

**AWM4**

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/9/19

**Title:** 4th Australian Machine Gun  
Company

January 1918



AWM4-24/9/19



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

No 4 AUST. M. G Coy.

FOR

JANUARY 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*Mitchell Capt.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Mitchell Capt.*



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
TEMPLEUX-LA-FOSSE	1918 JAN 1		Brigade Exercise which was to have been held today was cancelled on account of very rough weather.	
		2	Brigade Exercise carried out.	
		3	Physical Drill, Range work, + Baths for the men in the afternoon	
		4 and 5	Ordinary training carried out.	
		6	Church Parades	
		7 and 8	Ordinary training	
		9	The morning was spent in cleaning up the camp and horse lines, in readiness for move next day. Move Order received. The Brigade will entrain at PERONNE tomorrow the 10th inst. for BAILLEUL	
		10	The Company left TEMPLEUX-LA-FOSSE at 6.15 am, the Transport wagons having left at 5 am. Marching was difficult, owing to the extremely slippery state of the roads, the freeze having now been on for about three weeks. The thaw, however is just commencing. After a train-ride <sup>lasting</sup> about 12 hours, BAILLEUL was reached, and a dish of hot cocoa was provided for every man after detraining. As the Company we are relieving near LA CLYTTE were not all out of the line, we had to march to temporary billets, west of BAILLEUL, for the night, arriving there at 1 am.	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A8004) Wt. W1771/Me 31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/Cat: 8/14



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
METEREN	1918 JAN 11		The company moved out at 10 am and reached LA CLYTTE at 1 pm. to find that the camp we were to take over would not be ready until tomorrow. Temporary accommodation was found in our Transport's camp which is about 1 mile further on.	
LA CLYTTE	12		Moved back to BAROSSA Camp, near LA CLYTTE. This camp is composed of Messen huts, in good condition, and duckboard walks are laid down through the camp. Training facilities are not good, as space is limited. Enquiries have been made to Brigade Headquarters about baths and a clean change of underclothing for the troops, as it is some time since they have had these made available.	
	13		Church Parade held. Word received from Brigade H.Q. that Baths are being got ready and will be available in about 3 days' time.	
	14		Leave to BAILLEUL will be granted daily from 9 am. to 7 pm, for 5% of the Unit.	
	15		An arrangement was made whereby a number of men of this Company can be trained in the use of the Lewis Gun, while men from each Battalion in the Brigade came down here to receive instruction in the use of the Vickers Gun.	
	16 17 and 18		Above exchange of instruction continued Baths made available at MURRUMBIDGEE Camp	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LA CLYTTE	1918 JAN 19		Word received that this company will relieve the 13 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy in the line on 24 <sup>th</sup> inst.	
	20 <sup>th</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup>		Usual Programme of training carried out. On 23 <sup>rd</sup> the Order was received to move into the line on 25 <sup>th</sup> inst., entraining at noon on that day.	
	24 <sup>th</sup>		Preparations for moving into the line on following day. Limbers packed with guns, spare parts, and Clinometers. At 1 pm. baths at MURRUMBIDGEE Camp were made available for those men going into the line.	
In the line	25 <sup>th</sup>		Relieved 13 <sup>th</sup> A. M. G. Coy in the line (Sheet 28) Canal Sector. Dispositions of guns - 4 guns forward, close to support line, direct fire and covering forward area. 3 batteries of 4 guns each barraging front area. All guns on S.O.S. line 400 yds in front of outpost line. Relief completed at 6.30 pm. Enemy artillery very quiet.	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		On reconnoitring, Sector found to be badly in need of organization. Batteries not established, accommodation poor, and zero lines of Batteries not yet laid out. Sector quiet.	
	27 <sup>th</sup>		"B" Battery in Battle Wood going ahead with construction of dug-outs. "C" Battery constructing trench for Battery position. Site for "A" Battery to be chosen by Divisional M.G. Officer on 28 <sup>th</sup> inst. Enemy quiet. Dense fog all day.	
	28 <sup>th</sup>		Clear day. Enemy Artillery active. Aerial activity considerable. Constructing trenches for Battery positions.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Line	1918 Jan 29 <sup>th</sup>		Clear day. Enemy Artillery fairly active.	
	30 <sup>th</sup>		Enemy shelled area heavily with gas shells. Dense fog.	
	31 <sup>st</sup>		Quiet day. Nothing of importance occurred.	
<p>Mitchell Capt.  <i>Lt. Col. Aust. N. Coy.</i></p>				