

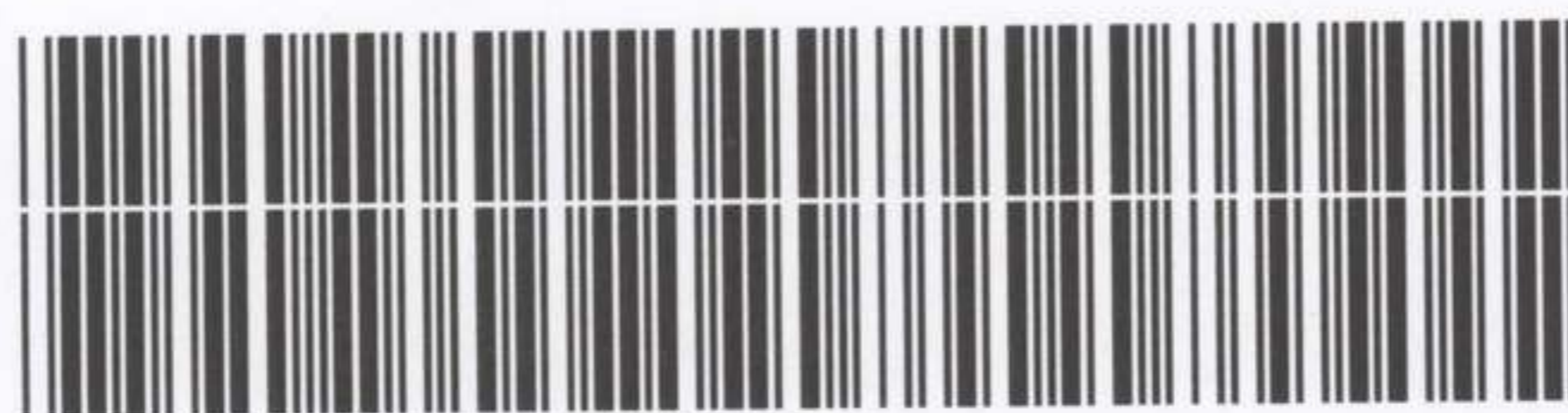
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Supplies & Transport

Item number: 25/55/12

Title: 4th Australian Ammunition Sub-Park

July 1917



AWM4-25/55/12

Original.

WAR DIARY

4 a.s.p.

Army Form C. 2118.

21

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.)

July 1917.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	1.		Two lorries reported to Chief Engineer AVELUY for duty. Three other ranks returned from leave of absence. Procedure of re-painting and overhauling lorries still in progress.	
	2.		One other rank evacuated to Hospital. Six lorries were out on Salvage work, working for corps Salvage Officer.	
	3.		Three other ranks reported back from leave of absence. Six lorries proceeded on Salvage work. Three other lorries reported to Brigade Hdqrs. BRESLE. BUIRE. MAILLY MAILLET.	
	4.		Two other ranks proceeded on leave to England. In all seven lorries proceeded on duty for 1st Army Corps Troops Supply Column. This light detail enables the work of overhauling and painting the lorries to be carried on much quicker than if they had to be done when lorries returned to Park after duty each day. The painting is urgently needed, this being the first time, and opportunity that has arisen, when the lorries could be done up. since August 1916.	
	5.		Major A. W. James returned from leave of absence to the United	

1

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Kingdoms. Two other ranks reported back from leave. Two lorries reported to 15th Brigade Hdqrs. RUBEMPRE for various duties. One other rank evacuated to Hospital.	
	6.		One other rank transferred from 1st Base M.P. Depot, and one other rank evacuated to Hospital. Two other ranks returned from leave. Two lorries conveyed Personnel of 2nd Div. Ammunition Column to MONTIGNY.	
	7.		Seven lorries carried Stores to CORBIE for 15th Corps School at DAOURS. Four other ranks proceeded on leave.	
	8.		Six lorries conveyed personnel for 5th Aust. Division to SENLIS from BECOURT Reinforcement Camp. The Unit being over strength in N.C.O's. Four corporals were transferred to No 5 Aus Amm. Sub. Park and 5th Aus D.A.C.	
	9.		Four other ranks proceeded on leave and two other ranks reported back from leave.	
	10.		Nine lorries conveyed Supplies for 1st Army Corps. Troops Supply Column. Four	

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			Other ranks proceeded on leave of absence.	
	11		One other rank evacuated to Hospital, and one other rank taken on strength from 1st Base M.F. Depot.	
	12		Paid Unit. Instructions received from K. Ammunition Park to be ready to move Park within forty-eight hours. Two other ranks returned from Hospital, and two other ranks returned from leave.	
	13		Four lorries proceeded on various duties working under 1st Australian Division, also two lorries conveyed huts from ALBERT to VARENNES. Park is now ready to move off.	
	14		Returned from 1st Amzac Artillery School to O.W. A 161 AX 17 BX 4. This Ammunition was defective. Also drawn from O.W.A. and delivered to 5th D.A.C. MILLS No 5 3516. SAA 624,000. Two other ranks reported to No 11 Squadron R.F.C. to undergo mechanical test.	
	15		All lorries on detachment have been recalled to Park. During the day, lorries proceeded to O.W. to pick up complement of Ammunition for move: - U.S. SAA 739,000. Q. 140 QX 140 A 1620 AX 1080 BX 480.	

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	16.		In accordance with "K" Ammunition Park instructions, the Park moved off in convoys of 6 lorries at 10 AM. and proceeded North through ALBERT and DOULLENS to ST POL, arriving there at 3.35 pm. The lorries were parked in the town and got ready to move off on the following morning.	
	17.		At 8 AM the convoy moved off and proceeded to POPERINGHE via. PERNES, HAZEBROUCK, STEENVOORDE, and ABEELE. The position of the Park was taken up on the outskirts of POPERINGHE at G. 10. 0 5.3. Sheet 28. This position had never been used as a heavy Park before and the lorries had to Park on an unmetalled road. This road would be quite impassable to M.T. vehicles in wet weather. But for this, the position is excellent.	
	18.		The construction of the camp is now complete. The position is discernible from German observation balloons. Issued to 15th D.A.C. A 1620 AX 1080 BX 480. and to TRAVISTOCK DUMP S.A.A. 739000. One other rank evacuated to Hospital.	
	19.		Drawn from X.C.A. and delivered to 147th Battery D 1000 DX 1000. During	

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			<p>The afternoon the Park was shelled, the range however was too long and the shells all landed in an adjoining paddocks. One other rank evacuated to Hospital.</p>	
	20.		<p>Between the hours of 2 AM. and 3 AM., XIX Corps sent an urgent detail for 15 lorries to proceed to an Ammunition Dump which had caught fire caused through enemy shell fire. Under Lt. G. W. Mercer 15 lorries and a loading party also the fire lorry with crew of 12 proceeded at once to the dump. Upon arrival it was seen that a great quantity of ammunition could be saved. The fire crew under direction of Warrant Officer Stocomb attacked the flames, while four lorries at a time backed in and loaded, dumping the ammunition a short distance down the road. By 6 AM. the fire was out and the ammunition salvaged is estimated to be £150,000. Three of the party were slightly wounded. The work carried out was excellent and XIX Corps were extremely satisfied with the result.</p>	
	21.		<p>Drawn from TAVISTOCK DUMP and delivered to 110th Battery D 500 Dx 500 and to 1st Cont. Heavy Battery D. 500 Dx 250. One other ranks reported back from Hospital.</p>	
	22.		<p>Advice received from T Corps Park that Park is to move position on 23rd inst. and that No 5 A.A.S.P. will take over on that date. One other rank rejoined from Hospital. Four other ranks returned from leave of absence.</p>	
	23.		<p>At 3.25 AM. two enemy aeroplanes were seen flying within a few hundred feet from</p>	

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			<p>The earth. The manouevred round the Park for about 20 minutes and then dropped two bombs which landed in a wheat field 20 yards from lorries. Several pieces hitting the lorries. One aeroplane then opened with his machine gun on a barn, part of which was being used as a Quartermaster's store. Nobody was hit, and no damage resulted.</p>	
	23.		<p>At 10 am. The Park moved off to BOESCHEPE via POPERINGHE and ABEELE and took up position R.9 a 99 sheet 27. This position is on the main BOESCHEPE - ABEELE Road. The workshops being situated in the village of BOESCHEPE. The Unit now comes under control of I Corps Ammunition Parks.</p>	
	24.		<p>One other rank evacuated to Hospital. Twenty two lorries proceeded out on RE. and general transport duties. Paid Unit. The position and camp now completed.</p>	
	25.		<p>One other rank taken on strength from 1st Base M.T. Depot. and one other rank evacuated to Hospital. Five lorries conveyed a working party to VOORMEZEELE and 12 other lorries were out on various RE. work.</p>	

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	26.		Nineteen lorries proceeded to various camps for duty. The majority of this detail is conveying working parties to duty and R.E. work. One other rank transferred to Hospital from leave.	
	27.		Six other ranks returned from leave of absence. Twenty three lorries out on various detail.	
	28.		One motor cycle evacuated to Base. One other rank proceeded on leave.	
	29.		One other rank taken on strength from K. Ammunition Park. Six lorries reported to ABEELE STATION for work under C.R.E. X Corps. Eleven other lorries were out on various detail.	
	30.		Delivered to 47th DIV from Ammunition on hand PISTOL WEBLEY. 960 rounds. Only seven lorries detailed by S.M.T.O. for duties.	
	31.		Strength of Unit 3 Officers 156 other ranks. One other rank proceeded on leave. Nine lorries were out on R.E. and General Transport duties.	

A.B. James MAJOR,
9.04th AUSTRALIAN DIV. ANN. SUB. PARK.