

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/20/34

**Title:** 15th Australian Machine Gun  
Company

December 1918



AWM4-24/20/34



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Confidential.

Original.  
Duplicate.  
Triplicate.

WAR DIARY.

OF

15th. AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

FOR

DECEMBER. 1918.

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Signature of Officer Compiling..... *Col Richard L.*

Signature of Officer  
Commanding..... *A. Neasham L.*

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## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Volum 2

Folio 1

Army Form G. 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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAUROIS. Map Ref. VALENCIENNES. 1:100,000	Dec.	1 <sup>st</sup>	Weather unsettled. Company rested in billets during the day in anticipation of move. An impromptu concert arranged by the troops was carried out successfully. Company strength 9 Officers, 166 Other Ranks. Reinforcements Nil.	
	Dec	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Weather fine. Company moved by march route to Rejet-de-Beaulieu where good billets were occupied for the night. Company strength 9 Off. 169 O/Rs. Reinf. Nil.	
REJET-DE-BEAULIEU Map Ref. VALENCIENNES. 1:100,000.	Dec	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Weather Showery. Company moved by march route to Petit Beart. comfortable billets were occupied for 5 days. Lt Welch marched in from M.G. School baniers; Lt. Plummer from leave. Company strength 11 Off. 196 O/Rs. Reinf. 30 from M.G.B.D.	
PETIT BEART. Map Ref. VALENCIENNES 1:100,000.	Dec	4 <sup>th</sup>	Weather, Dull & Showery. The men rested in billets in preparation for the continuation of the march Rhinewards. Company strength 11 Off. 199 O/Rs. Reinf. Nil.	



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Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Dec	5 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, cloudy The company was inspected by company commander, Personnel then carried on overhauling, cleaning &amp; repacking company transport cleaning clothing &amp; equipment, as per Bn Routine Order. Company strength 11 Off. 198 O/Rs Reinf. nil.</p>	
	Dec	6 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, Wet Inspection of arms &amp; Equipment was carried out by section Officers Company strength 11 Off 196 O/Rs Reinf. nil.</p>	
	Dec	7 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, Showery Section Officers inspected arms &amp; Equipment, after which recreational training was carried out. Company strength 11 Off. 195 O/Rs Reinf. nil.</p>	
	Dec	8 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, - Dull until midday Company moved by route march to St. Remy-Chausée, the long journey carried out without incident, &amp; the men settled down in comfortable billets when destination was reached. Company strength 11 Off 197 O/Rs. Reinf. nil.</p>	



WAR DIARY

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Volume 2  
Folio VII

Army Form C. 118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
St. Remy - CHAUSÉE Map Ref VALENCIENNES.	Dec.	9 <sup>th</sup>	Weather Showery Company paraded, after inspection by Section Officers of arms & equipment all billets were straightened up. The piano was installed in a large room, which was set apart for recreational purposes Company strength 11 Off. 197 O/Rs. Reinfs. nil.	
1:100000	Dec	10 <sup>th</sup>	Weather, Showery. Section Officers inspected sections & carried on with recreational training Company strength 11 Off. 202 O/Rs. Reinfs. nil.	
	Dec	11 <sup>th</sup>	Weather dull & Showery. The usual inspection by section Officers, physical & recreational training was carried out. Company strength 11 Off. 215 O/Rs. Reinfs. nil.	
	Dec	12 <sup>th</sup>	Weather, Wet Company paraded for a general cleaning up of billets. All Officers attended address by Commanding Officer. As per B.O. Routine Order No 56. Company strength 11 Off. 211 O/Rs. Reinfs. nil.	
	Dec	13 <sup>th</sup>	Weather - Dull. Company paraded for inspection & recreational training Company strength 11 Off. 212 O/Rs. Reinfs. nil.	
	Dec	14 <sup>th</sup>	Weather Fine usual inspection by section Officers. An inter-section football match was arranged for the afternoon, which was played & created a good deal of interest. Company strength 11 Off. 211 O/Rs. Reinfs. nil.	

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## WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Dec	15 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, Fine.            All N.O.s attended a lecture by Commanding Officer with reference to the demobilisation &amp; educational schemes of the A.I.F.            2/Lt Burgess was taken on strength from D.I.B.            Company strength 12 Off. 212 O/Rs. Rmfs.</p>	
	Dec	16 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, Fine            A Bathing Parade at Btm. Baths in St Remy was attended by the whole company, who obtained a hot bath &amp; clean change of clothes. as per B.R.O. no 58.            Company strength 12 Off. 210 O/Rs. Rmfs nil.</p>	
	Dec	17 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, Cloudy.            Company paraded &amp; was inspected by Section Officers. Physical &amp; recreational training was carried out.            Company strength 12 Off. 210 O/Rs. Rmfs. nil.</p>	
	Dec	18 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, Wet.            Owing to the weather, indoor recreational training was carried out in the company recreation room. A small gymnasium was also erected in one of the billets this proved a huge success.            Company strength 12 Off. 210 O/Rs. Rmfs nil.</p>	
	Dec	19 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Weather, Showery.            Company paraded for inspection &amp; owing to the nature of the weather indoor recreation carried out.            Company strength 12 Off. 210 O/Rs.</p>	



WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>		Weather, showery. The usual inspection by section officers, the men were then employed with overhauling gun gear. Company strength 12 Off. 209 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	
	Dec 21 <sup>st</sup>		Weather, fine. Inspection & Physical training. The boy football team took advantage of the fine weather & had a days training. Lt H.P. Smith marched out & took over the position of Town Major. at Leugnieux. Company strength 11 Off. 206 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	
	Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>		Weather, showery. Indoor recreation was carried out throughout the day. Company strength 11 Off. 206 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	
	Dec 23 <sup>rd</sup>		Weather, Wet The company moved from St Remy-b-hausie to Monceau where the men found very comfortable billets awaiting them. The piano was installed in a large room at the village school house, which made a good recreation room. Company strength 11 Off. 207 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	
	Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>		Weather, Fine. Snow fell towards evening but was very light this being the first snow for the season. The troops made themselves comfortable in their new billets & prepared things for Xmas Day. Company strength 11 Off. 207 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	

MONCEAU  
Map Ref.  
VALENCIENNES  
1:100000

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Dec 25 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather, Fine</p> <p>The morning was spent on final touches before, the Xmas Dinner was served. Each section had seating accommodation at their respective billets. At 1 o'clock the sections, Officers &amp; Sgts. waited on the tables - a few proving themselves capable after consuming a specially prepared dinner, &amp; a quantity of beer, to which was added the issue of Ham, the men were entertained by members of the Company. All officers made speeches. The troops apparently spent a most enjoyable day.</p> <p>Company strength 11 Off. 208 O/Rs. Rmfrs. nil.</p>	
	Dec 26 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather, Fine</p> <p>Troops rested in billets &amp; cleaned same, after Christmas Day.</p> <p>Company strength 11 Off. 208 O/Rs. Rmfrs. nil.</p>	
	Dec 27 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Weather, Showery</p> <p>Company paraded at 10.30 am &amp; marched to football ground but returned immediately owing to the sitting in of train. Lt A. G. Kerr. proceeded on leave to the United Kingdom. Lt B. R. R. returned to the company from Btm. Hqs.</p> <p>Company strength 11 Officers 208 O/Rs. Rmfrs. nil.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Dec	28 <sup>th</sup>	Weather, Wet. All sections paraded for inspection by section Officers, company strength 11 Off. 207 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	
	Dec	29 <sup>th</sup>	Weather, Wet Sections paraded in their respective billets for inspection by section Officers. Lt W. P. Austin proceeded to United Kingdom on special leave. Company strength 11 Off. 200 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	
	Dec	30 <sup>th</sup>	Weather, Fine. Bathing Parade at Btm. Baths. was attended by the whole company who obtained a hot bath & clean change of clothes. as per B.R.O. no 65. Company paraded for pay after the midday meal. Company strength 10 Off. 200 O/Rs. Ruffs nil.	
	Dec	31 <sup>st</sup>	Weather, Fine Inspection of arms & equipment by section Officers. The troops then overhauled & cleaned all gun gear. Quite a number of the company waited for the departure of 1918 & the arrival of 1919. Transport Officer's monthly report attached.	



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WAR DIARY.  
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OF

15th. AUST. MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

FOR

DECEMBER 1918.  
  
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LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Transport Officers' Report.
2.	Sick Wastage Return.



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TRANSPORT OFFICERS MONTHLY REPORT.  
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15th. Aust. Machine Gun Company.  
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December, 1918.  
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At the beginning of the month the Coy. was at MAUROIS for two days whilst en-route for the ST. REMY area. On the 2nd. a move was made to REJET-de-BEAULIEU where one night was spent and thence on to PETIT-BEART where a stay was made from the 3rd. to 8th. Leaving there the Company marched to MONCEAU and remained there till the end of the month.

At each of these places good stabling was secured for all the horses. At ST. REMY the stabling was rather scattered but at MONCEAU all the horses with the exception of the hacks were accommodated in one farmyard.

Horses strength at the end of the month-7 riders, 40 L. Draughts, 2 H. Draughts, 4 Miles.

On the 3rd. of the month 2 horses in poor condition were evacuated and on the same day 3 horses were drawn, leaving the strength up to establishment.

On the 22nd. Lt. SMITH. was detached for duty as Town Major and as he had to take a horse with him this left the riding horses under strength. Good watering from a running stream and plenty of good grazing was obtained at both ST. REMY and MONCEAU.

Although the condition of the horses as a whole was good it would undoubtedly have been much better if they had been clipped.

A good deal of work was done during the month, chiefly in carting fuel, and going for canteen stores, the latter only being obtainable at places considerably distant.

Part of the fuel carted was for the civilian population of the Villages.

Corporal T. MURPHY, was returned to Australia on Furlough early in the month. Indents for sundry shortages were sent in during the month, but so far very few of the requirements have come to hand.

*J. J. J. J.* Lieut.  
Transport Officer.

3.1.19.



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Sick Wastage Return.

15th. Aust. M. G. Coy.

December 1918.

Date December.	To Field Ambulance.	From Field Ambulance.	Evacuated to Base.
1.	-	-	-
2.	-	-	-
3.	-	-	-
4.	-	-	1.
5.	1	-	-
6.	2	-	2.
7.	-	-	-
8.	-	-	-
9.	1	-	1
10.	-	1	-
11.	-	-	-
12.	-	-	-
13.	-	-	-
14.	-	-	-
15.	1	-	1
16.	-	1	-
17.	-	-	-
18.	-	-	-
19.	-	-	-
20.	-	-	-
21.	-	-	-
22.	-	1	-
23.	-	-	-
24.	-	-	-
25.	-	-	-
26.	1	-	1
27.	-	-	-
28.	-	-	-
29.	-	-	-
30.	-	-	-
31.	-	-	-
Total.	6	3	6

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