

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/8/22

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

December 1917



AWM4-24/8/22

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.

OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

3<sup>rd</sup> AM Coy

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
COURSE	1-12-17 to 12-12-17		Specialist training was carried out between these dates as per syllabus of training	Map Ref CALAIS 1/100,000
	2-12-17		Lieut. E. J. Scott, MC. & Lieut. V. H. Alless rejoined unit from 3 <sup>rd</sup> Brigade Topographical school Lieut. Suller, & Roach proceeded to Brigade Topographical school	
	3-12-17		Lieut. Baker Smith, Hoge, McLeod, & Warren, attended M. Gun Bazaar demonstration at GHQ small arms school, Camiers, owing to stormy weather, & high tide effect of fire could not be seen, after lunch a very instructive lecture by Col LINDSAY on the work of mines at Cambrai was delivered.	do
	4-12-17		Lieut. B. H. C. Millar rejoined unit from Camiers school.	
	5-12-17		Polling day for conscription vote. — 150 votes recorded	do
	6/12/17		Company paraded for baths at DESVRES.	do
	8/12/17		Lieut. Roach, & Suller returned from Brigade Topographical school.	do
	9/12/17		C.O. attended lecture at Brigade Headquarters, preliminary to his tactical exercises	do
	10/12/17		Lieut. Baker Smith proceeded to forward area to reconnoitre with a view to relief by this unit of the 8 <sup>th</sup> AM B Co.	do
	11-12-17		C.O. attended Tactical Exercises (without troops)	do
	13-12-17		Transport inspected by D.A.D.V.S.	do
			C.O. attended Tactical exercises (with troops)	do
			Co moved under Brigade arrangements by route march to LE BANQUET & LE FAY, leaving at 0820 and arriving at 1530	
LE BOUQUET	14/12/17		The Co transport moved under Brigade arrangements in charge of CAPT NIXON Co of 4 <sup>th</sup> Co. AASC. to ELINES	do
CAMPAGNETTE.	15/12/17		Co moved independently by route march to CAMPAGNETTE. Transport under CAPT NIXON to RENESCOUVE	HAREBRUCK 1/100,000
			Co moved out at 0300 by route march to WIZERNES entrained at this place at 0500 and arrived at LE KENNE SIDING & detrained at 1100. Every man had a drink of hot cocoa here from the Y.M.C.A. stall which was much appreciated. The Co was met by Lt Baker Smith & guide to quarters at Hillside Camp North	do
			Transport under CAPT NIXON moved from RENESCOUVE to STRAZEELE.	

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HILLSIDE CAMP NORTH	16-12-17		<p>The Co relieved the 8<sup>th</sup> A.M.G. Co. in the line, taking over 12 guns in all 8 worked, &amp; 4 in reserve at Co H.Q. — Co H.Q. situated at U.S. a 23. guns mounted as follows:—</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Right Sector. No 1 gun.</td> <td>U.S.C. 15.40</td> <td rowspan="4" style="font-size: 3em; vertical-align: middle;">}</td> <td rowspan="4" style="vertical-align: middle;">Section H.Q. at STENGNAST FARM. U.S.a 25.70.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">" 2 "</td> <td>U.S.a 33.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">" 3 "</td> <td>U.S.a 25.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">" 6 "</td> <td>U.4 d 60.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Left Sector No 4 gun.</td> <td>034 d 70.60</td> <td rowspan="4" style="font-size: 3em; vertical-align: middle;">}</td> <td rowspan="4" style="vertical-align: middle;">Section H.Q. at SEPTIEME BARN U.4 a 45.75.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;"></td> <td>035 a 20.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;"></td> <td>034 d 75.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;"></td> <td>035 d 65.60</td> </tr> </table> <p>Lieut. F.P. BETHUNE was in charge of the Co in the line. Lieut. Hoge M.C. in charge of Right Sector &amp; Lieut. WARREN M.C. in charge of left sector. Lieut. M.C. McKEOD being with C.O. at Co H.Q. Relief was completed without incident by 1800. Lieut. BAKER-FINCH &amp; the remainder of the Co remained at HILLSIDE CAMP NORTH.</p>	Right Sector. No 1 gun.	U.S.C. 15.40	}	Section H.Q. at STENGNAST FARM. U.S.a 25.70.	" 2 "	U.S.a 33.80	" 3 "	U.S.a 25.75	" 6 "	U.4 d 60.65	Left Sector No 4 gun.	034 d 70.60	}	Section H.Q. at SEPTIEME BARN U.4 a 45.75.		035 a 20.05		034 d 75.60		035 d 65.60	<p>Map Ref. Shot 28<sup>SW</sup> 4 post E.F. 1/20,000</p>
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	17-12-17		The situation forward was normal. The hours of dusk & dawn were spent by the C.O. & Lieut. McKEOD in reconnoitering the Brigade area, & prospective gun positions.																					
	18-12-17		Situation normal - gun at U a 55.80 <sup>expended 1000 rounds</sup> on cross roads at U12.64.3. & on cross road <del>at</del> & on road from U6090 05 to U12635.35. Lieut GARDNER returned from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Army school WISQUES.																					
	19-12-17		Situation normal - gun at U4618.20. expended 4000 rounds on KIVVI FARM. and U6d55.15 during night.																					
	20-12-17		Situation normal - 2000 rds expended in indirect fire on roads and communication. Work started on stables at Rear H.Q. — 40 duck walks laid, & new coat-house commenced.																					

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293-750,000-1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

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HILLSIDE Camp NORTH	20-12-17		The men at Rear HQ harassed at 3rd Div Base NEUVE EGLISE, very good issue of clothes supplied. a battery of 4 guns were placed in position at U4 a US. 65 teams, 9 guns were sent from Rear HQ under charge of Lieut MILLAR. These guns being laid on S. 05 barrage lines in conjunction with our artillery - men at Rear HQ paid.	
HILLSIDE Camp NORTH	21-12-17		situation normal - 2000 rounds expended during night, & early morning on <del>WARR</del> WARNETON CHURCH square & on road from U12 d 60.18. to U12 d. 80.42.	
	22-12-17		situation normal - Battery of 4 guns established at U3 a 30. 05 the reserve guns at forward HQ were <del>employed</del> engaged live under the C.O's direct control, 2,000 rounds expended in indirect fire on enemies' communications <del>situation</del> work on stables continued - entrance to camp improved.	
	23-12-17		situation normal. 2000 rds fired during night, & early morning on enemies' communications. Work on stables continued.	
	24-12-17		situation normal, 2500 rds expended on KIWI FARM, & cross roads at 035 & 55.15. - stables completed.	
	25-12-17		situation normal. Indirect fire carried out during night on WARNETON, CHURCH square, & on enemies' roads, and communications. 3000 rounds fired. Xmas day celebrated at Rear Hd Qrs. each man received 2 packets of cigarettes from the OVERSEAS CLUB. Xmas pudding from the Aust Comforts Fund, & 2 pints of beer from the B canteen.	
	26-12-17		situation normal. Indirect fire carried out on enemies' roads & communications 2,000 rds expended.	
	27-12-17		situation normal. Indirect fire carried out on enemies' roads & communications 2,100 rds expended. 2 low flying enemy planes engaged & forced to descend by our anti-aircraft guns.	

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HILLSIDE CAMP NORTH	28/12/17		Situation normal. Indirect fire carried out during night & early morning 2250 rds fired	
HILLSIDE CAMP NORTH	29/12/17		Situation normal. Indirect fire carried out during night & early morning 2000 rds expended	
HILLSIDE CAMP NORTH	30/12/17		Situation normal Indirect fire carried out during night and early morning 2000 rds expended	
HILLSIDE CAMP NORTH	31/12/17		Intersectional relief conducted, Lieut LATHLAIN relieving Lieut HOGE M.C. in right sector. Lieut Colless. relieving Lieut WARREN M.C. in left sector. Lieut Roach relieving taking over Lieut MILHAR'S Battery.	