

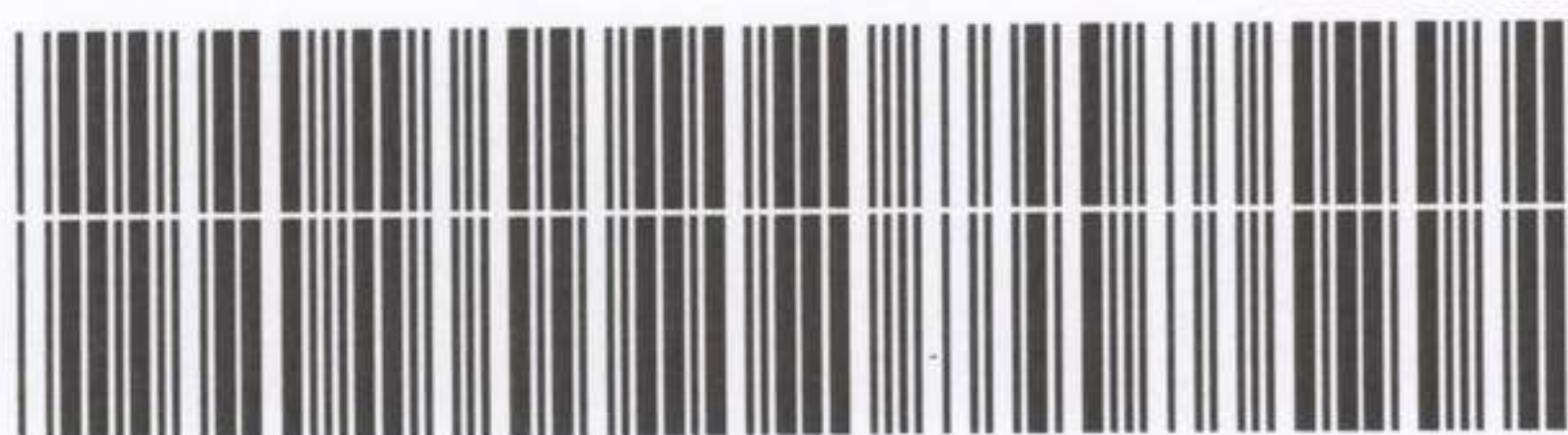
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/5/45

**Title:** 5th Infantry Brigade

March 1919



AWM4-23/5/45



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ORIGINAL.  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
~~TRIPLICATE.~~



Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*5th Aust. Infantry Brigade*

FOR

*March* 1919

Signature of Officer compiling

*Quintin Hale*  
*Staff Capt*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Mark W. Higgins*



# 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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MONTIGNIES le TILLEUL.	March 1919 1st		Raining. Nominal roll of applicants for pay duties on transports sent to Division. Division called for return of permanent N.C.O's. of Commonwealth Military Force. Weekly Education Syllabus sent to Division.	
	2nd		Raining. G.O.C. and Staff attended Concert and Ball given by Belgian civilians. List of nominations of officers for administrative duty with Education service sent to Division. Captain MARLAN's name submitted for course at BERKHEMSTEAD.	
	3rd		Dull drizzling day. Restrictions placed on dances, concerts, etc. removed. Return called for by Div. re permanent N.C.O's of the G.M.F. forwarded to Div. - 4 N.C.O's. Notification sent to Units that "Green Diamonds" will reopen in Casino Hall, MONTIGNIES-le-TILLEUL on Monday 10th instant. Lecture delivered in Cinema Hall by Captain DENNY, M.C. on Demobilisation.	
	4th		Still Raining. Lieut-Col. R.M. SADLER, M.C., 17th Battalion proceeded on leave. Lieut. U.K. WALSH's name submitted for investiture.	
	5th		Dull cloudy day. Corps Commander visited G.O.C., Brigade. 18th Battalion vehicles and Mobilisation Stores sent to D.A.D.O.S.	
	6th		Still dull and cloudy. 5th.A.L.T.M.Bty. Mob. Stores sent to D.A.D.O.S. Special Order for amalgamation of T.M.Bty. with 20th Bn. issued. Lecture by Rev. HUNTER BOYD of CANADA on Czech-Slovak Republic.	



# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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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
MONTIGNIES	1919 March		Weather dull but fine.	
- le -	6th		Memo received from Div. re the presentation of King's Colours to Battalions. Lecture by Mr. HUNTER-BOYD on Czech-Slovak Republic.	
TILLEUL			Restrictions placed on leave to CHARLEROI removed.	
	7th		Weather dull and showery. Reply sent to Division that colours should be retained and presented in AUSTRALIA. T.M. Bty. handed in stores to D.A.D.O.S.	
	8th		Weather dull and showery. Education syllabus issued. 5th. Aust. L.T.M. Bty. attached to 20th Battalion.	
	9th		Weather still dull and showery. Units informed re lecture by Captain HEATH. Conference held at Div. Headquarters to discuss -	
			(a) Amalgamation	
			(b) Australian Corps Gala Day.	
	10th		Weather continues dull and showery. Conference of C.O's. and Adjutants held to discuss points raised at Div. Conference also amalgamation of Battalions of this Brigade. Special Order for amalgamation issued. Proposals re Corps Gala day issued to Units. Div. notified that 5 Officers would be available for Corps School for Junior Officers.	



# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

5TH AUSTRALIAN  
INFANTRY BRIGADE,  
HEADQUARTERS.

Remarks and  
references to  
Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	No. .... Date .....
MONTIGNIES -le- TILLEUL.	1919 March 11th		Weather dull and drizzly. Allotment of "Z" and "XY" Class animals for entrainment on 13th and 14th instants issued to Units of Group. Circular Memo No 6 re Amalgamation of Bns. issued to units.	
	12th		Light rain. Correspondence which has passed between Australian Units and Belgian and French Civilians forwarded to Division.	
	13th		Light rain. G.O.C. addressed Brigade parade in Square, MONTIGNIES-le-TILLEUL. 6th. A.I.Bde. Order amalgamating all Battalions received. Conference at 6th. A.I.Bde. H.Q. to discuss new Grouping. There were in attendance G.O.C., 2nd. Div. Infy. Group and 5th., 6th., and 7th. Bde. Staff Captains. C.O., 20th Battalion delivered a lecture on "A Visit to the Rhineland". Summary of "Assistance & Benefits of Repatriation Department to Returned Soldiers in Australia" distributed. Instructions re concentration of future drafts and quotas at "B" Divisional Wing, CHARLEROI and General Demobilisation Instruction No. 15 received. Captain Templeman appointed R.M.O., 5th. Bde. Bn.	
MARCINELLE	14th		Dull day. Headquarters of 2nd. Aust. Div. Inf. Group established in MARCINELLE. 17th/18th and 20th Bns. amalgamated under the command of Lieut-Col. F.W.D. FORBES, D.S.O.	
	15th		Dull day. G.O.C. and other H.Q. Officers moved from MONTIGNY-le-TILLEUL to MARCINELLE.	
	16th		Dull day. Rained in afternoon. 2nd. Aust. Div. Rugby Team won the final match against the 1st. Aust. Div. by 11 points to nil.	



WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

5TH AUSTRALIAN  
INFANTRY BRIGADE,  
HEADQUARTERS

Remarks and references to Appendices

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# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 400

5TH AUSTRALIAN  
INFANTRY BRIGADE,  
HEADQUARTERS.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARCINELLE	1919 March 24th		Dull day slight fall of snow. Instructions re Graves Registration personnel received from Corps through 2nd Australian Division. Division advised the transfer of Cinema Funds to the MONT. ST. QUENTIN Memorial Fund. Instructions re Repurchase Horses issued to units. Instructions re entrainment of further batch of "Z" class horses issued by Division.	
	25th		Dull day with slight fall of snow and rain. Lieut. A.J.B. MACKENZIE asked to estimate the cost of inscribing results of Brigade Competitions on the Brigade Shield.	
	26th		Dull day with slight fall of snow. Advice of the amalgamation of the 2nd and 5th Australian Divisions sent to Battalions.	
	27th		Slight fall of snow. A number of officers from 2nd Div. Infantry Group proceeded to England for duty as Ships' Staff.	
	28th		Slight fall of snow. A meeting of G.O.C. and Staff Officers of 2nd Aust. Div. Infantry Group decided that after 1st April the Group Staff Office would be organised on the same lines as Division. Instructions issued for the demobilization of stores.	
	29th		A.I.F. Headquarters advise the closing of Australian Officers Club in LONDON.	
	30th		Orders calling a meeting of C.O.'s. all units of the group issued. 2nd Aust. Division Engineers ordered to move from MARCINELLE HALES to MARCINELLE. H.Q. to be established on 2nd April. Units advised that Officers and men found in COLOGNE without leave would be dealt with for breach of discipline.	
	31st		Orders issued for the amalgamation of 2nd Aust. Machine Gun Battalion with the 5th Aust. Infantry Brigade Battalion.	
<p>Strength = 1.3.19. 128 off. 1248 OK</p> <p>31.3.19 121 off. 1123 OK</p>				



# WAR DIARY

OF

FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

FOR

M A R C H

1919



## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Conducted tour of BRUSSELS ✓
2	Leave allotment for BRUSSELS ✓
3	Special Order for amalgamation of 20th Bn and 5th Aust. L.T.M. Bty. ✓
4	Education Syllabus for week ending 15th March 1919 ✓
5	Special order for amalgamation of 17th, 18th and 20th Bns ✓
6	Entrainment of "Z" Class Animals for Base ✓
7	Amalgamation of 5th, 6th and 7th Brigade Headquarters ✓
8	Order for 5th Brigade Parade ✓



# WAR DIARY FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters.

1st March, 1919.

No. 23/158.

17th/18th., 20th. Bns.  
2nd. A.M.G. Bn.  
5th. Aust. L.T.H. Bty.  
5th. Field Amb.

## CONDUCTED TOURS TO BRUSSELS.

Reference this office 25/99 of January, 24th.

1. The next party from the Group will report to Corps Reinforcement Camp on 7th March, and leave CHARLEROI on 8th instant.

2. Allotment as under :-

	<u>Offs.</u>	<u>C.R's.</u>
17th Battalion	-	4
18th Battalion	1	4
20th Battalion	-	4
2nd. A.M.G. Bn.	-	5
5th. Field Amb.	-	1
5th. A.L.T.H. Bty.	-	2

The above to report to Brigade Headquarters at 1400 7th instant and proceed under officer to Corps Reinforcement Camp.

3. Nominal Rolls to reach this office by 1800 on 5th March.

*Report Made*  
*for*

Major,  
Brigade Major, 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

Copies to War Diary (3).



*War Diary*

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FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE  
-----Headquarters,  
5th March 1919.17/18th Battalion  
20th Battalion  
2nd Aust. M.G. Bn.  
5th Field Ambulance  
5th A.L.T.M. Bty  
15th Coy. A.A.S.C.  
-----LEAVE TO BRUSSELS

Leave Lorry for BRUSSELS will leave the Square MONTIGNY on the following dates per at 0900 -

March 6th, 10th, 14th, 18th, 22nd, 26th, 30th.

Following is the allotment :-

17th Battalion	...	3	Other Ranks
18th "	...	3	"
20th "	...	3	"
2nd M.G. Bn.	...	4	"
Field Amb.	...	3	"
A.A.S.C.	...	1	"
A.L.T.M. Bty.	...	1	"
Bde.H.Q. & Sigs.	...	2	"

1 Officer is allotted for each of the above days as follows :-

March 6th	...	17th Bn	March 22nd	...	17th Bn
10th	...	18th Bn	26th	...	18th Bn
14th	...	20th Bn	30th	...	20th Bn
18th	...	M.G. Bn.			

The Officer as above will be in charge of the party as far as BRUSSELS, and will report on arrival at 2nd Aust. Div. Rest House.

DRESS - Hats, Belts and Colour patches will be worn by all ranks.

*Robert Hale*

Staff Captain, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde. Captain,

Copy to -  
Signal Officer.



85  
*War Diary*  
2  
SPECIAL ORDER

By

BRIGADIER GENERAL E.F. MARTIN, C.M.G., D.S.O.

COMMANDING, FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

5th AUSTRALIAN  
INFANTRY BRIGADE,  
HEADQUARTERS.

No. ....  
Date .....

1. (a) The 5th Brigade Trench Mortar Battery will be attached to 20th Battalion from 8th instant onwards and ~~some~~ <sup>the</sup> under orders of C.O., 20th Battalion.  
(b) The T.M.Bty. will cease to operate as a unit from that date and personnel may be used by C.O., 20th Battalion for any duties required.
2. As all stores have been handed in, it is now only necessary for Cadre "B" of T.M.Bty. to be retained.
3. Officers of T.M.Bty. will be accommodated in 20th Battalion Mess.
4. Further particulars of attachment will be arranged between O.C., T.M.Bty. and C.O. 20th Battalion. 20th Battalion will wire this office completion of attachment.
5. ACKNOWLEDGE - (20th Bn. & T.M.Bty.)

Bde. H.Q.  
6th March, 1919.

*W. A. Chapman*  
Major,  
Brigade Major, 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Issued to -

20th Battalion.  
5th. Aust. L.T.M.Bty.  
O.C., Bde. Sig. Sect.

Copies to -

17th/18th Battalion.  
"G" 2nd. Aust. Div.  
"AQ" 2nd. Aust. Div.  
G.O.C.  
B.M.  
S.C.  
War Diary (3).  
Filo.



# FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

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## CLASSES

WEEK ENDING MARCH 15th, 1919.

WEEK ENDING MARCH 15th, 1919.

TIME	Class Rooms	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1000 to 1100	A B C	Elem. Arith. Steam	Algebra	Elem. Arith. Steam	Algebra	Elem. Arith. Steam.	Elem. Arith. Algebra.
1100 to 1200	A B C D	Elem. French. Adv. Arith. Salesmanship Shorthand	Elem. French Vet. Science Shorthand.	French Elem. Salesmanship Shorthand	French Elem. Vet Science Shorthand.	Elem. French. Salesmanship. Shorthand.	Elem. French. Shorthand.
1030 to 1130	D	Philosophy of German Culture.	LECTURES To be notified later		To be notified later		
1900 to 2000	D E	STUDY CIRCLES, DEBATES, Etc.					
		Eng. Lit.	Parliament		Eng. Lit.	Parliament	
		TOURS, etc.					
0930	A	WATERLOO	WATERLOO		WATERLOO		

Index to Glass Rooms

{ "A" 20th Bn. Education Office.  
 { "B" 2nd. M.G. Bn. "B" Coy.  
 { "C" 2nd. M.G. Bn. Education Office.

"D" Cinema Hall, Rue d'Eglise.  
 "E" 17th Bn. Recreation Room.



85-1  
FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.  
-----

SPECIAL ORDER

By

BRIGADIER GENERAL E.F. MARTIN, C.M.G., D.S.O.

COMMANDING FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

1. (a) On the 14th instant the 17th/18th and 20th Battalions will be amalgamated as one Battalion under Lieut-Col. F.W.D. FORBES, D.S.O.  
(b) This Battalion will be known as 5th Bde. Bn.  
(c) The Headquarters of 17th/18th Bn. will cease to function from that date.
2. Cadre "B" of each of 17th and 18th Bns. will be attached to Headquarters 20th Battalion.
3. Regimental Funds of 17th and 18th Bns. will still be operated by C.O's. of those Battalions until C.O's leave the Group; when funds for remaining personnel of 17th and 18th Bns. will be arranged for mutually between C.O's.
4. The present Brigade Office will be available for the amalgamated Battalions from 13th instant.
5. Further details re staff etc., will be arranged between C.O's concerned.
7. 20th Battalion will notify this office by wire on completion of amalgamation.
8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Bde.H.Q.  
10th March, 1919.

*Superintendent Halden*  
for Major,  
Brigade Major, 5th Aust. Inf. Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Issued to -

17th/18th Bn.  
20th Battalion.  
O.C. Bde. Sig. Section.

Copies to -

G.O.C.  
B.M.  
S.C.  
"G" 2nd. Aust. Div.  
"AQ" 2nd. Aust. Div.  
5th A.I.Bde.  
7th A.I.Bde.  
2nd. A.M.G. Bn.  
War Diary (3).  
File.



85  
War Diary  
FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Headquarters,  
11th March, 1919.  
54/113.

20th Battalion.  
2nd. A.M.G. Bn.

ENTRAINMENT OF "Z" & "ZY" CLASS ANIMALS

The following is the allotment of animals and conducting parties for the 13th and 14th instants.

Date.	Unit.	Horses "ZY"	Mules "Z"	Destination	Conducting Party Off. N.C.O's. Men.
13.3.19.	20th Bn.	-	20	FORGES	1 5
"	2nd AMG Bn.	-	80	"	* 2 3 18
14.3.19	do	9	-	CALAIS	- 1 2

The entrainment hour will be 0900.

On 13th instant 2nd. A.M.G. Bn. will arrange to pick up 20th Battalion draft at 0730 and proceed to CHARLEROI Station under O.C. Draft.

Every horse and mule must have head collar and chain, nosebag, haynet, and one horse bucket per four animals.

Haynets, nosebags and horserugs will be handed over with animals at Base Depot and receipt obtained.

Div. Train will load on train 3 days rations for men and horses.

Separate instructions are attached for O.C. Train and O.C. Draft.

The following mules will also be entrained at CHARLEROI on 13th instant:-

1st Aust. Div. - 50 Mules.  
5th. Aust. Div. - 200 Mules.

\* One Officer O.C. Train.

Captain,  
Staff Captain, 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

Copies to -

17th/18th Bn.  
Captain BUSEY.  
O.C. Draft.  
O.C. Train.  
War Diary (5).  
Filo.



85

War Diary

## FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

5TH AUSTRALIAN  
INFANTRY BRIGADE,  
HEADQUARTERS.

No. 87/146.

Date

CIRCULAR MEMO - No. 6Headquarters,  
11th March, 1919.

1. The next quota from the Division ( 7th A.I.Bde. Quota) leaves on 13th instant.

2. From the 14th instant inclusive the 6th and 7th A.I.Bde. Headquarters will cease to function as such.

3. The three present Infantry Brigade Groups will combine into one Infantry Brigade Group under the command of G.O.C., 5th. A.I.Bde.

The Group Headquarters will be established in MARCINELLE by 14th instant.

*Superintendent*  
-for-

Major,  
Brigade Major, 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Issued to -

17th/18th Bn.  
20th Battalion.  
2nd. A.M.G. Bn.

Copies to -

G.O.C.,  
B.M.  
S.C.  
War Diary (3)  
File.  
"A" 2nd. Aust. Div.  
"G" 2nd. Aust. Div.  
6th. A.I.Bde.  
7th. A.I.Bde.



War Diary

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FIFTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.  
-----Headquarters,  
13th March, 1919.

15/674.

17th/18th., 20th., Bns.  
-----

1. The G.O.C. Brigade will hold a parade in Square, MONTIGNIES-le-TILLEUL at 1000 Saturday 15th instant.

2. All available personnel will be on parade (including batmen, etc.) and will be formed up in a hollow square facing 17th Battalion Mess.

3. Personnel of each of 17th., 18th., 20th. Bns. will form one company. The 17th forming the left side of the square, the 18th Coy. the middle and 20th Coy. the right side of the square.

4. (a) One marker (with Bn. frontage) from each Company will report to E. . in Square at 0940 on 15th instant. Companies will march on markers and be in position in close column by 0950.

(b) DRESS - Drill Order.

5. Lieut-Col. F.E.D. FORBES, D.S.O., will take charge of the parade.

6. Units will wire this office by 1300 on 14th instant approximate number on parade.

*W. A. G. P. M.*  
Major,  
Brigade Major, 5th. Aust. Inf. Bde.

Copies to -

War Diary (3).  
-----