

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

Supplies & Transport

**Item number:** 25/83/4

**Title:** 1st Australian Divisional Mechanical  
Transport Company

June 1918



AWM4-25/83/4

18,000-12/1 -8723

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

**ORIGINAL.**  
**DUPLICATE.**  
**TRIPLICATE.**

1st  
AUSTRALIAN  
M.T. COMPANY.  
No. ....  
3 JUL 1918

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Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

Ist. Australian M.T. Company.

FOR

Month of JUNE.....1918.

Signature of Officer compiling *G. R. Shirlaw* Major.

Signature of Officer Commanding *G. R. Shirlaw* Major.

# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

1st  
AUSTRALIAN  
M.T. COMPANY.

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.

No. ....  
3 JUL 1918

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the field,	I 6 18. to 30 6 18.		<p>LOCATION:-Sheet 36a B.13.d.7.2. RAILHEAD:-EBBLINGHEM.</p> <p>No unusual activity has taken place during the month, so far as this Unit is concerned, ordinary routine work being the order of the day. Owing to our remaining in the same location the whole month an opportunity has arisen for the workshops to carry out several overhauls and repairs. See appendix I for schedule of work done.</p> <p>The report from the C.I.M.T., A.I.F. is just to hand and shews that the mechanical efficiency of the lorries is good. D.M.T.S., A.I.F. in his summing up states "that the report reflects considerable credit on the whole Unit".</p> <p>The lorries have been chiefly employed on S.M.T.O. details-general transport for the Corps, and ammunition for the Division, but as the 1st Aust. Division has first call on the M.T., only those actually not required by them are at the disposal of Corps.</p> <p>During the month 3 Art. Bde. Park Sections have been attached for administration, i.e. from 1st. to the 10th. the 28th. A.F.A. Bde. P. Section and the 64th. also the 12th. A.B. Aust. F.A.B.P. Section, comprising each 1 officer 50 other ranks and 16 lorries. On the 11th. the 28th. Park Section marched out to join another M.T. Coy.</p> <p>The demand for ammunition, especially Field Artillery, has been heavy for the month, the S.A.A. Section has been fairly light, chiefly owing to the fact, that the Division has only been holding a Bde. front. See appendix 2 for ammun. carried.</p> <p>The work of the Supply Section has varied very little from last month. See appendix 3.</p> <p>It is very gratifying to record that out of 8 M.S.M's awarded to the Aust. Corps M.T., this unit received 5. See appendix 4 for Special order issued by the Commanding Officer.</p> <p>During the month a number of lorries have been on detail at nights on Special R.E. work in the forward area, which necessitated them going very close to the front line. On the night of 24/25th. while two of these lorries were parked up, the position was heavily shelled by the enemy. The three drivers and the N.C.O. i/c moved their lorries to a seemingly safer spot but again the enemy shelled them, this time wounding all 4 drivers and a number of Imperial troops who were with them. After rendering first aid and securing an ambulance for the badly wounded, this N.C.O. and the one least hurt of his 3 men then drove their respective lorries, now filled with the waiting fatigue party, back to their camps behind the lines. These two men have been recommended for the Immediate Award of the Military Medal. One of the 4 drivers wounded has since died, another has had his leg amputated.</p> <p>These are the total casualties to personnel through enemy action for the month. The casualties to vehicles-1 Ford Ambulance damaged by enemy shell fire on 30.6.18. at St. SYLVESTRE CAPPEL and repaired in Unit workshops.</p> <p>On the 19th. a Corps M.T. Sports meeting was held and this Unit was invited to attend. We being the only Australians interested in the competitions, keen interest was taken and a satisfactory number of prizes were won.</p>	

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The epidemic of influenza which broke out in the Camp last month has been entirely stamped out, but unfortunately not before one man, who was very ill, was sent to hospital, where he developed pneumonia and died the day after admission.

The total mileage for the month is:- Loaded 32796, Empty 31437. Number of loads carried-3219. Petrol issued-14056 gallons.

During the month 2 Officers-Lieut. H.E. Hoyles and 2/Lieut. A.E. Burton and 29 Other Ranks have been taken on the strength. 1 Officer-Lieut. G. Moffat and 16 Other Ranks have been struck off for various reasons. The average strength of the Unit for the month has been 434 Officers and Other ranks.

The health of the Unit has been good. The weather has been splendid throughout the whole month.



*H. R. Shirlaw.*  
Commanding 1st. Aust. M T. Company.

Major.,

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20,000-5/18-11,069

APPENDIX

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# WAR DIARY

OF

Ist. Australian M.T. Company.

FOR

Month of JUNE.

1918.

1st AUSTRALIAN M.T. COMPANY.
3 JUL 1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | I. | Subject.   |
|-----|----|--|
|     | 1. | Shedule of work done in Workshops for month.   |
|     | 2. | Shewing amount of ammunition drawn and issued for month.                                 |
|     | 3. | Supply Officer's report of work done for month.  |
|     | 4. | Special order by Commanding Officer on the award of the M.S.M. to 5 members of the Unit. |

FIRST AUSTRALIAN M.T. COMPANY'S WORKSHOPS REPORT FOR MONTH ENDING 30.6.18.

TO LORRIES ON CHARGE AND ATTACHED.

A.	Total number of jobs handled by Workshops during month.....			190.
B.	Complete overhauls included in....	.....	"A" .....	15.
C.	Cylinders lifted " " .....	.....	"A" .....	11.
D.	In shops over 24 hours. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	61.
E.	In shops under 24 hours. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	129.
F.	Fitted with springs, included in A.B.C. or D....	.....	.....	39.
G.	Fitted with radiators " " -do- .....	.....	.....	13.
H.	Fitted with tyres, N.E.I. ....	.....	.....	27.

TO MOTOR CARS ON CHARGE AND ATTACHED.

A.	Number of jobs handled by Workshops. ....	.....	.....	28.
B.	Complete overhauls included in....	.....	"A" .....	3.
C.	In shops over 24 hours. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	17.
D.	In shops under 24 hours. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	11.
E.	Fitted with radiators. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	1.
F.	Fitted with springs. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	8.

TO MOTOR AMBULANCES ATTACHED.

A.	Number of jobs handled by Workshops. ....	.....	.....	33.
B.	Complete overhauls included in....	.....	"A" .....	3.
C.	In shops over 24 hours. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	20.
D.	In shops under 24 hours. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	13.
E.	Fitted with radiators. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	1.
F.	Fitted with springs. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	7.

TO MOTOR CYCLES ON CHARGE AND ATTACHED.

A.	Number of jobs handled by Workshops. ....	.....	.....	7.
B.	Complete overhauls included in. ....	.....	"A" .....	4.

TOTAL OF ALL VEHICLES FOR THE MONTH.

A.	Total number of jobs handled. ....	.....	.....	258.
B.	Overhauls included in. ....	.....	"A" .....	25.
C.	In shops over 24 hours. included in. ....	.....	"A" .....	102.
D.	In shops under 24 hours. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	156.
E.	Fitted with springs. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	54.
F.	Fitted with radiators. " " .....	.....	"A" .....	15.

TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS FOR MONTH. -----27½.

In the field,  
30.6.18.



*G. R. Shirlaw* Major.,  
Commanding 1st Aust. M.T. Company.

appendix 2

# FIRST AUSTRALIAN M.T. COMPANY.

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Return showing Ammunition drawn and issued daily for month of June 1918.

Ammunition.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	TOTAL		
A	2000	2000	250	320	1600	1500	1500	1500		1000	2000		4000	5000	5000	2500							442	1000	1000	2000	4500		4500	2000	51048			
AX	1000	1000	1500	2000	1600	1000	1000				1000		2000	3000		1000								1000	1000	2000	2000		1500	1000	24600			
BX	800	1200	1000	1000		1000	900			1000			1000	2000			1000							1000	450	1000	3680		1000	1500	19560			
SAA	50000		100000			100000											500000										550000		150000		1600000			
SAA (A.P)		4992		2496			3744									3744	3744										7488	4992			43680			
SAA (Green)						4992				1992		2496	4992			4992	3744										3744				31944			
SAA (M.G)										100000			150000	150000		247600	124800														1024000			
SAA (German)																											50400				50400			
Grenades No 23	2004	2000	2004	2004		504							2508	1008	2004		2004						600		1008		1008		6009	6000	30665			
" 36	3000	1500	3000			1500						4008	1500	1500	2004	4008							1020		3000		2004		3000		31044			
" 27						600									1008														600		2208			
" 34										408							2000														3108			
" P																															1008			
Signal 634																														500	500			
Flare white	2048									1000							512														256	3816		
very lights 1" white	1050					600							2100																		1500	300	5550	
King charges "	4500		2000							1000			3600				1800							1800		6000						20700		
Distol Wadley "		2160	2160							4320					2160		2160	2160								2160		2160				21600		
Grenades Sig & K.G.		214														108															60	192		
BX charges		1100																														1100		
T.M.C Always			1002			2000											1002										2001		2001			9506		
Kods 1 charge for 23 Gun		2000																														2000		
A smoke					1600																											1600		
B "					600																											600		
SAB Ballist 30 gno										5040																						5040		
Green Chr										1000				4800																		1125	1575	2925
very lights 1" Green													2100																			2100		
T.M.C bomb flares															6																	6	12	
Tubes T. Push																																	200	
T.M.G.																																	260	
Barlye Sig Blue smoke																																	200	
																																	200	
																																	54	

1st  
AUSTRALIAN  
M.T. COMPANY.  
3 JUL 1918

G. R. Shirlaw. Major,  
COMMANDING FIRST AUSTRALIAN M.T. COMPANY.

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APPENDIX 3- Supply Officer's Report for month of June 1918.

During the month the Section has loaded supplies from Ebblinghem Railhead for a daily average strength of- Men 21410, Animals 551 H.D's, 5102 L.D's, 237 Mules. These include two Army F.A.Bdes. From 1.6.18 to 10.6.18, the 28th and 64th A.F.A.Bdes and from the 11.6.18 to 30th, the 64th A.F.A.Bde and 12th A.B.Aust.F.Arty.

The supplies have been drawn from Railhead chiefly by Horse Transport, but from 1 to 4 lorries per day have been used for obtaining supplies from Field Supply Depot's and other railheads to adjust shortages on the Pack Train. In addition four loads of Solidified Alcohol and two of Bran have been drawn from Corps Dump. Two loads of water tins have been drawn from Railhead by M.T. and delivered to the Division.

From 1.6.18 to 14.6.18, 90 tons of coal and 40 tons of fuelwood were drawn from Railhead by M.T., and 45 tons coal and 18 tons of wood by H.T. From 15.6.18 to 30.6.18, 160 tons of coal and 26 tons of fuelwood were drawn by H.T.; all fuel being delivered to the Divisional Dump.

Since the first few days of the month when a number of men were effected by influenza, the health of Section has been good and the work of N.C.O's and men excellent.

In the field,  
30.6.18.



*G. R. Shulaw*  
Commanding 1st Aust. M.T. Company. Major.,

APPENDIX 3

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SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY.

-BY-

MAJOR G.R. SHIRLAW, COMMANDING,  
In the field.

21.6.18.

The following extracts from the "LONDON GAZETTE" Supplement No. 30750 dated 17th June 1918 are published for information:-

" His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL to the under-mentioned Warrant Officer, Non-Commissioned Officers and men, in recognition of valuable services rendered with the Forces in France during the present war:-

No. 1945 C.S.M., MASON G.	No. I A.D.S. Col.
No. 1604 C.Q.M.S. ROBINSON L.H.	No. I A.A.S. Park.
No. 4098 Cpl. IRONMONGER J.C.	No. I A.D.S. Col. Att. Ist. A.F. Amb.
No. 57 M.T. Dvr. BEAL J.F.	--do-- Att. Ist. A.D.H. Qrs.
No. 2211 --do- WOOD G.	--do-- --do--

In publishing the above awards I should ~~like~~ like to express my heartiest congratulations to the recipients. I think it will give very considerable satisfaction to the present Unit that its members are so well represented on the Birthday Honours List, and it is hoped this recognition will give all ranks fresh incentive to gain further laurels for themselves and the Unit in the future.

*G. R. Shirlaw* Major.,  
Commanding Ist. Aust. M.T. Company.

1st  
AUSTRALIAN  
M.T. COMPANY.

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3 - JUL 1918