

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/94/3

Title: 14th Training Battalion

December 1917



AWM4-23/94/3

WAR DIARY

DECEMBER 1917

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

PAGE 1.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																														
CODFORD	1-12-17		Battalion carried out Route March today.																															
	2-12-17		Church Parade Sunday																															
	3-12-17		Training as per syllabus. A series of Lectures of Cypher, Map Reading, Field Sketching, and Signalling by Lieut. J.H. Facey Signalling Officer was commenced this evening in Regimental Institute No. 5 Camp. "C" Range for week ending 8-12-17 was allotted to this Unit.																															
	-12-17		Kit Inspections and V.D. Inspections held this morning. Training as per syllabus continued as from 10-15 a.m. The following other ranks proceeded overseas this day and were struck off strength:- <table data-bbox="909 813 2090 1009"> <tr> <td>29th.....</td> <td>7</td> <td>Signallers</td> <td>53rd.....</td> <td>Four</td> <td>Riflemen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31st.....</td> <td>11</td> <td>"</td> <td>5 th.....</td> <td>Two</td> <td>Riflemen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>53rd. ..</td> <td>Four</td> <td>"</td> <td>56th.....</td> <td>Fourty</td> <td>"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>56th. ...</td> <td>3</td> <td>"</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>58th....</td> <td>Four</td> <td>"</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	29th.....	7	Signallers	53rd.....	Four	Riflemen	31st.....	11	"	5 th.....	Two	Riflemen	53rd. ..	Four	"	56th.....	Fourty	"	56th. ...	3	"				58th....	Four	"				
29th.....	7	Signallers	53rd.....	Four	Riflemen																													
31st.....	11	"	5 th.....	Two	Riflemen																													
53rd. ..	Four	"	56th.....	Fourty	"																													
56th. ...	3	"																																
58th....	Four	"																																
	5-12-17		Training continued as per Syllabus.																															
	6-12-17		Eight Other Ranks Category men transferred to Weymouth this day and struck off strength. Battalion supplied Brigade duties today. Training as per syllabus.																															
	7-12-17		The following competitions were held this morning:- <table data-bbox="638 1264 2713 1519"> <tr> <td>GROUP "A" Competition No. Four</td> <td>GROUP "B" Competition No. 7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-----</td> <td>-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Squad Drill and Rifle Exercises.</td> <td>Lewis Gun Competition.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Competition No. 5</u></td> <td><u>Competition No. 8</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guard Mounting Competition.</td> <td>Individual Bayonet Fighting.</td> </tr> </table>	GROUP "A" Competition No. Four	GROUP "B" Competition No. 7	-----	-----	Squad Drill and Rifle Exercises.	Lewis Gun Competition.	<u>Competition No. 5</u>	<u>Competition No. 8</u>	Guard Mounting Competition.	Individual Bayonet Fighting.																					
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<u>Competition No. 5</u>	<u>Competition No. 8</u>																																	
Guard Mounting Competition.	Individual Bayonet Fighting.																																	
			Field Firing Battle practices were carried out this afternoon as under:-																															
			2-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m. One Platoon 3-15 p.m. to Four p.m. One Platoon																															
			A Concert was given in No. 5 Camp Concert Hall this evening.																															

(A5004) Wt W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

DECEMBER 1917

PAGE 2.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CODFORD	8-12-17		The Battalion carried out Route March today Dress Full Marching Order.	
	9-12-17		Sunday Church Parade.	
	10-12-17		"C" Range was allotted this Unit for week ending 15-12-17. Remainder of Training as per Syllabus. 2/Lieut.Griffin F.H. and 2/Lieut.Webb C.H. 53rd. Battalion proceeded overseas to rejoin Unit.	
	11-12-17		Lieut.W.H.Edison 56th.Battalion promoted to Rank of Captain dated 1-11-17 A.I.F.List 267 of Fourth December 1917. Voting for the Military Service Referendum commenced today. The undermentioned Officers acted as authorised witnesses:- Lieut.A.O.Thompson 53rd. Lieut. S. Towns 31st. Lieut.H.L.Davies 56th. Lieut.J.F.Somerville Fifty Fourth. Twenty Other Ranks marched in from Overseas Training Brigade today and were taken on strength of the 5th.Divisional Signalling School.	
	12-12-1917		The following are the results of the General Musketry Course fired at Codford for week ending 8-12-1917:- 118 men completed Aggregate 83.21 Marksmen First Class 2nd.Class 3rd.Class 6 Fourty Four 55 13 The following obtained the best Shooting result:- 306 L/Cpl.Tulk W.R. 31st. 137 Points. 3750 Cpl.White J. 53rd. 131 points. (3723 Sgt.Willimas W.H.) 130 points The results of Classification Test held at 5th.Divisional Signal School were as follows:- 13 Passed. 8 Failed to Pass.	
	13-12-17		Field Firing Practice was carried out this morning from 11 a.m. to Eleven Fourty Five a.m. Thirty Rounds S.A. per man was allowed and four Magazines for Lewis Gun. Two Companies of No.Four Composite Battalion paraded today.	

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WAR DIARY

FOURTEENTH TRAINING BATTALION A.I.F. Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

DECEMBER 1917

PAGE 3

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices															
CODFORD	13-12-1917		<p>Continued:- The undermentioned other ranks proceeded overseas today:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>31st...12</td> <td>29th....1</td> <td>32nd....5</td> <td>30th....8</td> <td>53rd....1</td> <td>Fifty Fourth....1</td> <td>55th... 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>57th... 3</td> <td>58th....1</td> <td>56th....1</td> <td>60th....3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>A Concert was given in No.5 Camp this evening.</p>	31st...12	29th....1	32nd....5	30th....8	53rd....1	Fifty Fourth....1	55th... 6	57th... 3	58th....1	56th....1	60th....3					
31st...12	29th....1	32nd....5	30th....8	53rd....1	Fifty Fourth....1	55th... 6													
57th... 3	58th....1	56th....1	60th....3																
	14-12-17		<p>The undermentioned Reinforcement Officers proceeded overseas today and were struck off strength:- 2/Lieut.F.Beer 30th. 2/Lieut.C.E.Harrold 30th. 2/Lieut.H.Miller 31st. 2/Lieut.C.K.Unwin 31st. The Battalion supplied Brigade duties today. A Conference of Quartermasters was held at 2 p.m.</p>																
	15-12-17		<p>The result of Field Firing Practice carried out at Codford Range on 13-12-17 was as under:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1st.</td> <td>Fourteenth T.B.</td> <td>172 Hits</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd.</td> <td>12th.T.B.</td> <td>163 "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3rd.</td> <td>13th.T.B.</td> <td>150 "</td> </tr> </table> <p>Kit Inspections were held from 8-50 a.m. to 10 a.m. Training then continued as per syllabus.</p>	1st.	Fourteenth T.B.	172 Hits	2nd.	12th.T.B.	163 "	3rd.	13th.T.B.	150 "							
1st.	Fourteenth T.B.	172 Hits																	
2nd.	12th.T.B.	163 "																	
3rd.	13th.T.B.	150 "																	
	16-12-17		<p>Sunday Church Parades.</p>																
	17-12-17		<p>Capt.D.P.Walker 31st.Battalion appointed Second in Command vice Capt.W.L.Smallhorn 57th.Battn. Training continued as per syllabus.</p>																
	18-12-17		<p>The results of the General Musketry Course fired at Codford Range for week ending 15-12-17 were as under:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Fourty Two men completed</td> <td>Aggregate 80.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MARKSMEN</td> <td>FIRST CLASS</td> <td>SECOND CLASS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>THIRD CLASS.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>9</td> </tr> </table> <p>The following obtained the best shooting results:- 3622 Pte Farley K. 53rd. 133 points 3700 Pte Souter 53rd. 127 points 512 Pte Janvrin D.30th. 127 p</p>	Fourty Two men completed		Aggregate 80.93	MARKSMEN	FIRST CLASS	SECOND CLASS	3	16	17			THIRD CLASS.			9	<p style="text-align: right;">e</p>
Fourty Two men completed		Aggregate 80.93																	
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		THIRD CLASS.																	
		9																	

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DECEMBER 1917

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PAGE FOUR

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CODFORD	18-12-17		<p>CONTINUED:- The undermentioned other ranks proceeded overseas today and were struck off strength:-</p> <p>53rd.....1 Fifty Fourth....10 55th.....5 56th.....5 60th....1 30th....1 31st...2 33rd....16 Fou2ty Second...12</p>	
	19-12-17		<p>The Battalion supplied Brigade duties today. The undermentioned were appointed as a Messing Committee to meet every Wednesday morning at 9-30 a.m. at the Messing Office:- C.Q.M.S. of "A" "B" and "C" Companies and 5th.Divisional Signalling School. Sgt.Cook, Pte representing each Company and Signal School. Training continued as per syllabus.</p>	
	20-12-1917		<p>Training continued as per syllabus.</p>	
	21-12-17		<p>Battalion carried out Route March today.</p>	
	22-12-17		<p>Training continued as per syllabus. Capt .H. A. Roberts 56th. Battalion detailed to sit as President of the Garrison Board of Supplies for week commencing 2 -12-1917.</p>	
	23-12-17		<p>Training as per syllabus.</p>	
	2 -12-17		<p>Battalion supplied Brigade duties today. The undermentioned other ranks having proceeded overseas today were struck off strength:- 30th.....1 31st.....3 Fifty Fourth....1 55th....1 56th.....3 57th.....1.</p>	
	25-12-17		<p>Christmas Day. Battalion Church Parade was held at 9-50 a.m. A special menu was provided at mens meals and generally the comfort and consideration of the men received primary attention which with highly satisfactory results. The Officers and N.C.O's waited upon the men. The whole days proceedings characterised by a delightful sense camaraderie of all ranks. Concerts were provided in the afternoon and evening. Capt.R.C. Aland (MC) relinquished the command of "A" Company to supervise the Drill Work of the Battalion. Capt.C.D.Savage appointed O.C."A" Company.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

DECEMBER 1917

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PAGE 5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
CODFORD	26-12-17		Boxing Day. A Concert was held at 7-30 p.m. in Camp No. 5 Theatre.									
	27-12-17		<p>Battalion supplied Brigade duties today. Lieut. L.V. Horniman 55th. Battalion having qualified as Signalling Instructor at Dunstable School was posted to 5th. Divisional Signal School and to Command as from 28-12-1917 vice Lieut. Facey J.H. 30th. Battalion returned to duty with his Company</p> <p>The undermentioned other ranks proceeded overseas today:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>From 30th. to 35th.....21</td> <td>From 31st. to 41st.....102</td> <td>53rd.....2</td> <td>Fifty Fourth.....2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>55th.....1</td> <td>56th.....5</td> <td>57th.....2</td> <td>58th.....2</td> </tr> </table> <p>The undermentioned Officers and other ranks marched in from Australia and were taken on strength:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10/Fifty Fourth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2/Lieut. J.B. Cobcroft and 2/Lieut. J.B. Viccars. One Hundred and Fourty Seven other Ranks. 10/55th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capt. S. A. Pinkstone and 2/Lieut. R.B. Kerr One hundred and fourty two other ranks. 10/56th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2/Lieut. G. Darlow and 2/Lieut. H. Saunderson One hundred and fourty four other ranks. 	From 30th. to 35th.....21	From 31st. to 41st.....102	53rd.....2	Fifty Fourth.....2	55th.....1	56th.....5	57th.....2	58th.....2	
From 30th. to 35th.....21	From 31st. to 41st.....102	53rd.....2	Fifty Fourth.....2									
55th.....1	56th.....5	57th.....2	58th.....2									
	28-12-17		One Platoon carried out Field Firing practice this morning from 9 a.m. to 9-50 a.m. remainder of Training as per syllabus.									
	29-12-17		Lieut. J.S. Byrne 55th. Battn. proceeded overseas today and was struck off strength Training continued as per syllabus.									
	30-12-17		Sunday Church Parades. Battalion supplied Brigade duties today.									
	31-12-17		<p>Conference of Adjutants with Brigade Major 3rd. Training Brigade held at 2 p.m. today. The January relief of Permanent Cadre N.C.O's as under proceeded overseas today:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>30th.....3</td> <td>31st.....2</td> <td>53rd.....3</td> <td>Fifty Fourth.....2</td> <td>55th....3</td> <td>56th....3</td> </tr> </table>	30th.....3	31st.....2	53rd.....3	Fifty Fourth.....2	55th....3	56th....3			
30th.....3	31st.....2	53rd.....3	Fifty Fourth.....2	55th....3	56th....3							
CODFORD	22-1-1918		<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Douglas Walker</i> Capt., For Major, Commanding, 14th. Training Battalion A.I.F.</p>									

CODFORD 22-1-1918

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
7AB004) Wt W1771/M2931 750,000 5/17 Sch. 82 Forms/C2118/14

Douglas Walker
..... Capt.,
For Major, Commanding, 14th. Training Battalion A.I.F.

FOURTEENTH TRAINING BATTALION A.I.F. 6

APPENDIX "A"

DECEMBER 1918

HEADQUARTERS

APPOINTMENT	RANK	NAME	UNIT
C.O.	MAJOR.	P. A. M. ECKERSLEY	31st.
2nd. I/C	CAPT.	D. P. WALKER	"
ASST. ADJUT.	LIEUT.	T. P. L. GRACE	56th.
QUARTERMASTER	CAPT.	W. C. RILEY	32nd.
MUSKETRY OFFR.	LIEUT.	NEWALL H. R.	31st.
BOMBING OFFR.	LIEUT.	K. N. WARK (DCM)	54th.
MESSING OFFR.	LIEUT.	H. S. MILNE	53rd.

"A" COMPANY

O.C. & ADJT. SUBALTERN	CAPT.	P. C. ECKERSLEY	31st
	CAPT.	C. D. SAVAGE	30th.
	CAPT.	R. C. ALAND (MC)	31st
	LIEUT.	D. VINCENT	30th.
	LIEUT.	S. TOWNS	31st.

"B" COMPANY

O.C. SUBALTERN	CAPT.	A. P. VINE HALL	54th.
	LIEUT.	A. O. THOMPSON	53rd.
	LIEUT.	S. C. ROBERTSON	"
	LIEUT.	R. A. SMITH	54th.
	LIEUT.	C. UPFOLD	"

"C" COMPANY

O.C. SUBALTERN	CAPT.	H. A. ROBERTS	56th.
	LIEUT.	H. MILLER	55th.
	LIEUT.	L. CHADWICK	"
	LIEUT.	H. L. DAVIES	56th.
	LIEUT.	W. H. PRIVETE	"

ATTACHED OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER	CAPT.	J. V. J. DUHIG	A. A. M. C.
DENTAL OFFICER	CAPT.	W. G. ROBINSON	A. A. D. C. 20th.

REINFORCEMENT OFFICERS

2/LIEUT.	J. C. COBCROFT	10/54th.
"	S. C. VICCARS	"
CAPT.	S. A. PINKSTONE	55th.
2/LIEUT.	R. B. KERR	10/55th.
"	G. DARLOW	10/56th.
"	W. SAUNDERSON	"

PERMANENT CADRE RELIEVED.

CAPT.	W. H. SMALLHORN	57th.
"	W. H. EDISON	56th.
LIEUT.	J. H. FACEY	30th.

OTHER OFFICERS

LIEUT.	L. JUDD (HOSPITAL)	P. S. L.
LIEUT.	J. F. SOMERVILLE	54th. SIGNAL SCHOOL
LIEUT.	A. W. GARLAND	31st. ORDERLY OFFR.
LIEUT.	E. ALTHOUSE	53rd. L. G. OFFR.
LIEUT.	H. A. BLACKNEY	" SIGNAL SCHOOL
LIEUT.	L. V. HORNIMAN	55th. " "
LIEUT.	F. R. B. MYERS (DCM)	53rd. AWAITING D. C. M.

CODFORD
22-1-18

Douglas Clarke
For Major, Commanding Capt.
1th. Training Battalion A. I. F.

FOURTEENTH TRAINING BATTALION A.I.F.

DAILY STRENGTH

APPENDIX "B"

DECEMBER 1918

DATE	OFFRS.	PER. CAD.	OTHER RANKS		"A" CLASS	GRAND OFFICERS	TOTAL OTHER RANKS.
			A.	B. & C.			
1.	38	107		176	678	38	961
2	38	107		176	680	38	963
3	38	107		164	691	38	962
4	38	107		161	692	38	960
5.	38	107		160	617	38	894
6	38	107		151	613	38	871
7	38	107		151	613	38	871
9	38	107		151	613	38	871
10	38	107		151	613	38	871
11	38	107		151	613	38	871
12	38	107		151	613	38	871
13	37	107		151	613	37	871
14	37	124		158	601	37	883
15	33	112		170	603	33	885
16	33	111		172	592	33	875
17	34	111		172	592	34	875
18	33	111		169	591	33	871
19	33	111		168	535	33	814
20	34	111		168	534	34	813
21	34	111		166	534	34	811
22	34	111		166	535	34	812
23	34	111		170	536	34	817
24	34	111		170	535	34	816
25	34	111		170	522	34	803
26	34	111		170	521	34	802
27	40	111		170	954	40	1235
28	40	111		170	817	40	1098
29	39	111		169	817	39	1097
30	40	111		169	817	40	1097
31	40	111		169	817	40	1097

CODFORD
22-1-1918

Douglas Dyer
.....Capt.,
For Major, Commanding,
14th. Training Battalion A.I.F.

FOURTEENTH TRAINING BATTALION A. I. F.

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December 1917

APPENDIX "C"

SCHOOLS ATTENDED BY OFFICERS AND N.C.O.'s AND RESULTS.

NO.	RANK	NAME	UNIT	NAME OF SCHOOL	DATE OF COMPLETION	RESULT.
2525	CPL.	PIDGEON H.	30th.	TIDWORTH)	30-11-17	2nd. Class Pass
4795	SGT.	ROSS E.C.	31st.	LEWIS GUN)	"	1st. " "
1060	SGT.	RADNELL H.V.	"	PT & BF ALDERSHOT)	21-11-17	GOOD
3025	SGT.	CLARK C.	54th.	BOMBING		QUALIFIED
4184	"	HALL H.A.	"	LYNDHURST)	25-11-17	"
3004	"	BATES A.	55th.	"	"	"
1801	CPL.	McHUGH J.	56th.	"	"	"
3579	SGT.	LAMBERT R.	54th.	JELLALABAD	25-11-17	GOOD
3205	CPL.	WINTER A.T.	55th.	"	"	FAIRLY GOOD
3150	CPL.	PERKINS J.A.	"	"	"	VERY GOOD
3026	"	STEVENSON A.	30th.	"	"	GOOD
4605	"	STILGOE	31st.	"	"	GOOD
1944	"	MAXWELL W.	53rd.	"	"	"
306	L/CPL.	TUIK W.R.	31st.	"	"	"
3461	CPL.	SMITH L.J.	53rd.	"	"	"
4977	SGT.	DUTNEY N.	30th.	"	17-12-17	VERY GOOD 97%
3723	"	WILLIAMS W.H.	53rd.	"	"	" "
3722	"	ADAMS C.A.	"	"	"	GOOD
3695	SGT.	SINCLAIR O.R.	53rd.	CANDAHAR	1-11-17	FAIR 69%
3608	SGT.	BYE J.W.O.	"	"	"	" 68%
4361	"	GILMOUR E.D.	30th.	"	"	" 60%
2781	"	MUNDEN H.	53rd.	"	"	" "
414	A/CPL.	DANIELS W.	30th.	"	"	GOOD 75%
4127	LIEUT.	CHADWICK L.	55th.	BF & PT	8-12-17	GOOD
	CPL.	AIRD W.T.	54th.	TIDWORTH)	"	P.T. GOOD BF. V.F.
	LIEUT.	WALTER R.	55th.	MUSKETRY) HAYL. ISL.)	23-11-17	QUALIFIED
	LIEUT.	BYRNE J.S.	"	MUSKETRY	30-11-17	1st. Class
4987	L/CPL.	BOSWELL E.C.	30th.	TIDWORTH)	"	2nd. "
1472	CPL.	CROFT T.	53rd.	"	"	1st. "
5022	A/CPL.	GREEN E.J.	31st.	"	"	1st. "
138	CPL.	MADDEN P.	54th.	"	"	1st. "
5432	SGT.	PAVEY R.	53rd.	"	"	1st. "
3644	L/CPL.	PHILPOTT J.C.	56th.	"	"	1st. "
3907	CPL.	REX E.H.	55th.	"	"	1st. "
341	CPL.	ARKELL M.D.	30th.	BOMBING)	15-12-17	1st. Class
3073	"	KERR H.J.	56th.	LYNDHURST)	"	2nd. "
346	L/CPL.	BATTIS D.	31st.	CANDAHAR	21-12-17	GOOD 75%
5031	"	HUDSON A.F.	"	"	"	VGOOD 81%
4575	"	NEILSEN R.J.	"	"	"	FAIR 69%

Angelo Clarke
..... Capt.,

CODFORD
22-1-1918

For Major, Commanding,
Fourteenth Training Battalion A.I.F.