

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/14/34

Title: 14th Infantry Brigade

January 1919



AWM4-23/14/34

260

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

14th Australian Infantry Brigade

FOR

The month of January 1919

Jim A. Chapman Capt.
Brigade Major 14th A.I. Bde.
Signature of Officer compiling.....

J. E. Howard
Signature of Officer Commanding *Brig. Gen.*
14th A.I. Bde......

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

VOLUME 35.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 1.

INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No.
Date

Army Form J. 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.

26

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SIVRY.	1st. January. WEDNESDAY.		<p>A dull day with occasional showers. Being New Years Day a holiday was approved. Rations were supplemented by purchases from Divisional Canteen and a suitable dinner prepared for the men.</p> <p>The Divisional Commander (Major-General E. TIVEY C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.), G.S.O.I (Lieut. Colonel J. McCOLL O.B.E., M.C.) together with the three Battalion Commanders of the Brigade, dined at Brigade Headquarters in the evening and a very pleasant evening was spent.</p> <p>A wire from General BIRDWOOD announced that the Brigade Commander (Brig. General J.C. STEWART D.S.O.) had been awarded the C.M.G..</p>	
do.	2nd January. Thursday.		<p>Showery and cold. Educational classes were gone on with. The first part of the New Years Honours list appeared in the papers, Major H.L. CAMERON, M.C., 56th Battalion, being awarded the D.S.O., in addition to the award of the C.M.G. to Brig. General STEWART mentioned in yesterday's diary.</p>	
do.	3rd January. Friday.		<p>A fine day, but rain in the evening. Parades and Classes as per Syllabus. The 15th Infantry Brigade held a reunion dinner; all past and present Officers who could possibly be got together were invited, and there was the large number of 131 Officers sitting down together at dinner. Brig. General STEWART, Capt. WEBSTER and Capt. GODFREY (from Brigade Headquarters) and Major CAMERON, (56th Battalion) represented 14th Brigade as old members of the 15th Brigade. The evening was a great success and everyone present appeared to enjoy himself very much.</p>	
do.	4th January. Saturday.		<p>A clear day. We were informed by Divisional Headquarters that Major R.G. LEGGE (Brigade Major), who was to proceed from leave to Senior Officers' Course, would not now be attending the Course, as he had been selected for some other duty. Major H.A. ROBERTS, 56th Battalion, was nominated in his place.</p> <p>A dance was given by the Commanding Officer and Officers of the 55th Battalion at RANCE, and was very successful.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No.
Date.

Army Form C. 2118.

260

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.

VOLUME 35.

Page 2.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SIVRY.	5th January Sunday.		<p>Light rain throughout the day.</p> <p>General BIRDWOOD (G.O.C., A.I.F.) paid a short visit to the Brigade. He was met by the Divisional Commander, the Brigade Commander and Commanding Officers 53rd and 55th Battalions at Brigade Headquarters, and afterwards went into the Town Hall where the men were assembled for Church Service and addressed them briefly concerning the Repatriation Scheme. As General BIRDWOOD had to visit all Units of the Corps in a very short time he was unable to see as much of the men as he would have wished.</p> <p>In the evening a Dance was held in the Town Hall arranged by a combined committee of Officers and civilians, and passed off well.</p>	
do.	6th January. Monday.		<p>A dull day with occasional showers.</p> <p>Educational work and general training were carried on.</p>	
do.	7th January Tuesday.		<p>A dull day with occasional intervals of sunshine.</p> <p>G.O.C. visited FROIDCHAPELLE with Commanding Officer 56th Battalion to inspect the village with a view to occupation, by the 56th Battalion, as billets.</p> <p>Canon MASTERMAN visited the Brigade and delivered a lecture on Democracy, in the Hall at SIVRY, to a good audience.</p> <p>Captain Jim A. CHAPMAN, Staff Trainee 5th Australian Division, arrived to take up the duties temporary as Brigade Major vice Major R.G.LEGGE, D.S.O., M.C..</p> <p>The A.A. & Q.M.G. (Colonel J.H.BRUCHE C.B., C.M.G.) G.S.O.I (Lieut.Colonel McCOLL O.B.E., M.C.) and the D.A.Q.M.G. (Major H.W.CUMING M.C.) visited Brigade Headquarters during the afternoon.</p> <p>The night was very clear at intervals with a good moon shining.</p>	
do.	8th January. Wednesday.		<p>A rather doubtful day, but promised to be fine which in the end turned out to be the finest day we have had for along time.</p> <p>Major K. OFFICER, D.A.A.G. Australian Corps, visited Brigade Headquarters and advised that we could use SOLRE St.GERY or RENLIES.</p> <p>G.O.C. and Commanding Officer 56th Battalion visited SOLRE St.GERY and decided to move 56th Battalion to there.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

IN. ENTRY BRIGADE.

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.

VOLUME 35.

Page 3.

260

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SIVRY.	8th January. Wednesday.		<p>(contd.) One of the large German planes being taken back by the Royal Air Force crashed near SIVRY; no casualties. Burgomaster of SIVRY had tea at Brigade Headquarters. The G.O.C. visited 53rd Battalion.</p>	
do.	9th January. Thursday.		<p>Very windy with a heavy fall of rain in the morning, but cleared up at mid-day and was fine for the rest of the day with a bright starlight night. 56th Battalion left SIVRY by route march at 1230 hours and reached their new Billeting area - SOLRE St. GERY - early in the afternoon. The G.O.C. attended the Divisional Commander's Conference at SOLRE le CHATEAU at 1430 hours, the subject of discussion being "The Post Bellum Army". The Brigade Major visited the 53rd Battalion during the afternoon. The G.O.C. and Staff Captain attended an entertainment given by the 14th Australian Field Ambulance at SAUTAIN in the evening.</p>	
do.	10th January. Friday.		<p>The Corps Commander - Lieut. General Sir J. J. Talbot HOBBS, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., V.D., - with the Divisional Commander - Major General E. TIVEY, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D. - visited Brigade Headquarters at 1030 and then visited 53rd Battalion with the General Officer Commanding Brigade and the Brigade Major. Some of the Battalion billets were inspected by the Corps Commander. The Corps and Divisional Commanders then left for the Pioneer Battalion. In the evening Brig. General ELLIOTT, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M., - G.O.C. 15th Australian Infantry Brigade - with his Brigade Major and the Commanding Officer 57th Battalion dined with the Brigade Commander. Lieut. A.C. WOOLRYCH, Brigade Intelligence Officer, arrived back from leave.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

VOLUME 35.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Page 4.

AUSTRALIAN
 INFANTRY BRIGADE.
 No.
 Date

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

260

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SIVRY.	11th January. Saturday.		<p>Dull and drizzling rain. The G.O.C. and Brigade Major rode over to 56th Battalion, SOLRE St. GERY. During the afternoon the last gun, captured on the Armistice line at 11 a.m. on 11th November 1918 and given to the Commune of SIVRY by the General Officer Commanding 199th Brigade, was brought in to SIVRY. The Brigade Major visited the 53rd Battalion reference Education. The 56th Battalion played the Australian Corps Team at BARBENCON. The Corps Team won the day by 6 points to "Nil".</p>	
do.	12th January. Sunday.		<p>Dull but fine. The Commanding Officer 53rd Battalion visited Brigade Headquarters. In the afternoon the G.O.C. and Brigade Major visited the 55th Battalion at RANCE, and 14th Field Ambulance at SAUTAIN.</p>	
do.	13th January. Monday.		<p>Dull but fine. The Brigade Major visited the 14th Field Company Engineers. The Company's workshops were progressing well, nails being urgently needed. The Motor Mechanics class was in full swing and it only requires a carburetter and magneto to allow the men to be taught driving on a Bosche lorry. The Baths erected by the 14th Field Company Engineers only require a pump, which is being requisitioned from the Burgomaster of SIVRY, to enable Units in SIVRY to be bathed. The Commanding Officer 56th Battalion came to Brigade Headquarters during the afternoon.</p>	
do.	14th January. Tuesday.		<p>The Brigade Major visited 53rd Battalion parade, D.A.D.O.S. at GRANDRIEU and then 5th Australian Division Headquarters at SOLRE LE CHATEAU. The G.O.C. called a Conference at 2 p.m. Present, G.O.C. and Staff, Commanding Officers 53rd, 55th and 56th Battalions, and Officer Commanding 14th A.L.T.M. Battery, the main point of discussion was the equipment of Infantry in future wars.</p>	
do.	15th January. Wednesday.		<p>The day was wet. Nothing eventful happened.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.
No.
Date

Army Form C. 2118.

260

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.

VOLUME 35.

Page 5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE DIARY 1st to 15th January.</u>				
<p>During the period 5 Officers and 150 other ranks proceeded to Australia. On the 9th inst. the 56th Battalion moved from SIVRY to SOLRE St.GERY. All ranks in the Brigade are now comfortably billeted. Baths have been erected by the 14th Field Company Engineers at SIVRY. The portable baths were sent to the 56th Battalion on the 15th instant. Clean clothing supplied to each Unit.</p>				
<p>A number of transfers have been affected throughout the Brigade, owing to personnel from such Units as the Pay Corps, Postal Service, and drivers from the Divisional Train, having proceeded to Australia.</p>				
<p>All Units are preparing precedence rolls and making ready for Demobilisation. A representative from Brigade visited each Unit during the week in order to ensure uniformity throughout.</p>				
<p>A number of Court Martial cases were disposed of during the period.</p>				
SIVRY.	16th January. Thursday.		<p>The G.O.C. and Brigade Major visited 5th Australian Divisional Headquarters; the G.O.C. had an interview with the Divisional Commander, then visited "G" and "Q" Branches. The day was fine with a fair amount of sunshine. The Staff Captain visited D.A.D.O.S.</p>	
do.	17th January. Friday.		<p>Brigadier General McNICOLL, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., visited the 14th Australian Infantry Brigade and lectured to 53rd Battalion and representatives from 55th Battalion, 56th Battalion, 5th Pioneer Battalion, 14th Australian Field Ambulance and 14th Field Company Engineers, at 10.30 a.m. in SIVRY Hall, on Demobilisation and Repatriation. The G.O.C. visited BEAUMONT and SOLRE St.GERY. The day was fine with intervals of sunshine.</p>	
do			<p>The Commanding Officers 53rd and 56th Battalions had tea at Brigade Headquarters.</p>	
do.	18th January. Saturday.		<p>The Brigade Major visited 55th Battalion at RANCE and the 14th Field Ambulance. The weather was dull but the rain still held off. The Divisional Commander visited Brigade Headquarters during the afternoon and had tea at Brigade Headquarters. The Staff Captain visited 14th Field Company Engineers. The Commanding Officer 53rd Battalion visited Brigade Headquarters after dinner.</p>	
<p>D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2-31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14</p>				

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Page 6.

KENTRY BRIGADE.

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.

VOLUME 35.

(Erase heading not required.)

No.

Date

260

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SIVRY.	19th January. Sunday.		<p>A dull day with a slight fog which got very heavy in the evening. The G.O.C. attended a Conference at Divisional Headquarters at 1430 hours, subjects being Equipment of Infantry and Demobilisation.</p>	
do.	20th January. Monday.		<p>A very heavy frost but a beautiful fine day. Colonel N.K.CHARTERIS, D.S.O., of Fourth Army, gave a Lecture in SIVRY Town Hall on the "Work of Machine Guns in Fourth Army". The Staff Captain visited the Brigade Refilling Point at SIVRY Station.</p>	
do.	21st January. Tuesday.		<p>A heavy frost but a fine day. The G.O.C. went to Divisional Headquarters. The Commanding Officer 55th Battalion visited Brigade Headquarters during the afternoon. The Brigade Major visited 14th Field Company Engineers. The baths erected by this Company are now in working order, a salvaged bosche pump and engine being used.</p>	
do.	22nd January Wednesday.		<p>A frost and a fine day. The G.S.O.I. visited Brigade Headquarters and then accompanied the G.O.C. to 56th Battalion. The Brigade Major visited 56th Battalion during the morning.</p>	
do.	23rd January Thursday		<p>Frosty. A slight fall of snow commencing about 8.30 a.m. and ending about 11 a.m. A fine day. The Divisional Commander, Major-General TIVEY, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D. visited Brigade Headquarters and then accompanied by the G.O.C. Brigade visited 56th Battalion at SOLRE St. GERY.</p>	
do.	24th January Friday.		<p>Cold day but fine. The Staff Captain visited RANCE during the morning. Lieut. Colonel C.C. MASON D.S.O. visited Brigade Headquarters. The streets of SIVRY are looking a great deal cleaner and are in a more sanitary condition since the 53rd Battalion has been on cleaning them up.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. Army Form C. 2118.

No.
Date

260

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.

VOLUME 35.

Page 7.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SIVRY.	25th January Saturday.		<p>The G.O.C. visited 55th Battalion at RANCE during the morning. He attended a Conference at Division Headquarters at 2.30 p.m. for consideration of Brigade Groups inside the Divisional Group for Demobilisation. In the draw for places the 14th Brigade drew 3rd.</p> <p>The Brigade Major also visited Division Headquarters. Lieut. Colonel A.C.S. HOLLAND arrived back from PARIS. Cold day frost still continues.</p>	
do.	26th January Sunday.		<p>Cold dull morning. Snow began to fall at 9 a.m. and a light fall lasted all day. Remount Board visited the Brigade for classification of horses. C.R.A., Brig. General BESSELL BROWNE C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D. lunched at Brigade Headquarters.</p>	
do.	27th January Monday.		<p>A cold day. Slight fall of snow. Major H.L. CAMERON D.S.O., M.C. visited Brigade Headquarters and remained overnight.</p>	
do.	28th January Tuesday.		<p>A cold day. The Brigade Major proceeded on leave to CHARLEROI, BRUSSELS and WATERLOO. The meeting in regard to Demobilisation which was to have been held today was cancelled owing to the fact that the whole Divisional Groups have been altered.</p>	
do.	29th January Wednesday		<p>A cold day. A slight fall of snow during the morning.</p>	
do.	30th January Thursday.		<p>A meeting of C.O.'s Battalions, 5th Pioneer Battalion and 14th Field Company Engineers was held at Brigade Headquarters. Matters relating to Demobilisation were discussed.</p> <p>The G.O.C. visited 14th Field Ambulance in the afternoon.</p>	
do.	31st. January Friday.		<p>A cold day. A very slight fall of snow. The Brigade Major returned from BRUSSELS Leave.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

AUSTRALIAN
INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Army Form 2118. 260

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.

VOLUME 35.

Page 8

No.
Date

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>ADMINISTRATIVE DIARY 16th to 31st January.</u></p> <p>The Divisional Cinema has been showing in the Town Hall SIVRY, during the last week.</p> <p>No. 4 Quota proceeded to Australia on the 24th instant. The Draft consisted of 5 officers and 162 O.R.</p>	

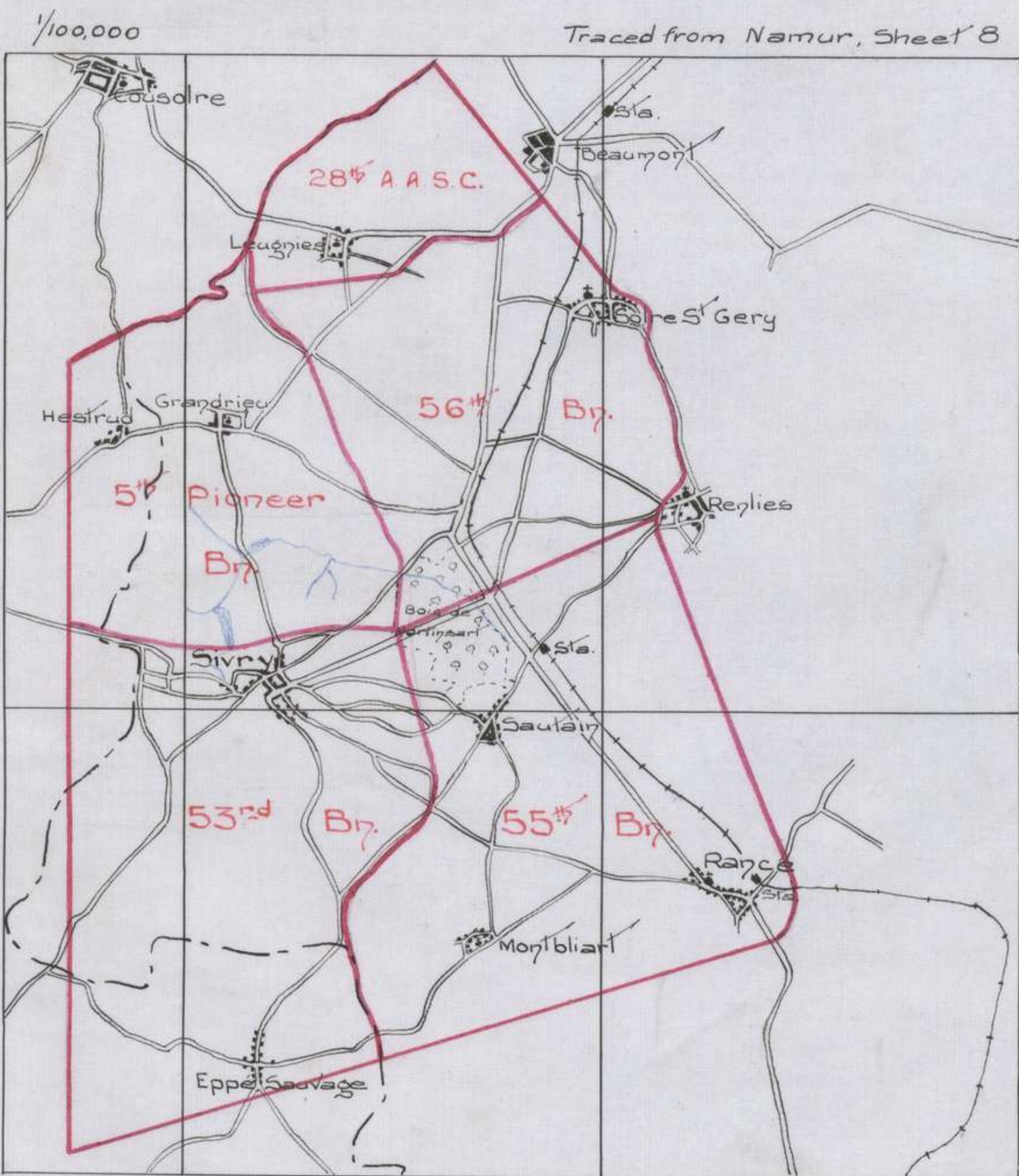
WAR DIARY

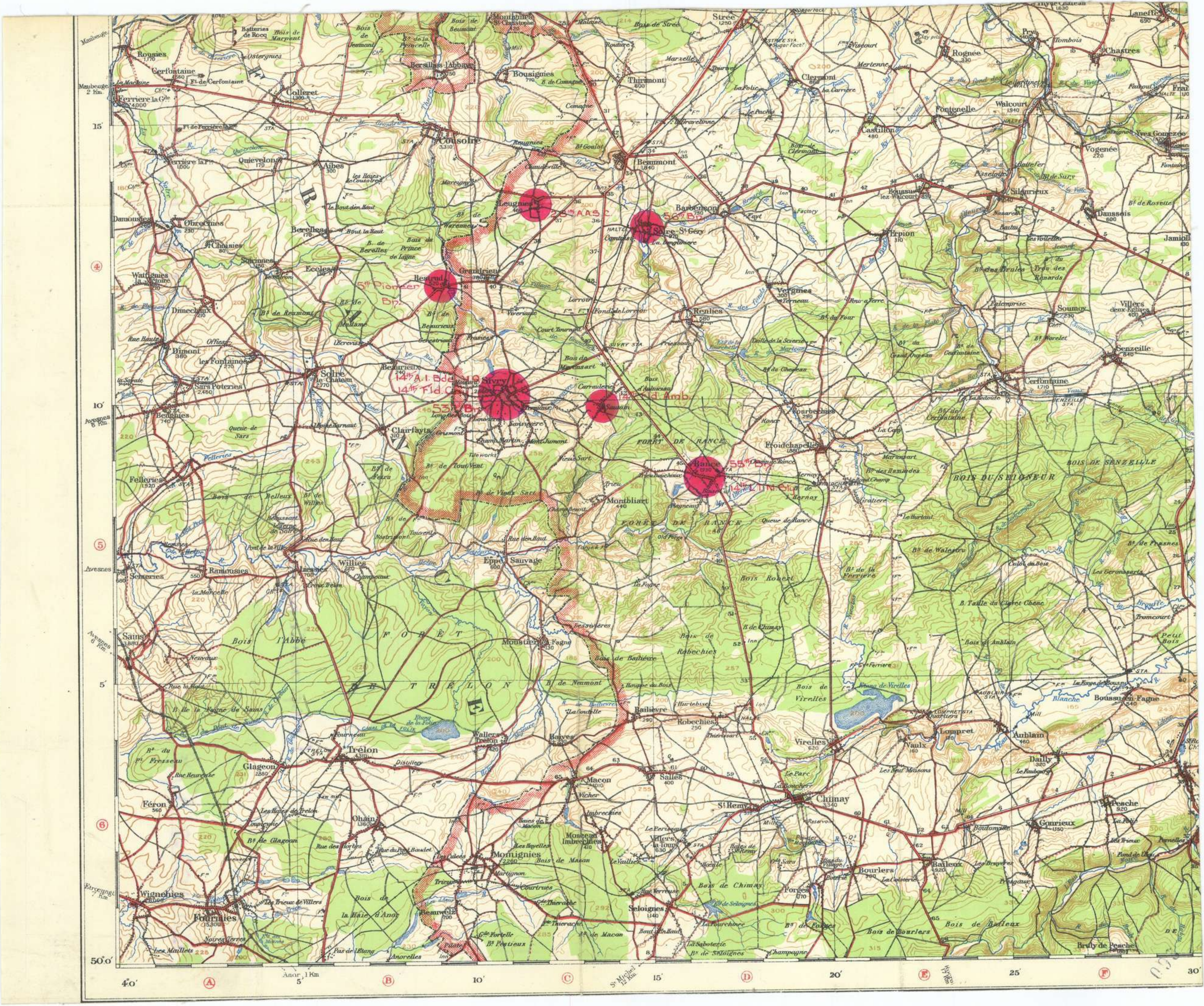
14th Australian Infantry Brigade

Volume No

Appendix

Sketch of Unit Areas





original

WAR DIARY

14th Australian Infantry Brigade

Dispositions of Brigade Group

Volume 17^o

Appendix

260

ORIGINAL



14th Aust. L. T. M. Bty

January 1919
W. J. H. M.

~~Mr. H. H. H.~~
S.A.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

14th M.L. Battery

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Rance.	Jan 18 th 22 nd 30 th 4 th 5 th 6 th 7 th 8 th 9 th 10 th 11 th 12 th 13 th 14 th 15 th 16 th 17 th 18 th 19 th 20 th 21 st 22 nd 23 rd 24 th 25 th 26 th 27 th 28 th 29 th 30 th 31 st		<p>New Year Day. No parades. Sports in afternoon. M.B. Team won cross-country race.</p> <p>Educational training resumed. Dance in evening.</p> <p>Educational classes continued. M.B. Team defeated 55th Bath Team at Soccer 2 goals to nil.</p> <p>Educational classes in morning. Officers dance in evening.</p> <p>Church Parade.</p> <p>Series of lectures on English Literature commenced. Battery Team defeated 55th H.Q. Ringley 6 to 3.</p> <p>Educational & vocational training continued.</p> <p>Battery cross-country team beaten by C. Co. 55th Bath.</p> <p>Inspection 9 to 9.30. Educational training 9.30 to 12.30</p> <p>Recreational training football etc in afternoon.</p> <p>Church Parade.</p> <p>Inspection 9 to 9.30.</p> <p>Educational training 9.30 to 12.30.</p> <p>Afternoon sports & recreation.</p> <p>Evening. Dances, Debates etc.</p> <p>Church Parade.</p> <p>Very cold. Battery Team defeated B. Co. 55th Bath. at Soccer 3 goals to nil.</p> <p>Still very cold. Lieut Burns proceeded on leave to England.</p> <p>Ordinary Routine.</p> <p>Preparations for despatch of 1915 men returning to Australia.</p> <p>Sons (4) corporals & eight (8) men proceeded to 5th P.B.R. N. Beaumont en route for Australia (1915 personnel)</p> <p>Hard frost. Some skating on blanc de montain.</p> <p>Fast snow. Church Parade.</p> <p>Pay collected & issued.</p> <p>Lieut G.N. Bennett and Pte Shan & Nash proceeded to England for early repatriation to resume interrupted University course.</p> <p>Still very cold & frosty.</p> <p>Ordinary routine continued.</p>	<p>60</p>

A. Brocklept
O.C. 14th M.L. 2 No B