

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

Railways

**Item number:** 15/7/14

**Title:** 6th Australian Broad Gauge Railway  
Operating Company

March 1919



AWM4-15/7/14

WAR DIARY

6th Australian B.G.R.O.Coy.

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.)

*March  
summary*

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Roulers.	Saturday, 1st March, 1919.		This morning at 8.30 the Ration Train (engine and van) ex Courtrai to Vlamertinghe, collided with the rear of a train conveying french troops from Courtrai to Dunkirk, whilst this train was standing on main line at Passchendaele Station. No loss of life was sustained, several wagons were derailed and damaged on the troop train. A heavy fog was in existence at the time. The obstruction was removed at 14.00. No serious delays were occasioned to traffic, two trains ex Courtrai for Dunkirk, viz, French Leave and a French Troop Train were diverted over Belgian lines to Destination via Cortemarck and Adinkerque. An inquiry is being held as to the cause of the accident. Total traffic North Bound 8, South Bound 10 trains. Heavy fog existing until 11.00 hours, weather cool and dull.	
Roulers.	Sunday, 2nd March, 1919.		"Summer" time as from today, all clocks being advanced one hour. Total North Bound traffic 9, South Bound 7 Trains. Weather conditions fine cool and clear.	
Roulers.	Monday, 3rd March, 1919.		The last of the train crews loaned to Outreau Depot returned to Unit today. Two trains of french troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk today. Total traffic North Bound 8, South Bound 10 trains. Weather fine and mild.	
Roulers.	Tuesday, 4th March, 1919.		Ypres advised at 8.00 hours to instruct all drivers to take water at Inglemunster, the water column at that station being out of order. Repairs were effected at 15.00 hours. Two trains of french troops were worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk today. Total traffic North Bound 9, South Bound 12 trains. Weather conditions fine and mild.	
Roulers.	Wednesday, 5th March, 1919.		Three trains of french troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk today. Total traffic North Bound 10, South Bound 11 trains. Weather cool and light rain falling all day.	
Roulers.	Thursday, 6th March, 1919.		Belge engine No. 4002 hauling train of 42 empties ex Courtrai to Bergues, failed at Menin Jnc; at 11.35, the train was garaged at Roulers and subsequently worked to Bergues with R.O.D. engine. Advice was received from R.O.D. Bergues, at 20 hours, to instruct all drivers that speed limit of 5 miles per hour must not be exceeded over section Crombeke Rd- Provenz until further notice. Five trains of french troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk today. Total traffic North Bound 12, South Bound 16 trains. Rain falling and weather conditions cold today.	

WAR DIARY

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Roulers.	Friday, 7th March, 1919.		Three trains of french troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk today. Total Traffic North Bound 11, South Bound 12 Trains. Weather conditions fine and mild.									
Roulers.	Saturday, 8th March, 1919.		Gordon House Block Cabin "cut-out" today, the section now is, Ypres North - Hell Fire Corner. Total traffic North Bound 10, South Bound 13 trains. Rain falling, and weather conditions dull and cold.									
Roulers.	Sunday, 9th March, 1919.		Six trains of french troops from Courtrai to Dunkirk today, of these, two trains were worked by Belgian engines and crews. Total traffic North Bound 9, South Bound 12 trains. Weather conditions dull and very mild.									
Roulers.	Monday, 10th March, 1919.		Three trains of french <del>xxx</del> troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk today. Total traffic North Bound 12, South Bound 10 trains. Fine mild weather prevails today.									
Roulers.	Tuesday, 11th March 1919.		Total traffic today, North Bound 9, South Bound 9 trains. Weather fine and clear.									
Roulers.	Wednesday 12th Mch. 19.		Advice received from Belgian Authorities that a Works Train will run daily as follows:- <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>Courtrai dep. 6.08</td> <td>Ypres dep. 17.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roulers dep 6.50</td> <td>Ps'ndle . 17.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P'sdle dep. 7.05</td> <td>Roulers. 17.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ypres arr. 7.20</td> <td>Courtrai 18.30</td> </tr> </table>	Courtrai dep. 6.08	Ypres dep. 17.00	Roulers dep 6.50	Ps'ndle . 17.20	P'sdle dep. 7.05	Roulers. 17.35	Ypres arr. 7.20	Courtrai 18.30	
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Ypres arr. 7.20	Courtrai 18.30											
Roulers.	Thursday, 13th Mch. 19		Total traffic North Bound 8, South Bound 9, trains. Weather warm and mild.									
Roulers.	Friday, 14th March, 1919.		Total traffic North Bound 11, South Bound 9 trains. Weather conditions colder, and rain <del>falling</del> falling.									
Roulers.	Friday, 14th March, 1919.		Three trains of french troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk today; also one train of french troops from Roulers to same destination. Total traffic North Bound 7, South Bound 10 trains. Weather conditions dull and cold.									
Roulers.	Saturday, 15th Mch. 19.		Four trains of french troops ex Courtrai and one train ex Roulers for Dunkirk today. Total traffic North Bound <del>8</del> 9, South Bound 9 trains. Weather conditions dull and cold.									

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Roulers	Sunday, 16th March, 19.		Six trains of French troops were worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk. Total traffic North Bound 9 trains, South Bound 9 trains. Of North Bound traffic, 6 trains consisted of "3 T.U. empties" for french troop loading at stations North of Courtrai. Weather dull and cold, and light rain falling.	
Roulers.	Monday, 17th March 1919.		Four trains of French troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk. Total traffic North Bound 9, South Bound 7 trains. Weather conditions dull and cold.	
Roulers.	Tuesday, 18th March 1919.		Two trains of French troops worked from Courtrai to Dunkirk. Total traffic North Bound 9, South Bound 7 trains. A cold dull day, rain falling at night.	
Roulers.	Wednesday, 19th March 1919.		One train of French troops loaded at Roulers and worked forward to Dunkirk. Total traffic North Bound 8, South Bound 7 trains. <del>Went</del> Weather sleeting, dull and cold.	
Roulers.	Thursday, 20th March, 1919.		Traffic quiet today; total traffic North Bound, 6, South Bound 5 trains. Weather sleeting and very cold.	
Roulers.	Friday, 21st March, 1919.		Belgian Civil Railway Authorities took full charge of Roulers Station today, including Control Office, also Section as far as Passchendaele. The line worked and manned by this Company is now from Passchendaele(ex) to Ypres North(exe). Total traffic North Bound 9, South Bound 7 trains. Very cold and light rain falling all day.	
Roulers.	Saturday, 22nd March, 19.		Total traffic over Section today was, North Bound 7, South Bound 7 trains. <del>Said</del> Cold dull weather prevails.	
Roulers.	Sunday, 23rd March, 1919.		Total traffic North Bound 7, South Bound 7 trains. Weather conditions dull and cold.	
Roulers.	Monday, 24th, March, 1919.		Total traffic North Bound 6, South Bound 7 trains. Cold winds blowing.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Roulers.	Tuesday, 25th March, 1919.		Three trains of French troops loaded at Poperinghe, and worked to Courtrai by this Company's engines and crews. Total traffic North Bound 9, South Bound 6 trains. Weather conditions squally and extremely cold.	
Roulers.	Wednesday, 26th Mch, 19.		Total traffic North Bound 5, South Bound 6 trains. Sleeting and weather conditions cold.	
Roulers.	Thursday, 27th March, 1919.		Orders were received today from R.O.D. H.Q. that all Working to be handed <del>ix</del> over to Belgian State Railways on 28th Inst, the Company to then proceed to Conchil-Le-Temple on 29th Inst, to there await Repatriation Orders. Arrangements were made accordingly with Belgian Authorities to hand over at 9.00 in morning. Total traffic North Bound 4, South Bound 5 <del>ix</del> trains. Weather conditions dull and cold.	
Roulers.	Friday, 28th March, 1919.		All working was handed over to Belgian State Railways at 9.00 hours this morning, and our staff withdrawn. 3 engines were worked to Audruicq today and handed over to that Depot. Today completes the practical railway working of this Company in France and Belgium. Weather conditions fine, cold and clear.	
Roulers.	Saturday, 29th March 1919.		Arrangements made to work Living Train forward tomorrow at <del>21.00</del> 14.00 to Conchil-Le-Temple. The Staff stationed at Courtrai, which includes Loco Depot and Running Staff, were moved to Roulers with engine 1689, this engine being retained at Roulers to work train forward tomorrow. Snowing heavily today, and weather extremely cold.	
Roulers.	Sunday, 30th March 1919.		Company with Living train of 35 wagons departed from Roulers at 14.00 hours, arriving at Bergues Exchange at 18.00 hours. Snow falling, and weather conditions very cold.	
Bergues Ex.	Monday, 31st March 1919.		Company rested at Bergues today, and arrangements made with French Railway Officials for train to depart from Bergues Ex at 9.00 in morning. Weather conditions clear and cold.	

