

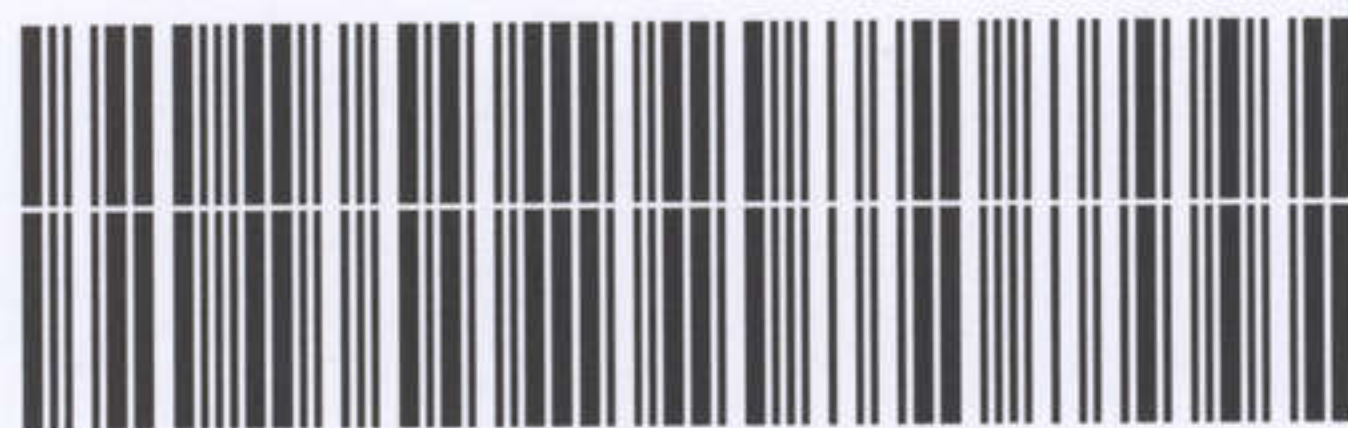
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Railways

Item number: 15/3/17

Title: 2nd Australian Light Railway
Operating Company

January 1919



AWM4-15/3/17

Confidential

Original
~~Duplicate~~
~~Triplicate~~

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Australian Imperial Forces.

War Diary

of

2nd Australian Light Trench Coy.

for

January 1919.

Signature of Officer compiling R. P. Rice
Lieut

Signature of Officer found R. P. Rice
Lieut

① 2nd Aust. L. R. Coy.

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.)

January 1919.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1-1-1919			<p>Unit is located at Fourrai under the command of Capt. G. A. Graham.</p> <p>The strength of unit today is 253 including 4 officers - 3 working with this company + one is detached to 4th Aust. B. Coy. at Dunkerque.</p> <p>During the month our evacuations to Hospital have been heavy + leave granted to U.K. + France has considerably weakened our operating strength, but at present work is slack. This company is responsible for trains + working on the following lines all to + from Courtrai. Roulers + Turcoing. Our company is housed in wagons handed over from Germany in accordance with the terms of the armistice, I men to a wagon + all agree that we have never had more comfortable quarters in France. Rations are good + plentiful.</p>	<p>See 'A' + 'B' attached</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1/1/19		Continues: weather cold & dull.	
	2/1/19		weather cold with heavy traffic winds. Traffic quiet.	
	3/1/19		Cold weather continues. Traffic quiet.	
	4/1/19		Weather dull & cold. Nothing unusual to report.	
	5/1/19		No change in weather conditions.	
	6/1/19		weather continues dull & cold. French doing most of the operating with all German labor. German engines look very rough but few reports are fine pieces of machinery & have many devices foreign to Australian Engineers which on being explained appeal to our men	

(A9173) Wt W2353/P36 650,000 10/17 D. D. & L. Sch. 82a. Form C/Car 18/15.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	6/1-19		<p><i>fourty</i> <i>as being effective + good, this is particularly notice- able at brakes, arcountings, + firebox construction.</i></p>	
	7/1/19		<p><i>June day - sunshining but cold wind blowing</i></p>	
	8/1/19		<p><i>weather fine. Educational scheme being pushed ahead but progress is slow on account of the disadvantages of Railway working in that shifts are irregular + apart in the scheme is that work must be the first consider- ation</i></p>	
	9/1/19		<p><i>Sunshining + clear day. Great difficulty is experienced in interpreting between German, French + Belgians - Only 1 interpreter is attached to this Depot the only works shows per day. consequently the difficulty experienced will be appreciated.</i></p>	

(A9175) W1 W235/P36 630,007 12/17 D. D. & L. Sch. 52a. Forms/Cards/15.

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WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	10/1/19		Weather continues fine & sharp. Traffic fairly brisk but French personnel is doing biggest part of operating.	
	11/1/19		Weather fine & cold. Engine & crew from this depot worked a train to Namur today.	
	12/1/19		Very cold & dull day. A very fine German engine run in here today. Conversation with German crew proved that the engine was an express engine of prewar days & attained a speed of 87 miles per hour. Engine was 4 coupled, 7ft dia. wheels. German crews working through this Depot are given very little consideration by Belgian personnel. They are a very fine stamp of men & appear to be good engineers.	

(A9175) W1 W2158/P36 600,000 12/17 D. D. & L. Sch. 52a. Form C. 2118/15.

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WAR DIARY
OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	13/1/19		No change in weather conditions. Traffic brightening up, all running staff kept busily employed. Supplies for Armies of Occupation being chief & heaviest trafficked.	
	14/1/19		Weather cold but fine. Twelve (12) men claiming to be 'B' class were sent to A.G. B.D. Harve today.	
	15/1/19		Weather fine. Company pay day. All leave to Brussels stopped on account of lack of accommodation. It has been necessary to put an armed guard on all supply trains entering this Depot on account of the systematic pilfering taking place & being done by Belgian civilians. The Gendarmes appear appear to have no control or do not care.	

(A9175) W1 W2358/P36 6-0,000 12/7 D. D. & L. Sch. 52a Form C2118/15

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	16/1/19		Rain fell during the night, but day broke fine & clear. 12 OR taken on strength etc A.G. B.D., 6 OR rejoining & 6 reinforcements. Nothing unusual to report. Loco boilers require heavy repairs & consequently Boilerudkers are kept busy.	
	17/1/19		Weather fine & traffic busy.	
	18/1/19		Weather continues fine. O.B. granted 4 days special leave to U.K. for special work on account of Commonwealth Railways. Enquiry into loss of Coy (WD) Motor Cycle held at 104 M.G. Coy H.Q. this morning & adjourned.	
	19/1/19		Fine day, but cold. Traffic busy.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	20/1/19		<p>Fine day. Traffic busy. Complaint from O.C., R.O.D. that Belgian civilians has reported that Aust. R.O.D. personnel were selling pilfered supplies in Louvain was emphatically denied by Actg O.C. Repeated complaints to D.A.P.M. re Belgians pilfering from trains has had very little effect & the practice continues in spite of trains being guarded etc.</p>	
	21/1/19		<p>Light frost during the night. Fine day & work plentiful.</p>	
	22/1/19		<p>Light frost during the night. Day fine & cold. Particulars of 1915 personnel advised to Aust. Section, 3rd Echelon for Demobilisation purposes. Copy of Precedence Rolls also forwarded.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	23/1/19		Heavy frosts during night. Snow falling lightly very cold. Traffic busy. Inquiry on loss of Motor Cycle reopened + concluded - Finding of Court not yet received.	
	24/1/19		Dull + cold day. Traffic busy.	
	25/1/19		Dull and cold. Weather conditions permit to a heavy fall of snow.	
	26/1/19		Snowing heavily all day. The heaviest this company has experienced in France. Serious Railway smash at Muscron caused by R.E. Driver disregarding instructions. Engine ran into dead end + skinned over 4 trucks of supplies telescoped.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	27/1/19		Snow falling heavily. 7-45 year men sent to A.G. B.D. for early repatriation. Traffic exceptionally heavy due to the congestion at Lille + surrounding districts. All supplies for British Armies of occupation despatched via Courtrai.	
	28/1/19		Dull + cold. Freezing. Traffic busy. Civilians still causing trouble by pelting + breaking seals of wagons on entering Depot.	
	29/1/19		Dull + freezing. Breakdown cranes (2) from R.O.D. H.Q. Depot arrived for purpose of cleaning up Sudaoh at Muserbon. French personnel withdrawn - Australian + Belgian personnel now operating at this Depot.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	30/1/19		Dull + very cold. Freezing. Slight derailment Courtrai Station Yard - 4 wagons overturned through Belgian signalman splitting inter-locked points.	
	31/1/19		Cold + light snow falling. Traffic heavy due to the congestion at Lille + districts.	
			For statistics for month see 'c' of appendices.	

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WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Aust. Light Ry Coy. Coy.

FOR

January 1919.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

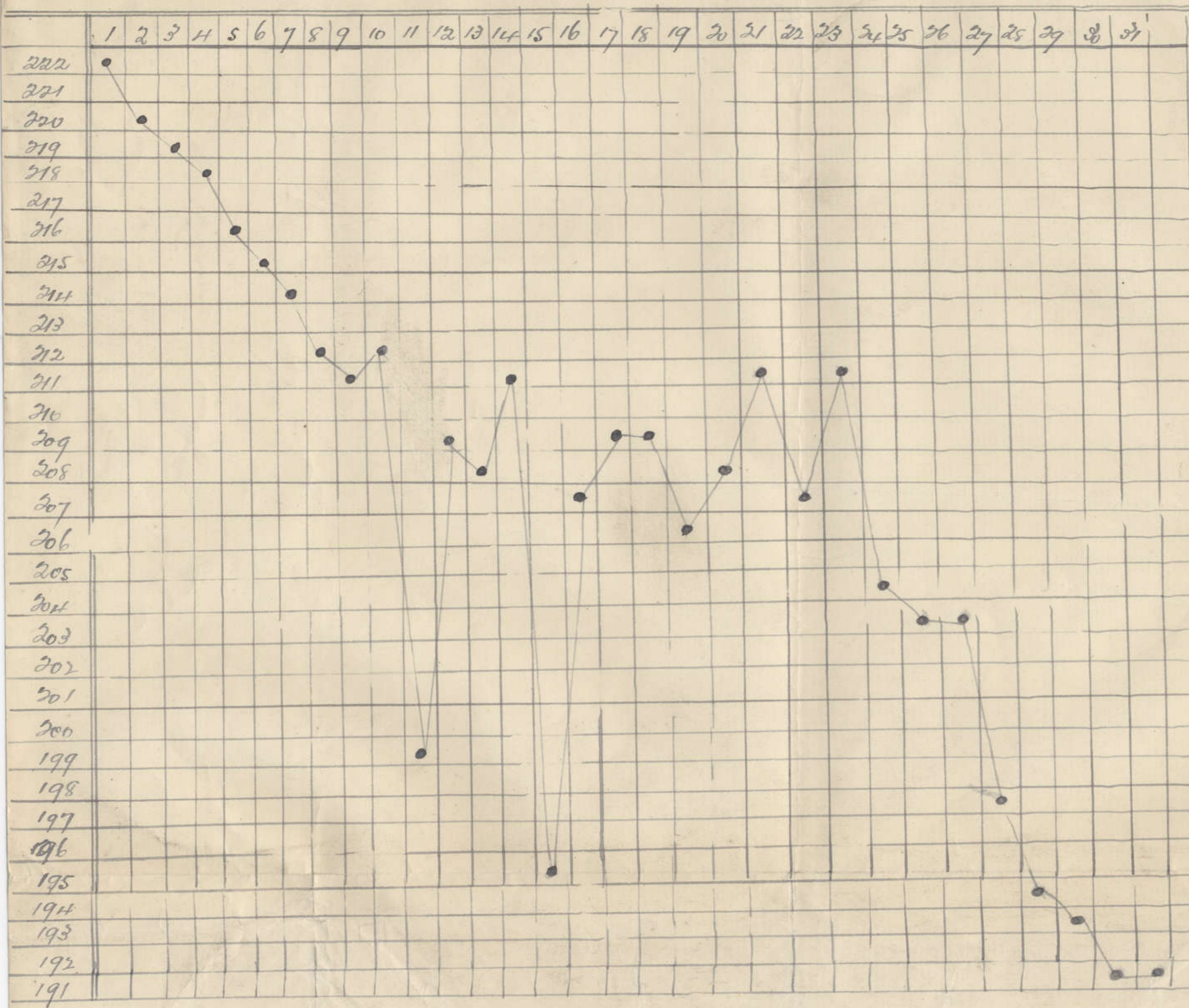
Subject.

- A. *Diagram showing Daily Rations Strength*
- B. *" " " No's Detached Daily.*
- C. *Figures showing:- Mileage, Tonnage + consumption for January.*

W. Price
Lieut
C/O C. 2nd ALRO Coy

2nd Lt. R. O. Bay ^H Diagram Showing Daily Ration Strength for month of January 1919.

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B

Table showing No of Detached Personnel during month of January 1919.

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