

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

Supplies & Transport

Item number: 25/56/5

Title: 5th Australian Ammunition Sub-Park

August 1917



AWM4-25/56/5

28

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Original.

Army Form C. 2118

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Poperinghe	18.17		<p>The C.I.M.T. Inspectors made an inspection of lorries, but it was most unsatisfactory - one of the Inspectors - Lieut. Brew - was formerly Workshop Officer of this unit, previously to my taking over. I wanted a report as to the condition of the lorries when handed over to me, giving makers defects.</p> <p>Roads getting pot. holes. The Standing, after the rain is not at all good. The metal has been laid too far apart, consequently all four wheels are not on the metal.</p> <p>Lorries working on Ammunition and Grenades.</p> <p>Called to see S.M.T.O. at Anzac, but he had not yet returned.</p> <p>Weather very wet. Camp very muddy. A.W.H.</p> <p>Having rained hard all day, Camp and Standings in bad Condition</p> <p>10 Lorries are employed on road repairing at VLAMERTINGHE, while</p>	

2.8.17

A.W.H.

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In the Field POPEINGHE	2-8-17		<p>Officer Commanding "X" Amm. Park's papers, claiming workshop Rover, and re-quests same to be returned to him. This I am instructed to do sent my reply stating that covers, waterproof and lumber were on change to the unit. See Appendix</p> <p>Driver Robertson M. J. Transferred to Hospital. A.W.H.</p>	≡
	3-8-17		<p>Called to see S.M.T.O. 1st Army, regarding Court of Inquiry. Roads and standings getting very bad. Weather still wet. A.W.H.</p>	
	4-8-17		<p>Am detailed to be President of Court of Inquiry at T'Giege Park, upon Staff Car, Ambulance and L.G.O.C. lorry and R.O.D. Train. Witnesses and one member failed to appear. L.G.O.C. Lorry case adjourned. A.W.H.</p>	
	5-8-17		<p>I inspected new lorry site at Vhamertinge, and found no fatigue party there. C.I.M.T. Inspectors called to inspect remainder of the lorries, but I advised them to call next day, the weather being very wet.</p> <p>Pte. Holmes J. H. (Imperial A.S.C) transferred to 4 A.S.P. A.W.H.</p>	

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In the Field Popelingehe.	6-8-17		<p>Called to see S.M.T.O 1st Anzac with reference to promotion of N.C.O's - This the S.M.T.O has in hand. - I inspected new lorry site at VHAMERTINGHE, and again found no fatigue party there.</p> <p>C.I.M.T. Inspectors finish remainder of lorries, some being in all day hospital bills. No. admitted to Hospital, Corp. Vanderwood, Banked P.B. Officer Thompson J.M. returned from hospital. Weather fine.</p>	
	1-4-17		<p>Lorries proceeded to X.C.A. at 6 am.</p> <p>Officer Commanding T. Ammunition Park, inspected stock books of the Workshop, and ordered certain spare parts to be returned at once. Stock books been away with C. T. Supply Column, for checking.</p> <p>C.I.M.T. Inspectors finish lorries. A.W.H.</p>	
	8-8-17		<p>Pat as President of Court of Inquiry, reference to adjourned Case LGOC lorry No. 4 D.S.C.</p> <p>Inspected lorry standings at VHAMERTINGHE, and found work progressing favourably.</p> <p>Issue New Standing Orders and Guard Orders</p> <p>Receive a rear axle for "KARRIER" from T. Siege Park from lorry No. 119.</p> <p>also spare parts for Gear Box. A.W.H. Weather showery during the evening</p>	

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Zuid. Poperinghe.	8-8-17		Sergeant VANSENDER, J. L. Attends 5th Army. Gas School of Instruction, for one week, finishing on the 11th inst. Gunner LANG, R. transferred from S. A. D. A. C. A. Witt.	
	9-8-17		Only half number of horses out. Forwarded to S. M. T. O 1st Augae report of N. C. O's - C. S. M and Workshop Foreman. Apply for Authority to evacuate Side Car. Commence to send surplus spare parts to Base. Pte James B. L. transferred from 1st M. T. Base Depot. Weather Fine. A. Witt.	
	10-8-17		Receive Authority to evacuate side Car. Draw 3,815 francs from Zuid Cashier 1st Augae. for Imprest account. Rate of exchange 6 francs = 3/8. Bayebrouch shelled and bombed. Two aeroplanes came over Camp at about 2 am, rained bombs, one landing 40 yards from Workshop. 36 A.S.P., next landing to mine shelled out of it, also "H" ammunition Park. Weather Fine. A. Witt.	
	11-8-17		Called to see S. M. T. O 1st Augae, reference to my N. C. O's, also called to see Zuid Cashier and Lieut C. W. J. Isles regarding the transfer of "Comfort Fund" money to Regimental Fund - The matter is left that Lt. Isles, A. Witt.	

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Field POPERINGHE	11.8.17		Wrote to the Bank, and transfer the money to Staff Paymaster for Regimental Fund account, of No 5. A. A. S. P. - Weather fine. A. W. H.	
	12.8.17		Inspected forward landings at VHAMERTINGHE. Work progressing favourably. Driver Crowther transferred to Hospital Weather fine. A. W. H.	
	13.8.17		To Roziers at ORILLIA Dump for ammunition Sergt CHAPMAN. A. and Sergt Arnold J. transferred from No 1. A. A. S. P. and to be Temp C.S.M and Temp Workshop Foreman. respectively, on authority S.M.T.O. 1st Anzac Two section Sergeants regarding their promotions. Driver Congdon. F.G. transferred from No 4. A. A. S. P. - Gnr. Lennon from Hospital. The following men were transferred from 1st Base M.T. Depot Corpl Baynes G.E. Pte. Redford H.V. Pte. Guppy. L.H. Gnr. Edwards F.G. Gnr. Munro. J. Gnr. Overington E.F. and Dvr. Dykes A. A. W. H.	
	14/8/17		Temp C.S.M. Riordan W.J. and Temp Staff Sergt Lumb, revert to permanent Ranks. 22 lorries at X.C.A., out at 6 am.	
	15/8/17		Inspect workshop staff on parade. explaining several items to them. Called to report to S.M.T.O XIX Corps, and am censured for so called disregarding orders given me. i.e. moving part of my Company equipment. A. W. H.	A. W. H.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Zuid Poperinghe	15.8.17		that is the Workshop structure. - all lorries working full out. Sgt. Clayton W.J transferred to 4th Aust Div Trench Mortars. M.T. Dr. Mouchemore. B.G. wounded and admitted to hospital - weather fine.	
	16.8.17		'Zero Day' 4.45 am. Enemy guns shelled very near camp. All lorries working full out on ammunition weather fine.	A.W.H.
	17.8.17		Routine as usual - Hostile planes came over at night and dropped bombs on hospital near by.	Weather fine. A.W.H.
	18.8.17		Gnr. Gould J. transferred from 1st Base M.T. Depot. - weather fine. all lorries working continuously for 24 hours, delivering "D" and "Dx" to Heavy Batteries. Have Canteen committee meeting - self as President, members, Corp Muldoon W.E. Drivers Thompson. P.M. and Sharp A.E. Secty. 1st Aid lorry detached - at Goldfish Chateau for duty.	A.W.H.
	19.8.17		Gnr. Reid & transferred to 38th Batty 10th Aust Div ART. Brigade Gnr. Purnell A.E. to Hospital. Dr. Macdonald A.R. takes over the Canteen. I visit AREA. Commandant with reference to 'Soyer Stoves' 3 lorries in workshop with bracked chassis - 3 for types and 2 with bracked engine members. Had arranged to read ARMY ACT.	A.W.H.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Insd. POPERINGHE	19-8-17		at 3pm, but at 1-30 pm all available lorries were sent out as postponed to a future date.	
			Received leave allotment, 4 in Number. Put in Reserve Order, clause regarding Venereal Disease Gunner Purnell A.E. returned from Hospital	
	20-8-17		Received letter from Corps Parks, stating that from today this unit will be the Stone column, working under C.P.O. XIX Corps. All available lorries to be detailed for Stone. O.A.S. Adams and 3 Gunners detailed for duty at ORILLIA Dump. Drew 6 Bell tents for men to sleep in, off their lorries, if necessary. I inspected the roads in forward area around YPRES, accompanied by Lieut Maplestone. L.T. - 1st Aid lorry and crew at Goldfish Chateau. and men at forward landing all well. Weather fine.	
	21-8-17		Went to HAZEBROUCK and Bailleul, for money and to buy steel plate - sent from Pay office here to check all pay books. corporal Bailey on leave to United Kingdom.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ined PoperingHE.	22.8.17		Hostile air craft over about 9.45pm. Plenty of Anti Aircraft shell fell in the Camp. Routine as usual. Weather fine.	
	23.8.17		Escort Swallow Lt. transferred from 1st Base M.T. Depot. A.W.H. With C.R.O. XIX Corps, I inspected all forward roads, where lorries working S.M.T.O. 1st Amys called and inspected Workshops. Intends sending two more filters, and two extra Blacksmiths along.	
	24.8.17		D. of T. pulling down establishment, 13 Drivers from a Sub. Park, 1 per spare, and 1st Aid lorries and 15% spare in future. Corporal Congdon L. on leave to United Kingdom.	A.W.H.
	25.8.17		Asked for authority to purchase steel, for reinforcing the frames of carriers also for authority to purchase Windscreen - Weather Showery.	A.W.H.
	25.8.17		Number of men caught in YPRES; not having lookout men. Driver Cooper J. L. to Hospital - weather fine, but windy	A.W.H.
	26.8.17		I inspected roads around YPRES where lorries are working - 22 lorries detailed for C.R.O. on roads.	A.W.H.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field POPELINGHE	27.8.17		<p>Visited B. A. S. C. Repair Shop, St. Omers, to endeavour to obtain sheet steel plates, for reinforcing "KARRIERS". Was unable to procure same, but saw the I.W.T. who let me have sufficient to do about four lorries, also they will lend these to be temporarily ready to fit.</p> <p>5 men are temporarily attached - 2 Blacksmiths and 3 fitters - to assist in Workshops. - Weather hot, and very windy.</p>	
	28.8.17		<p>I inspected lorries at advanced standing, Goldfish Chateau and Ypres. Weather still hot and very windy. Trees blown over on the VLAMERTINGHE - YPRES Road.</p>	A.W.H.
	29.8.17		<p>Lieut Noall. W. looking after all Sub. Park Standings for T. Amm Park. 3 lorries hit by shell fire, and Driver Shortridge F, wounded whilst standing on front step of his lorry in YPRES. The shell burst 10 yards in front of lorry.</p>	A.W.H.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Zuld Popetinghe.	30.8.17.		Again inspected lorries working in forward area. around YPRES Apply for corrugated iron for the flooring of lorries. Workshop structure completed, and lorries move into it. Weather showery. A.W.H.	
	31.8.17		Received instructions, D.A.G.-A.I.F. to forward two names of candidates for course of instruction, A.A.S.C, for Commissions at a future date. 1st Aid lorry reported back to Park, from Duty at Goldfish Chateau. W.O. Buchanan. A. admitted to Hospital, sick. Weather showery. For work done during the month. by lorries, please see Appendix II. A.W. Harvey Major COMDC, 5th AUSTRALIAN AMMUNITION SUB. PARK.	

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R.E. FATIGUES

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AMMUNITION

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information										Remarks and references to Appendices
			NUMBER LORRIES	LOADS	TONNAGE	MILEAGE		MILEAGE		MILEAGE			
						LOADED	EMPTY	LOADED	LOADS	TONNAGE	LOADED	EMPTY	
AUGUST	1		1	1	3	5	5	32	43	127½	157	265	
	2		15	34	100	166	275	12	16	36	80	140	
	3		13	25	75	112½	100½	13	13	25	71½	143	
	4		3	3	7	29	35	22	50	150	250	206	
	5		5	5	27	80	49	24	24	72	252	252	
	6		2	3	9	25	39		N	1	L		
	7		2	5	15	35	20	23	32	96	198	184	
	8		2	3	9	23	19	24	42	96	408	393	
	9		19	28	60	214	155		N	1	L		
	10		7	10	30	41	116	12	26	77	68	108	
	11		2	5	15	19	16	14	24	42	112	144	
	12		15	26	78	153	144		N	1	L		
	13		2	3	9	15	4	22	26	78	64	176	
	14		2	3	9	15	9	46	48	142	370	424	
	15		12	22	56	132	142	16	16	48	166	190	
	16		2	4	12	19	20	48	48	144	296	365	
	17		2	5	15	19	19	46	74	221	522	312	
	18		2	4	12	18	18	42	56	138	375	275	
	19		3	5	15	26	34	22	43	129	338	193	
	20		22	84	252	337	444		N	1	L		
	21		22	100	300	362	380		N	1	L		
	22		26	124	372	474	466		N	1	L		
Grand Forward			181	502	1480	2319½	2569½	418	581	1621½	3727½	3770	

APPENDIX 11

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- R. E. FATIGUES (Erase heading not required.) - AMMUNITION -

Place	Date	Hour	MILEAGE				Summary of Events and Information		MILEAGE				Remarks and references to Appendices	
			NUMBER LORRIES	LOADS	TONNAGE	LOADED	EMPTY	NUMBER LORRIES	LOADS	TONNAGE	LOADED	EMPTY		
AUGUST	1917		181	502	1480	2319½	2569½	418	581	1621½	3727½	3770		
		23	26	129	387	467	520		N	1	L			
		24	23	123	369	427	518		N	1	L			
		25	23	121	363	469	482		N	1	L			
		26	23	117	351	436	476		N	1	L			
		27	24	96	291	347	403		N	1	L			
		28	24	89	267	306	355		N	1	L			
		29	24	101	303	319	416		N	1	L			
		30	24	105	315	266	368		N	1	L			
		31	24	98	270	419½	413½		N	1	L			
		TOTAL		396	1481	4396	5776	6515	418	581	1621½	3727½	3770	

	NUMBER LORRIES	LOADS	TONNAGE	LOADED	EMPTY	MILEAGE
TOTAL R.E. FATIGUES.	396	1481	4396	5776	6515	
TOTAL AMMUNITION.	418	581	1621½	3727½	3770	
<u>GRAND TOTAL.</u>	<u>814</u>	<u>2062</u>	<u>6017½</u>	<u>9503½</u>	<u>10285</u>	

A. W. Hardley Major
COMDG. 562 AUSTRALIAN AMMUNITION SUB. PARK.

APPENDIX