

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/76/35

Title: 59th Infantry Battalion

December 1918



AWM4-23/76/35

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258

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY
59TH OF BATTALION
FOR
DECEMBER 1918

Signature of Officer compiling *[Handwritten Signature]*
add

Signature of Officer Commanding *[Handwritten Signature]*

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RUE DU BOIS - FAVRIL.	1 12 18		<p>The weather was dull and very cold.</p> <p>At 1030 C of E and O.P.D. services were held by Chaplain Capt BREMER in the field in rear of Battalion Headquarters billet.</p> <p>At 1300 the Battalion marched to the LANDRECIES ROAD, along which KING GEORGE was to pass this afternoon during his visit to the AUSTRALIAN CORPS.</p> <p>The original idea of the Battalion lining the road was changed, and the Brigade Group formed up in a hollow square. All men wearing decorations, were placed in front of Battalion.</p> <p>About 1530, the KING'S car arrived. The King was greeted by the CORPS COMMANDER (Major-Gen. HOBBS), the Divisional Commander (Brig. Gen. TIVEY) and the Brigade Commander (Brig. Gen. ELLIOTT). The assembly then approached the Battalion, which was called</p>	268
		<p>D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A10266) Wt W5300/P713 750,000 2/15 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/16</p>		

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RUE DU BOIS, FAVRIL

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up to attention by Lt. Col. SCANLAN (the C.O.) who was introduced to His Majesty. The Brigade was then inspected by His Majesty accompanied by the Commanders. This occupied about ten minutes, after which the King took his departure. Three rousing cheers, led by Lt. Col. SCANLAN, were given as the King entered his car and drove off.

The Brigade then moved to private parades, led by the 59th Battalion, marching past the Corps Commander en route. The Battalion reached billets on return at 1645.

Capt. J. GRAY temporarily attached as R.M.O. marched out to rejoin 15th Field Ambulance, and his place taken by Capt. J.R. ROBERTSON of 15th Field Ambulance.

Lieut. H.W. CHAMBERS, M.M. marched out to Officers Rest Home, PARIS PLAGE. Lieut. BEILBY and Hogg marched in from U.K. leave. Lieut. A.R.D. HOGG was detached for duty with 58th Battalion.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RUE DU BOIS FAVRIL	2		The weather was fine but very cold.	
	15		Companies were engaged in salvaging all military material in the area, each company being responsible for its own particular area, and company dumps were formed.	
	18		At 4 p.m. the CO held a conference of all officers, when the arrangements for sports were discussed.	
			Lt STILLMAN M.C. was seconded as Intelligence Officer to 15th Brigade.	
			Lieut L.W. FAIR and R. DUNKLEY marched in from hospital.	
			15 other ranks marched in from leave, and 22 other ranks from hospital.	app. No. 1
			6 other ranks marched out to leave.	
			Capt. G.W. AKEROYD was struck off strength, on notification being received of his embarkation to AUSTRALIA.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RUE DU BOIS FAVRIL	3 12 18		<p>The weather was wet and cold.</p> <p>Companies continued the work of salvaging the area.</p> <p>In the afternoon an inter platoon race of one mile was held. There were a large number of competitors. The roads were very muddy and the going consequently. Despite the conditions, however, good time was made. The result was:-</p> <p>1st Batt. HQ., 2nd - No 10 Platoon, 3rd - No 11 Platoon, 4th No 8 Platoon</p> <p>Lieut STUBBS marched in from PARIS leave.</p> <p>2/Lt A.B. ROLFE was taken on strength from No 6 O.C.B</p> <p>10 other ranks marched out to leave in PARIS. 2 other ranks returned from leave.</p> <p>The following officers were detached for duty. To 58th Battalion:-</p> <p>Lieuts F.W. GRIBBLE, C.R. BUCHANAN, S.T. HERRIOT,</p> <p>To 57th Battalion:- Lieuts J.H. DAY, C.H. GRIESE and 2 Lieut J.J. SCARFFE</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>RUE DU BOIS FÉVRIER</p>	<p>4 /12 18</p>		<p>The weather was dull. Heavy mist came down during the morning. Companies continued with salvage work. The January and February 1915, personnel marched out en route for furlough to AUSTRALIA. 18 other ranks were included from 59th Battalion. At 0930 the C.O. held a conference of all officers. Numerous applications for positions of clerks at A.I.F. headquarters were received. Applicants were paraded before the Adjutant at 1000, and selections made of those qualified; before submitting applications to Brigade. At 1330 the C.O. held Orderly Room and dealt with three cases. 5 other ranks marched in from U.K. leave.</p>	<p>Corps News Sheet No 9 app No 3</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAVRIL	5 12 18		The weather was dull and cold.	
			Companies continued with the work of salvaging the area. In the afternoon, the CO had Orderly Room and dealt with 5 cases.	
RUE DU BOIS	6 12 18		Major R.J. DICKSON and 5 other ranks marched out to U.K. leave. 5 other ranks marched in from U.K. leave.	Sick Wastage Return app No 4
			The weather continued dull. During the morning companies carried on with salvage work. Preparations for the coming move were made. Stores packed etc. At 1615 the movement order was issued.	app No. 5
			The Adjutant, Lieut E.A. OBAKER marched out to leave in PARIS. 2 other ranks returned from leave.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FAVRIL TO SEMOUSIES	7 12 18		<p>The morning was fine but later in the day misty rain commenced to fall and continued throughout the evening. At 0730 the Battalion formed up at the starting point, and headed by the Band, moved out through FAUB DE FRANCE, MARIOLLES. At 1130 the Battalion halted for lunch, at the junction of the DOMPIERRE and Main LANDRECIES - AVESNES ROADS. Cookers were brought up and hot tea was served. At 1230 the Battalion again moved forward through AVESNES to SEMOUSIES. This place was reached at 1500. All the men were located in comfortable billets. The billets are very scattered, but good. Clean straw was obtained and hot meal provided in the evening.</p> <p>6 other ranks marched out to leave in U.K.</p>	
			<p>Field Return 145</p>	<p>App. No 6</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES	8		The day was fine and sunny.	
	12 18		at 09.30. R.C. Church Parade was held in the Village Church. There was no O.P.D. parade, but a voluntary Communion service was conducted by Chaplain Capt BREMER at 1400.	
			The following appointments were notified through Divisional Orders.	
			Lieut. G.B. RUSSELL to be ASSISTANT ADJUTANT.	
			Lieut. C.E. PIZZLEY to be LEWIS GUN OFFICER.	
			The Military Medal has been awarded to 35 Cpl. J.A. NIQUET.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES.	9 12 18		<p>Misty rain fell during the morning. Later in the day, the weather cleared, and the afternoon was clear and bright.</p> <p>Company inspections were held, and all ammunition withdrawn from the men and placed in store.</p> <p>Arrangements were made for the improvement of billets in the area. Officers and Sergeants Messes were commenced. The C.O. inspected the billets and later a meeting of officers was held, and arrangements for sports and recreation were discussed.</p> <p>The Education Officer Lieut. Mac ROBERTS, was busy dealing with correspondence and returns, relating to the early application of the Education Scheme.</p> <p>Chaplain Major GILBERT M.C. marched in from leave to Italy. Lieut G.P. COOPER rejoined from wounded.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	10		The weather was fine and cold.	
	12		No parades were held, but men carried on with the work of cleaning and improving the bullets and the scrubbing of equipment.	
	18		At 1400 the C.O. held Orderly Room and dealt with three cases.	
			Lt H.N. RICHARDS D.C.M. marched in from hospital.	
			Lieut W.L. HAWKINS marched out to leave in U.K.	
			Capt. B.C.S.S. SOUTHWELL and Lieut A.J. BECK marched out to A.I.F. Headquarters for duty as pay officers on transports proceeding to AUSTRALIA.	
				Corps News Sheet app. No 7

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES	11		The weather was wet and cold.	
	12		As 1000, the CO. held a conference of all officers, and explained the proposed Demobilization and Education Schemes. These schemes were later fully explained to the men and discussion invited.	
	18			
			In the afternoon a football team chosen from the Battalion journeyed to SARRS POTERIES, to play a team from the 7th Battalion, which is believed to be the best.	
			Two G.S. Wagons were placed at the disposal of the team and supporters. The bad weather affected the ground and made the going heavy, but the game was interesting and resulted in a win for the 59th Battalion. The scores were 59th 5-5. - 7th 1-4.	
			6 other ranks marched out to leave in U.K.	
				Sick Wastage Return App. No 8

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES	12		Weather was wet and cold.	
	12 18		No parades were held, but companies were engaged in salvaging all war material in their respective areas. Lieut. J.A. UNDERWOOD marched out to Adjutants' School CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND. Capt. W.L. HERON was evacuated sick, to hospital. A programme of training, for the period 12 th to 16 th inst, was issued. The programme provides for two hours parade daily, to consist of Inspections, Ceremonial Drill and Organised Games.	app. No. 9
	13 12 18		The weather was very wet. Parades were cancelled and indoor syllabus of lectures etc carried on. 6 other ranks marched out to leave in U.K. under the Education scheme, 1 other rank marched out to agricultural Chemistry Course, No 2 School, Institutes of Chemistry LILLE	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES	14 12 18		<p>The weather was dull and threatening, but no rain fell during the day.</p> <p>An inter-Company road race of three miles was held. The roads were wet and muddy, and made the going very difficult. Good times were recorded; however, despite the trying conditions. The results were as follows:</p> <p>1st B. company, 2nd - C. Company, 3rd Bn H.Q., 4th - D. Coy 5th - A company. Among the individual competitors, Lieut. G. FINCHER, was first home.</p> <p>At 1915 a concert was held in the Headquarters Billet. A stage had been erected, and a piano borrowed from the French civilians. The building was packed and many had to be turned away. A varied and interesting programme was submitted and the audience appreciated every item.</p> <p>Programme is appended.</p> <p>20 other ranks marched out to P.T. & B.F. School and one other rank</p>	<p>app. No. 10</p> <p>Field Return 146 app. No. 11</p>

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Place	Date	Hour		Remarks and references to Appendices
	14 12 18		to Corps armourers Workshop CHARLEROI Lieut CHAMBERS M.M., marched in from Officers' Rest Home, PARIS PLAGE. 4 other ranks from U.K. leave.	
	15 12 18		The weather was fine. The Brigade Baths were available for this Battalion today at DOURLERS, from 0900 till 1530. Parties were marched to the baths at regular intervals during the day. Clean changes of underclothing were on issue. L. D.W. FAIR was in charge of the Battalion bathing parade. At 1000 C.of.E and O.P.D. Church parade was held in the stables at Battalion Transport lines. The service was conducted by Chaplain Capt BREMER. Chaplain Major GILBERT officiated at R.C. Church parade, which was held in the village Church. Lieut H.K. RAWSON was in charge of this latter parade. Lieut E.C.	

SEMOUSIES

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	15 12 18		CURTIN marched out to V.K. leave ex detachment A. 58 th Battalion. During the afternoon, a football match was played between A and B companies. A closely contested game resulted in a win for B company by 2 points, the scores being B-5-5, A-5-3.	
SEMOUSIES	16 12 18		The weather was dull and cold. At 1000 Battalion Parade was held in the stables at Transport lines. When the parade formed up, the Education Officer, Lieut. MACROBERTS, addressed the men, and outlined the Education Scheme. He explained the proposed action to be taken in this Battalion and invited questions. A number of questions were raised by the men and replied to by the Education Officer. The C.O. addressed the men also on the subject. an entertainment committee consisting of representatives from all	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES	16 12 18		<p>companies, was formed, to act in conjunction with Major R. J. DICKSON and Chaplain Capt. BREMER. This committee to be responsible for all entertainments within the Battalion.</p> <p>A lecture, by Capt J. A. H. OZANNE, of the Canadian Corps, was given at Brigade Headquarters, DOURLERS. The subject was "The AMERICA of TODAY." Seating accommodation for 40 other ranks was allotted to this Battalion. 8 other ranks from the 4 companies and A.Q. respectively, attended.</p> <p>At 1830, the 13th WELSH CONCERT PARTY paid a visit to the Battalion and gave an entertainment in A company billet. A good programme was provided by the visitors, and this was much appreciated by a large audience.</p> <p>6 other ranks marched out to A. I. F. Headquarters for duty. 5 other ranks to leave in United Kingdom and 2 other ranks to ST ETIENNE Loco Works for technical training.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES	17 12		The weather was boisterous. Very strong, cold winds with misty rain. Owing to weather conditions, outdoor parades were cancelled and indoor syllabus carried on with.	
	18		Education classes were commenced again and the following subjects dealt with: 1000 - SHORTHAND, 1400 - ENGLISH. arrangements were also made to open classes in FRENCH and GERMAN. Failing any other suitable building in the area, the Officers' Mess was used for these classes. a permanent battalion working party of 11 other ranks was formed, for the purpose of carrying out any necessary works in the Battalion area. This party was placed under Lieut DESHON. Lieut E.C. ALEXANDER marched in from U.K. leave. 2 other ranks marched out to U.K. leave.	Syllabus of Training App. No 12

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	18		The weather was very wet. In consequence, the Brigade Cross-Country Run, which was to have taken place today, was postponed. Parades were held in accordance with the Training Syllabus issued.	app. No. 1, 2
	18		Education classes for today were 1000 - Shorthand and 1400 - German.	app. No. 12
			Lieuts. T. J. GANNON and C. H. BROWNE marched in from hospital. 6 other ranks from hospital and 6 other ranks from leave. 5 other ranks marched out to leave in U.K.	
			Lieut. A. H. MacROBERTS, Education Officer, was transferred to the Education Service, but to remain attached to the 59th Battalion.	
				Sick Wastage Return app. No. 13

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	19		The weather was dull and threatening.	
	12		Parades were held in accordance with the Training Syllabus.	
	18		The formation of a central committee of control was completed. The functions of this committee is to control and direct all sports and entertainments in the Battalion, and to act as an advisory body to the Battalion representative on the Brigade Committee. Details as per Circular Memorandum No 5	app No. 14
			It was decided to form a Debating Society, and with this end in view, a meeting was held at 1430, of representatives from Companies and H.Q. for the purpose of adopting rules, and drawing up a programme. Nominations for artists for the formation of a concert party were also called for.	
			Education classes for today were: 1000 - ARITHMETIC.	
			1400 - FRENCH. Lieut WADESON and 4 other ranks to leave in U.K.	

SEMOUSIES.

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SEMOUSIES.	20		The weather was dull and cold.	
	12		Battalion parade was held at 1010 h, ceremonial drill being the subject for the morning	
SEMOUSIES.	18		In the afternoon, the 59th Battalion officers played the 57th Battalion officers, football on the 57th ground. The recent rains had affected the ground to a great extent, making it very sloppy, and in consequence the game was very difficult and though well fought, the result was in favour of the 57th	
			<p>H.R.H the PRINCE of WALES was present, and after the match all the officers were presented to him. The CO and ADJUTANT remained to dinner with the 57th Officers.</p> <p>Education Weekly Report. app. No. 15</p> <p>Notice was received that the Brigade Cross Country run would take place on 28th inst. A team of Rugby players was selected from the Battalion to meet the 57th on 22nd inst.</p> <p>The Education classes for today were: 1000 - English, 1400 - Arithmetic</p>	

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The Adjutant, LT E.A.O BAKER, returned from PARIS leave. Capt SHAW R.M.O. ceased to be attached on being evacuated to U.K. sick on PARIS leave. 2 other ranks marched out to U.K. leave.

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12
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The weather was dull. Battalion parade was held at 10.0h. Preliminary instructions, for Brigade parade on 23rd inst were received. A football match was played during the afternoon between Headquarters and A company. The result was a win for H.Q. - the scores being: H.Q. - 2-9, A Coy 2-6. 3 other ranks marched out to U.K. leave. 5 other ranks marched in from leave.

Education classes were: 1000 - FRENCH, 1400 SHORTHAND.

Circular Memorandum No 6 App. No 16
Points noticed on Inspection - 17
Field Return No 147 - 18

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Place

Date

Hour

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The weather was very wet and cold.
 b. of. E. and O.P.D. Church Parade was held at the Transport
 lines at 1000. Chaplain Capt BREMER conducted the service.
 At the close of the service, holy communion was
 celebrated.
 R.C. Church Parade was held in the village Church at
 0945. The C.O. attended the service which was conducted
 by Chaplain Major GILBERT. Lieut E.C. ALEXANDER was in
 Charge of the Parade.
 Lieut H.K. RAWSON and 5 other ranks marched out to
 leave in PARIS. Lieut H.W. CHAMBERS to leave in U.K.
 6 other ranks returned from U.K. leave.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	23 12 18		<p>The weather was very bad with heavy rain and high winds. Owing to the state of the weather the Brigade parade, which was to have been held today, was cancelled. The Co. held a meeting of all Company Commanders, and also interviewed several men.</p> <p>The first batch of Kinas Cards, which were ordered some time ago, arrived today and were quickly disposed of.</p> <p>During the day, a mule, with pack saddle, was lost from the transport lines.</p> <p>20 other ranks marched out to U.K. leave. 10 other ranks marched out to Paris leave.</p> <p>Education classes for today were: 1000 - Arithmetic, 1400 German.</p>	<p>app. No 19</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
SEMOUSIES.	24	12	The weather was cold with frequent misty showers of rain. Companies were at the disposal of company commanders.		
	19		Preparations were made for the Xmas celebrations for tomorrow. At 1000 a lecture was given by Capt W. DANN in the Brigade Cinema Hall, DOUWERS. Parties from all companies attended this lecture.		
			A court of inquiry, consisting of Capt J.H. STEEL, Lieut H.N. RICHARDS, D.C.M. and Lieut C.P. Cooper, was convened, to enquire into and report on the loss of a mule and pack saddle.		
			During the afternoon, a football match was played between H.Q. and B company resulting in a win for H.Q. the scores being H.Q. - 8.7, B. Coy - 2.3.		
			A message, containing the season's Greetings from the Divisional Commander, was received.	app. No 20	
			The C.O.'s Xmas Greetings to the Battalion were published through Battalion Routine Orders. The Education classes		
				D. D. & L., London, E.C. (10340) W2 W5300/P713 750.000 3/18 E 2688 Forms/C2118/16.	

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or
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(Erase heading not required.)

Page 25

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Vol. 12

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24		for today work:- 1000 - Gouman. 1400 Shorthand.	
	12		Capt. HERON rejoined ex hospital, sick.	
	18		Major DICKSON and two other ranks from UK leave, also two other ranks from hospital. 5 other ranks marched out to leave. Lieut. D.W. FAIR was detached for duty as Town Major, ST. REMY.	
	25		The weather was fine, but cold.	
	12		Cof. E. and OPD Church Parade was held at the Transport Lines at 1030. The service was conducted by Chaplain, Capt. BREMER. R.C. Church Parade was held in the Village Church at 1100. Chaplain Major GILBERT officiated, and the parade was in charge of Lieut. E.C. ALEXANDER.	
	18		An excellent dinner was the feature of the day. This was served under company arrangements. Seating accommodation was provided for all men, and the officers and NCOs acted as waiters. Plum pudding occupied a prominent	<p>List of Officers app. No 21</p> <p>List of Salvage 22</p>

SEMOUSIES

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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Page 26

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.

Vol. 12.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES	25		peace on the menu. The various diningrooms had been tastefully decorated and emphasised the festive spirit of the occasion. The C.O. and 2 nd in Command, made a tour of the messes, and visited the men while at dinner. During the day, Gifts from the AUSTRALIAN comforts Fund, were distributed. These comprised:	
	12			
	18		30 cases of Kinas Boxes, equal to one per man, draughts dominoes, playing cards and a wallet for every man from the Y.M. C.A. These gifts were much appreciated by the men. Menus for the dinners are appended.	
			2 Lieut. F.B. MURN and 3 other ranks marched in from schools and 2 other ranks from leave.	App. No 24
			During the afternoon various games and sports were indulged in.	23
			Sick Wastage Return	app. No 25

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

268

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Vol. 12

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 27

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES.	26		The weather was fine but cold.	
	12		Today was observed as a holiday. In the morning a football match was played between A & C Companies.	
	18		at 1400, a concert was held in the Headquarters billet and was well patronised. An excellent programme was provided, and was much appreciated by the large audience.	App. No. 26
			Lieut. F.B. MURN was detached for duty to 58 th Battalion.	
			Lieut. J.H. MCKAY & 5 other ranks marched out to U.K. leave.	
			Capt. J.R. ROBERTSON, R.M.O. attached returned to 15 th Field Ambulance. He was relieved by Capt W. JAMIESON, of the 14 th Field Ambulance.	
			Capt K.G. McDONALD M.C. was struck off strength, on notification being received of his embarkation for AUSTRALIA.	
			6 other ranks rejoined from leave in U.K.	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Vol 12

Page 28

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">SEMOUSIES.</p>	27		<p>The weather was very wet. In consequence, parades were cancelled and outdoor syllabus suspended. Indoor training and lectures were substituted.</p>	
12				
18		<p>at 1000 all men of A and B companies who had not been inoculated during the past twelve months, were paraded to the R.M.O. for inoculation</p>		
		<p>The Education classes for today were 1000 - Arithmetic, 1400 English.</p>		
		<p>Lieut. G.B. RUSSELL marched out to A.I.F. Headquarters, for pay duties on transports to AUSTRALIA.</p>		
		<p>5 other ranks marched out to leave in U.K.</p>		
		<p>Warning was received that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would present medals and ribbons to men who had earned decorations, at Brigade H.Q. tomorrow. Should fine weather prevail, a</p>	<p>app. No. 29</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Lp</p>		<p>Brigade parade will be held for this purpose.</p>	<p>Education Weekly Report app. No 27</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 29

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES.	28		<p>The weather was very wet and rain continued all day. The presentation was held in the reception room at the Chateau, Brigade H.Q. DOURLERS, and owing to the inclement weather, only the recipients of decorations attended. Eight other ranks attended for presentation from this Battalion. The C.O., 2nd in Command, Adjutant and company Commanders were present. At 11.45 the Prince, accompanied by the Corps Commander, Divisional Commander and Staff, arrived and were received by Brig. Gen. ELLIOTT. The Prince of Wales was introduced to Battalion Commanders, who in turn presented their officers. The Prince then presented the decorations and conversed with all the recipients.</p>	<p>app. No. 29</p>
	12			
	18		<p>at 12.00, a Court Martial sat at 58th Battalion Headquarters. Capt HERON was a member of the court.</p>	<p>app. No. 28</p>

Filed Return 148

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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268

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">SEMOUSIES.</p>	<p>29 12 18</p>		<p>Rain fell practically increasingly throughout the day. G. of E. and O.P.D. Church Parade was held in Headquarters Bulet. Chaplain Capt BREMER conducted the service. at the close Holy Communion was celebrated. R.C. Parade Mass was held in the Village Church by Major GILBERT, R.C. Chaplain. Licut. H. BEILBY, M.M. was in charge of this parade. at 1000 the remaining men of C + D companies were paraded to the R.M.O. for inoculation. Major R.J. DICKSON attended ameting of Brigade Sports representatives at Divisional Headquarters. at 1000 hr, when past events were reviewed and arrangements for future pictures were discussed. Lieuts. C.E. PIZZEY, M.C. and E.J. GRIEVE marched out to U.K. leave together with 5 other ranks. Licut. W.L. HAWKINS from U.K. leave.</p>	

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(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	30		The weather was fine but cold.	
	12		Companies were at the disposal of company commanders.	
	18		The work of whitewashing occupied billets was commenced.	
			At 0940, the remaining men for inoculation were paraded to the R.M.O.	
			The Brigade Cross Country Run took place in the afternoon. The companies, headed by the band, paraded at 1330 and marched to the starting point. The Divisional Commander was present. At 1430, the teams formed up and the starting signal was given by Brig. Gen. ELLIOTT.	app No 30
			A good view of the run was obtained throughout from the starting point. C Company of 59th Battalion were first home. Two other companies of this battalion were also placed - being "B" - 2nd and "A" - 4th. The points scored by the respective companies were: C. 1044. "B" 1350. "A" 1625.	app No 36

SEMOUSIES

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 33

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SEMOUSIES.	30		<p>At 1930, a concert was held in A company's Billet. The programme was given by members of the company, assisted by the Band. The C.O. and 2nd in Command were present. Education subjects for today were: 1000 - Bookkeeping. 1400 - Arithmetic. 5 other ranks rejoined from leave in PARIS and 3 from leave in U.K.</p>	
	72			
	78			
				<p>Syllabus of Training App. No. 31 Education Weekly Report " 32 Leave to Brussels " 33</p>

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.)

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

SEMOUSIES

31
12
18

The weather was fine. Parades as per syllabus issued

Battalion Parade was held on Parade Ground at Transport

Lewis at 10.15 h. The Battalion was inspected by the C.O.

a court of inquiry was convened to inquire into the

illegal absence of several men, and deficiencies of kit.

a provisional time table was issued by the Education

Officer and until further notice, classes will be held

in accordance with this table. The village schoolroom

has been secured as a classroom

Education Officer's Report is appended.

A Battalion memorandum was issued, showing points

noticed on this morning's inspection.

Lieut L. G. TOOHEY M.C. marched out for return to AUSTRALIA

5 other ranks marched out to U.K. leave. 3 other ranks now

leave.

App No 31

app. No. 32

app. No 34

app. No 35

" " 37

" " 38

" " 39

Secy Postage Return

Fat Return

Transport Officer's Diary

R.Q. M's Diary

WAR DIARY

OF

59th BATTALION A.I.F.

FOR

for month of December 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Summary of Messages.
2.	Summary of Messages.
3.	Corps News Sheet No.9.
4.	Sick Wastage Return.
5.	Battalion Order No.186.
6.	Field Return No.145.
7.	Corps News Sheet No.10.
8.	Sick Wastage Return.
9.	Programme of Training.
10.	Concert Programme.
11.	Field Return No.146.
12.	Syllabus of Training.
13.	Sick Wastage Return.
14.	Battalion Circular Memorandum No.5.
15.	Education Weekly Report.
16.	Battalion Circular Memorandum NO,6.
17.	Points noticed on Inspection.
18.	Field Return No.147.
19.	59th Battalion Xmas Card.
20.	Message of Greeting from Divisional Commander.
21.	List Of Officers.
22.	List of Salvage.
23.	Battalion Xmas Dinner Menu.
24.	Officer's Mess Xmas Dinner Menu.
25.	Sick Wastage Return.
26.	Concert Programme.
27.	Education Weekly Report.
28.	Field Return No.148.
29.	Presentation of Medals by H.R.H.the Prince of Wales.
30.	Cross Country Run.
31.	Syllabus of Training.
32.	Education Provisional Time Table.
33.	Leave to Brussels.
34.	Points noticed on Inspection.
35.	Sick Wastage Return.
37.	Return Of Fat.
38.	Transport Officer's Diary for month of December 1918.
39.	Regimental Quartermaster's Diary for December 1918.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message.....57

Prefix.....Code.....m.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Reed. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions	Sent			
.....	At.....m.		.....Service.	Date.....
.....	To.....			From.....
.....	By.....	(Signature of "Franking Officer")		By.....

TO	57	58	59 Bns.
----	----	----	---------

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
530	18		

arrange draw rations
for Rfals arrived
today from Brigade
QM. 57 Bns

59TH
AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BATTALION
No. 1601/16/106
Unit 2-12-18 10:10 am

From	15 A 1 Bde	2100
Place		
Time		

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (2) *[Signature]*
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name

* This line should be erased if not required.
Order No. 1625. Wt. W3253/ P 511. 27/2 H. & K., Ltd. (E. 2634), FORCE.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
(In pads of 100.)

No. of Message.....57

Prefix.....Code.....m.	Words	Charge.	This message is on file of:	Reed. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions	Sent			Service.	Date.....
.....	At .....	.....m.	.....	From
.....	To .....	.....	.....	By.....
.....	By .....	.....	(Signature of "Franking Officer")	By.....

TO	57	58	59 Bus.
Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
30	18		

to RQM.
 For necessary
 action please
 2/15/19 addjt. dt

No. 1741st Sgt.

I have to report

that a dead Hun is lying in the Bois de TOAILLON (about 400 yds from corner of wood opposite Bicket No 138.

He is in an old dug out and is unburied and partially covered with rubbish

W. C. Sherbon Lt.

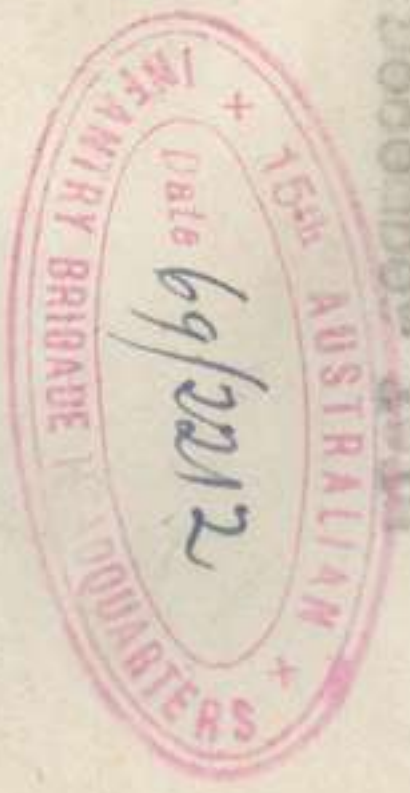
268

- 57th Battalion
- 58th Battalion
- 59th Battalion
- 18th A.I. F. B. D.
- 15th Field, C. A. B.
- 15th Field, A. B.
- 20th A. A. S. O.
- 5th H. O. B.

BILLETING RETURNS

Billeting returns are required for this area and should be forwarded through the usual channels at the end of the period.

Headquarters,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade
5th December 1918



59th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION
 No. 1609/1169
 Date 3.12.18 7.45 pm

Lieutenant,
for Staff Capt.
15th Australian Infantry Brigade.

[Handwritten signature]

[Faint, illegible handwriting on a piece of grid paper.]

To: *[illegible]*
Lt. *[illegible]*
In your
necessary action
Return of file
Please
[illegible signature]

510015
[Red circular stamp]

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. **A20**

Words 35

This message is on a/c of:

Recd. at 0541 m.

Date 20/12/15

From A20

By E.N.M.10

Sent At m. Service.

To

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO 59th Bn 268

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* BM 610 20

H. R. H. Prince of Wales
 will visit the Bde
 to-day at 1400 AAA
 He will see troops
 in billets or at
 spot's AAA No special
 programme required AAA Everything
 informal

From 15th A.I. BDE.

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. **A20**

Words 20

This message is on a/c of:

Recd. at 195 m.

Date 18/12/18

From A20

By RPB

Sent At m. Service.

To

By (Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO 59th Bn 268

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. AAA

* BM 606 18

Cross country run postponed
 owing to inclement weather
 aaa addressed all concerned

From 15th A.I. Bde

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Prefix Code... m. Words. Charge. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. **7** This message is on a/c of: Recd. at **08 12 18** m. Date **28/12/18** Service. From **A20** By **(R90)**

TO **59th Bn 268**

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **SC 638 28th AAA**

West

From **15th AIRM**
Place
Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. **(Z)**
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 506,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message

Prefix Code... m. Words. Charge. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. This message is on a/c of: Recd. at ... m. Date ... Service. From ... By ... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")



TO **59th Battalion. 268**

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. **B.N. 2846 26th AAA**

H.R.H., the Prince of Wales will review the Brigade Group at an early date (Probably 28th inst.) and present medals and ribbons to those who have not already received them. Unit Commanders will take every opportunity to have equipment thoroughly overhauled and cleaned before that date. Details will be issued.

59th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION
No. **2140/1/56**
Date **26.12.18 7:40pm**

From **15th Aust. Inf. Bde.**
Place
Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. **(Z)**
Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

J. Gallen
Captain.

* This line should be erased if not required.
(3796.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 650,000 Pads. 5/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1167.)

Service Instructions.	Charge.	Age is on a/c of:	Recd. at 2110 m.
10/6 Add			
Sent			Date 27/12/18
At			From 1720
To			By [Signature]
By			

TO 59th Battalion 268

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.
		AAA

arrangements will be made for medals to be presented indoors and educational classes will be suspended. Orders will be issued at 0800 tomorrow 28th. The word FINE being used if full parade to be held and WET if indoor ceremony only. AAA for word of FINE unit will be in position by 1130.

From 15th Brigade

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Prefix	Code 2040	Words	Char	Age is on a/c of:	Recd. at 2110 m.
Office of Origin	Service Instructions.				
1720					
Sent					Date 27/12/18
At					From 1720
To					By [Signature]
By					

TO 59th Battalion 268

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.
5636	27th	AAA

Reference, presentation medals by H.R.H Prince of Wales. AAA should fine weather prevail parade will be held in grounds of CHATEAU at 1145 28th. Staff with parade states and one guide per unit to report staff (captain, etc) 1100. Also receipts of decorations (Only those whose names were checked with units today). At same time AAA Dress drill order except receipts who will not carry rifles overcoat to be worn. Units turned up. AAA should weather be unfavorable units will be advised by wire that the following instructions will apply. Only receipts will parade at 1145 and the CO second in command staff and company commanders of battalions. AAA all to be at 1145 at 1100 when

From

Place

Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message 322

Prefix <i>SP</i>	Code <i>12</i>	m.	Words <i>22</i>	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at <i>1150</i> m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.						Date <i>29/12/18</i>
<i>A 70</i>			Sent		Service.	From <i>120</i>
			At <i>120</i> m.	By <i>120</i>		
			To			
			By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		

TO *59th Bn* 268

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* <i>BM 631</i>	<i>29</i>		

Cancel BM 631 aaa
Ran will be held
at 1430 tomorrow aaa
memo follows

From *15th A 1 Bde*
 Place
 Time
 The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor: Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121. (In pads of 100.)

No. of Message

Prefix <i>U</i>	Code <i>12</i>	m.	Words <i>11</i>	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at <i>1620</i> m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.						Date <i>29/12/18</i>
<i>A 70</i>			Sent		Service.	From <i>120</i>
			At <i>120</i> m.	By <i>120</i>		
			To			
			By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		

TO *59th Bn* 268

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* <i>BM 631</i>	<i>29th</i>		

Group cross country run
postponed indefinitely
aaa Addressed all concerned.

From *15th A 1 Bde*
 Place
 Time
 The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor: Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
 W. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

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MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. Army Form C. 2121.
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* No. of Message *57*

SM Code <i>2070</i> m.	Words <i>20</i>	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at <i>2020</i> m.
Origin and Service Instructions.	Sent			Date <i>30/10/18</i>
<i>A20</i>	At	m.	Service.	From <i>A20</i>
	To			By <i>[Signature]</i>
	By		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By

TO 2268

<i>59</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
-----------	--------------------

Sender's Number. <i>*BM639</i>	Day of Month. <i>30</i>	In reply to Number.	AAA
--------------------------------	-------------------------	---------------------	------------

Officers reunion postponed until Jan 2nd owing to non-arrival of stores from Paris

From	<i>15th A.I. Bde.</i>
Place	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. **(Z)**

Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.
---------	---

* This line, except **AAA**, should be erased if not required.
 Wt. W 3253/P511. 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)

Summary of Messages.

Date	Time	From	To	Message.
1/12/18	1010	15th A.I.Bde.	59th Bn.	Arrange draw rations for Rfts arrived today from Brigade Q.M 57th.
do		Adjnt.59th Bn.	All Coys.	<p>In connection with the demobilization of the A.I.F., the services of qualified and reliable officers will be required in the equipment section to exercise supervision in the collection of :-</p> <p>(a) Infantry Equipment. (b) Medical Equipment.</p> <p>Nominations for any officer for the above appointment giving particulars of experience and qualifications, will reach this office by 1800 tonight.</p>
3/12/18		Lt.W.J.McPherson	Adjnt.59th Bn.	<p>I have to report that a dead Hun is lying in the Bois du Toaillon about 400 yards from Corner of wood opposite Billet No 138. He is in an old dugout and is unburied and partially covered with rubbish.</p>
do		15th A.I.Bde.	59th Battalion	<p>Billeting returns are required for this area and should be forwarded through the usual channels at the end of the period.</p>
18/12/18		15th A.I.Bde.	59th Bn.	<p>Cross country run postponed owing to inclement weather aaa Addressed all concerned aaa</p>
20/12/18		15th A.I.Bde.	59th Bn.	<p>H.R.H.Prince of Wales will visit the Bde today at 1400 aaa He will see the troops in Billets or at Sports aaa No special programme required aaa Everything informal.</p>

268

59th Battalion A.I.F.Appendix No. 2Summary of Messages.

Date	Time	From	To	Message.
10/12/18	1620	15th A.I. Bde.	59th Bn.	Group cross country run postponed indefinitely aaa Addressed all concerned.
do.	1730	15th A.I. Bde.	59th Bn.	Cancel B.M.631 aaa Run will be held at 1430 tomorrow aaa Memo follows.
30/12/18	2020	15th A.I. Bde.	59th Bn.	Officers reunion postponed until Jan. 2nd. owing to non-arrival of stores from PARIS.
do				

AUSTRALIAN CORPS NEWS SHEET.

Extracts from Allied and Enemy Press compiled from Press cuttings supplied by the Australian War Records Section and Other Sources.

BRITISH CASUALTIES. Over Three Millions.

Mr Macpherson, replying to Mr. Runciman in the House of Commons, said that the military casualties in the Expeditionary Forces in the different theatres of war were necessarily incomplete, and he was afraid that some time would have to elapse before the exact figures could be given. Up to November 10th, 1918, the figures, including the Dominion and the Indian troops, in the various theatres of operations were as follows:—

KILLED.

Including died of wounds, and died from other causes:

FRANCE.		MESOPOTAMIA.	
Officers	32,769	Officers	1,340
Other ranks	526,843	Other ranks	29,769
ITALY.		SALONIKA.	
Officers	86	Officers	285
Other ranks	941	Other ranks	7,330
DARDANELLES.		EGYPT.	
Officers	1,785	Officers	1,098
Other ranks	31,737	Other ranks	14,794
EAST AFRICA.			
Officers	380	Other ranks	8,724
Other theatres: Officers, 133; other ranks, 690.			

WOUNDED.

FRANCE.		SALONIKA.	
Officers	83,142	Officers	818
Other ranks	1,750,203	Other ranks	16,058
ITALY.		MESOPOTAMIA.	
Officers	334	Officers	2,429
Other ranks	4,612	Other ranks	48,686
DARDANELLES.		EGYPT.	
Officers	3,010	Officers	2,311
Other ranks	75,508	Other ranks	35,762
EAST AFRICA.			
Officers	478	Other ranks	7,276
Other theatres: Officers	142	Other ranks	1,373

MISSING.

Including prisoners of war (including 6,741 officers and 164,767 other ranks known to be prisoners of war, and also over 80,000 officers and other ranks whose deaths had been accepted for official purposes):

FRANCE.		EGYPT.	
Officers	10,846	Officers	183
Other ranks	315,849	Other ranks	3,705
ITALY.		EAST AFRICA.	
Officers	384	Officers	38
Other ranks	727	Other ranks	929
THE DARDANELLES.		OTHER THEATRES.	
Officers	248	Officers	51
Other ranks	7,431	Other ranks	908
SALONIKA.		MESOPOTAMIA.	
Officers	114	Officers	566
Other ranks	2,713	Other ranks	14,789

Grand totals of killed, wounded, and missing:

KILLED		WOUNDED.	
Officers	37,876	Officers	92,664
Other ranks	620,828	Other ranks	1,939,478

MISSING.

Officers 12,094 Other ranks 347,051
Making a total of officers killed, wounded, and missing, 142,634; and other ranks, 2,907,357.

The grand total was 3,049,991.

The above figures include sick, and men wounded on more than one occasion.

AMERICA'S CASUALTIES.

52,169 Killed; 179,625 Wounded.

WASHINGTON.

General Peyton March announced to-day that the total casualties of the American expeditionary forces up to the signing of the armistice were: Dead, 52,169; wounded, 179,625; prisoners and missing, 3,323.

The Americans have taken 44,000 German prisoners and 1,400 guns. General March added that the casualties in the American forces in Northern Russia were not severe, and that encouraging accounts of the situation there had been received.—Reuter.

WHAT WE TOOK FROM THEM IN BATTLE.

From July 15, to the end of October, 1918, the Allies have taken prisoners 7,990 officers and 354,365 men, while 6,217 guns, 38,622 machine-guns, and 3,907 mine-throwers have been captured.—Reuter.

GERMAN LOSSES IN WAR.

According to the Berlin Socialist paper *Vorwärts*, the German casualties down to October, 31st, 1918, were as follows:—

Dead	...	...	1,580,000
Wounded	...	...	4,000,000
Prisoners	...	...	490,000
Missing, fate unknown	...	...	260,000

TOTAL ... 6,330,000

It is interesting to note that the official return issued in Berlin, in April, 1917, the last available, gave the casualties as follows:—

Killed and died of wounds...	976,373
Deaths from sickness	66,656
Wounded	2,669,883
Prisoners	293,282
Missing	240,610

TOTAL ... 4,246,804

It is quite obvious that either that or the present return was falsified. For example, the Germans assert that on October 31 last they had lost 490,000 prisoners. In April, 1917, they admitted over 293,000. Now, the Allies captured on the Western front in the ten months January 1 to October 31, 1918, nearly 400,000 prisoners, whereas the German figure, if accurate, accounts for only 197,000 taken in over seventeen months. The French Staff recently estimated that in 1918 alone the Germans sustained about 2,500,000 casualties.

The Meaning of an English Peace.

German wireless of November 6th (5 days before the Armistice was signed) says:—

In the "*Berliner Tageblatt*" the Social Democratic correspondent explains what the English Peace would mean to Germany, namely, the separation of ALSACE-LORRAINE, and perhaps of the Prussian and Bavarian provinces to the left of the RHINE in favour of FRANCE; the separation of UPPER SILESIA, POSEN, EAST PRUSSIA and WEST PRUSSIA from GERMANY in favour of POLAND; the surrender of the German colonies to ENGLAND; tremendous war indemnities to all the enemy Powers, and, in addition, the burden of our own war debts; the remaining WESTERN GERMANY to be dominated by the Anglo-French guns; the surrender of the German war fleet to ENGLAND in order that English naval-militarism may dominate the world with even less restriction; the deprivation of German industry and German commerce by withholding raw materials through the closing of the markets by means of penal taxations of all kinds, and, as a result of this, a continuous terrible lack of labour, a fall in all wages, and thereby the futility of most of the wage-movements; emigration of hundreds of thousands of workmen every year who, in foreign countries, would be subjected to humiliating treatment; furthermore, the surrender of German commercial ships to replace the ships sunk. All this would mean the unprecedented slavery of a great nation and thus the industrious classes of the German nation would have to bear the unheard-of burdens of a mutilated country and a ruined national economy for the rest of their lives and to serve foreign capitalists with their sweat and blood.

It was above all the hammer blows of the British Armies that were the decisive factors in the final defeat of the enemy.—*Marshal Foch*.

THE END OF THE HUN. Hindenburg's Admission.

The Wolff Bureau states that Marshal von Hindenburg sent the following telegram on November 20 from his Headquarters at the Castle of Wilhelmshöhe to the new German Government in Berlin:—

"The Armistice Committee states that the enemy members of the Committee, especially the French, are adopting a less courteous attitude, and are continually demanding impossibilities, and that it is not improbable the French are anxious to find a pretext for resumption of hostilities. I must therefore strongly emphasise that the German Army, by reason of the hard terms of the armistice, and influenced also by events at home, is no longer in a position to resume the fight. Even a fight against the French Army alone would be impossible.

"I consider it also my duty to draw attention to the fact, because it is evident from articles which have appeared in the enemy press, that the enemy Governments are only prepared to conclude peace with a German Government which is supported by a majority of the people."—Reuter.

CASES OF GERMAN "FAMINE." No Longer Able to Plunder.

COPENHAGEN, Saturday.

A Berlin official statement says:—

"The foreign Press is wondering why Germany is now apparently on the brink of a famine, when the former Government declared that Germany had sufficient supplies of food-stuffs to last her until the next harvest. It appears, however, that Germany's stores and supplies were estimated on a too optimistic basis. Moreover, there were formerly about 1,500,000 men and 300,000 horses quartered in the occupied territories in the East. At that time also we were deriving supplies from the Ukraine, which had promised liberal supplies of corn and forage, and by way of the Danube we expected supplies of oil and oilseeds.

"All these expectations have now been completely frustrated. Also German crops have not been so large as was estimated, the greater part of the potato crop having been destroyed by frost. Furthermore, at the signing of the armistice we lost the labour of all the prisoners of war, whose aid was absolutely indispensable to the agricultural production of the country."—Reuter.

To be made up to and for Saturday in each week

FIELD RETURN.

268 Army Form B. 213

No. of Report 145

(To be furnished by all arms, services, and departments (except A.S.C. units) to the A.G.'s Office at the Base in accordance with Field Service Regulations, Part II.)

RETURN showing numbers (a) Effective strength of Unit.
(b) Rationed by Unit.

59th Battalion AIF. at In the field.

7.12.18

Date.

Appendix No. 6

DETAILS.	*Personnel		Animals					Guns and transport vehicles										REMARKS (Number of Acting W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s included in effective strength to be shown in this column.)						
	Officers	Other Ranks	Horses			Mules		Guns, showing description	Ammunition wagons	Machine guns	Aircraft, showing description	Horsed				Mechanical			Trailers	Motor Bicycles	Bicycles	Motor Ambulances		
			Riding	Draught	Heavy Draught	Pack	Large					Small	Wheeled ⁴	Wheeled ²	Motor Cars	Tractors	Lorries, showing description						Trucks, showing description	
Effective Strength of Unit ...	63	904	11	9	2	28	5			36			14	4						8				
Details by Arms attached to Unit as in War Establishment ...																								
<i>arm attached</i> <i>Pay Sergeant</i>	1	4																						
TOTAL ...	64	905	11	9	2	28	5			36			14	4						8				
War Establishment ...	44	901	11	28	9	7				26			14	4						9				
Wanting to complete (Detail of Personnel and Horses below.)				28		5														1				
SURPLUS (Detail of Personnel and Horses below.)	20	4					28	5																
† Attached (not to include the details shown above) ...	2	10																						
Attached for Rations only ...																								
Civilians Employed with and Accompanying the Unit ...																								
‡ Detached from and struck off effective strength of own Unit ...																								
‡ Detached from but retained on effective strength of own unit ...																								
TOTAL RATIONED ...	39	754	11	13	2	28	5																	

* Blank columns to be used for W.A.A.C. Natives or as may be required.

† In the case of field ambulances, hospitals or depots, the number of patients are to be included here, the names being shown in A.F.A. 36.
‡ These details to be enumerated by arms.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch.

officer
1
1
1.4
2
2
2 10

No. 10.

10th December, 1918

AUSTRALIAN CORPS NEWS SHEET.

REPATRIATION SCHEME IN AUSTRALIA.

What the Government is Doing.

Reprint of the Summary of a Speech Delivered in July last
by Senator MILLEN, Minister for Repatriation.

The Australian Repatriation Scheme is in full operation. Senator Millen, the Minister for Repatriation has aimed at making the scheme worthy of the men and women in whose interests it has been framed. He has succeeded.

WHO IT INCLUDES.

The scheme includes soldiers, sailors, nurses, doctors, and their dependants. The fundamental principle is that neither those who enlisted for active service abroad nor their dependants shall suffer economic prejudice by reason of their military service.

THE DEPARTMENT.

The Repatriation Department undertakes to provide each soldier applying for employment with the opportunity of earning at least a living wage, and until the opportunity is forthcoming, to pay to applicants such amounts as will ensure them incomes ranging from 42/- to 66/- weekly, according to circumstances. When employment involving travelling is obtained through the Department, the removal expenses of the soldier and his family and their household effects may be paid. The Department will also provide tools and personal equipment necessary to follow his trade.

FOR THOSE ILL.

Sufferers from illness or injury due to, or aggravated by military service, are given free medical treatment in their own homes or in hospitals, or special institutions, for so long as treatment may be necessary. Artificial limbs and surgical appliances will be repaired and replaced free as often as necessary. During the period of medical treatment and convalescence, soldiers and their dependants are entitled to sustenance. Fares to and from hospital and travelling expenses are also paid. Those who are unable through disability resultant upon service to pursue their usual avocations will be trained in other occupations to which the disability is no bar. During the period of training soldiers are guaranteed incomes ranging from 42/- to 66/- weekly, together with a travelling allowance of 3/- if they are in training classes; or a minimum wage of the industry in which they are undergoing training if such training is being effected in industrial establishments. Apprentices are guaranteed the adult minimum wage in the trade to which they are apprenticed the moment they resume indentures. Those so disabled as to prevent their return to normal efficiency are guaranteed a living wage, and are provided with opportunities to earn at least part of such wage in employments suited to their temperament and capacity.

COMMUNITY SETTLEMENTS.

The industries in which they are engaged are to be conducted in community settlements formed in each State.

In these settlements there will be national workshops and homes for workers and convalescents, schools, and other social accessories.

Men with the inclination, aptitude and physical capacity for engaging in farming pursuits will be financially assisted on easy, liberal terms to take up land and to acquire the stock and

equipment necessary for successful working. Until the land is ready for occupation, they may, if no employment is available, be paid a sustenance allowance, and when land is available the necessary fares and freights to enable them to enter into possession. They will also be entitled to sustenance during the unproductive period of occupation.

TO THOSE IN BUSINESS.

In approved cases, soldiers incapacitated to the extent of being unable to engage in their usual employment, and soldiers who prior to enlistment were dependent on businesses which they owned and conducted, will be advanced money to purchase business plant, stock, and live stock, to enable them to establish or re-establish themselves. The necessary fares and freights to their place of business will be paid.

Free passages from the Commonwealth may, on certain conditions, be granted to incapacitated soldiers, their wives and children, and to the widows and orphans of deceased soldiers, and the wives and children of soldiers married abroad, and to fiancées of soldiers and Australians who have served in the present war in the military and naval forces in any part of the King's dominions.

WIDOWS AND CHILDREN.

Widows and children have been subjects of Senator Millen's special care. Widows with children are entitled to gifts of furniture to enable them to re-establish their homes, and to augment their means of livelihood money will be advanced to them to assist in the purchasing of businesses, plant, stock, and live-stock, and their pensions will be supplemented and fees paid where widows with or without children decide to undergo training in any calling. They may also be granted rental allowances, or such other assistance as the Minister thinks proper. The provisions for rental allowances, as also for gifts of furniture, apply equally to totally incapacitated men.

Soldiers not incapacitated will be loaned money to purchase furniture and establish homes.

Towards the care and education of orphans of deceased soldiers and the children of incapacitated soldiers the Minister is empowered to pay such amounts as he deems fit.

The scheme also provides for advances to relieve the burden of oppressive mortgages effected prior to the soldier's enlistment, and for grants towards the funeral expenses of soldiers in indigent circumstances.

THE MOTHERS AND FATHERS OF THE FALLEN.

Parents have not been forgotten. Mothers and fathers who were dependent on their soldier sons will be assisted.

To carry out this liberal and statesmanlike scheme, Senator Millen is organising local committees from one end of Australia to the other. Wherever the soldier finds himself on his return, he will be in touch with willing workers anxious to repay some measure of the debt they owe.

Within the next few weeks the Minister hopes to place in the hands of every Australian soldier abroad a personal letter explaining the aims and objects of his department.

PLANS FOR DEMOBOLISATION.

Reprinted from the "British Australasian" dated November 21st, 1918.

Senator Pearce, Minister for Defence, states that the Government is in communication with the Imperial Government and other Dominions and the military authorities regarding the return of Australian Forces. The Cabinet has requested Mr. Hughes to take up the question of speedy demobilisation with the administrative and military authorities in London, who will take his directions on the main principles. Consultations are proceeding on questions relating to employment for those awaiting embarkation, and a scheme for university education.

The troops will return as units under their own officers. The Battalions, regiments and batteries will be divided into halves, the first-coming half containing as many men as possible meriting preferential treatment according to the priority list, as follows:—

Firstly, married soldiers, with preference according to the number of their children, length of service, and guaranteed employment in Australia; secondly, single soldiers of long service, with guaranteed employment; thirdly, other single men according to length of service.—COMMONWEALTH CABLE.

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59th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix No. 8

Sick Wastage Return for week ending 11/12/18.

Date	Evacuated to Field Ambulance		Returned from Field Ambulance		Evacuated out of Divisional Area.		
	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.	
Dec. 5th.	-	1	-	-	-	-	
6th.	-	3	-	-	-	-	
7th.	-	2	-	-	-	-	
8th.	-	2	-	-	-	-	
9th.	-	1	-	-	-	-	
10th	-	1	1	-	-	-	
		Lieut. H.N.Richards. D.C.M.					
11th.	-	2	-	-	-	8	

Sgd / J.J.Scanlan ,Lieut - Col.
Commanding 59th Battalion A.I.F.

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59th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix No. 13.

Sick Wastage Return for week ending December 18th 1918.

Date.	Evacuated to Field Ambulance.		Returned from Field Ambulance.		Evacuated out of Divisional Area.	
	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.
Decr. 2th.	1 Capt. W.L. Heron.	-	-	-	-	-
3th.	-	-	-	-	-	-
4th.	-	-	-	-	-	-
5th;	-	-	-	-	-	-
6th.	-	-	-	-	-	-
7th.	-	1	-	1	-	-
8th	-	-	-	1	-	-

sgd./ J.J. Scanlan , Lieut-Col.
Commanding 59th Battalion A .I .F.

19th December, 1918.

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Circular Memorandum No 5.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF CONTROL.

Sports and Amusements.

Major R.J. Dickson.
 Lieut. V.J. Mankey.
 Lieut. H.K. Rawson.
 Lieut. D.O. Sheils.
 Chap. - Capt. F.C.L. Bremer.
 Lieut. R.C. Deshon.

Chairman.
 Athletics.
 Rifle Club.
 Debating Society, Essay Competitions
 Music. etc
 Works.

The function of this committee will be the co-ordination and direction of all sports and entertainment within the Battalion.

Each officer will, in his own branch, become the Battalion representative at all meetings called together by higher formations.

The Committee will draw up and enforce rules and regulations concerning the control of all sport, amusements and competitions.

In each company there will be formed a sub-committee consisting of 1 officer and 2 other ranks for each branch enumerated above. These sub-committees will be responsible for the organizing and control of all sport and amusement within their own company. They will meet at least twice each week, and more often if necessary, the officer who represents their interest on the Central Committee, when the programme for the ensuing period will be arranged for.

The Central Committee will meet twice each week, or as the Chairman may direct.

With reference to the foregoing, O.S.C. Companies will submit names of the members of their sub-committees at the earliest.

Lieut.
 Adjutant, 59th Battalion, A.I.F.

Copies to:-

O.C. "A" Company.
 O.C. "B" Company.
 O.C. "C" Company.
 O.C. "D" Company.
 O.C. Hqrs.
 Regtl. Quartermaster &
 Transport Officer.

C.O.
 Adjutant.
 Chairman.
 All members of the Central Control
 Committee.
 File.
 War Diary.

Education Weekly Report.

December, 20th. 1918.

1. A large class room is being erected. In the meantime, classes are being held in the Officer's Mess.
2. Classes in operation :-
 - (a) English (b) Arithmetic. (c) Shorthand.
 - (d) Bookkeeping. (e) French. (f) German.
3. The total enrolment has increased during the week from 89 to 136.
4. Classes contemplated :-
 - (a) Accountancy. (b) Office Routine. (c) Mathematics.
5. 5 men have been sent to Army Workshops.

Sgd/ A.H. MacRoberts, Lieut.
Education Officer, 59th Battalion A.I.F.

21st. December 1918.

Circular Memorandum No. 6.

1. The Battalion will be inspected by the Brigadier General Commanding, on Monday 23rd inst.
2. Details as to time and place will be issued later.
3. Company Commanders will give their immediate attention to improving the general turnout.
4. Particular attention will be paid to adjusting the discrepancies noted on this morning's inspection.
5. In view of preparation, the usual Sunday inspection will not take place tomorrow 22nd inst.
6. Companies will parade at maximum possible strength.
7. All ranks are urged to do their utmost to ensure a turnout equal to the high standard set throughout the Brigade.

Sgd,/ E. Ormond Baker, Lieut.
Adjutant, 59th Battalion A.I.F.

To O's. C. All Companies.

Points noticed on this morning's inspection.

Men unshaven.

Hair not cut to the regulation length.

Braces of equipment not uniform. Left over Right.

Puttees must be put on in the spiral fashion - not crossed.

Tunics torn. These can be repaired by the Battalion tailor.

Breeches torn, and changes required.

Some men without color patches.

Chin straps not worn.

Sgd./ E.Ormond Baker, Lieut.
Adjutant 59th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix No. 18...

To be made up to and for Saturday in each week

FIELD RETURN.

268 Army Form B. 213

No. of Report 147

(To be furnished by all arms, services, and departments (except A.S.C. units) to the A.G.'s Office at the Base in accordance with Field Service Regulations, Part II.)

RETURN showing numbers (a) Effective strength of Unit.
(b) Rationed by Unit.

59th Battalion AIF at In the field

21.12.18 Date.

DETAILS.	*Personnel		Animals					Guns and transport vehicles										REMARKS (Number of Acting W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s included in effective strength to be shown in this column.)				
	Officers	Other Ranks	Horses			Mules		Guns, showing description	Ammunition wagons	Machine guns	Aircraft, showing description	Horsed			Mechanical				Motor Bicycles	Bicycles	Motor Ambulances	
			Riding	Draught	Heavy Draught	Pack	Large					Small	Wheeled 4	Wheeled 2	Motor Cars	Tractors	Lorries, showing description					Trucks, showing description	Trailers
Effective Strength of Unit ...	63	892	11	9	3	28	4			36		14	4						8			
Details by Arms attached to Unit as in War Establishment ...																						
<i>Am. b. Attached Pay Sergeant.</i>	1	2								<i>Lewis Guns.</i>												
TOTAL ...	64	893	11	9	3	28	4			36		14	4						8			
War Establishment ...	44	901	11	28	9	7				36		14	4						9			
Wanting to complete (Detail of Personnel and Horses below.)	8		28	4															1			
SURPLUS (Detail of Personnel and Horses below.)	20					28	4															
† Attached (not to include the details shown above) ...	5	30																				
Attached for Rations only ...																						
Civilians Employed with and accompanying the Unit ...																						
‡ Detached from and struck off effective strength of own Unit ...																						
‡ Detached from but retained on effective strength of own unit ...																						
TOTAL RATIONED ...	43	728	11	9	3	26	4															530

* Blank columns to be used for W.A.A.C. Natives or as may be required. † In the case of field ambulances, hospitals or depots, the number of patients are to be included here, the names being shown in A.F.A. 36. ‡ These details to be enumerated by arms.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch.

The number of patients in the case of field ambulances, hospitals or depots, the names being shown in A.F.A. 36. These details to be enumerated by arms.

Chaplain's & Baln. 2
 same
 interpreters
 1st Lt. Major (GENOUSIES)
 Div. Sanitary Section
 Education Officer
 asvens Picquet

59th Battalion remainder

MISCELLANEOUS.

1967 Sgt Bart. Accountant,
McAmour B.P. Clerk
Sgt Smith B.P. Clerk

~~For Review
Pantlomen
P.O. C.M.F. 4 years
P.O. Mygale~~

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59th Battalion. A.I.F.

U R G E N T.

1st December 1918.

To:- All Companies.

In connection with the demobilization of the A.I.F. the services of qualified and reliable Officers will be required in the equipment section to exercise supervision in the collection of:-

- (a) Infantry Equipment.
- (b) Medical Equipment.

Nominations for any Officer for the above appointment giving particulars of experience and qualifications will reach this Office by 1800 tonight.

(Sgd) E. Ernest Baker. Lieut.
Adjutant 59th Battalion. A.I.F.

Adpt. 5.12.18

P.T.O.

Handwritten notes and signatures in blue ink, including 'P.T.O.' and other illegible text.

MISCELLANEOUS

59th Battalion A.I.F. 1st Dec 1918

Appendix 19

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Appendix No. 20
Headquarters,
5th Australian Division.
23rd December, 1918.

"Officers, N.C.O's and Men, 5th Australian Division."

I wish you all a Happy Christmas, the best of luck and a safe journey home during the coming year.

The 5th Australian Division has established a record of success and gallantry second to none in the Australian Imperial Force, and I trust that in the period that must elapse before we can return to our native land, all ranks will strive to maintain the magnificent reputation you have earned in the field and by a high standard of discipline and efficiency help to make the name of the Australian soldier honored and respected, not only in France and Belgium, but throughout the British Empire and other countries.

Sgd/ E. Tivey, Major-General.
Commanding 5th Division A.I.F.

14th December 1918L

LIST OF OFFICERS WITH UNIT.Headquarters.

Lieut-Col. J.J.Scanlan, D.S.O.	C.O.
Major R.J.Dickson,	2nd in Command.
Capt. W.Jamieson.	R.M.O.
Hon.Capt. W. May	Quartermaster.
Lieut.E.O.A.Baker	Adjutant.
Lieut.V.K.Mankey	A/Asst.Adjutant.
2/Lieut.A.B.Rolfe	Intelligence Officer.
Lieut.C.E.Pizzev	L.G.Officer.
Lieut.A.J.Pinkerton	Sig.Officer.
Lieut.J.H.McKay	Transport Officer.
Lieut.A.H.MacRoberts	Education Officer.
Lieut.C.J.Levy	Canteen Officer.
Chaplain-Major G.P.Gilbert M.C.	R.C.Chaplain.
Chaplain-Captain F.C.L.Bremer	Meth.Chaplain.

"A" Company.

Lieut.L.J.Howells.
 Lieut.J.W.Stubbs.
 Lieut.H.W.Chambers,M.M.
 Lieut.H.T.Walker.
 Lieut.R.Dunkley.
 Lieut.H.N.Richards.D.C.M.

"B" Company.

Captain J.H.Steel.
 Lieut.J.Dyke.
 Lieut.E.J.Grieve.
 Lieut.D.W.Fair.
 Lieut.R.C.Deshon.
 Lieut.D.O.Shiels.
 Lieut.G.P.Cooper.
 Lieut.G.J.Wellington.
 2/Lieut.H.Beilby,M.M.

"C" Company.

Lieut.W.J.McPherson.
 Lieut.M.R.callander,M.M.
 Lieut.W.L.Hawkins.
 Lieut.T.J.Gamon.
 Lieut.C.H.Browne.
 2/Lieut.L.G.Opie.

"D" Company.

Captain W.L.Heron.
 Lieut.J.H.Wadson.
 Lieut.H.K.Rawson.
 Lieut.H.A.L.Binder,M.C.
 Lieut.J.C.Christian,M.C.
 Lieut.W.W.Stevenson,M.C.
 Lieut.E.C.Alexander.

LIST OF SALVAGE.

o:o

Guns, Lewis.	54.
Pouches, Web Magazine L.G.	200.
Carriers, Magazine, Bucket Pattern	120.
Magazines, L.G.	764.
Braces, Web Pouch Magazine	169.
Carriers, Tin Magazine	80.
Haversacks, Web	345.
Machine Guns, German	6.
Mounts, M.G. German	2.
Trench Mortars, complete	2.
Cases, Trench Mortar	2.
Wagons, German G.S.	2.
Limbers, Amm. rear	1.
Marquee, Hospital	1;
Tents, Circular	5.
Rifles, S.M.L.E.	3.
Shoes, Horse, N Size	7 hind pairs. 192.
do	" 7 fore " 142.
do	" 7 ¹ / ₂ hind " 21.
do	" 7 ¹ / ₂ front " 73.
do	" 8 hind " 35.
do	" 10 hind " 10.
do	" 6 front " 14.
do	" 5 hind " 30.
do	odd pairs " 139.
Rugs, Horse	1.
Wheels, W.L.G.S.	3.
Cases, Horse shoes	48.
Chaffcutters, Machines	3.
Stretchers, Ambulance	2.
Hose lengths, with brass couplings	3.
Bipod, L.G.	31.
Butts L.G.	16.
Rods, Piston L.G.	78.
Plugs, Clearing L.G.	6.
Pinions, complete	6.
Spanners, Barrel m/piece	2.
Handles, loading L.G.	1.
Springs, Cart. guide	4.
Sights, Anti aircraft	6.
Barrels L.G.	2.
Covers, Body	18.
Bags, spare parts (part filled)	8.
Cans Oil	2.
Bolts, assembled complete	2.
Brushes, Wire	6.
Pistol Grips	17.
Fore part rad. casing	7.
Covers, canvas W.P.L.G.	8.
Arms feeding	4.
Mounts, (monkey patt.)	22.
Rattles, Gas	2.
Tyres, Motor	1.
Helmets, Trench	2.
Lids, Boiler, Kitchen, travelling	2.

December 24th 1918.

XMAS DINNER MENU.Semousies.December 25th 1918.

o:o?o:o:o:o:o

"A" Company.

Sardines on Toast.	Roast Turkey	Cabbage	Plum Pudding with rum
	" Beef.	Potatoes	sauce.
	" Mutton.	Turnips.	Blanc Mange & Custard.
		Onions.	
		Onion Sauce.	

Beer - Tea - Cigarettes.

"B" Company.

Boiled Turkey	Potatoes.	Plum pudding.
" Ham.	Turnips.	Custard.
" Mutton.	Cabbage.	

Tea.

"C" Company

Sardines on Toast.	Roast Beef.	Potatoes.	Plum Pudding.
	" Mutton.	Turnips.	Custard.
		Onions.	
		Cabbage.	

Beer - Tea.

"D" Company.

Soup.	Roast Beef.	Potatoes.	Plum Pudding & Rum Sauce.
	" Mutton.	Onions.	Custard.
		Carrots.	
		Cabbage.	
		Turnips.	

Beer - Tea.

"H.Q." Company.

Roast Mutton.	Potatoes.	Plum Pudding, Brandy Sauce
Boiled Ham.	Cabbage.	Fruit & Custard.
	White Sauce.	

Cigarettes - Biscuits - Beer - Tea.

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OFFICER'S MESS.

SEMOUSIES.

25th December 1918.

Xmas Dinner Menu

Hors d'oeuvre.

Soup.

Salmon Rissoles.

Fricassee Mouton.

Roast Turkey.

Potatoes, Beans, Cabbage.

Xmas Pudding.

Blanc Mange.

Savoury.

Cafe.

Cigarettes, Cigars, Wine, Whisky, Liqueurs, Beer, Champagne.

59th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix No. 25

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SICK WASTAGE RETURN FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 25th 1918.

o:o

DATE	EVACUATED TO FIELD AMBULANCE		RETURNED FROM FIELD AMBULANCE		EVACUATED OUT OF DIVISIONAL AREA.	
	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.
Decr. 19th.	-	2	-	-	-	-
20th.	-	1	-	-	-	-
21st.	-	2	-	-	-	-
22nd.	-	1	-	-	-	-
23rd.	-	-	-	-	-	-
24th.	-	-	1	1	-	-
			Capt. W.L.Heron.			
25th.	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Boxing Night.December 26th 1918.

CONCERT IN HALL, HEADQUARTERS BILLET COMMENCING AT 1400.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1. Band Selection | "Light Cavalry" | Band. |
| 2. Popular Choruses | | The Audience. |
| 3. Solo | "There's a Land" | L/Cpl Telfer. |
| 4. Solo | "Macushla" | Pte Daniels. |
| 5. Recitation | | Pte Bullen. |
| 6. Ragtime Solo | | Pte Stevens. |
| 7. Vocal Quartette with Band Accompaniment | | Cpl Nutt, Ptes Raymer,
Parkes & Johnson. |
| 8. Solo | "Less than the Dust" | L/Cpl Brown. |
| 9. Violin Solo | "Humoresques" | Pte Daniels. |
| 10. Humorous Solo | "Go to bed early
and save the coal" | Pte Russ. |
| 11. Elocutionary Item | | Lt. J. C. Christian M.C. |
| 12. Musical Monologue | | Sgt. Cleaver. |
| 13. Solo | Selected | Major R. J. Dickson. |
| 14. Orchestral Selection | | L/Cpl LeCouteur Piano,
Pte Daniels 1st Violin
Pte MacKenzie 2nd Violin
Pte Pearce Clarionet. |
| 15. Solo | "Give me the Moonlight" | Lt. E. O. Baker. |
| 16. Solo | Selected | Cpl Cox. |
| 17. Recitation | Selected | Lt. W. J. McPherson. |
| 18. Cornet Solo | "When you come home" | Sgt Cleaver & Band. |
| 19. Solo | "Mountains of Mourne" | Pte Taylor. |
| 20. Trio. | "Absent" | L/Cpl LeCouteur,
Cpl Pearson, L/Cpl Brown. |
| 21. Solo | "The Admiral's Broom" | L/Cpl Telfer. |
| 22. Solo | "Roses of Picardy" | Cpl Pearson. |
| 23. Humorous Solo | "Shall Us ? Lets!" | Pte Russ. |
| 24. Clarinet
Solo | "Garden of Roses" | Pte Raymer. |
| 25. Sketch. | | Sgt. Cleaver, Ptes Russ, Bell,
Stevens and Horwell. |

MARSEILLAISE AND GOD SAVE THE KING.

Accompanist. - L/Cpl LeCouteur.

Stage Manager - Sgt. Cleaver.

E D U C A T I O N .

W E E K L Y R E P O R T .

December 27th 1918L

1. The attempt to erect a large class room has been abandoned for want of material . Classes will now be held in the village school room.
2. The following classes are now in operation :-

English	20	Students.
Arithmetic	28	"
Shorthand	25	"
Bookkeeping	40	"
French	29	"
German	12	"
Algebra	3	"
Geometry & Trigonometry	3	"
Total	<u>160</u>	"

3. Interest is well maintained among the men, but the lack of text books, especially in Mathematical subjects, still constitutes a formidable obstacle to progress.

Sgd/ A.H. MacRoberts , Lieut.
Education Officer, 59th Battalion A.I.F.

No. of Report 148

FIELD RETURN.

Army Form B. 213

(To be furnished by all arms, services, and departments (except A.S.C. units) to the A.G.'s Office at the Base in accordance with Field Service Regulations, Part II.)

RETURN showing numbers (a) Effective strength of Unit.
(b) Rationed by Unit.

59th Battalion A.F. at In the field

28.12.18 Date.

Appendix No. 28

DETAILS.	*Personnel			Animals				Guns and transport vehicles										REMARKS (Number of Acting W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s included in effective strength to be shown in this column.)									
	Officers	Other Ranks		Horses			Mules	Guns, showing description	Ammunition wagons	Machine guns	Aircraft, showing description	Horsed				Mechanical			Motor Bicycles	Bicycles	Motor Ambulances						
				Riding	Draught	Heavy Draught	Pack					Large	Small	Wheeled	Wheeled	Motor Cars	Tractors					Lorries, showing description	Trucks, showing description	Trailers			
Effective Strength of Unit ...	61	886		11	9	3	28	3		36			1	4								8					
Details by Arms attached to Unit as in War Establishment ...																											
<i>Amc attached Pay Sergeant.</i>	1	2																									
		1																									
TOTAL ...	62	887		11	9	3	28	3		36			1	4									8				
War Establishment ...	44	901		11	28	9	7			36			1	4									9				
Wanting to complete (Detail of Personnel and Horses below.)		14			28		4																1				
SURPLUS (Detail of Personnel and Horses below.)	18							28	3																		
† Attached (not to include the details shown above) ...	5	35																									
Attached for Rations only ...																											
Civilians Employed with and Accompanying the Unit ...																											
‡ Detached from and struck off effective strength of own Unit ...																											
‡ Detached from but retained on effective strength of own unit ...																											
TOTAL RATIONED ...	40	720		11	9	3	26	3																			

Chaplanis + Batmen 2.1
Amc 2
Interpreters 2
John Major Plunkett 1.3
Lw. Sec. Section 1
Education Officer 1.
avenses Requist 1.21
do Comual 5

5.35

* Blank columns to be used for W.A.A.C. Natives or as may be required.

† In the case of field ambulances, hospitals or depots, the number of patients are to be included here, the names being shown in A.F.A. 36.
‡ These details to be enumerated by arms.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch.

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Presentation Of Medals by H.R.H. the Prince of WAles 28/12/18.

15th Australian Infantry Brigade.
26th December, 1918.

To 59th Battalion ,

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will review the Brigade Group at an early date (probably 28th inst.) and present medals and ribbons to those who have not already received them.

Unit Commanders will take every opportunity to have equipment overhauled and cleaned before that date.

Details will be issued.

Sgd/ R.Gollan, Captain.
Brigade Major, 15th Aust. Inf. Brigade A.I.F.

To 59th Battalion ,

Reference presentation medals by H.R.H. Prince of Wales should fine weather prevail, parade will be held in grounds of CHATEAU at 1145 28th inst. Markers with parade states and one guide per unit to report Staff Captain, H.Qrs., 1100. Also recipients of decorations. (Only those whose names were checked with units today). at same time ~~ada~~ Dress - drill order, except recipients who will not carry rifles. Overcoats to be worn, hats turned up ~~ada~~ Should weather be unfavorable, units will be advised by wire that the following instructions will apply ~~ada~~ Only recipients will parade at H.Qrs. and the C.O., second in Command, Adjt., and Company Commanders of Battalions ~~ada~~ All to be at Bde. H.Qrs. at 1100 when arrangements will be made for medals to be presented indoors ~~ada~~ No educational classes will be suspended ~~ada~~ Definite orders will be wired units at 0800 tomorrow 28th inst. The word FINE being used if full Parade to be held, and WET if indoor ceremony only ~~ada~~ In event of FINE units will be in position by 1130.

27/12/18.

Sgd/ 15th Brigade.

To 59th Battalion,

WET.

Sgd/ 15th A.I. Bde.

Nominal Roll of other ranks for presentation of decorations.

3171	Sgt. P.L. Little	M.M. D.C.M.
6069	L/CPL O. Rasmussen	M.M.
1938	Cpl. J. Murtagh	M.M.
2213	L/Cpl D.H. McDonald	M.M.
4447	Pte. L.W. Bugg	M.M.
2888	Pte J.A. Cameron	M.M.
2035	Pte S.L. Dumont	M.M.
6104	Pte R.G. Traill	M.M.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUN.15th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE GROUP.

1. The Cross-Country Run (postponed from the 18th inst.) will be held tomorrow, 30th inst..
2. The Race will start at 14.30 and will start and finish from the open ground immediately WEST of point 186 (4.L.33-10 - VALENCIENNES 1/100-000). The route to be followed by the competitors will permit of them being seen by the spectators practically all the way from start to finish.
3. The number of teams from the 5th Machine Gun Battalion has been reduced to two; Brigade Headquarters team will not start but will form a composite team with the 15th A.L.T.M.B and 15th Field Ambulance. There are 15 teams of 20 men each who will start; total 300. competitors. The Committee have decided that where Battalions can raise Battalion Headquarters teams that these be permitted to compete.
4. A Trophy valued at 400 Francs will be awarded the winning team. H.R.H., the Prince of Wales will be invited to attend and there will be a representative gathering from other Units of the Division.
5. The conditions will be the same as were issued for the 18th inst..

6. Judges: The following Officials have been appointed:

Starter: Brig.-Gen. H.E. ELLIOTT, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M.

Judges : Lieut.Col. C.A. DENNIXY, D.S.O.
 Lieut.Col. J.J. SCANTLAN, D.S.O.
 Major H.D.G. FLETCHER, D.S.O., D.C.
 Captain J.S. McCOLL.
 Lieut.Col. WALSH.
 Major WRIGHT.

Recorder: Lieut. J.S. ANDERSON.

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SYLLABUS OF TRAINING FOR PERIOD 30th DECEMBER 1918 TO 14th JANUARY 1919L

1918.		
Dec. 30th.	"A" Company. - Range Practice Other Companies - Specialist Training	0930 to 1200.
" 31st.	Battalion Parade.	0930 to 1200
Jan. 1st.	NEW YEAR'S DAY - HOLIDAY.	
" 2nd.	"B" Coy. - Range Practice Other Companies - Company Drill, Guards and Sentries.	0930 to 1200
3rd.	Battalion Bathe.	
4th.	"C" Coy - Range Practice Other Companies - Interior Economy	0930 to 1200
5th.	Church Parade	
6th.	"D" Coy - Range Practice Other Companies - As for 30th December	0930 to 1200
7th.	Battalion Parade	0930 to 1200
8th.	"A" Coy. - Range Practice Other Companies - Route March	0930 to 1200
9th.	"A" Coy. - Route March Other Companies - Specialist Training	0930 to 1200
10th.	"B" Coy. - Range Practice Other Companies - As for 2nd January.	0930 to 1200
11th.	Company Parade - Ceremonial, Guards & Sentries	0930 to 1200
12th.	Church Parade	
13th.	Battalion Bathe	
14th.	"C" Coy. - Range Practice Other Companies - Specialist Training.	

MONDAY

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59th BATTALION A.I.F.

Appendix No. 32

EDUCATION.

PROVISIONAL TIME TABLE.

o:o

0930 - 1030

1030 - 1130

1330 - 1430

1430 ± 1530.

Monday.	Shorthand	English.	Bookkeeping.	German.
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Tuesday.	Arithmetic	Algebra.		French.
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Wednesday.	Shorthand	English	Bookkeeping	German.
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Thursday.	Arithmetic	Geometry & Trigonometry.		French.
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Friday.	Shorthand	English	Bookkeeping	German.
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Saturday.	Arithmetic	Algebra		French.
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LEAVE TO BRUSSELS.

(extract Brigade Routine Orders)

Commencing 27th December a Leave Train will run from CHARLEROI to BRUSSELS, leaving CHARLEROI at 1439.

The Brigade allotment at present is 2 other ranks Per day, which will be allotted as follows:-

57th Bn.	2	31st.
58th Bn.	2	1st.
59th Bn.	2	2nd.
15th A.L.T.M.B.	1	3rd.
Brigade H.Q.	1	3rd.

and thereafter in above order until further notice.

Should any unit be unable to fill vacancies allotted, this office will be notified by wire at earliest.

Officers and men proceeding will report to the R.T.O. CHARLEROI one hour previous to the departure of the train.

Tickets will cost 1 franc 60 cents return and will have the time of leaving BRUSSELS stamped on the back.

Passes may be issued by Brigade Headquarters for leave not exceeding 48 hours on ARMY FORM W.3105 and all applications for leave in excess of 48 hours must be forwarded to Aust. Corps through this office.

On arrival in BRUSSELS, Officers will report to Commandant and other ranks will report to D.A.P.M.

-----00\$00-----

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59th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix No. 34

To O.C., All Companies.

31st December 1918.

POINTS NOTICED ON INSPECTION THIS MORNING.

Hair not cut regulation length.

Boots had not been dubbed in several instances.

Ill fitting equipment.

Colors on tunics were torn in several instances.

Tunic pockets stuffed full of souvenirs etc.

Chin straps missing.

"D" Coy. were the only Company with the equipment shoulder straps correct, viz., right over left.

The hats could be improved in many cases by being ironed.

Rifle slings not correctly put on the rifles.

Fastening of belts could be more uniform.

In future on all Battalion parades, Companies will be sized before moving on to the Battalion parade Ground.

Sgd/ E. Ormond Baker, Lieut.
Adjutant, 59th Battalion A.I.F.

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59th Battalion A.I.F. ?

Appendix No.. 35

Sick Wastage Return for week ending January 1st 1919.

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Date	Evacuated to Field Ambulance		Returned from Field Ambulance		Evacuated out of Divisional Area.	
	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.	Off.	O/rs.
Dec. 26th.	-	1	-	1	-	-
27th.	-	3	-	-	-	-
28th.	-	-	-	-	-	-
29th.	-	1	-	1	-	-
30th.	-	1	-	-	-	-
31st.	-	2	-	-	-	-
Jan. 1st.	-	1	-	-	-	-

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Headquarters,
15th Australian Infantry Brigade,
31st December, 1918.

Following are the results of the Group Cross-Country Run held yesterday, 30th inst..

Teams in order of finishing:

1st	"C"	Company	59th Battalion	1044 Points	(20 finished).
2nd	"B"	Company	59th Battalion	1350 Points	(20 finished).
3rd	"A"	Company	57th Battalion	1537 Points	(20 finished).
4th	"A"	Company	59th Battalion	1625 Points	(19 finished).
5th	"D"	Company	58th Battalion	2021 Points	(20 finished).
6th	"B"	Company	57th Battalion	2137 Points	(20 finished).
7th	"C"	Company	57th Battalion	2589 Points	(19 finished).
8th	"C"	Company	58th Battalion	2710 Points	(18 finished).
9th	"B"	Company	58th Battalion	3059 Points	(19 finished).
10th	"D"	Company	57th Battalion	3165 Points	(8 finished).
11th	"A"	Company	58th Battalion	3234 Points	(12 finished).

Team places by Battalions:

57th Battalion:

"A"	Company	1537 Points	(3rd).
"B"	Company	2137 Points	(6th).
"C"	Company	2589 Points	(7th).
"D"	Company	3165 Points	(10th).

58th Battalion:

"D"	Company	2021 Points	(5th).
"C"	Company	2710 Points	(8th).
"B"	Company	3059 Points	(9th).
"A"	Company	3234 Points	(11th).

59th Battalion:

"C"	Company	1044 Points	(1st).
"B"	Company	1350 Points	(2nd).
"A"	Company	1625 Points	(4th).


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5 59th Battalion A.I.F.

Appendix No. 37.

RETURN OF FAT FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1918.

Amount of fat saved and returned : 370 lbs.



59th Battalion A.I.F.

Transport Officer's Diary for the month of December 1918.

Routine.

Reveille,	7n a.m.	
Stables,	7.15 a.m.	
Breakfast	8 a.m.	
Parade	9 a.m.	Grooming, Harness Cleaning.
Stables	12	
Dinner	12.30 p.m.	
Parade	2 p.m.	Harness Cleaning etc.
Stables	4 p.m.	
Tea	5 p.m.	
Picquet Mounts	6 p.m.	

Work for the past month has been very brisk. The daily average of teams on duty was 9.

Moved from FAVRIL on 7th December into our present billet, which is the best we have had to date.

All stables have been white washed. Lieut-Col. Henry, D.A.D.V.S., inspected the animals on 12th December and was highly pleased at the condition they were in. He gave us instructions to start clipping and made arrangements for rugs to be drawn. Though some difficulty was experienced in obtaining machines and spare parts, all our animals have been clipped and are in excellent nick at the present time.

The harness was inspected on the following day by an officer of the 5th Divisional Train, who remarked that it was the best in the Brigade.

Capt. C.W. Lay, 15th Brigade, made an informal visit to the lines on the same day and was greatly pleased with what he saw.

Since our arrival here, a considerable amount of work has been done for the civilians, - three teams proceeding daily to AULNOYE (12 kilos) for coal which is delivered to their houses.

Wood, vegetables etc. has been carted to all Companies and Messes every second day.

Also timber carted for Battalion and 15th Field Engineers.

3 N.C.O's and 4 men marched out on furlough to AUSTRALIA.

2 Drivers, Lineham and Gould, were promoted to Sergeant and Corporal respectively.

One pack mule was lost during the month, and up to time of writing has not been traced. A Board of Inquiry is dealing with the loss of this animal.

R. Callander, Lieut.
Transport Officer, 59th Battalion A.I.F.

1/1/19.

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Regimental Quartermaster's Diary for the month of December 1918.

:o

Dec. 1st.

LOCATION. RUE du BOIS, FAVRIL.

All tradesmen busy on respective duties. Sanitary accommodation being completed. Rations good and normal again.

General Routine. Warned to move forward on 6th inst. Loaded Transport and moved at 8.30 a.m. on 7th inst. for SEMOUSIES.

Arrived at destination about 3 p.m. Unloaded, distributed blankets and rations to Battalion.

New area in a very unsanitary condition. Pioneers make latrine seats and generally bring sanitation up to usual standard.

Stores arriving from D.A.D.O.S. in small quantities. Indents for all mobilization stores submitted to D.A.D.O.S. by 16th inst. as per Brigade Routine Orders.

Bootmakers repairing boots of Battalion and have them practically all in good order. Tailors mending and repairing clothes and kept very busy. Battalion hats are being blocked and cleaned. Fat Renderer's returns for the month were 370 lbs. This is the lowest amount returned to date, the decrease being due to several issues of Preserved Meat and Mutton, which does not produce much surplus fat.

Comforts drawn as follows:-

32 cases Xmas Boxes and 2 cases of Battalion goods which were distributed, every rank in the Battalion receiving one box.

Salvage and general returns were exceptionally good.

1/1/19.

Reg. Quartermaster 59th Batt. A.I.F.