

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/19/47 PART 2

Title: 2nd Infantry Battalion

April 1919 Duplicate



AWM4-23/19/47PART2

COPY OF
WAR DIARY
OF
2ND. BATTALION
A.I.F.
FOR
APRIL AND ~~MAY~~, 1919.

17-12-17



G H D & Worry General Staff

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W A R D I A R Y .

of

SECOND BATTALION A.I.F.

APRIL, 1919.

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information
BOUFFIOULX	April 6th	Fine. Strength - 7 officers, 110 Other Ranks. Church Parade in Cinema Hall, Bouffioulx. Lieut. R.O.Boese and 2/Lt/ H.Martin from Corps Football Team. W.H.J.
"	7th	Fine. Strength - 9 officers, 112 Other Ranks. 1st Brigade Bn. Parade. Lecture in Cinema Hall 1045 on History and Construction of Panama Canal by (Captain) Chaplain Coles of the 1st Battalion. Afternoon - Coy.parades and recreational training. W.H.J.
"	8th	Fine. Strength - 9 Officers,110 O.Ranks. Battalion Parade. Afternoon - Coy. parades to Gymnasium. W.H.J.
"	9th	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 114 Other Ranks. Battalion Parade and march to Boomerang Hall, Chatelet to an address by Sir. C.G.Wade. 2/Lt. H. Martin to Division as promoter of Boxing Tournaments. W.H.J.
"	10th	Fine. Strength - 8 officers, 116 Other Ranks. Bathing Parade. Afternoon - Recreation training. W.H.J.
"	11th	Fine. Strength - 8 off., 116 O.Rs. The 1st Brigade Battalion moved to billets in Couillet-Louverval ('C' Coy.) (3rd Bn.) to Louverval . (Major) Chaplain Pittindrigh to Brussels - leave. (Captain) Chaplain Wright to 3rd Brigade Battalion. W.H.J.
COUILLET	12th	Wet. Strength - 8 Officers, 118 Other Ranks. Coy. Parades cleaning up and improvement of Billets, etc. Capt. M. Seymour-Wells to 4th Aust. Bde. Captain W.I. Hayes to 4th Battalion. W.H.J.
"	13th	Wet. Strength - 8 Officers, 118 Other Ranks. Church parade in school Hall,Couillet.
"	14th	Fine. Strength - 8 Off., 122 O.Rs. Coy. route marches. Lecture at 1045 in School Hall, Couillet on Ancient History by Lieut. Chedghey of the 1st Battalion. Afternoon-kit inspection and recreational training. W.H.J.

2.
W A R D I A R Y

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information.
	1919.	
COUILLET	April, 15th.	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 125 Other Ranks. Coy. Route marches. Lecture 1045 in School Hall on Life on a Transport by Lieut. Hough, Educational Officer. W.H.J.
"	16th	Wet. Strength - 8 Officers, 128 Other Ranks. Cleaning up, Parades, equipment etc. Lecture 1045 in School Hall on Aeroplanes by Lieut. Jeffrey of the 4th Bn. Afternoon - Pay Parade. W.H.J.
"	17th	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 128 Other Ranks. Muster Parade and cleaning Equipment etc. W.H.J.
"	18th	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 128 Other Ranks. Church Parade in School Hall at 0845. Bathing Parades. 2/Lt/ F.K. Caldwell to Brussels - leave. W.H.J.
"	19th	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 125 Other Ranks. Battalion Parade. Lieut. D. Tennant to Brussels - leave. W.H.J.
"	20th	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 125 Other Ranks. Church Parade in Y.M.C.A. Hall, Couillet. W.H.J.
"	21st	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 126 Other Ranks. Battalion Parade and inspection by Lieut. Gen. Sir J.J. Hobbs, KCB., KC., MG., VD., Commanding Australian Corps. Chaplain Pittindrigh from and Lieut. D. Tennant from Brussels leave. W.H.J.
"	22nd	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 128 Other Ranks. Battalion Parade and march to Louverval for Battalion Sports. Lieut. F.K. Caldwell from Brussels leave. W.H.J.
"	23rd	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 129 Other Ranks. Coy. parades and route march, Study Circle. Afternoon - Recreational training. W.H.J.
"	24th	Fine. Strength - 8 Officers, 132 Other Ranks. Bathing Parades and Lectures. Lieut. J.J. Lee from U.K. Leave. W.H.J.
"	25th	Fine. Strength - 9 Officers, 138 Other Ranks. Battalion Parade and march to 9th Bn. Football Ground, Chatelet to 1st Aust. Div. Sports. W.H.J.

W A R D I A R Y .

Place

Date

Summary of Events and Information.

1919

COUILLET

April, 26th.

Wet. Strength - 9 Officers, 139 Other Ranks. Coy. Parades and lectures in billets. W.H.J.

"

27th.

Fine. Strength - 9 Officers, 139 O.Rs. Church Parade in Y.M.C.A. Hall, Couillet. Lieut. J.J.Lee to England (Educational). W.H.J.

28th

Wet. Snowing etc. Strength - 8 Officers, 140 Other Ranks. Muster Parade, Inspection and Route March. Study Circle. W.H.J.

29th

Showery. Strength - 8 Officers, 141 Other Ranks. Company Parades. Inspection of Arms and Equipment. Route march and lectures. W.H.J.

30th

Wet. Strength - 8 Officers, 140 Other Ranks. Company Parades and lectures in Billets. W.H.J.

W A R D I A R Y
of
SECOND AUSTRALIAN BATTALION
for
APRIL, 1919.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Subject.</u>		
1	BATTALION	ORDER	APRIL 5th.
2	"	MOVEMENT ORDER	" 10th
3	"	ORDER	" 12th
4	"	"	" 13th
5	"	"	" 14th
6	"	"	" 15th
7	"	"	" 16th
8	"	"	" 17th
9	"	"	" 19th
10	"	"	" 24th
11	"	"	" 27th

First Brigade Battalion

Battalion Headquarters
5th April, 1919.

A, B, C and D Companies
Transport
Band and
Q.M.

The following is the allotment for Brussels Leave.
To proceed on 8.4.1919
Returning on 10.4.1919

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| (a) | Each Company | 1 Officer | 6 Other Ranks. |
| | Transport | 3 | do |
| | Band | 2 | do |
| | Q.M. Store | 1 | do |
- (b) To proceed on 9.4.1919)
Returning on 11.4.1919) Same numbers as for (a)

Nominal Rolls for each period (shown separately)
will be forwarded to reach this office by noon 6.4.1919.

Men will parade at B.O.R. at 1000 on the day on which
they are nominated to proceed.

Overcoats will be carried also haversack containing
dixie, knife, fork and spoon.

Colours must be worn on overcoats and tunics, and
hats must be looped.

Men will be inspected at Companies before parading
at B.O.R. and any man incorrectly dressed will NOT be permitted
to proceed.

Sgd. C. Howie.

Captain and Adjutant
First Brigade Battalion, A.I.F.

FIRST BRIGADE BATTALION ORDER NO.1

Copy No.6

Map Reference. NAMUR 1-100000.

1. The 1st Bde. Battalion will move to COUILLET-LOUVERVAL area to-morrow the 11th inst.

Headquarters, A.B. and D Company will move to COUILLET, C. Company will move to LOUVERVAL.

2. The Battalion will parade at 0940 in order:-
Band. "A" Coy. "D" Coy. "B" Coy. "C" Coy. Head of "A" Company 100 yards N.W. of Battalion Canteen. facing N.W.
Route via 2 F. 75.65.

3. Dress:- Full marching order less blankets, tin hats and box respirators. Dry ration for 11th inst. to be carried on the man. Paliasses, blankets, Officers kit, Company Orderly room gear etc. to be dumped at respective Company Orderly Room, except "A" Company who will dump opposite Battalion Canteen by 0600 and a guard of 3 other ranks posted as loading party.

Mess Gear:- O.C. "C" Company will be responsible for loading Officers and Sergeants mess gear for his own Company on lorry with his blankets etc. remainder of mess gear will be moved by Q.M.

Library; Gym. and Canteen:-

O.C. will have all gear packed and leave one man as guard. Q.M. will arrange transport.

Education Dept:-

Education Officer will arrange to pack all his equipment and leave one other rank in charge. Education personnel will march with "B" Company.

Transport:-

All personnel not required as drivers during the move will march with "B" Company.

A.M.C.:-

Medical Officer will detail One medical orderly to report to O.C. "C" Company for march and duty at Louverval, remainder of A.M.C. details will march with "D" Company.

Electric Lights and Fittings:-

No electric light fittings are to be removed from billets, all these fittings have been sold to incoming Units.

Billets:-

Company Commanders are responsible that all billets in their areas are left in a clean and sanitary condition and that no equipment, paliasses etc. are left behind.

Sgd. C.Howie.
Capt. & Adj.
1st Bde. Battalion.

Distribution.

No.1 to 3	Corps War Diary
4	File
5	"A" Coy.
6	"B" Coy.
7	"C" Coy.
8	"D" Coy.
9	Brigade
10	Transport
11	Q.M.
12	Library
13	Town Major
14	Canteen Officer
15	Education Officer.
16	Medical Officer.
17	Mess Secretary.

First Brigade Battalion

Battalion Headquarters
12th April, 1919.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR SUNDAY - 13th APRIL 1919.

Other Denominations.

"A" "B" and "D" Companies will parade in the Square, (A.S.C. Ration Dump) opposite childrens' School at 1015.

Dress - Belts and sidearms - If wet coats will be worn.

Roman Catholic

R.C. parade will parade at "D" Company's billet at 0930. They will be taken over by Lieut. Whiteford "B" Company who will march them to Village Church.

Dress. - Belt and sidearms.

"C" Company. will parade at 1015 in a place selected by Company

Commander. Chaplain Henry will officiate.

Dress Belt and sidearms.

Lieut. Montague will take charge of the R.C. Parade and will parade them to Village Church.

C. Howie.
Captain and Adjutant
First Brigade Battalion A.I.F.

1st BRIGADE BATTALION A.I.F.

Battalion Headquarters,
13/4/19.

ROUTINE FOR MONDAY 14th APRIL 1919.

PARADE.

Company parades at 09.30.

Inspection.

Route March by companies - Companies will pass the corner of Rue de Gilly and Rue de Villiers at 09.45. (This corner will henceforth be known as corner "Z")

Company Commanders will time this route march in order that they may be formed up in square near A.S.C. ration dump by 10.45 to attend lecture at Y.M.C.A. at 11.00.

"C" Company will parade at 09.30 for inspection and route march till 10.45.

EDUCATION

Elementary classes will commence tomorrow at 09.30 in village School.

As full an attendance as possible is required.

Education Officer will arrange for classes for "C" Company at Loverval.

CARPENTRY.

This class should commence on Tuesday the 15th inst. (Information later)

SPORTS: RECREATION

One hours recreational training under Company arrangements. Lieut. ANDREWS. "A" Company (Bn. Sports Officer) can supply certain sports gear on demand.

DRESS.

Attention is again called to men's dress. Wearing of belts, etc.

Sgd. W. Chapman Lt.
for Adjutant.

1st Brigade Batt. A.I.F.

First Brigade Battalion.

Battalion Headquarters.
14th April, 1919.

ROUTINE FOR TUESDAY 15th April.

Parades.

Company Parades at 0930 for inspection.

Companies will, after inspection, proceed for one hour's Route March, passing "Z" Corner at 0945.

Parade in Square at 1045 prior to Lecture.

"C" Company as for 14th instant.

Educational As for today

Carpentry Class owing to demobilisation of
Instructor had to be discontinued.

Medical Parade.

All men of Companies who have not yet been before
the Doctor for medical inspection or who have not been boarded
will parade at Aid Post at 0935.

Sgd. C. Howie.

Capt. and Adjutant.
First Brigade Battalion A.I.F.

FIRST BRIGADE BATTALION ORDER

Battalion Headquarters,
15th April 1919.

ROUTINE FOR WEDNESDAY 16th APRIL

All Companies T.O. Q.M. Band.

PARADE Companies will parade in Square opposite School at 1000.

Dress:- Belts with waterproof sheet strapped on back by means of supporting straps.
Haversack (slung) containing dry rations and mess tin.

"C" Coy. will parade on Sports Ground at 1030 under Company arrangements:-

This Company will arrange to provide tea for midday meal for the Battalion.

All men will parade.

Company Orderly Rooms will be closed.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Officers Messes will have their hampers at B.O.R. at 0830.

TRANSPORT:- Transport Officer will detail 1 G.S. Wagon to report at B.O.R. at 0815.

Sgt. W. Chapman Lt.

For Capt. & Adjutant.
1st Aust. Inf. Bde. Battalion.

First Brigade Battalion.

Battalion Headquarters.
16th April 1919.

All Companies
Quartermaster
Transport Officer
and BAND

BRUSSELS LEAVE

The following is the allotment for Brussels Leave.
This will be the final leave granted.

Company Commanders will ensure that the Battle Order
of the men who proceed is thoroughly cleaned in anticipation of the
Drill Competition of the 21st instant:

Proceeding 18.4.1919. and Returning 20. 4.1919.

"A" Company	1 Officer	10 Other Ranks.
"B" do.	1 -	10 -
"C" do.	1 -	12 -
"D" do.	1 -	13 -
Transport and Q.M.	1 -	5 -
Band		12 -
Headquarters		3 -

Total 5 Officers 65 Other Ranks.

Nominal Rolls to reach Battalion Orderly Room by 1600
on 17th instant.

Men will parade for leave at B.O.R. at 1000 on 18th
instant.

Dress. Overcoats, Haversack (containing mess tin,
knife, fork etc.) will be carried.

Sgd. C. Howie
Capt. and Adjutant.
First Brigade Battalion, A.I.F.

First Brigade Battalion

Battalion Headquarters
17th April 1919.

ROUTINE for FRIDAY - 18th April, 1919.

PARADE - In Square at 0845, for Church Parade.

CHURCH PARADE - Dress.

Waistbelts, Haversacks (containing towel)

Immediately after Church Parade Companies will move off to No.1 and 2 Divisional Baths, Chatelet.

Clean Clothing will be available.

"C" Company will bathe under Company Commanders arrangements.

Clean clothing will be issued them.

Lieut. JEFFREE will supervise the bathing arrangements and will report to the Adjutant for instructions before 2000 today.

Men will be marched to and from the baths.

Strict March discipline will be insisted upon.

OFFICERS

The Officers of "A" "B" and "D" Companies will parade in Educational Room, Village School at 11.45.

The Commanding Officer will see the Officers of "C" Company at their Headquarters at 1430.

R.C. PARADE

Men will parade in the Square at 1345.

Lieut. Whiteford (B Company) will take charge.

Padre Wright will officiate.

ROUTINE FOR SATURDAY - 19th April 1919.

Company Parades.

Companies will parade on Battalion Parade Ground at 0945 (This ground will be shown to Adjutants by the Adjutants of the 1st Brigade Battalion tomorrow).

Dress.

Battle Order.

Exceptions - Battalion Headquarters.

	Officers.	Other Ranks.
Q.M. Staff	1	21
Battalion Orderly Room	1	9
Battalion Canteen		3
Transport	1	18
<u>All Companies</u>		
Cooks (men's) per company		4
Orderly Room Staff (per company)		3
Officers and NCO's messes (per coy)		3

Sgd. C. Howie.

Captain and Adjutant.
First Australian Brigade Batt.

First Brigade Battalion

Battalion Headquarters.
19th April 1919.

ROUTINE FOR SUNDAY - 20th instant.

CHURCH PARADE

Other denominations.

Companies will parade in Square at 0945.

Dress - Clean Fatigue

"C" Company will NOT parade but Holy Communion will be celebrated at LOVERAL CHATEAU at 1130.

Roman Catholic Parade.

This parade will also form up in the Square at 0945
Lieut. Whiteford "B" Company will take charge of the parade there and march the men to the village church.

All officers of the Battalion (including "C" Company) and the Band will parade on Battalion Parade ground, where Battalion paraded for practice of march past, at 1100.

ROUTINE FOR MONDAY - 21st instant

PARADE

The Battalion will parade on Battalion Parade Ground on Hill opposite Slag Dump at 0930.

Dress - BATTLE ORDER

Exemptions from Parade 21.4.19.

Q.M.Store personnel less 10 - Cpl. Smith will take charge of the available men and report with them to "B" Company at 0845.

Companies - 4 cooks per company

Officers Mess ... 3

Sergeants' Mess . 1 cook.

All orderly Room Staffs, signallers, runners, will parade.
Signallers and Runners will parade with their Companies.

After competition Companies will move to billets and fall-in in Square opposite School to proceed to Battalion Sports at Loverval.

Dress. - Haversack containing mess tin and lunch.

Small luncheon and Beer will be provided on Sports Ground.

Sgd. C. Howie.
Capt. and Adjutant.
First Brigade Battalion, A.I.F.

First Brigade Battalion.

Battalion Headquarters.
24th April 1919.

ROUTINE for 25th April 1919

All Companies
Second in Command
Quartermaster
Transport Officer
and Band.

PARADE

All Companies (Less "C" Company), Band, Q.M. and Transport personnel will parade in village square at 0930 to move to Sports Ground, Chatelet.

"C" Company will move independently to time their arrival at Sports Ground (9th Battalion Football Ground) at 1000.

Exemptions

Company Cooks and two men (light duty men preferred) as billet guard.

GUARD

Will be dismounted at 0900 under arrangements to be made by the Adjutant.

DRESS Belts and Haversacks (in which Mess tins will be carried)

MEALS and MESS BOXES

Sandwiches, pastry and fruit on ground.

Beer and tea.

Officers' Mess Boxes will be collected by Q.M. at 0930.

Competitors.

Battalion Sports Officer and Company Sports Officers together with competitors will assemble at B.O.R. at 0900 and will move to Sports Ground under Lieut. ANDREWS' orders.

Sgd. C. Howie.
Captain and Adjutant.
First Australian Brigade Battalion

First Brigade Battalion A.I.F.

ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lieut-Colonel D.T.Moore (CMG. DSO). 3rd Battalion
Commanding First Brigade Battalion.

27 April 1919.

Orderly Officer	(27.4.1919)	Lieut. F.K.Caldwell
Next for duty	(28.4.1919)	Lieut. Apted.

BOUNDS

1. In view of possible demonstrations at CHARLEROI on 1st May 1919, Charleroi is placed "Out of Boundw" for all ranks from 1800 on 30th April 1919 to 0900 on 2nd May 1919. This has been done as a precautionary measure against possible collisions between Civilian Demonstrations and the troops of the Australian Corps.
2. Companies will hold a Muster Parade on 28th instant and warn all ranks:-
 - (a) that they must on no account take part in or interfere with these demonstrations in any way.
 - (b) that Charleroi is "out of Bounds".
 - (c) that in case of riots all troops will remain in their billets.

REASONS TO BE GIVEN

3. On the 1st May 1919 the First Brigade Battalion will move out to Loveral at 1000.

The following only will be exempted.

<u>Battalion Headquarters</u> -	Orderly Room - 2 other ranks.
	Quartermaster's Store - 2 Other ranks.
	Canteen - 2 Other ranks.

<u>Companies</u> -	Cooks - 3 per company
	Picquet Duty - 1 officer and 4 other ranks per company
	Officers' mess. - 3 per company.
	Sick and unfit.

The officer remaining on Picquet Duty will be provided with a Nominal Roll of all personnel remaining off parade.
The Picquet officers will be provided with special instructions.

Part 11

The following appointment is approved:-

No.51212 Pte. W.A.Lahey, 2nd Battalion to be Acting Sergeant (to date from 27th April 1919).

Sgd. W.Chapman
Lt. & A/Adjutant.,
1st Australian Bigade Battalion.