

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

Supplies & Transport

Item number: 25/86/5

Title: 4th Australian Divisional Mechanical
Transport Company

August 1918



AWM4-25/86/5

Original

A. F. F.

4th Aust M T Coy
for August 18

signature

1)

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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918.			
	Aug.			
St. Sauveur	1.		Weather fine and clear.	
Sheet 62E.	2.		Do. Do.	
Kll. Coent.	3.		Weather wet.	
	4.		Weather unsettled.	
	5.		Weather fine and clear. 12th A.B. Austr. F.A. Park Section marched in attached for duty.	
	6.		Weather fine and clear.	
	7.		Do. Do.	
	8.		Do. Do.	
	9.		Do. Do.	
	10.		Do. Do. Enemy bombing planes very active at night.	
Aubigny.	11.		Do. Do. Moved park forward from St. Sauveur to Aubigny.	
Sheet 62D.	12.		Do. Do. Workshops outfit moved forward from Berteaucourt to Les Alencons. Sheet 62D. 629. o 6.3).	
O 8. B6.6.	13.		Do. Do. Enemy bombing planes active.	
	14.		Do. Do. Do. Do.	
	16.		Do. Do. Do. Do.	
	17.		Do. Do.	

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erase heading not required.)

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Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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2 334

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918			
	Aug.			
Aubigny.	18.		Weather fine and clear.	
Sheet 62D.	19.		Do. Do.	
Ob.b6.6.	20.		Do. Do. Enemy bombing planes active.	
	21.		Do. Do. Do. Do.	
	22.		Do. Do.	
	23.		Do. Do.	
	24.		Do. Do.	
	25.		Do. Do. Enemy bombing planes active.	
	26.		Do. Do.	
	27.		Do. Do.	
	28.		Do. Do.	
	29.		Do. Do.	
	30.		Do. Do.	
	31.		Do. Do.	
NOTE :— Copies of Special extra instructions received in connection with ammunition deliveries during recent operations attached, together with particulars of duties carried out by Officers of this Unit.				

OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

334

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Aubigny.			<p><u>GENERAL.</u>-</p> <p><u>Health of Unit.</u>- Fair. Mild form of dysentary prevalent but personnel carried on with ordinary duties and kept vehicles on the road.</p> <p><u>Sanitation.</u>- During moves, especially in AUBIGNY which is badly damaged by shell fire, special sanitary constructions were immediately, on the Units arrival, made and effectively maintained.</p> <p><u>Weather and state of roads.</u>- Weather generally fine and clear. Roads good, considering that all Transport are now moving through country quite recently occupied by the enemy. Bad parts are invariably immediately repaired by Labor Units and Road construction gangs.</p> <p><u>Messing arrangements.</u>- Good for all ranks.</p> <p><u>Rations.</u>- Excellent. as example, during this month the ration of fresh meat and bread was 75% daily.</p> <p><u>Workshops.</u> Lorries completely overhauled. 10. Cars Do. 4. Average daily number of lorries through shops(minor repairs) 6.7%. Work done is slightly less than in previous months, owing to scarcity of spare parts, shops being moved, etc. Vehicles generally are in a very satisfactory mechanical condition.</p> <p>Supply and Ammunition Sections figures attached.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">  Major. Commanding 4th Australian M. T. Company. </p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.

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1918.

UNIT 4th Aust. M.T. Coy.

DIARY APPENDIX No. 1 FOR MONTH OF AUGUST 1918.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Date	Loads Amm.	R.E. Work	Supply	Stores	Person'l	Various	Total Loads Done	Total Lorries Out	Miles Run Full	Miles Run Empty	Petrol Issued	Lorries Av'able Not used	Lorries Under Repair	Lorries D'tach'd
1st	-	-	42	*	4	36	82	53	837	1140	386	10	14	11
2nd	11	-	26	-	5	36	78	48	1026	1234	454	13	14	11
3rd	16	18	20	-	7	39	100	58	1415	1663	589	-	16	11
4th	25	-	35	-	2	38	100	60	1374	1705	589	2	14	11
5th	3	20	55	-	1	22	101	62	1244	1466	522	1	14	11
6th	22	-	47	-	1	23	93	59	1203	1165	480	-	14	11
7th	12	-	37	-	4	23	76	56	1088	1036	387	4	14	11
8th	17	-	29	-	14	21	81	60	1201	1149	438	3	12	11
9th	38	-	37	-	-	20	95	61	1545	1463	572	3	12	11
10th	15	12	9	-	2	14	52	52	1115	1090	396	11	10	11
11th	36	1	5	-	7	59	108	61	1310	1200	458	-	13	11
12th	29	1	6	-	5	34	75	50	879	1315	422	3	14	16
13th	46	3	17	-	6	35	107	51	1044	1185	460	-	12	16
14th	45	3	10	-	-	8	66	49	917	1071	380	2	12	16
15th	25	2	26	-	7	26	76	47	752	683	288	10	14	16
16th	20	-	7	-	7	3	69	48	653	770	272	10	13	17
17th	-	-	5	-	-	51	56	30	452	450	164	11	13	17
18th	6	2	6	-	2	27	43	32	411	479	184	26	13	17
19th	-	1	13	-	4	84	102	47	738	862	298	25	13	17
20th	21	4	17	-	2	12	55	51	885	1044	380	7	14	17
21st	10	19	6	-	-	29	64	41	706	750	294	16	13	12
22nd	30	3	7	-	-	50	90	59	1156	1312	478	3	13	12
23rd	30	4	5	-	14	33	86	58	1183	1286	444	4	13	12
24th	20	-	33	-	-	10	63	50	746	1145	372	10	12	12
25th	17	7	37	-	-	8	69	46	833	903	312	15	12	12
26th	14	8	10	-	4	18	54	41	788	1043	380	23	12	12
27th	24	4	9	-	15	7	59	45	343	337	128	17	14	12
28th	37	2	8	-	5	21	73	59	1235	1067	460	3	14	12
29th	44	1	10	-	-	24	78	45	839	676	352	6	12	22
30th	20	-	7	-	24	10	61	44	988	1280	410	2	14	24
31st	17	6	7	-	23	5	58	40	831	1227	370	1	14	24
Total	640	121	588	-	165	858	2371	1563	29737	35166	12119	241	408	436

A.I.F. P.S.—A/3—8-18

1.9.18

B. Neple Major
O.B. 4. M.T. Coy.

Summary of Commodities handled and issued by Supply Section of
4th Australian M. T. Company., from 1st to 31st August, 1918. :--

Total number of rations complete.	635.300.
Total weight of hay.	1.692.175.lbs.
Do. Oats.	1.936.314.lbs.
Do. Fuel.	316. Tons.
Total quantity of Petrol.	67.996.Galls.
Do. Lub and other Oils.	9.080.Galls.
Total weight of Sundry Items.	14.540 .lbs.
Total weight loaded.	3.454.Tons.
Average weight handled each day per loader.	3½.Tons.

An unt of Fat returned to railhead was 3.696 lbs, for which
paymnt Orders for 1.293 francs were received.

Railheads from which supplies were drawn.:--

1st to 9th August.	Ailly-Sur-Somme. <i>Sh 62 E K22. A2.9</i>
10th to 13th "	Corbie. <i>Sh 62 p. O.5.</i>
14th to 18th 2	Villers Bretonneux. <i>Sh 62 p. O.35 C.9.9</i>
19th -	Wiencourt. <i>Sh 62 p. V.12. 75.5.</i>
20th -	Gallancourt. <i>Sh 62 p. Wnt. A.5.6.</i>
21st to 23rd "	Wiencourt.
24th to 25th "	Villers Bretonneux. <i>N</i>
26th to 31st "	Amiens.

E. J. Seale
Major.

1. 9. 1918.

Commanding 4th Australian M. T. Coy.

STATEMENT OF AMMUNITIONdrawn and delivered during month of August, 1918.

B Y

4th Australian M. T. Company.

"A". 72.612 rounds. "AX". 53.606 rounds. "BX". 28.443 rounds.
"P". 252 rounds. "TMG". 720 rounds. "NX". 2120 rounds.
"N". 3520 rounds. "TMC". 15.496 rounds. "AS". 3728 rounds.
"BS". 2034 rounds. Grenades. 23. 23.998. Grenades. 27. 19.604.
Grenades. 34. 3.720. Grenades. 36. 32.004. "BCG". 900. "BNC". 198.
Grenades 5. 7008. "SAA" boxes. 2.745. Pistol Webley. 19.766 rounds.
Pistol Colt. 280. "SOS". 960. Flares. 5.324. Cartridges. Red and
Green and 1" Ill. 18.300.

W. Searles Major.

1. 9. 1918.

Commanding 4th Australian M. T. Company.

War Records Section.

A. I. F. Headquarters.

In accordance with Instructions re Ammunition Deliveries attached.:— The duties were duly carried out by Officers of this Unit. Working in conjunction with Staff Captain, 4th Aust. D.A. Ammunition Dumps were established as far forward as the situation would allow, lorries being held up at various points and redirected to the A. R. Ps selected. On the morning of the 11th August, dumps were pushed forward to CHIPILLY (Sheet 62D. K34. C4.0) and refilling point at GERISSY closed.

Roads at this place were in good condition and suitable for lorry traffic. The location of new dump was handed to all concerned and loaded lorries proceeded in groups of 15 with 1 hours interval between each group, thus avoiding congestion and ensuring a constant supply of ammunition.

On 16th August, Liason Officer reported the selection of a new site at Sheet 62D.Q3. C2.2 for an ammunition refilling point for 58 D. A., as the road to the location of old 58 D.A.dump on the north bank of the ^{Somme between} ~~Somme between~~ SAILLY LAURETTE and CHIPILLY was in a very bad condition and in need of urgent repair, and Ammunition was immediately dumped at new position.

The emergency bridge at GERISSY → CHIPILLY was examined and found to be in good condition and quite able to take M. T. traffic.

Duties in connection with instructions laid down were carefully carried out, and no hitch whatever occurred in the drawing and delivery of Ammunition for the important operations in progress at the time.

W. H. Leake
Major.

31. 8. 1918.

Commanding 4th Australian M. T. Company.

AMMUNITION DELIVERY Copy No.7.

1. On and after 8.8.18 Ammunition for the 2nd and 5th A.D.A's will be delivered by M.T. ar Refilling Points at O.17.a and O.17.c. Sheet 62D instead of at GLISY as at present.
2. Similarly ammunition for the 3rd and 4th A.D.A's will be delivered to Refilling Points at O.6.d.7.2. and J.32.c.7.2. Sheet 62D instead of at VECQUEMONT.
3. These new A.R.P's will be taken into use after a certain objective has been attained.
4. An M.T.Liason Officer and Motor Cycle will be detailed with each of the 2nd and 3rd D.A.H.Q. on 8.8.18. The duty of these Officers will be to ascertain when this objective has been attained and then to see that ammunition is delivered to the A.R.P's and in paras 1 and 2 or to other A.R.P's as the situation requires. They will immediately advise this Office, by telephone if possible, of all changes of A.R.P's including the taking into use of those given in paras 1 and 2.
5. Ammunition lorries for the 2nd and 5th D.A. will take the route LONGEAU-GLISY and when delivering to the forward A.R.P's will travel on the road FOUILLOY- VILLERS BRETONNEUX from North to South only.
6. Ammunition lorries for the 3rd and 4th D.A. will take the road RIVERY-VECQUEMONT.
7. The Liason Officers will arrange to meet lorries near GLISY or VECQUEMONT respectively and direct them to their proper destinations.
8. It is important that :-
 - (a) Every lorry driver knows for what D.A. his ammunition is intended.
 - (b) The FOUILLOY-VILLERS BRETONNEUX road is used in the direction North to South only.
9. Lieut H.W.Duncan No.2.A.M.T.Coy is detailed as the Liason Officer with 2nd A.D.A. reporting their at 8.30 and Lieut McSwaine M.C. No.3.A.M.T.Coy is detailed as the Liason Officer with 3rd A.D.A. reporting there at 8.30 a.m.
10. Nos. 4 & 5 A.M.T.Coys will detail a Despatch Rider to report to 3rd D.A. H.Q. and 2nd D.A.H.Q. respectively at 8.30 a.m. 8.8.18 for duty with the M.T. Liason Officers.
11. Forward Area Traffic Maps on the scale of 6 per M.T.Coy and 1 per Liason Officer herewith.
12. Acknowledge.

Sgd. J.Hamilton. Major.

Commdg Aust Corps.M.T.Col.

7.8.18.

Australian Corps M.T. Column.S E C R E T.Ammunition DeliveryCopy No.7.

Further to my Circular Letter "Ammunition Delivery" of 7th inst.

The principle of M.T. Liason Officers will be carried out on the 9th inst and until further notice.

Lieut H.W. Duncan No.2.A.M.T.Coy will continue to act as Liason Officer and will report to 5th D.A.H.Q. at 8.30 a.m. on the 9th inst.

Lieut McSwaine. M.C.No.3.A.M.T.Coy will also continue to act as Liason Officer and will report to 4th D.A.H.Q. at 8.30 a.m. on 9th inst.

No.4. & 5 A.M.T.Coys will detail a Despatch Rider with motor cycle to report to 4th D.A.H.Q. and 5th D.A.H.Q. respectively at 8.30 am on 9th inst and until further notice.

8.9.18.

Sgd. J. Hamilton. Major.
Commdg ~~XX~~ Australian Corps M.T. Column.

Australian Corps M.T.Column.S E C R E T.Ammunition DeliveryCopy No.5.

1. Further to my I 37 dated 7th and 8th inst re Ammunition Delivery No.1. A.M.T.Coy will detail an Officer to act as M.T.Liason Officer with 1st Aust D.A. He will be provided with a motor cycle.

2. The present refilling point for 1st Aust D.A. is V.5.a.3.7. 62D.

3. H.Q. 1st Aust D.A. is at O.29.d. 62D.

4. The duties of a Liason Officer will be to select, in consultation with Staff Captain, and new refilling points rendered necessary by the situation and to arrange to divert the lorries of these points.

He will keep this office informed of all changes in A.R.P's and of any delays or hitches in the delivery of ammunition and will take note of the condition, relative to their use by M.T. of the roads in his area.

He should make his reports by telephone, and render reports to this office in writing after returning to his Unit on completion of days duty.

5. Liason Officers and D.R's as at present detailed will carry on daily until further notice, reporting to the D.A.H.Q. at 8.30 a.m.

6. Copies of 1 and 2 to be acknowledged.

9.8.18.

Sgd. J. Hamilton. Major.
Commdg Australian Corps M.T.Column.

Australian Corps M.T. ColumnSECRET.Ammunition DeliveryCopy No.4.

1. Further to this Office I/37/1 of 9.8.18.
M.T.Liason Officers are detailed for 11.8.18 and daily thereafter until further notice; as follows :-

1st Aust D.A.	Lieut A.N.De Fraga	No.1. A.M.T.Coy.
2nd Aust D.A.	Lieut H.W.Duncan.	No.2. do
3rd Aust D.A.	Lieut K.McSwaine.M.C.	No.3. do
4th Aust D.A.	Lieut C.W.Mercer M.C.	No.4.A.M.T.Company.

2. D.R's from their own companies will accompany and do duty with each Liason Officer.

3. The Officers and D.R's as detailed above will continue to do duty daily with whatever D.A.is fighting the Sector the Liason Officers are operating in on 11.8.18.

4. The location of 4th A.D.A.H.Q. - I.35.c.6.3. Sheet 62D.

5. Receipt of copies 4 and 5 to be acknowledged.

10.8.18.

Sgd. J. Hamilton. Major.
Commdg Aust Corps.M.T.Col.

Australian Corps M.T. Column.S E C R E TAmmunition Delivery Instructions No.5. Copy No.5.

1. Lieut W.G.Anderson 6th Park Section will act as Liason Officer (M.T.) with the 5th D.A., reporting to that H.Q. at 0.25.a.9.6. Sheet 62D at 7 am on 13.8.18.
2. He will proceed with the staff Captain to select A.R.P's for the 5th D.A. at some point west and south of W15 Sheet 62D.
3. He will select routes to and from this A R.P. and arrange a guide to meet lorries with ammunition for this A.R.P. at 0.30.c.0.2. Sheet 62D.
4. No.3. A.M.T.Coy will provide a D.R. for Lieut Anderson meeting him at 5 A.D.A.Q. at 7 am on 13.8.18. The Liason Officer from this Company will not require his D.R. on 13.8.18.
5. Receipt of Copy No.1. to be acknowledged.

12.8.18.

Sgd. J.Hamilton. Major.
Commdg Aust Corps M.T.Column.

Australian Corps M.T.ColumnS E C R E TAmmunition Delivery Instructions No.6. Copy No.6

1. Os.C. Nos 1,2 and 4 Aust.M.T.Coys will change their Liason Officer on 14.8.18.,notifying this office of the names of the Officers detailed.
2. The present Liason Officers will hand over all instructions etc to their reliefs.
3. O.C. 17 Div M.T.Coy will detail an Officer to act as Liason Officer M.T. with the 17 D.A. He will report to Lieut K.McSwaine M.C. No.3.A.M.T.C at DAOURS at 7.30 am on 14.8.18. and do duty with that Officer for that day after which Lieut McSwaine will return to his Unit and the Officer from 17 D.M.T.Coy will carry on in that Sector.
4. O.C. M.T.Companys will see that every driver knows the D.A.to which his ammunition is to be deliverd. A chit showing the A.R.P's location should be given to each driver.
5. Liason Officers will render their daily report to this office,sending it in by their Units D.R.
6. Receipt of copies No.1 and 2 to be acknowledged.

13.8.18.

Sgd. J. Hamilton. Major
Commdg Australian Corps.M.T.Column.