

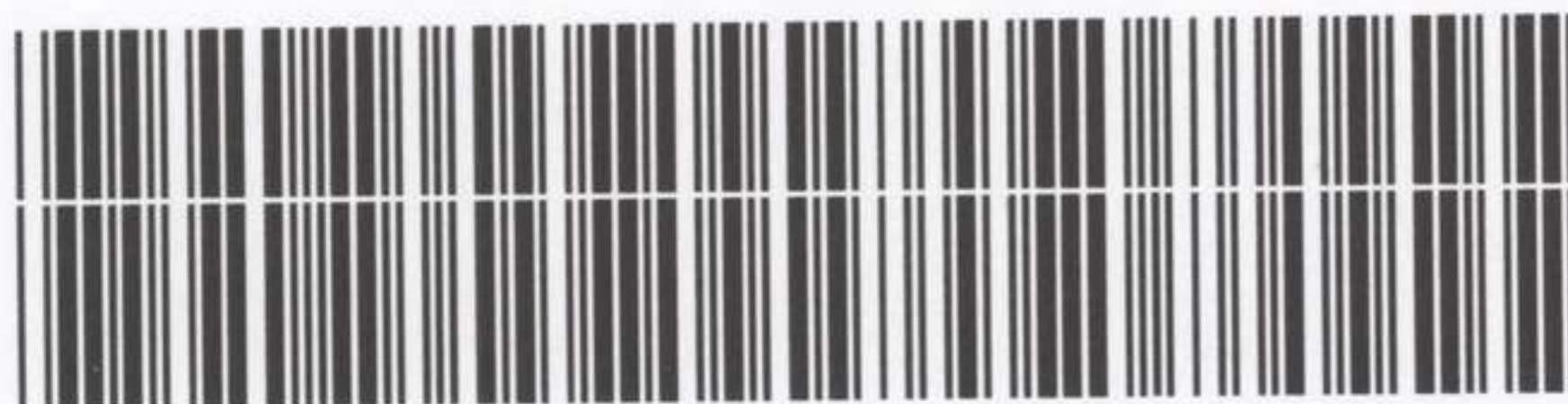
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/13/20

Title: 8th Australian Machine Gun
Company

January 1918



AWM4-24/13/20

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
TRIPLICATE.

8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.
No.....
Date.....

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

8th. Aust. Machine Gun. Coy.

FOR

January 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

M. J. M. M. M.

Signature of Officer Commanding

A. K. Hadley

8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.

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.

Page I

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Months of January 1918</u>	
Desvors	1st		Holiday. Lieut F C Wynn and Capt Muirhead proceed to England for duty at Machine Gun School Grantham.	
	2nd		Holiday. Officers attend MG demonstration at Camiers	
	3rd		Works as per Syllabus of Training. Company photographed by Official Photographer	
	4th		Works as per Syllabus of Training	
	5th		Nos 2 + 3 Sections bathe. Remainder - As per Syllabus. Preparation for inspection while at work by GOC and American Divisional Commander. Failed to arrive	
	6th		Church Parades.	

A. Hall Cap

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.
No.
Date

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Months of January 1918</u>	
Deserres	7th		Training as per syllabus. Rain during night Three football matches played and won against	{ 30th Batt Australian 32nd d Soccer 92nd d Rugby.
	8th		Snowing heavily. Brigade Sports programme commences. Australian football match against 31st Batt. Beaten 1 ⁹ / ₁₆	
	9th		Inspection of clothing, boots and equipment by C.O. Ptes Shields & Durkin attend course at Bde Pigeon School until 12th inst. C.O. attended Brigade Conference.	
	10th		Works as per syllabus. Inspection of Saddlery and harness by C.O. Training as per syllabus	
	11th		ditto. Lieut J.W. Axtens rejoins company.	
	12th		Inspection of Transport by C.O. Training as per syllabus	
	13th		Voluntary Church Parades	
	14th		Inspection of H.Q. personnel (equipment etc) 10 am. Boy parade to proceed to Brigade Sports meeting.	
			11th. Capt. Ptes McMahon & Orth to Pigeon School	

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7883) Wt. W80/M1672 350,000 3/17 56th. 52a Forms/Oct 18/14

WAR DIARY
OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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8TH AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.
No.
Date.....

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Months of January 1918	
Desvors	15th		Nos 1 & 4 Sections bathe. Remainder work as per Syllabus.	
	16th		Route march cancelled. Rain throughout day. Belt filling, mechanism & C/O of arms in Section billets	
	17th		Lieut Holtham reports to R.T.O. Staples at 10am in connection with A.F.C. application. Lt JW Astens to Camouflage School. Transport inspection cancelled.	
	18th	10.30	Nos 2 & 3 Sections bathe. G.O.C. inspects transport. Remainder - work as per Syllabus.	
	19th		Lieut Lillerapp proceeds to Boulogne to inspect Company Records. Work as per Syllabus.	
	20th		Church Parades. NCO's attend Gas lecture in YMCA hall at 4.30 pm.	
	21st		Co. paraded and proceeded to Brigade Parade Ground to witness Presentation of Ribands by Gen. Sir W.D. Birdwood.	

A. H. Black Cap

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.
No.
Date.....

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and
references to
Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Month of January 1918.			
Desures	22.		cleaning equipment. Rifle exercises. Transport cleaned.	
	23	10am	March past G.O.C. 1st Australian Corps	
	24th		Nos 13 & 14 Sections bathe.	
			Remainder work as per syllabus.	
	25th	9a	Work as per syllabus.	
		2.45 pm	Company parade to witness Presentation of Brigade challenge cup to 32nd Batt by G.O.C. 5th Aus Div.	
	26		Company cleaning up quarters. Inspection of ammunition Packing and inspection of Gun Gear. Drivers bathe Representative supporters attend soccer match 8th Brigade versus Divisional Troops.	
	27th		Church Parades.	
	28th		Physical Training Gas Drill. cleaning Quarters Capt. Hack and 8 men proceed to the line in advance of the Company. Lieut Basdow proceeded by road with Transport less 1 1/2 Shumbers Mess Cart Water-cart at Hack's camp.	

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8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.

WAR DIARY
or
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No.
Date

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and
references to
Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>Month of January 1918</i>				
<i>Desoures</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>Marching Order Parade. Inspection of billets. Lieut R.L. Mahchand proceeded to Ravensburg Area with 1 NCO + man as Advance Party</i>	
	<i>30th</i>	<i>1am</i>	<i>Hot Tea served to Coy preparatory to march.</i>	
		<i>2.30</i>	<i>Marching Order parade. Proceeded to Sameer. Arrived 4.50 am</i>	
			<i>Entrained 10 am. Detrained at DeKennebeck siding at 6 pm.</i>	
			<i>Proceeded by road to Kent Camp. Arrived 7.50 pm. Hot Tea 8.15 pm</i>	
			<i>Remainder portion Transport under Lt C. King, proceeded by rail from Desoures 9.45 am. Detrained at Bailleul 2.15 pm and</i>	
			<i>proceeded by road to Hillside Camp. Arrived 5 pm. Hot meals served to personnel one hour before and after departure and arrival.</i>	
<i>Ravensburg Area</i>	<i>31st</i>	<i>9am</i>	<i>Marching Order Parade. Company moved to Hillside Camp.</i>	
		<i>11.30</i>	<i>Transport reached Camp. Prepared to relieve 3rd MGC in Messines Sector</i>	
		<i>2.40</i>	<i>pm. Men detailed for the line. Proceeded to the line.</i>	
			<i>Weather very misty. Everything very quiet - going in. Relief was completed 5.40 pm.</i>	
			<i>A. Black Cap</i>	

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APPENDIX

6

WAR DIARY

OF



8th Aust. Machine Gun Co

FOR

January 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
<i>1</i>	} <i>Syllabi of Training</i>
<i>2</i>	
<i>3</i>	
<i>4</i>	
<i>5</i>	
<i>5</i>	<i>Statement of Funds expended on Company's Christmas Dinner</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>Oiled Paper Sketch of Desores Area.</i>
<i>7</i>	} <i>Move Order Desores to Hillside Camp.</i>
<i>8</i>	

8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.
No.....
Date.....

Syllabus of Training for period 31/12/17 to 5/1/18.
8th Australian Machine Gun Company.

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31.12.17	P.T. Gas Drill. Barrage Drill. Stoppages with Ball Amunition. Stripping + Mechanism.
1.1.18	Holiday.
2.1.18	Holiday.
3.1.18	Route March.
4.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Barrage Drill. Stoppages with Ball Amunition.
5.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Barrage Drill. Stoppages with Ball Amunition. Stripping + Mechanism.

31/12/17.

A.K. ⁴Haeb Lt. ~~McCap~~
b.O. 8th Aust Mac. Gun. Coy.

APPENDIX.

1
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8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.

No.
Date

Syllabus of Training for period 6/1/18 to 12/1/18

2

8th Australian Machine Gun Coy.

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6.1.18	Sunday.
7.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition. Stripping. Care + cleaning of Arms.
8.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition. Stripping. Care + cleaning of Arms.
9.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition. Stripping Care + cleaning of Arms.
10.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Barrage Drill. Packing Limbers
11.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Barrage Drill. Belt Filling.
12.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Section Drill. Belt Filling.

6.1.18.

P. H. Lack Captain
C.O. 8th Aust. M. G. Coy.

APPENDIX: 2

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8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.

Syllabus of Training for period 13/1/18 to 19/1/18.
8th Australian Machine Gun Coy.

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No.
Date. Sunday.

13.1.18	
14.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition. Stripping. Care + cleaning of Amms. 2 Sections on Barrage Drill.
15.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition. Stripping. Care + cleaning of Amms. 2 Sections on Barrage Drill.
16.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition. Stripping. Care + cleaning of Amms. 2 Sections on Barrage Drill.
17.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Combined Barrage Drill. Packing Limbers.
18.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Combined Barrage Drill. Belt Filling.
19.1.18	P.T. Gas Drill. Combined Barrage Drill. Belt Filling.
19.1.18	

13/1/18.

A. Hack Captain
C.O. 8th Aust. M. G. Coy.

APPENDIX 3

Syllabus of Training for period 20/1/18 to 26/1/18.

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8TH AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.
No.....
Date.....

8th Australian Machine Gun Coy.

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20.1.18

Sunday.

21.1.18

P.T. Gas Drill. Combined Barrage Drill. Belt Filling.

22.1.18

P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition.
Care + cleaning of Arms. 2 Sections on Barrage Drill.

23.1.18

P.T. Gas Drill. Mechanism. Stripping. Belt Filling.
2 Sections on Barrage Drill.

24.1.18

P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition.
Nomenclature.

25.1.18

P.T. Gas Drill. Combined Barrage Drill.
Packing Limbers.

26.1.18

P.T. Gas Drill. Stoppages with Ball Ammunition.
Care + cleaning of Arms. 2 Sections on Barrage Drill.

20/1/18.

A. K. Lack Captain

C. O. 8th Aust. M. G. Coy.

APPENDIX

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Funds Expended

APPENDIX.

511

on Christmas Dinner (1917)
by the
8th Australian M. G. Coy.

	Francs.	
Beer.	71	
Beer.	71	
Coal.	34	
17 Turkeys @ 35 ^{Fr.} (595 ^{Fr.}), 8 Geese @ 30 ^{Fr.} (240 ^{Fr.}). Plucking & Drawing. (25 ^{Fr.})	860	
Potatoes (32 ^{Fr.}) Mandarins (36 ^{Fr.}) Carrots (6 ^{Fr.}) Turnips (14 ^{Fr.}) Apples (28 ^{Fr.}) Cabbages. (20 ^{Fr.})	136	
Decorations (No 3 Section)	5	40
do. do.	5	40
Nuts.	51.	
Pineapples (72 ^{Fr.}) Raspberries (54 ^{Fr.}) Xmas Puddings (360 ^{Fr.}) Emser Ale (57.60 ^{Fr.}) Cigarettes (50 ^{Fr.}) Cigars (15.35 ^{Fr.}) (less 5/6 ^{Fr.} div. from E.F.C. 27/10)	521	55
Cooking & Use of House (No 2 Section)	10	.
Cooking (etc.)	10	5
Cigars.	15	35
Wood & Fuel. (Carriers)	5	.
Decorations (No 2 Section)	10	.
Custard. (No 1 Section)	7	50
Decorations (No 4 Section)	4	.
Coal. (No 1 Section)	10	.
Cooking Turkeys (8 ^{Fr.}) Butter (10 ^{Fr.}) Onions (3.60 ^{Fr.}) Suet (4.50 ^{Fr.}) Decorations etc. (14.50 ^{Fr.})	40	60
Total Expended. Frs.	1867	80

Approximately. £69—



A. H. Cook Capt

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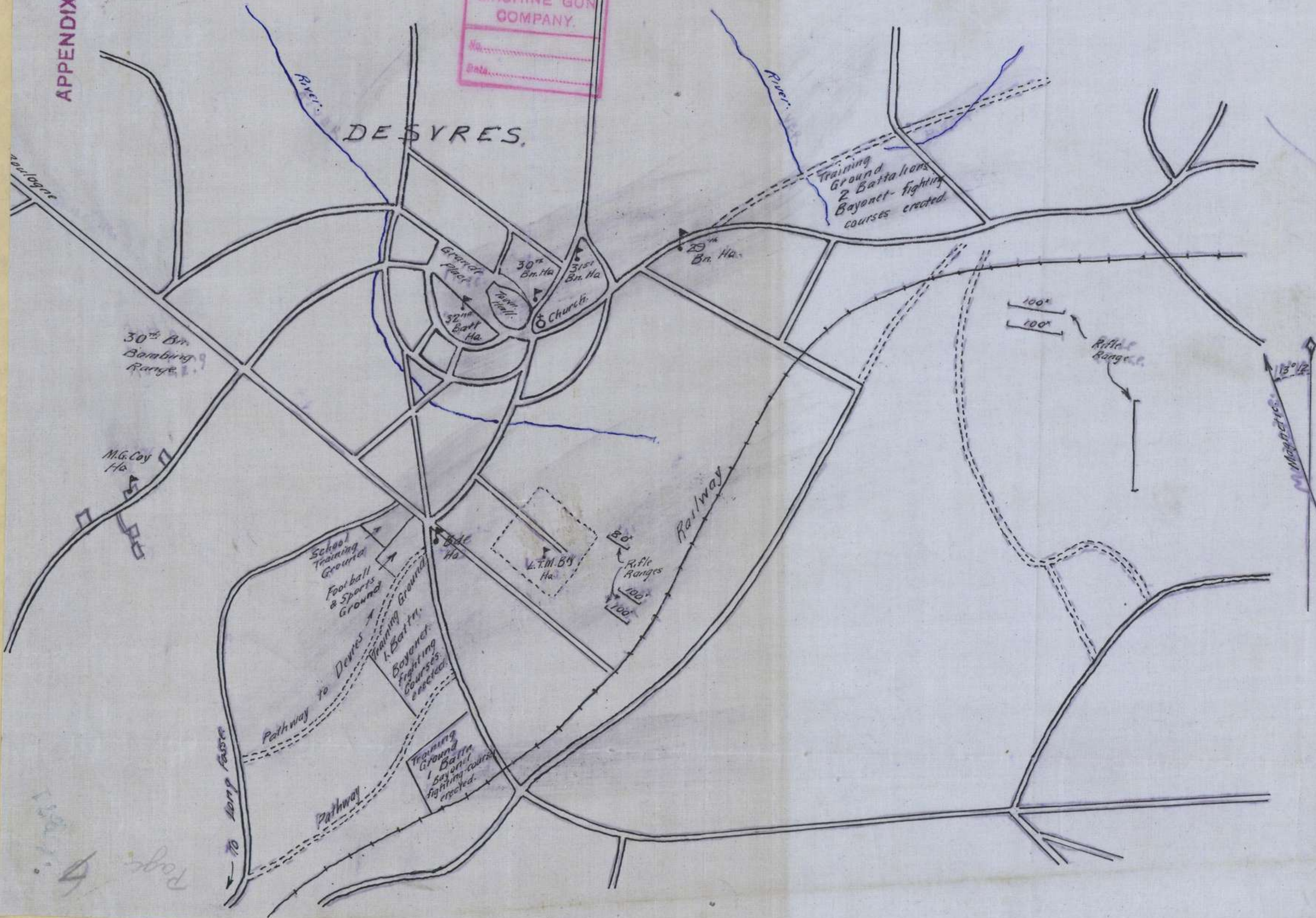
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APPENDIX 6

8th AUSTRALIAN
MACHINE GUN
COMPANY.

No.
Date.

DES VRES.



6

7

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Move Order.

APPENDIX. 7

13



by Captain A. K. Flack. MC.

b. O. 8th Australian. M. G. Coy.

Ref. balance 1/100,000 + Sheet 28. 1/40,000.

1. Move. The 8th Aust. M. G. Coy, less portion of transport proceeding by road, will move from present quarters by road to Samek, thence rail to the Kennelton siding, thence to billets in Ravensburg Area. Remaining portion of transport will move as detailed below.
- Starting Point. The Coy will pass the Starting Point - present Coy. HQ. at 2.35 am on 30th inst.
2. Parade. At 2.20 am. on 30th inst.
3. Dress. Marching Order. One blanket to be rolled in W. P. Sheet, and tied round pack. Steel helmets to be carried by pack support. Straps. S. B. R.'s to be worn resting on top of pack. P. H. Helmets to be carried on left side. Water bottles to be filled + unconsumed portion of day's rations to be carried.
4. Blankets. Spare blankets, rolled by Sub-sections - Headquarters in 2 rolls, and stacked at 2. M's Store + loaded on lorry by 3 pm on 29th inst.
5. Hot Tea. Hot tea will be available at HQ 3. Section's billets at 1. am on 29th inst.
6. Billets. Billets will be left in a clean + orderly condition + U. C. O's 1/c of same will be held responsible for their condition. Inspection by S. Os, at 1. am on 30th inst.
7. Area Stores. Orderly Officer will obtain receipts from Area Warden for all stores handed over or left "in situ".
8. Valises. Officers valises will be ready to be loaded on lorry by 4 pm at Long Lorse + by 4.30 pm at Deewes on 29th inst.
9. Remainder of Transport. Remainder of transport under 2/Lt. C. J. King, will detrain at Deewes at 8.4.30 am on 30th inst, and detrain at Baillieul + proceed thence by road to quarters in Ravensburg Area.

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APPENDIX 8

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11. Advance Party Lieut. Wakeham with 1. M. G. O. + 1 man will act as Advance Party & will proceed by train from Reserve Station, at 6.4.30 on 29th inst.

8th AUSTRALIAN
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COMPANY.
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Date

W. Hack Lieut for Capt. 6. O. 8th Aust. M. G. Coy.

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