

AWM4

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

Repatriation & Demobilisation

Item number: 30/1/11 Part 6

Title: Repatriation and Demobilisation, AIF

August 1919



AWM4-30/1/11PART6

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

BRANCH 4.D., REPATRIATION & DEMOBILISATION DEPT.

FOR

AUGUST 1919 191

Signature of Officer compiling

~~Captain~~

Signature of Officer Commanding

Beckman
Major
Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	AUGUST 1st.		Advice was forwarded to Branch 3.D. that Lt. Col. J. E. TUCKETT A.A.O.C., reported for duty with this Branch to-day, and will complete the work of A.D.O.S., Demob., France, from this Office.	
	2nd.		Letter written to 3.D. forecasting organisation of this Branch as at, and after 30th. Sept. 1919. Copy is attached as per Appendix.....	1
	5th.		Progress Report No. 31 rendered to Branch 3.D. Copy is attached as per Appendix.....	2
	6th.		Request received from Chief Paymaster for a copy of all Indents placed with Imperial Authorities for Equipment, Arms, etc., for Post Bellum Army.	
			Letters were written to Imperial Issuing Depots, requesting Issue Vouchers for Mobilisation Stores demanded, as follows:- 2 "Advance" Copies, when stores are ready for issue. 4 Copies after issue has been made.	
	7th.		Report No. 13 dated 15.7.19 was received from S.O.4.D. Egypt, and copy is attached as per Appendix.....	3
			Copy of Progress Report No. 31 forwarded to D.D.G.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	7th.		<p style="text-align: center;">-2-</p> <p>Demands for Medical and Surgical Equipment for Post Bellum Army were submitted to D.G. A.M.S., War Office.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Letter written to Secretary, War Office, reference the supply of Harness and Saddlery for Australia.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Copy is appended as per Appendix.....4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
	11th.		<p>Demands for equipment of 2 Pioneer Battalions (4.Coy.basis) were submitted to Imperial Issuing Depots to-day.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
	12th.		<p>Letters written to the following Imperial Issuing Depots, requesting the return to this office of an "Approved Copy" of each Demand submitted for equipment for Australia, this copy to shew any amendments made by Imperial Authorities:-</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">C.O.O. Weedon C.O.O., R.A.C.D., Pimlico D.D.O.S., Woolwich D.M.S., War Office D.G., A.V.S., 16 Victoria Street.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
			<p>Demands for 2 F.A.Bdes. for a Dismounted Division were passed to D.D.G. for signature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			-3-	
LONDON	12th.		<p>Progress Report No.32, for week ending 9.8.19 was rendered to Branch 3.D., copy being sent to D.D.G.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Copy is attached as per Appendix.....6</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Completed 2nd.Military District Demands for equipment of 2.F.A.Bdes. for Dismounted Division were submitted to Weedon, Pimlico and Woolwich.</p> <p>-----</p>	
	13th.		<p>2nd.Military District Demands for equipment of 2.B.A.Cs. for Infantry Division were passed to D.D.G. for signature.</p> <p>-----</p>	
	14th.		<p>Completed 2nd.Military District Demands for equipment of 2.B.A.C.s. for Infantry Division were submitted to Weedon, Woolwich and Pimlico.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>3rd.Military District Demands for equipment of undermentioned Units were passed to D.D.G. for signature:-</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1 Divisional Headquarters of Mounted Division 3 Headquarters of Mounted Brigade.</p> <p>-----</p>	
	16th.		<p>2nd.Military District Demands for equipment of undermentioned Unit were passed to D.D.G. for signature:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Telephone Equipment for 1 Field Artillery Bde.(Mounted Division)</p> <p>-----</p>	
	18th.		<p>Request received from the Secretary, War Office, for information as to the actual numbers and types of M.T.Vehicles which will be required by the A.I.F. This correspondence was passed to D.M.T.S.</p> <p>-----</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	18th.		<p style="text-align: center;">-4-</p> <p>Letter received from A.D.O.S. Demob. in U.K., attaching Return of Revolvers handed in by members of A.A.P.C. (Reply to our letter of 20th. June 1919)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Reference Diary entry of 7th. inst. - submission of Demands for Medical and Surgical equipment of Post Bellum Army - D.G., A.M.S., War Office, replied asking if A.I.F. requires <u>new</u> equipment. Correspondence passed to D.M.S., A.I.F. for remarks.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>2nd. Military District Demands for undermentioned stores were passed to D.D.G. for signature:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(1) Ammunition, dummy (2) Ammunition and Explosives for all Mounted Units.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
	19th.		<p>3rd. Military District Demands for equipment of 3 Signal Troops were passed to D.D.G. for signature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>2nd. Military District Demands for equipment were submitted as under:-</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">2 Pioneer Battalions (4. Coy. basis) - to C.O.O., R.A.C.D. Pimlico Telephone Equipment, I.F.A.B. Mounted Divn. - to D.D.O.S., Woolwich Dummy Ammunition - " " " Ammunition and Explosives for all Mounted Units - to A.D.O.S. Ammunition, Adastral House.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Progress Report No. 33, for week ending 16.8.19 was furnished to Branch 3.D., and a copy to D.D.G. Copy is attached as per Appendix.....7</p>	

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
-5-				
LONDON	19th.		Demands for equipment of undermentioned units of 3rd. Military District were passed to D.D.G. for signature:- 1 Signal Squadron, Mounted Division 1 Signal Sub-Section for Artillery Bde. with Mounted Division. -----	
	20th.		3rd. Military District Demands for equipment of 3 Machine Gun Squadrons passed to D.D.G. for signature. -----	
	21st.		Letter written to Branch 2.D., setting out for confirmation the arrangements made for shipment to Australia of Equipment for Post-Bellum Army. Copy is attached as per Appendix.....8 -----	
	22nd.		2nd. Military District Demands for Ammunition and Explosives of all Dismounted Units, passed to D.D.G. for signature. Demands as above, submitted to A.D.O.S. Ammunition, Adastral House. -----	
	23rd.		3rd. Military District Demands for 1 Mounted Divisional Train were passed to D.D.G. for signature. -----	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	26th.		<p style="text-align: center;">-6-</p> <p>3rd. Military District Demands for 1 Sanitary Section with Mounted Division were passed to D.D.G. for signature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
	27th.		<p>Progress Report No. 34. for week ending 23rd. inst. was rendered to Branch 3.D., and a copy submitted to D.D.G.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Copy is attached as per Appendix.....9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>3rd. Military District Demands for 9 Light Horse Regiments were passed to D.D.G. for signature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Letter was written to the Secretary, War Office, proposing to substitute the signature of Brig. Gen. C.H. JESS, C.M.G., D.S.O., for that of Brig. Gen. C.H. FOOTT, C.B., C.M.G., on Demands for equipment of post-bellum Army.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Copy is attached as per Appendix10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>3rd. Military District Demands for Army Veterinary Stores for Units of a Mounted Division were passed to D.D.G. for signature; also Demands for 3 Mobile Veterinary Sections (Mounted)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
	28th.		<p>Reference shipment to Australia of Equipment for Post Bellum Army, letter was written to the Secretary, War Office, enclosing copy of letter received by this branch from Branch 2.D</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Copies of both communications are attached as per Appendix.....11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	29th.		<p style="text-align: center;">-7-</p> <p>3rd. Military District Demands for equipment of 1 Field Squadron, Mounted Division, were passed to D.D.G. for signature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Letter written to D.D.G. reference packing of stores for shipment to Australia, and suggesting that 4 Officers be appointed for supervising duty at Imperial Depots.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Copy is attached as per Appendix12</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(10340) W4 W5300/P713 750,000 3/18 G. 1688 Forms/C2118/16.

WAR DIARY

OF

BRANCH 4.D., REPATRIATION & DEMOBILISATION DEPT., A.I.F.

FOR

AUGUST 1919

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|--|
| 1 | Letter to Branch 3.D. forecasting organisation of Branch 4.D. as at and after September 30th.1919. |
| 2. | Progress Report No.31.dated 26.7.19 to 2.8.19 |
| 3. | Report No.13 dated 15.7.19 from S.O.4.D., Egypt. |
| 4. | Letter to Secretary, War Office, re.supply of Harness and Saddlery for Australia. |
| 5. | Progress Report No.32. dated 2.8.19 to 9.8.19. |
| 6. | Progress Report No.33.dated 16.8.19. |
| 7. | Letter to Branch 2.D .re arrangements for shipment to Australia of Equipment for Post Bellum Army. |
| 8 | Progress Report No.34. dated 16.8.19.to 23.8.19. |
| 9 | Letter to Secretary, War Office, proposing substitution of signature of Brig.Gen.C.H.Jess, C.M.G., D.S.O. for that of Brig.Gen.C.H.Foot, C.B., C.M.G., on Demands for Equipment of Post Bellum Army. |
| 10 | Letter to Secretary, War Office, forwarding copy of letter to Branch 2.D. re shipment to Australia of Equipment for Post Bellum Army. |
| 11. | Letter to D.D.G. re packing of stores for shipment and suggesting appointment of 4 Officers for supervising duty at Imperial Depots. |

COPY

APPENDIX I.

4.D.

Director, Branch 3.D.

2nd. August 1919

Final Stages of Demobilisation

With reference to the Confidential memo from the Director-General of Repatriation & Demobilisation, A.I.F., dated 29th. ult., it is advised that the whole of the present staff of Branch 4.D. (with the exception of one W.O. who leaves at the end of August) will be retained after the 30th. September, in connection with the preparation and submission of indents for equipment of the Post Bellum Army.

The staff of the Branch after 30th. September will remain as follows:-

Major C. Speckman, M.C., Director
Lieut. S. H. Rainbird, Staff Officer
Capt. G. P. W. A. Meredith, attached from Australia House
2 Clerks (A.I.F.), 2 Orderlies (A.I.F.) and 4 Lady
Typists.

This does not take into consideration the staff of A.D.O.S. (Demob) France, which is at present with this Branch and consists of 2 Officers and 3 Other Ranks. They will be available for repatriation as soon as their work is finalised, which will be before 30th. September next.

(Signed) C. SPECKMAN, Major
Director, Branch 4.D.

PROGRESS REPORTBRANCH 4.D.26.7.19 to 2.8.19.

The usual Routine Work of this office has been carried out during the week under review; also the preparation of Fair Copy Demands for the undermentioned units allotted to the 2nd. Military District;

- 2 Field Artillery Brigades (Dismounted)
 - 2 Brigade Ammunition Columns (Dismounted)
 - 2 Pioneer Battalions.
- Bulk Demands for Gun and S.A.A. Ammunition for Units allotted to 2nd. Military District (Vide Mobilisation Store Tables).

The preparation, checking and distribution to Imperial Ordnance Depots of indents for reequipment of Units allotted to the 2nd. Military District.

With the exception of the abovementioned Units, complete Demands for the Equipment of Units allotted to 2nd. Military District have been submitted to Imperial Ordnance Depots.

Preliminary arrangements have been made with Branch 2.D. re the Shipment of these stores to Military Districts as they are made available by Ordnance Depots.

The following indents have been distributed to Imperial Ordnance Depots during the week:

- 1 B.A.C. (Mounted Division)
 - 1 Field Squadron (Mounted Division)
 - 2 Divisional Employment Coys.
- Bulk Demand for Army Veterinary Service Stores for Units allotted to 2nd. Military District (Dismounted and Mounted).

B. Speckman
Major
Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

CAIRO, 15th July, 1919.

Branch 4 D.,

Department of Repatriation and Demobilisation, A.I.F.,
LONDON.REPORT No. 13.From Staff Officer 4D., (Egypt).

I have to report as follows for the past week. -

Lists Indents etc:

There are no further completed papers as yet. The only papers to be forwarded now are those of 14th A.G.H. and Australian Remount Unit. Certificates from Officers are forwarded as per list attached.

No. 14 A.G.H.

Your cable as follows was received on 8th inst., -

From ADMINAUST LONDON 8th July 1919 at 0830
74715 5th July 1919. Your telegram 19th June CM301 Australia equipped 3rd AGH, on double hospital scale on 1040 bed basis all equipment left Egypt, up to that scale on transfer 3rd AGH to England Australian property, 14th AGH equipped by Australia as single hospital 520 beds establishment for hospitals of post bellum army not yet definitely fixed.

ADMINAUST.

Papers therefore are being compiled on the basis of a 1040 bed Hospital and the unit will also account for the extra stores brought by it from Australia and taken off here. The stores taken to England as per "STRALIS" letter 86758 of 10/10/18 will naturally be accounted for in England.

Australian Remount Unit.

As far as I can ascertain here, Two units (Nos. 1 & 2) each consisting of H.Q. and 4 squadrons left Australia equipped. Later it was reduced to one unit of H.Q. and 4 squadrons, and in Oct. 1916 it was further reduced and the present Depot consisting of H.Q. and two squadrons, formed. This latter unit took over necessary equipment from former unit, and naturally the present C.O. is only responsible for the equipment of this unit; papers are therefore being compiled on this scale.

If the original units left Australia equipped, they must at some time have handed into Imperial Depots a large amount of equipment, but there is no one with the present unit who can give me any information regarding this nor can I ascertain from "Q" Branch. Under the circumstances I cannot accept responsibility for accounting for stores evidently handed in prior to Oct. 1916 and maintain that it is a matter the "Q" Branch here should be able to clear up.

Surplus Stores.

The A.D.G. has instructed me that in the absence of any ruling from you re disposal of these, they are to be shipped to Australia by one of the last transports to leave here.

General.

In view of remarks made to me here that Branch 4 D., had finished in London, I cabled you on 14th inst. as follows -

From STRALIS CAIRO. to DEMOBAUST LONDON.
CM322 14th July 1919., For 4D aas Is 4D responsible Egypt now aas
If not may I return Australia at once, also SMITH aas DOWN
STRALIS.

and now await your reply.

A lot of difficulty has been experienced in obtaining statements from each D.A.D.O.S., showing the quantities of Officers "free issues" handed in to Imperial Ordnance prior to my arrival here.

These statements, of course, are absolutely necessary in order that Australia may claim for such articles on the Imperial Government.

However, it is hoped to obtain something definite shortly now.

(Sgd.) G. S. Down.

Major,

S.O. Branch 4 D. (Egypt).

DEPT. OF REPAT. AND DEMOB. A.I.F.

=====

8th. August 1919

TO:
The Secretary
War Office
LONDON S.W.1.

Sir,

With reference to your Q.M.G.10.A/3122(Q.M.G.10.A) of the 5th. August, I am to thank you for your letter with reference to the supply of harness and saddlery for Australia, and for your consideration in not supplying Horse Furniture that has been used in Egypt, Palestine, or Mesopotamia.

Instructions have been received from Australia that all stuffed articles of harness and saddlery, including "Nummah pannels", "Neck straps" and "Packsaddlery pannels", are to be new, otherwise they will not be admitted into the Commonwealth unless subject to the treatment as laid down by the Quarantine Legislation, which would probably render articles unserviceable.

It is also requested that all packages containing part worn horse furniture should be encircled with a broad yellow band.

I should be very glad if you would concur in this request.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) C. SPECKMAN, Major
Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

PROGRESS REPORTBRANCH 4.D.2.8.19. to 9.8.19.

The usual routine work of this Office has been carried out during the week under review, also the typing, checking, and registration of Demands for Artillery Units allotted to 2nd. Military District.

The work of preparing and typing Demands for Units allotted to the 3rd. Military District has also been commenced.

Some of the general questions dealt with during the period under review are:-

Request to Chief of Staff to state whether "helmets, steel" will be demanded for Units of Post Bellum Army of Australia.

"Helmets, Steel" have already been demanded by us, for Units allotted to 2nd Military District, but the following query has been raised by the D.D.O.S. Woolwich :-

"Is it quite clear that these are required, as helmets"
"are retained by all Troops returning to Australia, "
"Issue suspended pending reply."

This statement is not quite correct, as General Instruction No.5. pointed out that it was purely optional whether a man retained his "helmet, steel", or handed it in to Store. The records received from "Base Depot" Havre, show approximately about 20,000 "helmets, steel" returned. This number does not include those handed in to Salvage by D.A.Ds.O.S. of Divisions. A.D.O.S. Demob. in France (at present attached to 4.D.), has been asked to furnish a statement to this Department as soon as possible showing the number of Helmets returned to:-

- (a) Base Depot, Havre
- (b) Base or Salvage Depots per D.A.Ds.O.S. of Divisions.

In the meantime "Helmets, steel" are being demanded by us for the Units of the Post Bellum Army of Australia, (vide Instructions received from the Chief of Staff, A.I.F.)

A request has been forwarded to the War Office asking that all stuffed articles of Harness and Saddlery, including "Nummah pannels", "Neck straps" and "Packsaddlery pannels" be supplied from new stock, otherwise they cannot be admitted into the Commonwealth unless subject to treatment as laid down by the Quarantine Legislation, which would probably render articles unserviceable. A request has also been made that ball packages containing part worn Horse Furniture should be incircled with a broad yellow band, (vide cable No.W.L.220. dated 1st, August).

Sgd. C. Speckman
Major.

Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

PROGRESS REPORTBRANCH 4.D.9.8.19 to 16.8.19

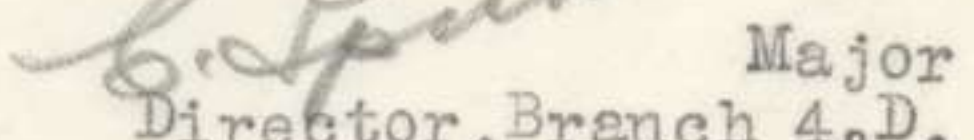
The usual Routine Work of this office has been carried out during the week under review, also the typing, checking and registration of Demands for the undermentioned Units allotted to the 3rd. Military District.

- 1 Divisional Headquarters, Mounted Division
- 1 Signal Squadron (Mounted Division)
- 1 Signal Sub-Section for Field Artillery Brigade.
- 3 Headquarters Mounted Brigade.

The following Indents have now been completed and distributed to Imperial Ordnance Depots.

- (a) 2. Field Artillery Brigades
- (b) 2 Pioneer Battalions
- (c) 2 Brigade Ammunition Columns
- (d) Telephone Equipment for 1 Mounted Brigade Artillery
- (e) Bulk Demands for Ammunition and Explosives for all Units.

The complete Demands for Equipment of Units allotted to 2nd. Military District have now been forwarded to Imperial Ordnance Depots, and arrangements made with the Imperial Authorities and Branch 2.D. re. the vouchering and shipping of this equipment.


Major
Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

4D/6509/7/18/1

20th August 1919

TO: BRANCH 2.D.

SHIPMENT OF EQUIPMENT FOR POST BELLUM ARMY OF AUSTRALIA.

The arrangements in connection with the above matter, which were made at a personal visit to your Branch, are now set out hereunder for confirmation, please.

- (1) The Issuing Depots have been requested to forward to 4D two "advance" copies of Issue Vouchers for stores reported ready for shipment.
- (2) The documents mentioned in (1) will, after registration here be passed to your Branch. The matter of shipping space will then be taken up by you and, when same has been secured, "forwarding instructions" will be sent from your Branch direct to the Issuing Depot. When the stores have actually been shipped one copy of the Issue Voucher bearing the name of vessel and date of sailing will be returned by you to 4.D; the remaining copy being retained in support of shipping documents.

It should be clearly understood that in no circumstances should a copy of the issue vouchers mentioned above be signed, as receiving the goods, and returned to the issuing Depot. Acquittance will not be given until stores have been landed in Australia and checked in detail. Further copies of Issue Vouchers will be obtained for this purpose. These, however, will not concern your Branch.

I shall be glad to have your views in connection with the possibility of, and responsibility for, losses between the time goods are placed on rail, etc. by the British Authorities and the time delivery is taken by the Ordnance Department in Australia. To eliminate the possibility of losses in transit is of course, impracticable. At the same time, owing to the technical nature of much of this equipment and the length of time that would be occupied in securing replacement, it is particularly desirable that every precaution be taken to avoid losses. The necessity for clear responsibility in regard to the recovery of value of losses will also be obvious to you.

(Sgd) C. Speckman, Major
Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

PROGRESS REPORTBRANCH 4.D.16-8-19. to 23-8-19

The usual routine work of this office has been carried out during the week under review. Demands for the undermentioned units have been typed, checked, registered and despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots.

Mounted Division, 2nd.M.D.
Ammunition and Explosives (all Units)
Dismounted Divisions, 2nd.M.D.
Ammunition and Explosives (all Units).

The following demands have been typed etc. and are awaiting despatch to Imperial Ordnance Depots.

3rd.M.D. (Mounted Division)

1 Divisional Headquarters
3 Brigade Headquarters
1 Signal Sub-Section for Artillery Brigade
1 Signal Squadron
3 Signal Troops
3 Machine Gun Squadrons
1 Mounted Divisional Train
1 Sanitary Section

In addition to the above, "Fair Copy" demands for all Artillery 2nd.Demands (Mark IV 18-pr., Equipment) have been prepared and checked. These however will not be submitted till all the Demands of "1st.Demand" for all Districts have been forwarded to Imperial Ordnance Depots.

E. Geckman

Major
Director Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

27th. August 1919

TO:-
The Secretary
War Office
WHITEHALL S.W.1.

Sir,

With reference to previous correspondence dealing with the signing of Demands for the equipment of the Post Bellum Army of Australia, I have the honour to inform you that it is proposed to substitute the name of Brig-General C.H. Jess. C.M.G., D.S.O., Brig-General i/c Administration, A.I.F. Headquarters, for that of Brig-General C.H. FOOTT, C.B., C.M.G., Deputy Director General, Repatriation and Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F., who is shortly leaving for Australia.

I would, therefore, be glad to know if this alteration meets with your approval and will be accepted by the War Office as authority for the Demands?

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

C.H. FOOTT.
D/Director-General
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

4D/6509/7/18/1

28th. August 1919.

TO:
The Secretary
War Office
WHITEHALL. S.W.1.

Shipment of Equipment for Post Bellum Army of
Australia.

Sir,

I am directed to approach you concerning the shipment of equipment for the Post Bellum Army of Australia to the Military Districts concerned, and I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of proposals, and preliminary arrangements made with our Movements and Quarters Branch of this Department, re the shipment of the above equipment.

I shall be glad to have your views in connection with this matter, as it is essential that we should have some definite arrangement made, especially as to the responsibility, for losses between the time stores are placed on rail, etc., by the Issuing Depots, and the time delivery is taken by the Ordnance Department in Australia.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. SPECKMAN

Major
Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

Encl:
Copies of Correspondence.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

20, Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

2.D.1.

26th. August 1919.

Branch 4.D.

Shipment of Equipment for Post Bellum Army of
Australia.

With reference to your communication on above subject dated 20th instant, the procedure therein laid down is confirmed please. It is understood that each issue voucher will cover goods for one State only.

Acquittance. It is noted that no acquittance is to be given by this Branch for any goods issued. The only papers signed will be Carrier's notes and Railway Vouchers.

Losses in Transit. With reference to this question, the experience of this Branch is that with such quantities, losses are bound to occur both by rail and sea.

As this Branch will be arranging shipment, it is suggested that we should initiate claims for losses in Transit. Any shortpacking, will of course, only be noted in the examination of undamaged cases, bales etc, when taken into Depot in Australia. Ordnance Service there would then claim on the Imperial Authorities for these shortages.

Losses by rail will be noted by our loading representative at Port in England. Damaged bales will be checked and repacked. Report on losses giving bale numbers etc., will be forwarded to 4.D., with a view to pricing for claim, and to making fresh indent to replace.

A report on ullaged bales will also be forwarded to Australia, to enable the check as to losses on shipboard to be made.

Losses by Sea, should be noted at offloading port in Australia and claim made direct on Shipping Company at that Port.

(Signed) J. J. S. SCOULER CAPTAIN.
For Brig. General.
Director of Movements & Quartering.
Dept., of Repatriation & Demobilisation.

4D/6509/7/18/1

29th. August 1919.

TO:
Deputy Director General
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.

PACKING OF STORES FOR SHIPMENT TO AUSTRALIA.

Now that we have submitted to Imperial Ordnance Depots complete demands for the equipment of Units allotted to the 2nd. Military District, and have on hand waiting to be delivered the bulk of the 3rd. Districts demands, I would suggest that four officers, with Ordnance experience, be detailed for duty at Imperial Ordnance issuing Depots, to supervise generally the packing of all equipment for the Post Bellum Army of Australia.

Of course it would be impossible for these Officers to check every item packed, unless they had a staff of other ranks attached to each store holder; which of course is out of the question. However, quite a lot of useful work can be performed by these officers by checking the quality of stores issued, and paying visits to different store holders at odd times, thereby putting these people on their merits and ensuring that all stores are packed according to Mobilisation Store Tables etc.

I understand that the Canadian and New Zealand authorities favour a similar scheme, which I believe the War Office have agreed to, except that they favour the policy of having N.C.Os and other ranks attached, and of course a greater number,

If this proposition is favourably considered, I have the honour to suggest that the undermentioned officers be appointed to Depots as shewn hereunder:-

	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>WOOLWICH:</u>	
Capt. G. Hammond	At present undergoing a course of Ordnance Administration at Aldershot.
Lt. S. H. RAINBIRD	At present Staff Officer, 4.D.
<u>WEEDON:</u>	
Capt. MATHESON	At present undergoing a course of Ordnance Administration at Aldershot.
<u>PIMLICO:</u>	
Capt. W. W. JAMES	Engineer Officer, Southern Command Headquarters, Tidworth.

Sgt. C. SPECKMAN, Major
Director, Branch 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept, A.I.F.