to 4 p-m			3-4 p-m			
MATHEMATICS	1-45 p-m 2-45 p-m			1-45 p-m 2-45 p-m		1-45 p-m 2-45 p-m	Room 28 Hotel Grand.
SHORTHAND	1-45 p-m 2-45 p-m			1-45 p-m 2-45 p-m			Room 25 Hotel Grand.

NOTE.

Men attending the Drawing Class will report to Lieut Lawrence at 9-15 a-m at B. O. R. on Monday and Thursday mornings.

THIS SYLLABUS WILL REMAIN IN FORCE
UNTIL FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS ARE ISSUED.

In the Field
7/1/1919.

[Signature] Captain.
Adjutant. 48th Battalion. A. I. F.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR FORTNIGHT ENDING 8/3/19.

DATE	9am to 12.30pm	2pm to 5.30pm
SUNDAY		
Jan'y 26th	C H U R C H P A R A D E	
MONDAY	Inspection Parade. Smart	Organised Sports
Jan'y 27th	Platoon Drill	and Games
TUESDAY	Route March. Starting Point: Lock	
Jan'y 28th	Near "A" Coy. Billet. Route:- 4 J 9061 over Bridge to 4 K 1254 Return same route. Foot Inspection.	do.
WEDNESDAY	Rifle Exercises, Guards and Sentries	do.
Jan'y 29th		
THURSDAY	Bayonet Fighting, Platoon Drill	do.
Jan'y 30th		
FRIDAY	Physical Training Games	do.
Jan'y 31st		
SATURDAY	Route March:- Starting Point: Lock	
Feb'y 1st	Near "A" Coy. Billet. Route:- 4 J 9066 - 4 K 4067 - 4 K 4048 Foot Inspection.	do.
SUNDAY	C H U R C H P A R A D E	
Feb'y 2nd		
MONDAY	General Inspection of Equipment	
Feb'y 3rd	and Arms.	do.
TUESDAY	Route March. Starting Point: YMCA.	
Feb'y 4th	4 K 2091 Returning same route. Foot Inspection.	do.
WEDNESDAY	Range Practices and Musketry	
Feb'y 5th	Instruction	do.
THURSDAY	Smart Platoon Drill and Bayonet	
Feb'y 6th	Fighting.	do.
FRIDAY	Physical Training Games	do.
Feb'y 7th		
SATURDAY	Route March. Starting Point: YMCA.	
Feb'y 8th	4 K 6565 - 4 K 6670 - 4 K 4068 - 4 K 4048 Foot Inspection.	do.

In the Field,
23/1/1919.

LIEUT. COL.
COMMANDING 48TH BATTALION A.I.F.

AUSTRALIAN RUGBY RULES

48TH BATTALION SPORTS SYLLABUS
FORTNIGHT ENDING 8/2/19.

XXXXXX	XX	AUSTRALIAN RULES	RUGBY	SOCCER	BICYCLE TOURS
MONDAY	27			TRYOUT 1st & 2nd Teams	"H.O."
TUESDAY	28				"A" Coy.
WEDNESDAY	29	"A" Coy. V "D" Coy.			"B" Coy.
THURSDAY	30	"B" Coy. V "C" Coy.			"C" Coy.
FRIDAY	31	"H.O." V "A" Coy.			"D" Coy.
SATURDAY	1				"H.O."
MONDAY	3		1st & 2nd Teams		"A" Coy.
TUESDAY	4				"B" Coy.
WEDNESDAY	5			1st & 2nd Teams	"C" Coy.
THURSDAY	6	"D" Coy. V "B" Coy.			"D" Coy.
FRIDAY	7		1st & 2nd Teams		"H.O."
SATURDAY	8				"A" Coy.

In the Field
 23:1/19.

W.P.
 COMMANDING 48TH BATTALION.
 LIEUT-COL.