

AWM4

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

Tunnelling & Survey

Item number: 16/3/24

Title: 2nd Australian Tunnelling Company

November 1918



AWM4-16/3/24

2 nd AUSTRALIAN TUNNELLING COMPANY.

APPENDIX

Location for month -----FRIVILLE-ESCARBOTIN.

SUMMARY.

The beginning of the month found the Company resting at FRIVILLE-ESCARBOTIN. On the 1st word was received from the C.R.E., Corps Troops Australian Corps that a recreation hut was to be sent and erected for the benefit of this Company and the 1st Army Troops Coy. A.E. who were billeted in ESCARBOTIN. Arrangements were made for the Army Troops Coy. to erect the hut.

Sports of all kinds were indulged in, the Football Competition being that of most general interest. This Competition was completed just before the Company left the rest area and resulted in a win for No. 2 Section, No. 3 Section being runners-up.

Arrangements were made for the men of the Company to visit EU by motor lorries to attend concerts given by the Anzac Coves there. These were greatly enjoyed by the men.

On the 11th, the news of the signing of the Armistice was received and caused great rejoicing among the troops and the civilians.

On the 20th instructions regarding a "Move to the Rhine" were received from 5th Australian Division to which the Unit was attached for this move. After the preliminary general instructions, the times of trains and stations of Entraining and Detraining were communicated. These showed the Company to be leaving PONT REMY on No. 22 Train at 0.55 hours on 29/11/1918.

Owing to delays, this train did not leave until 14.30 hours on 30/11/1918.

The Company marched out from FRIVILLE-ESCARBOTIN at 09.00 hrs on 28/11/18 and marched to ST MAXENT where Headquarters, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Sections occupied Billets for the night, No. 4 Section occupied Billets at WACHEVILLE close to ST MAXENT. On the morning of the 29th the Company marched out from ST MAXENT and WACHEVILLE and arrived at ERONDELLE and occupied billets there until such time as the train on which the Company were to travel arrived. At 4.30 hours the Company vacated the Billets at ERONDELLE and marched to PONT REMY and eventually entrained at 14.30 hours, for BERTRY.

DETACHMENTS.

Lieut. G. A. COOK temporarily attached to Engineer-in Chief, G. H. Q on 7/11/18.

Lieut. L. L. WRATHALL temporarily attached to Australian Corps Workshops, 9/11/1918.

Lieut. N. J. P. BROOME temporarily attached to Australian Corps Workshop, 11/11/1918.

Lieut. D. BRIGSTOCKE attached to C.R.E., Corps Troops Australian Corps for repairs to A.I.F. Cemetery POZIERES.

APPENDIX

- November 1st Weather dull but fine.
Company Resting. Sections Parades held at which Section Training was carried out.
- November 2nd Weather dull with little rain.
Company Sports held on Football Ground. 59th Battalion attended and gave an excellent programme of music.
- November 3rd Weather fine.
Usual Section Parades held.
- November 4th Weather fine.
Congratulatory letters on work of Company received, see Appendix No. IX.
- November 5th Weather fine. C.R.E., Corps Troops
Letter received from Australian Corps stating that Military Medals had been awarded to No. 580 Sergt. J.A. HAMILTON and No. 852 Corpl. W.A. MC NAUGHTON.
- November 6th Weather dull.
Usual Section Parades held at which Section Training was carried out.
- November 7th Weather Wet resulting in the cancelation of all Parades.
- November 8th Weather Wet.
Further Company Christmas Cards issued, making the total of 8 per man complete.
- November 9th Weather fine and frosty.
Lieut. L.L. WRATHALL left for temporary relieving duty at Australian Corps Workshops.
- November 10th Weather fine.
Usual Section Parades held.
- November 11th Weather dull.
Lieut. N.J.P. BROOME left to relieve Lieut. Wrathall at Australian Corps Workshops.
- November 12th Weather dull.
Usual Section Parades held.
- November 13th Weather fine and frosty.
Usual Parades held and sports indulged in.
- November 14th Weather fine.
Usual Parades held.
- November 15th Weather fine.
Lieut. D. BRIGSTOCKE and a party of O. Rs. marched in to Unit ex ~~XXXXXX~~ A.G.B.D.
1000th day since the Company embarked from Australia.
- November 16th Weather fine.
Sports Meeting held on Football Ground, 33rd Battalion Band attended and gave programme of music. Y.M.C.A. Recreation Hut opened at night by O.C., and a concert held.
- November 17th Weather fine.
Boxing Tournament held at which the 33rd Battalion Band attended and gave a programme of music.
Orders received from C.E., Australian Corps to send a party to POZIERES to execute repairs to the A.I.F. Cemetery there.
- November 18th Weather fine.
Lieut. Brigstocke and a party of 20 O. Rs. proceeded to POZIERES to repair A.I.F. Cemetery.

APPENDIX

- November Weather dull.
19th Usual Section Parades held.
- November Weather fine.
20th Company Photographed on Company Parade.
Circular Memo.No.106 received from 5th Australian Division detailing general arrangements for "Move to the Rhine".
- November Weather fine.
21st Circular Memo.No.107 received from 5th Australian Division, this dealt further with arrangements for the "Move to the Rhine".
- November Weather fine.
22nd 5th Australian Divisional Instruction No.5 on "Move to the Rhine" received.
Medical and kit Inspections carried out throughout Company in accordance with the "Move to the Rhine" Instructions received.
~~23rd~~
- November Weather fine.
23rd Medical and Kit Inspections of the Company completed.
- November Weather wet.
24th No Parades held.
- November Weather fine.
25th For particulars of awards made to Officers and O.Rs.of the Company see letter from C.R.E., Aust. Corps Troops (Appendix No.
- November Weather wet.
26th Movement Order No.1 issued by O.C., see Appendix No.
- November Weather wet.
27th No Parades held.
- November Company marched out from FRIVILLE-ESCARBOTIN at 09.00 hours for
28th ST MAXENT and WACHEVILLE. Weather wet. Billets occupied for the night.
Movement Order No.2 issued. See Appendix No.
- November Weather wet.
29th Company marched out from ST MAXENT and WACHEVILLE and marched to ERONDELLE where they camped in Billets for the night.
- November Company marched out from ERONDELLE at 04.30 hours and arrived at
30th PONT REMY at 05.30 hours. Much delay was experienced in entraining which finally took place at 14.30 hours and the train left PONT REMY at 20.00 hours.