

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/8/21

**Title:** 3rd Australian Machine Gun  
Company

November 1917



AWM4-24/8/21



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CHATEAU BELGE H23a 95 50	1-11-17		All preparations made for ½ the Co. to relieve 21 <sup>st</sup> MG guns at present doing barrage work in the line	Map BELGIUM
	2-11-17		Relief complete by 0400, and by daylight all 16 guns were laid on S.O.S. lines & other targets.	Sheet 28NW
	3-11-17		At 0530 guns answered S.O.S. signal, firing over 20,000 rounds SAA with usual deterrent effect.	
	4-11-17		Situation quiet, so usual fire on selected indirect targets was carried on without hindrance.	
	5-11-17		Usual harassing fire carried on, & preparations made to support Canadian attack tomorrow, on the left.	
	6-11-17		An interesting day. Between 0600 and 0800, 62,000 rounds were fired on Eddy & Easel trenches, and in the evening over 10,000 rounds were fired by the same guns, in instant response to a S.O.S. signal.	
	7-11-17		At 0800 the other ½ of the Co. which had remained in shelters at CHATEAU BELGE, relieved the half in the line, but Capt. D.V. MULHOLLAND remained in command in the line, leaving Lt. F.P. Bethune in charge of CHATEAU BELGE Camp. All guns were laid on their various targets & usual harassing fire carried on.	
	8-11-17		Usual shelling from the enemy, which did not seriously affect our programme of shooting.	
	9-11-17		Hostile shelling, offensive but ineffective. Our usual programme duly carried out.	
	10-11-17		A more interesting day. Over 40,000 rounds fired, commencing at 0605 for one hour, after which all guns were reloaded on S.O.S. lines.	
	11-11-17		Co. relieved by the 204 <sup>th</sup> Co. (English), and arrived back in camp at 0900. Had our first man killed this morning, our casualties in this attack having been exceptionally light as compared with our 2 previous attacks.	
	12-11-17		Marched out to OUDERDOM, where we caught a train composed of cattle trucks, as we are temporarily attached to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Brigade. We sat on the floors of the trucks for 4 hours journey, & then detrained & marched 2½ miles to HEURINGHEM, to find billets already occupied by A.S.C. Found others & got all men in comfortably by midnight.	

(A7092) Wt W12839/M1293 75 'o.o. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

*pp Bethune  
OK 14/11/17*



3<sup>d</sup> AUS. Machine Gun Company

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HEURINGHEM	13/11/17		Rested and checked gear, and made arrangements for a move tomorrow.	MAP
	14-11-17	0830	marched out, + reached LE FAY, about 15 miles away, at 4 p.m. and as usual no men fell out on the march	HAZEBROUCK SP.
	15-11-17		Cleaned up, and washed limbs, and rested in the afternoon	
	16-11-17		Specialist training, map reading + short route march. Sent Lieut ROACH + 2 O.R. as billeting party to SAMER	
	17-11-17		Route march, semaphore signalling and notification that destination has been altered + billeting party warned.	
ENQUIN SUR BAILLON	18-11-17		Marched out at 0930, + arrived at ENQUIN SUR BAILLON at 1300. The men are comfortably billeted here, and the officers luxuriously situated in the chateau of MAISON DU BLAISSEL d'ENQUIN. Billets are somewhat scattered	MAP
	19-11-17		Specialist training, + general cleaning up. Arrangements made for rental of a 25 yd. range.	CALAIS
	20-11-17		Specialist training and Co inspection.	13
	21-11-17		Route march. Football match in afternoon, followed by pay parade from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.	6 D90 92
	22-11-17		Capt D.V. MULHOLLAND left for 2 months duty at GRANTHAM, leaving Lt F.P. Belhune temporarily in command with Lt A. BAKER-FINCH as 2 <sup>nd</sup> in command.	
	23-11-17		Specialist training in morning. Recreational exercise in afternoon	
	24-11-17		Route march with Brigade Band + L.T.M. Battery for 9 miles. Col. Williams + Capt. Rogers inspected and approved proposed M.G. ranges in the afternoon.	
	25-11-17		R.C. Church Parade at PARENTY	
	26-11-17		Route march. Recreational training in afternoon.	
COURSE 5E0851	27-11-17		Marched out at 1015 and arrived new billets 1300. The men are all comfortably billeted in large barn at	Calais 13
Bois Julien	28-11-17		le Bois Julien Deserves for a very excellent hot bath.	
5D8966	29-11-17		Cleaned + washed limbs	
	30-11-17		Specialist training + pay parade.	

pp Belhune  
O/C 3<sup>d</sup> A.M.G. Co.