

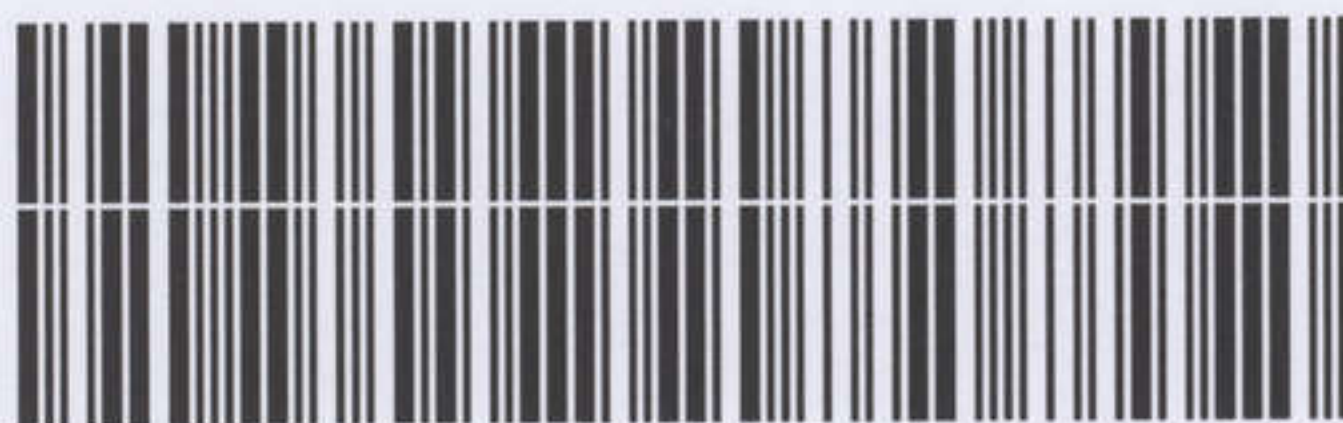
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Railways

Item number: 15/3/13

Title: 2nd Australian Light Railway
Operating Company

September 1918 Incudes duplicate



AWM4-15/3/13

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

6960

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Aust L.R.O. Coy

FOR

September 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

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Signature of Officer Commanding

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

①

281 359

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 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|--------|---|--------------------------------------|----------|-------|---|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|----|----------------------------|--|----|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|----|------------------------------|--|---|------------------|--|---|---|--|----|---------------------------------|--|---|--|--|--------|----|-----|--|
| Heidebeke Sheet 19 X 27 928 | 1/9/18 | | <p>The month's work was commenced with a total effective strength of 4 Officers 286 other Ranks but with only 1 Officer 181 other Ranks in camp. The detached Officers & men were placed as follows:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Officers</th> <th style="width: 10%; text-align: center;">Ranks</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Army Seco Supt. Capt. L. Lahan OC. (per.)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central Light Railway Workshops. Lt. C. Leslie & 2 pr</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Army Workshops (per) Lt. J. Anderson & 24 pr</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>On leave to United Kingdom</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aust boys school Infantry Training</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Erecting Control Shelters in Forward Area</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Despatch Rider for S.L.R. II</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In Hospital Sick</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12th of B Coy R.E. P.C. Drivers & Guards & Brakemen</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3rd Coy 8th Canadian R.T. " " "</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">Total.</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">2.</td> <td style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">105</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>1 Officer & 56 pr employed on Maintenance, 32 pr on Reg't</p> | | Officers | Ranks | Army Seco Supt. Capt. L. Lahan OC. (per.) | 1 | | Central Light Railway Workshops. Lt. C. Leslie & 2 pr | 1 | 2 | 2 Army Workshops (per) Lt. J. Anderson & 24 pr | 1 | 24 | On leave to United Kingdom | | 28 | Aust boys school Infantry Training | | 4 | Erecting Control Shelters in Forward Area | | 26 | Despatch Rider for S.L.R. II | | 1 | In Hospital Sick | | 3 | 12th of B Coy R.E. P.C. Drivers & Guards & Brakemen | | 11 | 3rd Coy 8th Canadian R.T. " " " | | 7 | | | Total. | 2. | 105 | |
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A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & A. Forms/C.2118/14

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

2

282 3359

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.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------|--------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Continued | 1/9/18 | | 93 ranks on Sand Party & other manual labor in Hindibike yard. Weather fine. | ly |
| | 2/9/18 | | Very windy. 5 ranks proceeded on leave to UK. 1 Corporal & 16 other ranks proceeded on detachment to 5th NZ LRO Coy & stationed at Boeschepe. to construct water pipe line for L.R. Maintenance Party as usual. 66 r/s on Sand Party. | ly |
| | 3/9/18 | | Weather fine. Another 8 r/s on leave. 58 " " " " | ly |
| | 4/9/18 | | Weather fine. 1 r/s sent under escort to F.P. Compound. He was convicted by G.C.M. of attempting to evade censorship regulations & sentenced to undergo 90 days No. 1. F.P. 6 other ranks for leave. 17 ranks, (Tractor Drivers, & Guards) detached to 29th LRO Coy who also took over the 11 r/s already on detachment. 38 men on Sand Party. | ly |
| | 5/9/18 | | Weather fine. 9 r/s for leave. 29 " " " " It being the intention of Head Qtrs to place men over 40 years of age according to their health, the first two of | |

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

283

33

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------|--------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Continued | 5/9/18 | | <p>first two of these proceeded to A.G.B.D., for Name to be medically boarded. The result of the Board will determine the placing of the men. It has been found that many ^{old} loco Drivers contract Rheumatism during the Winter & the intention is to exchange them with younger Drivers from the Broad gauge Coys. & as far as possible</p> | <p>gg</p> |
| | 6/9/18 | | <p>Weather fine. Maintenance party as usual. 11 9/10 proceeded on leave. We received instructions to detail one Officer & 50% to proceed to Aary, for operating duties under A.D.L.R.I. The trades required were in the following proportions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 loco Drivers 8 " Firemen 8 Guards 9 Station Masters 3 I.C.B. Drivers 10 Mechanics 4 District Control Staff <p>In order to supply these trades it was necessary to recall men from 1st Div Coys, 29th L.R.O. Coy R.E., 3/8th C.R.T., Dugout & Pipe Parties.</p> | |

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

4

284 339

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|---------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 7/9/18 | | Weather fine. Detachments arriving back & 10 men proceeded on leave. Maintenance & Sand Parties as usual. | 94 |
| | 8/9/18 | | Very wet. Further 10 men proceeded on leave. The 35 th Australian Dental Unit arrived (1 Officer & 3 O/N) & were taken on attachment for duty. This Section has been detailed for duty with the Australian Railway Corps, visiting each in turn & attending to all dental requirements. An Ammunition Hut was fitted up for the work. | 94 |
| | 9/9/18 | | Wet again. Visited by Lt Col Hancock CO Aust Rly Coy. Sand & maintenance parties as usual. 11 O/N proceeded on leave. | 94 |
| | 10/9/18 | | Very Showery. Lt J R Patterson & 51 O/Ns proceeded by train to 1 st Army Area on attachment. 9 O/Ns granted leave to UKS making a total on leave of 110. This left only 50 men in Camp & as 29 of these were due for leave we relinquished control of the maintenance of Lines & leading for Stores Officer. 3 O/Ns were transferred from the Dugomb Party to 29 th AOCy. | 94 |

WAR DIARY

5

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

285-300

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | 11/9/18 | | Weather wet & windy Nothing unusual to report | 8/4 |
| | 12 th | | Net again Only 38 men in Camp. Nothing to report | 8/4 |
| | 13 th | | do do " 36 " " A total of 139 men on leave. Otherwise nothing to record. | 8/4 |
| | 14 th | | Net day 8 men arrived back from leave the first arrived 2 Fitters sent to user w/shops 1 Tractor Dr. sent to 29 th BRG | 8/4 |
| | 15 th | | Fine day looks like clearing up The 14 men, under the 5 th B2/RC Coy completed the pipe line & rejoined unit. Ten of these were despatched to assist the Party erecting Central shelters. | 8/4 |
| | 16 th | | More rain but fine night. Enemy planes active in this locality & dropped numerous bombs Men employed on general fatigue work in the Camp Small Australian Mail arrived & welcomed. | 8/4 |
| | 17 th | | Windy & rather close Nothing unusual to report | 8/4 |
| | 18 th | | do | 8/4 |

WAR DIARY

(6)

Army Form C. 2118.

276359

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|---------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 19/9/18 | | Raining nearly all day. 56 men in camp employed on general duties, Musketry & Drill. | 44 |
| | 20/9/18 | | Fine day. 2 loco Durris 2 Foreman supplied to 2 nd Coy, 5 th CRT | 44 |
| | 21/9/18 | | " Men returned from building control shelters having completed the required number | 44 |
| | 22/9/18 | | Windy & wet. Men returning daily from leave. Parade held at 1000 for inspection of dress, arms & equipment | 44 |
| | 23/9/18 | | Wet morning. Fine after midday. Men in camp (114) taken out for route march at 6/30 am. and to the Rifle Range for musketry in afternoon. During the night we experienced the heaviest aeroplane bombing by enemy aircraft yet had. Many bombs were dropped in close proximity to the camp but without casualties to us | 44 |
| | 24/9/18 | | Weather fine. Instructed to send another 50 packs to 1 st Army LR School, Davy. Men selected & inspected & all necessary transport arranged. | 44 |

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

(7)

284 35

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|------------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 25 th | | Weather fine but fresh. The 50 th ranks marched out at 6 am to Mendingham where they entrained for Paris. Baggage & equipment conveyed to Railhead by 45 Wagons 2 nd nd Lt detached to 6 th Abroad Gange ROLC & two (2) Pofts sent to AGBD for Medical Board each being over 45 yrs age visited by a a P C Sgt for audit purposes. 2 Reinforcements received at AGBD. | llg |
| | 26 th | | Fine & fresh. Enemy bombarding Provost with high velocity shells which passed over this camp. Casualties & damage heavy. Men employed on Route March & musketry. 18 men supplied to ADLR Stores Officer to load steel ties & rails. | llg |
| | 27 th | | Fine day. Route march & musketry. Visited by Col. Hancox, CO Aust Rly Coy. | llg |
| | 28 th | | Fine day. Operations against enemy commenced & according to unofficial reports, greatly successful. Many enemy prisoners. | |

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118

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8

288

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------|------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Continued | | | Prisoners, passing thro' village of Grombete. Field Cashier II corps & men paid musketry | Pay drawn from Route march & 99 |
| | 29 th | | Fine morning but very wet & cold night. | 99 |
| | 30 th | | Very wet. Men employed making huts weather proof. Nothing unusual to report. | 99 |

2nd Lt McCoy

WAR DIARY

September 1918

Army Form C. 218

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | | <p>The Coy continued in charge of the maintenance of Line from Ougwash to Swiss Cottage until the 10th inst, when owing to the few men available, this work was taken over by another Coy. All available men who arrived overseas during September 1917 were granted leave on an average of 10 days (10) per day. The total number granted leave was 148. A pipe line at Boeschepe was laid by a detachment from this Unit, whilst another party erected trench shelters at Stapontre, Pacific Gale & Barbed Wire Junction. One Officer & 102 other ranks were detached to Navy under the administration of AD/R 1st Army. Capt GA Gahan OC resigned position of Army Sec, Supt owing to increased Coy duties.</p> | |
| | | | <p>The health of the men good. The weather shows signs of approaching winter.</p> | |

WAR DIARY

Army Form 2118.

2

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| | | | <p>The huts used for accommodation & messes have been made weather proof as far as possible.</p> <p>The new scale of reduced rations operative from 23rd inst was felt but met by grants from Regimental Funds.</p> <p>Australian clothing is still unobtainable.</p> <p>Preliminary arrangements have been made for the inauguration of the 1st Educational Scheme but owing to the many changes thro' the month no definite action could be taken.</p> | |

Lt Colonel Captain
OC 2nd Coy

359

18,000-12/17-872

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd A.L.R.O. Coy

FOR

September 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

Company Routine Orders for September.

Graph of Daily Effectives, Rations & detached strength.

Diagram of German Railway Mine.

280 359

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Aust LRO Coy

FOR

September 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

G. G. G. Call

Signature of Officer Commanding

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350

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A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D. D. & L. Forms/C./2118/14.

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2

33

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| | 2/9/18 | | Very windy. 8 ranks proceeded on leave to UK. 1 corporal & 16 other ranks proceeded on detachment to 5th NZ LRO Coy & stationed at Breeschepe, to construct water pipe line for L.R. Maintenance Party as usual. 66 on Sand Party. | llh |
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3539

(Erase heading not required.)

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|---------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 7/9/18 | | Weather fine. Detachments arriving back & 10 men proceeded on leave. Maintenance & Sand Parties as usual. | 94 |
| | 8/9/18 | | Very wet. Further 10 men proceeded on leave. The 35 th Australian Dental Unit arrived (1 Officer & 3 Op) & were taken on attachment for duty. This Section has been detailed for duty with the Australian Railway Coy, visiting each in turn & attending to all dental requirements. An Armstrong Hut was fitted up for the work. | 94 |
| | 9/9/18 | | Wet again. Visited by Lt Col Hancock CO Aust Rly Coy. Sand & maintenance parties as usual. 11 Op proceeded on leave. | 94 |
| | 10/9/18 | | Very Showery. Lt J R Patterson & 51 ranks proceeded by train to 1 st Army Area on attachment. 9 Op granted leave to UKS making a total on leave of 110. This left only 50 men in Camp & as 29 of these were due for leave we relinquished control of the maintenance of lines & leading for Otrous Officers. 3 Op were transferred from the Dugout Party to 29 th ROCy. | 94 |

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

6

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 |
|-------|---------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | 19/9/18 | | Raining nearly all day. 56 men in camp employed on general duties, Musketry & Drill | 24 |
| | 20/9/18 | | Fine day 2 Joco Durins 2 Foreman supplied to 2 nd Coy, 5 th CRT | 24 |
| | 21/9/18 | | Men returned from building control shelters having completed the required number | 24 |
| | 22/9/18 | | Windy & wet. Men returning daily from leave. Parade held at 10.00 for inspection of dress, arms & equipment | 24 |
| | 23/9/18 | | Wet morning fine after midday. Men in camp (114) taken out for route march at 6.30 am. and to the Rifle Range for musketry in afternoon. During the night we experienced the heaviest aeroplane bombing by enemy aircraft yet had. Many bombs were dropped in close proximity to the camp but without casualties to us. | 24 |
| | 24/9/18 | | Weather fine. Instructed to send another 50 packs to 1 st Army LR School, Davy. Men selected & inspected & all necessary transport arranged. | 24 |

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

7

359

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | 25 th | | Weather fine but fresh. The 50 ⁹ / ₁₀ ranks marched out at 6 am to Mendingham where they entrained for party. Baggage & equipment conveyed to Railhead by Lt Magors. 2 ofr detached to 6 th Abroad Gange ROLeg & two (2) Pqts sent to AGBD for Medical Board, each being over 45 yrs age. Visited by a a P C Sgt for audit purposes. 2 Reinforcements received at AGBD. | |
| | 26 th | | Fine & fresh. Enemy bombarding Provent with high velocity shells which passed over this camp. Casualties & damage heavy. Men employed on Route March & musketry. 18 men supplied to ADLR Stores Officer to load steel ties & rails. | |
| | 27 th | | Fine day. Route march & musketry. Visited by Col Hancock, CO and Rly Coy. | |
| | 28 th | | Fine day. Operations against enemy commenced & according to unofficial reports, greatly successful. Many enemy prisoners | |

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

359

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------|------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Continued | | | Prisoners, passing thro' village of Orembeke. Field Cashier & Capt & men paid. musteky | Pay drawn from Route march & 99 |
| | 29 th | | Fine morning but very wet & cold night | 99 |
| | 30 th | | Very wet. Men employed making huts weather proof. Nothing unusual to report | 99 |

2nd Lt McCoy

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

September 1918

Army Form C. 2118.

359

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | | | <p>The Coy continued in charge of the maintenance of line from Ongwashi to Pious Cottage until the 10th inst, when owing to the few men available, this work was taken over by another Coy. All available men who arrived overseas during September 1917 were granted leave on an average of ten (10) per day. The total number granted leave was 148. A pipe line at Boeschepe was laid by a detachment from this unit, whilst another party erected control shelters at Stapontre, Pacific Gate & Barbed Wire Junction. One Officer & 103 other ranks were detached to Navy under the administration of ADLR 1st Army. Capt GA Cahaw OC resigned position of Army Loco Supt owing to increased Coy duties.</p> | |
| | | | <p>The health of the men good. The weather shows signs of approaching winter.</p> | |

