

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/98/11

Title: No 3 Battalion, Overseas Training
Brigade

October 1918



AWM4-23/98/11

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.)

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | STRENGTH | LIEUT & A/ADJT. | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--|------|------|---|----------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| SANDHILL CAMP. LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL. | OCT. | | | | | |
| | 1 | | M/I from Lewes, 1; Wandsworth, 2; No.1 C.D., 15; No.4 C.D., 12 M/O to B'de Band, 2; Sig.School, 5; M.G.School, 21. Weather fine. Battalion marched from B'de Parade Ground to Camp wearing gas respirators. 45 o/r qualified Musketry on Open Range. | 631 | JC Mountford Lt | |
| | 2 | | M/I from No. 2 Camp Bn., 51; France, 6; Lewes, 6; No.1 C.D., 10; No. 4 C.D., 15. Weather showery and cold. Special Cinema for O/seas Draft. Indoor training, Gas, P.T. & B.F. and Miniature Range practice. | 769 | JC Mountford Lt | |
| | 3 | | M/I from Lewes, 1; No.2 Bn., 4; No.1 C.D., 21; No.4 C.D., 17. M/O to No.1 Bn., 2; Ad.H.Q., Lond., 1; O/seas, 11. Cadre draft m/o to France. Weather showery. Indoor training in Huts, and Musketry in Miniature Range. Mrs. Cranston of Tas- mania lectured to all Tasmanians in Camp Theatre. Overseas draft m/o to France in the evening. | 798 | JC Mountford Lt | |
| | 4 | | M/I from France, 1; No.2 Bn., 8; No.1 C.D., 15; No.4 C.D., 13. M/O overseas, 94. Fine day. Brigade route march via Sutton Veny to Warminster and Crockerton back to Camp. Anglo-Scots Concert Party in the Camp Theatre in evening. Football competitions on Brigade Sports ground in afternoon. | 741 | JC Mountford Lt | |
| | 5 | | M/I from Lewes, 2; France, 1; No.1 C.D., 15; No.4 C.D., 27. M/O S.O.S. (Hosp. Evac) 9. Fine weather. Battalion employed on interior economy. 21 prize for best kept Hut awarded to No. 4 Hut. The O.T.B. Rugby team defeated Div. Sigs. by 28 points to 6. The O.T.B. (Aust. Rules) Football team defeated No. 1 Command Depot team. Miss Armstrong's Concert Party in Y.M.C.A. in evening. | 777 | JC Mountford Lt | |
| | 6 | | Fine weather. Usual Church Parades were held in morning. Song Service in Y.M.C.A. Solos by Miss Pitcairn of London with Lantern slides and short address in the evening. Captain T.W. English assumed Temporary Command of the Battalion vice Lieut. Col. J.W. Clark, DSO., VD., appointed temporary command of O.T.B. | | | |

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| | | | | | | |
| SANDHILL CAMP. LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL. | OCTR. | | | | | |
| | 7 | | M/I from AWL, 1; No.2 Bn., 1; No.4 Bn., 1; No.1 C.D., 21. Weather fine but showery. Captain W.P. Edgar, MC., Lieut Ketterer, reported from France for duty on Permanent Cadre. Capt. W. Beamond, MC., 14th Bn. m/o en route for Australia. Training in Huts; Gas and Bombing Lectures, and P.T. & B.F. until 1045. Training on Battalion Parade Ground. Musketry on Open Range in afternoon. "A" Co. put through Gas Chamber to test S.B.R.'s. Overseas Draft inspected by C.O. "The Jesters" Concert Party in Camp Theatre in evening. | 801 | jc mountford Lx | |
| | 8 | | M/I from No.1 C.D., 32; No.4 C.D., 31; B'de H.Q., 1. M/O to No. 1 C.D., 7; No.2 C.D., 1. Weather cold and showery. Inspection of Overseas Draft by Staff Capt. Boxing competitions in Camp Theatre in evening. Special concert party in Y.M.C.A. Hut. Capt. E.O. Williams, MC., 45th Bn. and Lieut. R.J. Poore, MC., 56th Bn. m/o en route to Australia. | 857 | jc mountford Lx | |
| | 9 | | M/I from Lewes, 2; No.1 C.D., 11; No.4 C.D., 8. Weather cold and wet. Platoon and Musketry competitions. Special Cinema programme for Overseas Draft in afternoon. | 878 | jc mountford Lx | |
| | 10 | | M/I from No. 4 C.D., 17; No.1 C.D., 25; No.2 T.B., 1; No.1 Bn., 1. Weather cold and wet. Draft Co. went through Bombing Practice. | 922 | jc mountford Lx | |
| | 11 | | M/I from France, 2; No.1 C.D., 36; No.4 C.D., 7; No.1 Camp Bn., 1. M/O overseas, 118. Weather cold and wet. 5 officers attached to Permanent Cadre pending return to Australia under "1914 Scheme" "High Jinks" Concert Party and Band selections in Camp Theatre in evening. | 350 | jc mountford Lx | |
| | 12 | | M/I from No.1 C.D., 27; No.4 C.D., 8; M/O to No.1 C.D., 1; S.O.S. (Hosp. Evac) 10 Weather Fine. Battalion employed in interior economy. No. 6930 Pte. W.J. Lane (decd) was buried at Sutton Veny. Firing party supplied by casualties from 49th Bn., to which Pte Lane belonged. A party of 60 o/r of 4th Divn. attended the funeral. Rugby Football between O.T.B. and No.1 Command teams played on Brigade Sports Ground. £1 prize for best kept Hut awarded to Hut No. 13. Concert in Y.M.C.A. in evening. | 374 | jc mountford Lx | |

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| SANDHILL CAMP. LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL. | OCTR. 13 | | M/O to Parkhouse, 6; (To Parkhouse for return to Australia under "1914 Scheme") Fine warm day. Special programme in Cinema in evening. Usual Church Parades in morning. | 868 | jc mountford | |
| | 14 | | M/I No. 1 C.D., 22; No. 4 C.D., 10; Overseas, 1 M/O to Sig. School, 18; Overseas, 1; M.G. School, 14. Weather cold and showery. Presentation of Medals by G.O.C. AIF Depots in U.K. Mass Parade and March Past; also Platoon in Attack practice. Inspection of Overseas Draft | 867 | jc mountford | |
| | 15 | | M/I by C.O. "Jesters" Concert party in Y.M.C.A. | | | |
| | 15 | | M/I from No. 1 C.D., 24; No. 4 C.D., 23; No. 4 Bn., 3. M/O to No. 1 C.D., 2. Weather fine. Route march to Sutton Veny. "Kookaburra" Concert Party and Band Selections in Camp Theatre in evening. | 915 | jc mountford | |
| | 16 | | M/I from France, 1; Lewes, 7; No. 1 C.D., 6; No. 4 C.D., 11. Weather fine. Staff Captain's inspection of Draft. | 940 | jc mountford | |
| | 17 | | M/I from No. 1 C.D., 32; No. 4 C.D., 13. M/O S.O.S. (Hosp. Evac) 8; To Parkhouse, 11; Overseas, 127. Weather fine. | 839 | jc mountford | |
| | 18 | | M/I from No. 4 Bn., 1; No. 1 C.D., 24; No. 4 C.D., 9. Weather fine. Football match in afternoon. "Boomerang" Concert Party and Selections by Band in Camp Theatre at night. | 873 | jc mountford | |
| | 19 | | M/I No. 1 C.D., 18; No. 4 C.D., 10; Lewes, 1. Weather fine and warm. Battalion employed in interior economy. Lecture to Officers and N.C.O's in Camp Theatre. Subject, "V.D." by Major Fogarty, A.A.M.C. £1 prize for best kept hut awarded to Hut No. 12. The O.T.B. football team (Rugby) drew with team from Pioneer T.B. on Pioneer ground. "Jesters" Concert party in Camp Theatre in aid of G.O.C's Relief Fund in evening, which was well attended. | 902 | jc mountford | |
| | 20 | | The usual church parades were held. Special programme in Camp Cinema in the evening. | | | |
| | | | | | | |

NO. 3 BATTALION, OVERSEAS TRAINING BRIGADE.

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WAR DIARY

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OCTOBER, 1918.

Army Form C. 2118.

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|--|-------|------|---|----------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| SANDHILL CAMP. LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL. | OCTR. | | | | | |
| | 21 | | M/I from B'de H.Q., 1; St.Budeaux, 1; No.4 Bn., 1; No.1 C.D., 17 No.4 C.D., 19. M/O to Parkhouse, 1; B'de H.Q., 1; No.2 Bn., 1; Tidworth, 1; M.G.Depot, 18; Sig.School, 22. Weather cold and dull. Platoon in Attack practice in morning. Musketry in afternoon for "Medium" Company. "Bonza" Concert Party and Band Selections in Camp Theatre in evening. | 897 | JC Mountford | |
| | 22 | | M/I from No. 1 C.D., 8; No.4 C.D., 7; Lewes, 1; Codford, 1. M/O to No.1 C.D., 2; A.P.C., Tidworth, 1. Weather cold and wet. Indoor training. | 909 | JC Mountford | |
| | 23 | | M/I from No.1 C.D., 17; No.4 C.D., 8; Lewes, 2; No.2 T.B., 1. Weather, fine. Divisional Shooting and Model Platoon competitions. Special Cinema for Overseas Draft in afternoon. | 937 | JC Mountford | |
| | 24 | | M/I from No.1 C.D., 24; No.4 C.D., 20; B'de Band, 1 M/O to No.4 Bn., 1; B'de H.Q., 1; Overseas, 115. Weather fine. Training in Battalion Lines. P.T.& B.F., Musketry, and Gas. Draft Coy., Bombing. | 865 | JC Mountford | |
| | 25 | | M/I from No.1 C.D., 24; No.4 C.D., 11; Ad.H.Q., 1. M/O to No.1 C.D., 2; No.2 C.D., 1. Weather, fine. Brigade route march to Warminster via Crockerton and returning to camp via Sutton Weny. Football competitions on Brigade Sports Ground in afternoon. | 398 | JC Mountford | |
| | 26 | | M/I from No.1 C.D., 8; No.4 C.D., 6; Australia, 2. M/O S.O.S.(Hosp.Evac) 10; B'de Band, 1. Weather fine and cold. Battalion employed on interior economy. Lecture for Officers and N.C.O's. in Camp Theatre. Subject, "Officer's and N.C.O's Job, and what it means" by Major O.C.W. Fuhrman, 53rd Bn. Football competitions O.T.B. v R.B.A.A. on Brigade ground. Special Concert Party in Y.M.C.A. in evening. | 903 | JC Mountford | |
| | 27 | | Combined Church Parade, C.of E. and O.P.D. Usual Church Parades for R.C. and S.A. Special programme in Camp Cinema, evening. | | | |
| | 28 | | M/I from No.1 C.D., 7; No.4 C.D., 16; Lewes, 1. M/O to Sig.School, 29. Platoon in attack practice. G.O.C.AIF Depots in U.K. visited the Battalion and inspected the men in training. Musketry and Gas in afternoon. | 898 | JC Mountford | |

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| SANDHILL CAMP. LONGBRIDGE. DEVERILL. | OCTR. | | | | | |
| | 29 | | M/I from Hospital, 1; No. 1 Bn., 1; Wandsworth, 3; No. 1 C.D., 5. No. 4 C.D., 14. M/O to No. 4 Bn., 2; No. 1 C.D., 2. Weather fine. Bombing for Draft Co. Inspection by G.O.C. AIF Depots in U.K. Overseas Draft moved out 0715. | 918 | jc mountford Lt | |
| | 30 | | M/I from Lewes, 2; No. 1 C.D., 30; No. 4 C.D., 17. M/O to No. 4 Bn., 1; Overseas, 138. Showery weather. Overseas Draft moved out 0715. Platoon and Musketry Competitions. Concert in Camp Theatre. | 823 | jc mountford Lt | |
| | 31 | | M/I from No. 2 Camp Bn., 1; No. 1 C.D., 14; No. 4 C.D., 13. M/O to 1st T.B., 1. Showery weather. Bombing for draft Company in morning. General training in afternoon. | 860 | jc mountford Lt | |
| jc mountford Lt. | | | | | | |

C.O.'s. MONTHLY APPRECIATION FOR WAR DIARY.
-----NO. 3 BATTALION, O.T.B.31ST OCTOBER, 1918.

During the past month it was found necessary to give up the Brigade Parade Ground on account of it being too low lying and damp, also the absence of shelter there. Parades have therefore been held on the respective Battalion Parade Grounds, where the work has been satisfactorily carried out in Huts during rain, and outside in fine weather.

A Bayonet Course on one Ground, and a Bullet & Bayonet Course on another were completed, using blank ammunition in the latter, and most useful and instructive work has been carried out on these Courses.

Good use has also been made of the Miniature Range. There has been no lack of material required for training purposes, and the Battalion has been visited daily during training by the Brigadier, or members of his Staff. There has been no lack of instructors, those available being posted within the Battalion, and squads arranged so as to change over hourly to the various subjects.

Competitions for Model Platoon for each Division were held as usual. Some Units we found using other than their own equipment, thus defeating one of the main objects of the competition, viz., teaching the men to fit their own equipment properly and to see it was complete and kept clean. This was rectified by the disqualification of the Units concerned.

Platoon in Attack competition had to be modified by allowing the men to kneel, and even stand to fire instead of lying on the wet ground. In future arrangements will be made in this Battalion for the remaining members of the Company finding this Platoon to be present during the exercise, and watch the proceedings, and an Officer to be present with them, and point out the faults, if any, made by the Platoon during the operation.

The general health and conditions of the Unit is good. Despite the prevailing epidemic of Influenza, there have been very few cases in the Battalion, special attention having been taken to the feeding of the men, ventilation of their Huts, and also the places of amusement such as Cinema, Theatre, etc., provided for them in the Camp.

The gifts from the Australian Comforts Fund have been regularly supplied to all overseas drafts; they greatly contribute to the welfare of the men, and are very much appreciated.

The general discipline of the unit has been good. The daily average of men in detention being three (3) and Orderly Room cases about the same.



War Diary

Work of G.M. Dept for month ending
31: 10: 1918.

For the purposes of this report this Dept. is divided into 6. portions as follows:—

General (A.) Ordnance, Receipts & Issues.
 (B.) Issues & Receipts to & from O/Rs.

Barrack Warden.

Pioneers.

Tailors.

Bootmaker

Barbers.

The work of these Depts are all co-ordinated in this office with a view to greater efficiency, mutual benefit, & saving of labour & material

Section I.

During the month ending 31:10:18. supplies were satisfactory, with the exceptions of Tunics. S.D. & Greatcoats which were p/w. S. Box. Resp. with gelatine eyepieces & otherwise were handed in to Bde, & small Box Resp with splinterless eyepieces were issued in their place.

Winter clothing issues commenced on the 11th Oct 1918. Issues as follows:—

For overseas Troops.

1. Jerkin 1. pr Gloves Woollen

1. Abdominal Belt. 1. Singlet

For U/K troops

1. Jerkin 1. pr Gloves Woollen

2. Abdominal Belts. 2. Singlets.

Records of shortages of O/Rs marching from various Depots to C.T.B. are forwarded to B.O.R. daily.

All U/S boots & clothing are exchanged on first inspection

Section I.

Issues & receipts to O/Rs marching in or out may be tabulated as follows:—

| | Equipped O/Ses | U/K. Drafts | Hospital | Remarks & Partial Issues |
|--------|----------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------|
| | 18 men | - | - | 6 |
| | 29 | - | 2 | 9 |
| | 36 | - | 1 | 13 |
| | 42 | - | 1 | 11 |
| | 34 | - | - | 10 |
| | - | - | - | - |
| | 45 | 4 | 2 | 23 |
| | 31 | - | 2 | 20 |
| | 52 | - | 4 | 9 |
| | 22 | - | 2 | 6 |
| | 45 | 19 | 2 | 7 |
| | 20 | 6 | - | 14 |
| | - | - | - | - |
| | 44 | - | 3 | 14 |
| | 46 | - | 3 | 6 |
| | 52 | 10 | 2 | 4 |
| | 20 | - | 2 | 3 |
| | 48 | 22 | 2 | 5 |
| | 33 | - | 2 | 1 |
| | - | - | - | - |
| | 23 | 3 | 2 | 13 |
| | 42 | - | 1 | 16 |
| | 13 | - | 3 | 8 |
| | 34 | 5 | - | 2 |
| | 46 | 29 | 2 | 4 |
| | 27 | 1 | 3 | 6 |
| | - | - | - | - |
| | 32 | 10 | 3 | 7 |
| | 25 | 5 | - | 17 |
| | 21 | - | 2 | 7 |
| | 47 | - | - | 6 |
| Totals | 927 | 114 | 46 | 247 |

all u/s Boots & clothing are exchanged on first inspection

Barrack Warden.

The work of the Barrack Warden for the past month may be roughly grouped as follows:—

Issuing of all blankets, bed boards, bed Trusses, Palliasses & Bolsters to all Officers & O/Rs marching into this Battalion.

Replacing all Barrack furniture & stores damaged through—"fair wear & tear".

Daily inspection of Barrack Furniture & stores to see that none are misappropriated.

Disinfection of all blankets after draft moves out.

Collection of all bed boards, bed Trusses, Palliasses & Bolsters after a draft moves out.

Bi. Monthly return of Electric lights.

Daily inspection of Electric fittings & reporting of any damages to Electrical Engineer Quartermaster.

Monthly return of all damage to huts.

Monthly return of all Barrack Furniture & stores showing: On Charge, stock surplus or deficiency.

Monthly exchange of Barrack stores & furniture damaged by fair wear & tear from Imperial Barrack Expense store.

Supervision of all fire Appliances.

Regarding Para VIII. Damages to huts & Barrack Furniture are repaired as far as possible by the Bn Pioneers who work in conjunction with the Barrack Warden.

II. Palliasses were emptied & changed for clean ones during the latter part of the month.

Also 1000 extra blankets were also drawn for the Bn Winter supply.

Section III. - Pioneers

III. 10

All work in connection with the Sanitation of the Camp is done by the Pioneers under Capt. Ali.

Latrines are cleaned daily, the seats being well scrubbed, & the buckets being disinfected. Urine troughs were painted with Phenol once a week.

In addition the general cleanliness of the camp is looked after by this squad & all rubbish is transferred to a special dump to be dealt with. All salvage is forwarded on to Brigade.

In addition all huts were properly disinfected & cleaned, & during the outbreak of Influenza, more cleaning & disinfecting is being done to overcome any likelihood of the Epidemic.

During the month in conjunction with the Barrack Warden numerous repairs to huts were effected, 90 Forms were mended & 19 windows reglazed.

In addition Officers & Sergeants messes were repainted, the Barbers shop was also repainted & numerous small repairs were carried out.

Section IV. - Tailors Shop.

During the Month of October, owing to changing of staff & illness to Tailors takings were small. Takings were as follows:-

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Week ending 7 th Oct. | f: 0: 0 |
| " " 14 th " | = 14: = |
| " " 21 " | = 19: = |
| " " 28 " | = 7: 6 |

Section V. Bootmakers Shop.

The Bootmakers were kept busy during the month with various repairs.

55. pairs boots Soled & Heeled

62. " " Toes & Heel plated put on.

In addition a considerable amount of sketching & fitting was done.

Section VI. Barbers Shop.

The Barbers shop has been repainted by Bn Pioneers & taking were good.

The takings were as follows:—

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-----|------------|
| Week ending | 7 th | Oct | £: s: d |
| | | | 3 : 3 : 6 |
| " | 14 | " | 3 : 19 : 8 |
| " | 21 | " | 3 : 16 : 8 |
| " | 28 | " | 2 : 14 : 4 |

This concludes a summary of the months work in my Dept. Difficulty has been experienced in Staff. Co. class men were reclassified & marched out.

Wm. H. M.
 Atty. G. M. 1 Bn.
 No. 2. O. 1. 12.