

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/30/48

Title: Headquarters, 2nd Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

November 1918



AWM4-13/30/48

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Aust. F.A. Bde.

FOR

NOVEMBER 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

L. Wain Lieut.

Signature of Officer Commanding

James Henry Lt. Col.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place <i>6A22</i>	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>CONDE-FOLIE</i>	<i>1/11/18</i>		<i>Capt. F. G. Hooton, Dental Officer, departed to 1st F.A. Brigade. Second period of Training commenced. Duration 1st to 10th inclus.</i>	
<i>do</i>	<i>2/11/18</i>		<i>Lecture on "America and American Independence" by Mr. F. E. James, Y.M.C.A. Lecturer, in Y.M.C.A. LONGPRE at 5.30 P.M.</i>	
<i>do</i>	<i>3/11/18</i>		<i>Church Service conducted by Chaplain the Rev T. T. Webb, at 10.15 A.M. in the Factory CONDE.</i>	
<i>do</i>	<i>4/11/18</i>		<i>"In Memoriam" R.C. Service held in LONG; the C.R.A. was present. A Lecture on the "Air Recuperator" was delivered by Major Thompson in Y.M.C.A. Tent, CONDE, at 10 A.M.; all officers and No's 1. attended. Platform and flags were erected on parade ground, RIVIERE WOOD, in readiness for Review of 1st Aust. Divl. Artillery tomorrow.</i>	
<i>do</i>	<i>5/11/18</i>		<i>Very wet day. Brigade Major wired postponement of Review; a later message cancelled the Review.</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

2nd BRIGADE,
AUSTRALIAN F.A.
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CONDE-FOLIE	6/11/18		The G.O.C and C.R.A. inspected all Batteries. R.E. Material was drawn from C.R.E, LONG, for the construction of Feed-houses.	
Do	7/11/18		Clipping of horses commenced - team horses first.	
Do	8/11/18		Clipping and General Routine work carried out. "Boomerangs" Concert Party started a series of entertainments in the Factory, CONDE, at 6.30 P.M. nightly.	
Do	9/11/18		Final of 1 st Aust. Div. Arty. Boxing Championship was decided in the Factory, CONDE. at 2.45 P.M.	
Do	10/11/18		Church Services were held at 9.30 A.M. in the Factory, and at 6.30 P.M. in Ymca, CONDE, by Chaplain Webb. The C.R.A. held a conference of Battery Commanders at 10.30 A.M. at Brigade Headquarters.	
Do	11/11/18		Clipping and General Routine work carried out. Received news of the Armistice.	

2nd BRIGADE,
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CONDE-FOLIE.	12/11/18		General holiday	
do	13/11/18		All Batteries carried out manoeuvres at RIVIERE WOOD at 10.30 A.M. Colonel Henshaw, Horse Adviser, inspected central clipping Place.	
2nd BRIGADE, AUSTRALIAN F.A. do	14/11/18		all Batteries carried out manoeuvres at RIVIERE WOOD at 10.30 A.M.	
do	15/11/18		General routine work and clipping.	
do	16/11/18		C.R.A and Brigade Major inspected central clipping Place. A new grazing paddock was selected near BETTENCOURT, and 50 horses of the Brigade sent there.	
do	17/11/18		Evening Service conducted by Chaplain Webb in Y.M.C.A. CONDE, at 6.30 P.M.	
do	18/11/18		Clipping and general routine work.	
do	19/11/18		67 remounts drawn from Remount Depot, ABBEVILLE. A Lecture on the "Air Service" was delivered in Factory, CONDE, by Capt Barkell at 10 A.M. C.O., all Officers, & N.C.O's attended.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CONDE-FOLIE	20/11/18		Received preliminary notice of move tomorrow 21 st by road to Australian Corps Area.	
LONGUEAU (AMIENS 17 2E 3.5) 2nd BRIGADE, AUSTRALIAN F.A.	21/11/18		At 2 A.M. received March Order for the Brigade to move to CARTIGNIES Area. At 8.30 A.M. Brigade left CONDE-FOLIE, and travelled via HANGEST, BOURDON, BELLOY, LA CHAUSSE TIRANCOURT, ST. SAUVEUR, and RIVERY to LONGUEAU, where it was billeted for the night. The C.O. inspected the Brigade whilst on the march.	
CAPPY, (Amiens 17) (I.J. 1.2)	22/11/18		Moved from LONGUEAU at 8 A.M. and travelled via VILLERS - BRETONNEUX, PROYART, and CHUIGNOLLES to CAPPY, and billeted there for the night. The C.R.A. inspected the Brigade whilst on the march.	
HERVILLY (St. Quentin 18) (I.B. 2.3)	23/11/18		Moved from CAPPY at 8.45 A.M. and travelled via HERBECOURT, FLAUCOURT, BIACHES, DOINGT, CARTIGNY, BUIRE, TINCOURT, and ROISEL to HERVILLY.	
ST. SOUPLET (Valenciennes 12) (6G. 5.7)	24/11/18		Moved from HERVILLY at 7.55 A.M. travelled via HESBECOURT, HARGICOURT, BONY, BEAUREVOIR, MAURETZ, and BASIGNY to ST. SOUPLET.	also copy

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CARTIGNIES (Valenciennes) 5.K 2.2	25/18		Left ST. SOUplet at 7.50 A.M., travelled via MAZINGHIEN, LA-GROISE, and PRISCHES to CARTIGNIES. The G.O.C. Division and C.R.A. inspected the Brigade on the march.	
WATTIGNIES -LA-VICTOIRE (Namur. 8) 4.A 3.5	26/18		Left CARTIGNIES at 7.55 A.M., and travelled via AVESNELLES, FLAUMONT, FELLERIES, BEUGNIES, DIMONT, and DIMECHAUX to WATTIGNIES-LA-VICTOIRE. Evidences of last retreat of Germans very prevalent - especially in the blowing up of bridges & destruction of railways.	
DO	27/18		Clipping of horses resumed. C.R.A. inspected the Brigade. Cable for £ 300 for Xmas Dinner received from Hon. Sec, 2 nd F.A. B. Comforts Fund, Melbourne.	
DO 2nd BRIGADE, AUSTRALIAN F.A.	28/18		Clipping and general routine work. Horses of Brigade in stables. Excellent grazing in unoccupied paddocks around the village. Men's billets - fair; unoccupied farm houses, barns, etc. Rations a trifle irregular through interrupted transport services.	MS
DO	29/18		Clipping and general routine work.	
DO	30/18		Clipping and general routine work.	L.H.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Consequent on the bad behaviour of certain doubtful characters belonging to the A I Force an organised search was ordered by the Australian Corps of the villages & areas surrounding the Amiens district. The district allotted to the 2nd Brigade included Bonar-Eolie village & surroundings which included woods & various dry cuts in Amiens roads. The men recognizing the bad name that would be given to the Australians if these characters were allowed to remain at large showed great keenness in their search. All men were fully armed & were given definite instructions to fire on anybody wearing Australian uniform who attempted to escape after being challenged for an explanation as</p>	

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			<p>to why he was not with his unit. The result was successful as many as numerous men also of various units who had been missing for varying periods were captured. Crimes & robberies which had been continually occurring at our camp. owing to lack of reinforcements to fill vacancies owing to men leaving for Australia's evacuations of all so we were fortunate in arranging to have a number of German prisoners allotted to Battalion to assist in clearing & improving horse lines. The shortage of men was a serious consideration during our long march 115 miles to Watignies. During our rest at Conde Folie the men had little opportunity for recreation due to this shortage. The rations whilst at CONDE FOLIE were in every way good & were supplemented by purchases out of Brigade funds from the local inhabitants. Since our arrival at Watignies the rations have been considerably reduced owing to difficulties of supply. The messes were explained to the men & appreciated.</p>	
			<p>David Wolf Libal 60th Div Brigade</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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18-

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>WATTIGNIES -LA-VICTOIRE (Namur 8.) 4A 3.5)</p> <p>2nd BRIGADE, AUSTRALIAN F.A.</p> <p>No. _____</p> <p>Date _____</p>	<p>30 11 18</p>		<p>Extracts from A.F.B. 213 of 8-11-18: -</p> <p>Present Strength of Brigade - ^{off} 21 · ^{ops} 661 · ^{R.} 135 · ^{L.D.} 365 · ^{HD.} 2 · ^{Mules.} 48</p> <p>Taken on Strength - 14 other ranks from Hospital</p> <p>Struck off Strength - 15 other ranks to Hospital - sick.</p> <p>Honors and Awards - 34789 T/cpl R. Mac Millan, 4th Bty } Awarded 2134 Sgt. A. B. Chimmery, 4th Bty } Military 2024 Sgt. J. L. Walsh, 6th Bty } Medal</p>	
<p>Do</p>	<p>30 11 18</p>		<p>Extracts from A.F.B. 213 of 15-11-18: -</p> <p>Present Strength - ^{off} 21 · ^{ops} 657 · ^{Raj.} 136 · ^{L.D.} 362 · ^{HD.} 2 · ^{Mules.} 78</p> <p>Taken on Strength - 2/Lieut C 26 Murray & 3 other ranks from Hospital.</p> <p>Struck off Strength - Lieut R.A. Ayrton to Hospital while on leave in U.K.; 10 other ranks to Hospital.</p>	
<p>Do</p>	<p>30 11 18</p>		<p>Extracts from A.F.B. 213 of 22-11-18: -</p> <p>Present Strength - ^{Raj.} 23 off; ^{L.D.} 652 ops. ^{HD.} 144; ^{Mules.} 410; 2; 78</p> <p>Taken on Strength - Capt. R. H. Dodgson from 36th B.A. Brigade Capt. C. W. Hicks & 3 other ranks from Hospital</p> <p>Struck off Strength - 7 other ranks to Hospital.</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i></p>

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WATTIGNIES - LA-VICTOIRE (Namur 8 4A 3.5) 2nd BRIGADE, AUSTRALIAN F.A.	30 11 18.		Extracts from A. J. B 213 of 29-11-18: - LD. HD Mules. Present Strength - 23 off: 647 ops: 144 ^{Rdg} : 396: 2: 78 Taken on Strength - 1 opr. from 3 rd Div Army + 2 ops. from Hospital Struck off Strength - 5 ops. to Hospital: 1 opr to 1 st M. T. Company.	P. J. P. L. J. P.
No. Date				