

**AWM4**

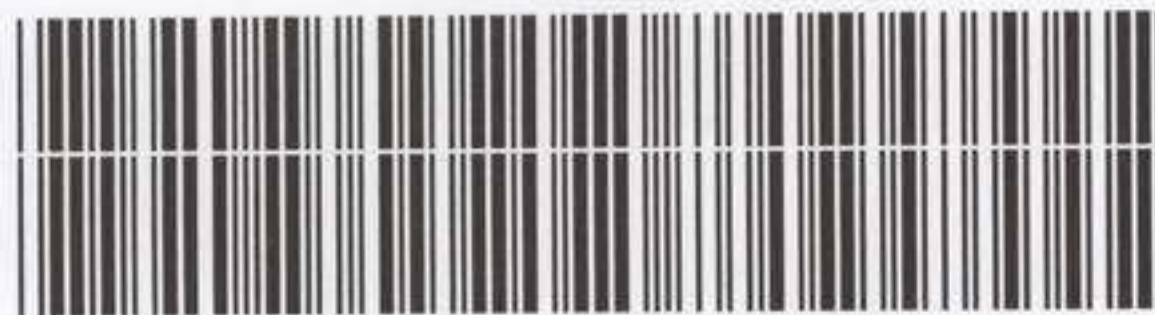
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Infantry

**Item number:** 23/21/1

**Title:** 4th Infantry Battalion

October 1914 - January 1915



AWM4-23/21/1

Confidential War Diary  
of  
Lieut Col. A. J. Oswald Thompson

Comd: 4<sup>th</sup> Bn A.I.D.

Volume 1



From Oct. 19. 1914 To Jan. 31. 1915



AUSTRALIAN  
WAR MEMORIAL

AWM4 23/21/1

Date.	Place and Time.			Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1914				
Oct <sup>r</sup> 19	Sydney	AM. 11	Battalions embarked on H.M.T. A14, conveyed by Tram and Ferry -	
" 20	At Sea		Trove ship sailed at 6 AM. - met fair heavy sea - No Parades held, Men learning position of Messes etc etc -	
" 21	"		Trove Deck Inspection 10.0 to 12.0 noon - Parades morning & afternoon - Ordnance Room at 11.30 - Brigade O.R. 12. Conference of C.O.s at 5 <sup>th</sup> re Progress of work -	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1914 Oct 22	At Sea	Usual Inspections and Parades - Order Run - 11.0. Drizzle - 12	
" 23	do	Usual Inspections and Parades - and Order Run -	
" 24	do	Usual Inspection - Parades can- -celled & Washing day held. Order Run	
" 25	do	Usual Inspection - Church Parade at 11.0 - Special Parade to rehearse Flag Ship Salute at 2 pm -	
" 26	do	Usual Inspections - and Parades. Arrived Albany and anchored by 1 pm - Saluted Flag ship - No leave granted to Officers or Men -	

Date.	Place and Time.			Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1914				
October 27	Albany		Ship inspected by G.O.C.	
" 28	"		Attended Conference of C.O.s in Flagship.	
" "	"		About $\frac{1}{2}$ the B <sup>n</sup> . exercised in Boat-pulling	
" 31	"		Usual routine - Large number of Men	
			Sick with Influenza - part four days - (160 yesterday)	
November 1	"		The Fleet sailed from Albany at	
			6 A.M. - Weather fine. Sea Calm -	
	At Sea	10 pm	Signal recd. G.F. Britain declared War against Turkey	
" 3	"	pm	W.A. Transports - Anchises & Medic joined Fleet.	
" 9	"	Noon	Signal received that H.M.A.S. Sydney had engaged	
			& destroyed German Cruiser EMDEN - near the	
			Cocos Islands - Casualties 2 Killed 13 wounded -	
			Emden Casualties - 140 Killed 80 Wounded	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1914 Nov: 15		Arrived COLOMBO at 1 pm. Anchored outside Breakwater.	
do 17		Left COLOMBO at 7 pm: The ORVIETO and WILTSHIRE Divisions sailed at 1 pm. -	
do 18		District Court Martial held on N° 994.	
do 21		P <sup>t</sup> John Robertson - Award 21 days Detention Fleet stopped at 4.40 am for 3 hours, 2 men having fallen overboard off the Shropshire - which had been rammed by the Ascarnus - men were rescued -	
do 25		Arrived ADEN 7 am:	
do 26		Left ADEN 7 am: with remainder of Convoy and New Zealanders -	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1914			
Nov: 28	At Sea	Orders rec <sup>d</sup> - Troops to land in EGYPT	
Dec: 1		Arrived SUEZ at 2 pm - Left at 11.30 pm	
do 2		Arrived PORT SAID at 2 pm -	
do "		Left PORT SAID at 8 pm -	
do 3		Arrived ALEXANDRIA at 11 am	
do 4		Portion of B <sup>n</sup> to CAIRO - thence MENA Camp -	
do 5		Remainder " " " " " -	
do 14		Commenced Training Syllabus -	
do 21		Training carried out daily, as per Syllabus at B <sup>n</sup> Order -	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1915			
January 1	MENA CAMP	Double Company Organization adopted -	
" 31	" "	Company Training carried out daily	
		during the Month -	