

**AWM4**

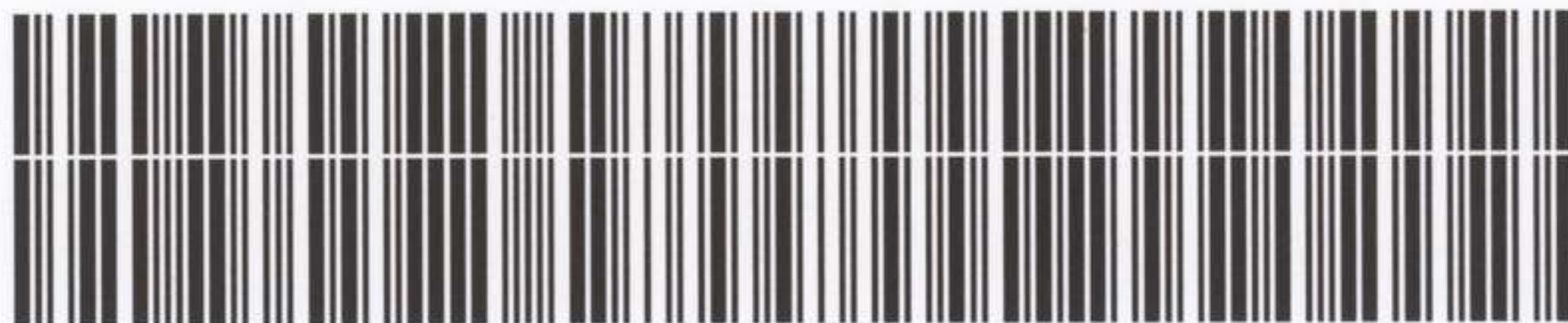
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Repatriation & Demobilisation

**Item number:** 30/1/14 Part 11

**Title:** Repatriation and Demobilisation, AIF

November 1919 [Duplicate of 30/1/14 Part 5]



AWM4-30/1/14PART11



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
DUPLICATE.  
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

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

FOR

NOVEMBER 1919 191

Signature of Officer compiling

*A. Rainbird*  
Capt.  
S.O. 4.D.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*L. Guckman* Major  
Director, Branch 4.D.



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
<u>LONDON</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1919</u>		<p>Letter was received from D.E.O.S., War Office, reference the shipment of equipment to Australia, stating that should a <u>clear</u> acquittance be given in England, and discrepancies be discovered on arrival in Australia, claims made by Commonwealth Government will be carefully investigated. (Copies of correspondence on above matter are attached to Progress Report No.43).</p>	1
	1st.	<p>Letter was addressed to The Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne, forwarding 3 copies of Consolidated Demand, Section 1-A, for 1 Mounted and 2 Dismounted Divisions - 2nd. Military District. Copy of letter is attached as per Appendix.....</p>		
	3rd.	<p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands for the undermentioned Units were despatched to Woolwich, Weedon and Pimlico. 1 Field Squadron, Mounted Division 1 Divisional Headquarters, Mounted Division.</p>		
	4th.	<p>Letter was written to the Secretary, War Office, suggesting that the signature of of Lieut-Col. R.E. JACKSON, C.M.G., D.S.O. and Major G. SPECKMAN, M.C., be accepted on Demands for Equipment of Post Bellum Army.</p> <p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands for the undermentioned Units were despatched to Woolwich, Weedon and Pimlico. 1 Signal Squadron, Mounted Division 3 Signal Troops.</p>		



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>LONDON</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 1919</u>		-2-	
	5th.		<p>Weekly Progress Report No.43, for period 27.10.19 to 1.11.19 was rendered to Branch 3.D. and copies are attached as per Appendix.....</p> <p>Letter was addressed to The Secretary, War Office, pointing out the difficulties which are being met with in arranging shipment of equipment to Australia, the A.I.F. being bound to deal with the Australian Commonwealth Line of Steamers. Copy of this letter is attached as per Appendix.....</p>	2
	6th.		<p>Completed Demands for A.V.S.Stores for 1st., 3rd., 4th. 5th. and 6th. Military Districts were despatched to D.G., A.V.S., War Office.</p> <p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands for the undermentioned Units were despatched to Woolwich, Weedon and Pimlico. 3 Headquarters, Mounted Brigade Signal Sub-Section for Artillery Bde. with Mounted Division.</p> <p>Cable was received from Defence Department, Melbourne, requesting that the Imperial Authorities be urged to extend the time limit for submission of Demands until 30th. inst. Letter was immediately written to the Secretary, War Office, passing on this request. (Copies of cable from Defence Dept., and this Branch letter to War Office are attached to Progress Report No.44.)</p>	3
	7th.		<p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands as under were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots. 3 Machine Gun Squadrons 9 Light Horse Regiments.</p>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>LONDON</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>1919</u>	<p style="text-align: center;">-3-</p> <p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands as under were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2 V.S. Stores for Units of a Mounted Division 3 Cavalry Field Ambulances 1 Divisional Train (Mounted).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands, as under, were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3 Mobile Veterinary Sections - Mounted 1 Sanitary Section - Mounted</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Weekly Progress Report No. 44, for period 3.11.19 to 8.11.19 was rendered to Branch 3.D., and copies are attached as per Appendix.....</p> <p>Cable No. W.L. 960 was received from Defence, Melbourne, asking for an approximate idea, at very earliest, of rates to be paid Commonwealth for equipment not returned to Australia. (Copy is attached to Progress Report No. 45.)</p> <p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands as under were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2 Divisional Headquarters, France 2 Headquarters Divisional Artillery.</p> <p>Copy of Defence Department's Cable No. W.L. 960 was forwarded to The Secretary, War Office, with the request that the rates referred to may be furnished at very earliest.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	<p>4</p>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>LONDON</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>		-4-	
	12th.		<p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands as under were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">4 Medium Trench Mortar Batteries 2 F.A.Bdes. for Dismounted Division.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
	13th.		<p>Letter was received from D.E.O.S., War Office, advising that the signature of Lt. Col. R.E. JACKSON and Major C. SPECKMAN will be accepted on Demands for Equipment for Post Bellum Army, in addition to that of Brig. Gen. C.H. JESS, C.M.G., D.S.O.</p> <p>Reference Diary entry of 1st. instant, letter was addressed to The Secretary, War Office stating that a clear acquittance for stores will be given in England, on the understanding that discrepancy reports will have the consideration of the Imperial Government.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	
	14th.		<p>Consolidated Demand - Sections 2-A, 2-B, and 7 - for 2nd. Military District, was forwarded by hand to the Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne.</p> <p>Completed 3rd. Military District Demands, as under, were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3. Headquarters, Divisional Engineers 2 B.A.C's Dismounted Division.</p> <p>Reference the question of shipment of equipment to Australia by the Commonwealth Line of Steamers, reply was received from War Office to our letter of the 5th. inst., stating that they cannot agree that shipping of stores be confined to the Commonwealth Line of Steamers. (Copies of all correspondence in connection with this matter are attached to Progress Report No. 45.)</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	NOVEMBER		<p style="text-align: center;">-5-</p> <p>Completed Demands as under were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:- 1st., 3rd., 4th., 5th. and 6th. Military District: Ammunition &amp; Explosives 3rd. Military District) Ammunition Dummy.</p> <p>Letter was received from the Secretary, War Office, forwarding a communication which War Office has written to the Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office, pressing Australia to take delivery of all Stores and Equipment by December 31st. 1919 (Copy is attached to Progress Report No. 45.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>17th. Cable was despatched to Defence, Melbourne, stating that War Office agree to the extension of time limit for submission of Demands until November 30th. 1919, and that Imperial Authorities are pressing us to take delivery of all stores by 31.12.1919 (Copy is attached to Progress Report No. 46.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>18th. Completed 3rd. Military District Demands for the undermentioned Units were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:- 6 Field Ambulances 2 Sanitary Sections 2 Mobile Veterinary Sections 2 Divisional Employment Coys. 2 Pioneer Battalions 2 Divisional Trains 2 Machine Gun Battalions 2 Infantry Bde. Headquarters 24 Infantry Battalions 6 Light Trench Mortar Batteries 6 Signal Sub-Sections F.A. Bdes. 2 M.G. Sig. Sections for Divisional Signal Coy. 2 Divisional Sig. Coys. 2 Field Coy. Engineers</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C. 4  
(10340) Wt W5300/P713 750.000 3/18 © 1918 Forms/Cat 16/10



**WAR DIARY**  
or  
**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.**

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(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>LONDON</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>		-6-	
	18th.		Weekly Progress Report No.45. for period 10.11.19 to 15.11.19 was rendered to Branch 3.D. and copies are attached as per Appendix.....	5
	19th.		Completed 1st. Military District Demands for the undermentioned Units were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:- 1 Divisional Headquarters 1 Headquarters Divisional Engineers 1 Headquarters Divisional Artillery 1 Divisional Employment Coy.	
	20th.		Completed 1st. Military District Demands for the undermentioned Units were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:- 3 Infantry Bde. Headquarters 1 Sanitary Section 1 Mobile Vet. Section 1 M.G. Signal Section for Divisional Sig. Coy.	
	21st.		Three Copies of Consolidated Demands for R.A.C.D. Stores for 1 Mounted and 2 Dismounted Divisions - 2nd. Military District - were forwarded to the Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne.	



WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

-7-

LONDON NOVEMBER

22nd.

Cable No.W.K.64 was received from Defence Department, Melbourne, giving approval for shipment to Australia of all Equipment for 2 Mounted and 5 Dismounted Divisions, including those items, issue of which had been temporarily suspended. In lieu of extra Divisional Units and L.of C. Units, 6 Howitzers and 60-Pdr.Guns to equivalent value are to be obtained. (Copy of this cable is attached to Progress Report No.46).

24th.

Reference Cable No.W.K.64 received on 22nd.inst. letter was addressed to the Secretary, War Office, notifying that the suspension of certain items has now been withdrawn, and requesting that the supply of all Equipment for which Demands have been submitted be proceeded with.  
(Copy is attached to Progress Report No.46.)

Completed 1st.Military District Demands for the undermentioned Units were despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:-  
3 Field Ambulances.

26th.

Progress Report No.46 for period 17.11.1919 to 22.11.19 was rendered to Branch 3.D. and copies are attached as per Appendix.....

6



# WAR DIARY

OF

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

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FOR

~~NOVEMBER 1919~~ 191

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## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject.  |
|-----|---|
| 1   | Letter addressed to Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne, forwarding 3 Copies of Consolidated Demand, Section 1-A. for 1 Mounted & 2 Dismounted Divisions, 2nd. Military District. |
| 2.  | Progress Report for period 27.10.19 to 1.11.19. (No. 43)  |
| 3.  | Letter to Secretary, War Office re difficulties in connection with shipment of Equipment to Australia.  |
| 4.  | Progress Report No. 44 for period 3.11.19 to 8.11.19.   |
| 5   | Progress Report No. 45. for period 10.11.19 to 15.11.19.  |
| 6   | Progress Report No. 46 for period 17.11.19 to 22.11.19  |
-



October 29th 1919.

TO:

The Secretary  
 Department of Defence  
 Melbourne  
 AUSTRALIA

I beg to forward herewith three copies of a Consolidated Demand, Section 1-A, for the re-equipment of one Mounted and Two Dismounted Divisions of the A.I.F. allotted to the 2nd Military District, vide your cable W.Q.929 of 27.2.19. It is estimated that the shipment of this equipment will be commenced at an early date. Certain portions of our Demands not having yet received official approval, complete copies of the demands embracing any amendments made by the British Authorities are not yet available for transmission to you. It was therefore deemed advisable to forward meanwhile, by Sections, consolidated statements of the items demanded in order to notify you of particulars of stores "due" as far as possible in advance of their arrival. Further, these statements will show at a glance the total number of each item demanded, thereby, in a measure, removing the inconvenience anticipated vide your cable W.L.618 of the 25th.ultimo. In this connection I would explain that the value of a consolidated demand for each Military District was fully appreciated, but the formation basis was adopted in consultation with the R.A.O.D., in order to facilitate checking and to admit of the use of the prescribed Army Forms.

2.

In regard to the documents now forwarded, it is desired to bring to notice the following points:-

- (a) KNOTS, SWORD, BROWN, G.S. Very few brown leather knots are available, and no fresh supply is at present in sight. To simplify manufacture the British are now using a buff article with a fringed end instead of the plaited "knot". These have been inspected, and although considered quite suitable, they were refused as it was thought that the acceptance of any accoutrements of buff material would not meet with your approval.
- (b) SLINGS, RIFLE, WEB . In many cases a pattern '18 sling has been reported ready for issue in lieu of web, the reason being that sufficient new web slings are not available. The pattern '18 sling was found to be of leather and very similar to that made in Australia in 1914 or 1915 as a substitute for the web. Samples of part worn web were inspected, and it was arranged that these be issued providing they were subjected to careful overhaul and selection.



(c) WEB EQUIPMENT, PATT: '08, COVERS, MESS TIN.

The quantity of Canvas, drab, pattern available and in sight is very limited. It was therefore decided to accept in lieu a Bandolier Equipment pattern mess tin cover of khaki drill material.

(d) BANDOLIER EQUIPMENT, PATT. '03:-

Belts, waist and straps, greatcoat.

Belts and straps of web Material were reported ready for issue, but as the remaining articles comprising this Equipment are of leather it was decided to stick to that material throughout. Here again it will be necessary to accept selected part worn articles. In all probability some of the belts will be found to be Australian manufacture.

Every endeavour will be made to ship the total quantity of each vocabulary item at one time as requested in your cable W.L.728 of the 11th. inst. I might add that such a course was contemplated when agreeing to the submission of demands on a formation basis.

(Sgd.) C.H. JESS

Brig:General.

Commandant, A. I. F. Administrative H. Q.



PROGRESS REPORT- BRANCH 4-D.-27.10.19 to 1.11.19

In addition to ordinary routine work, several matters of importance have engaged the attention of this Branch during the past week.

The question of the exact nature of acquittance which will be given by A.I.F. Officers, for stores issued from Imperial Depots for shipment to Australia was again taken up with the War Office, enquiry being made as to what the position would be should discrepancies be found in stores on unpacking in Australia, a clear acquittance having presumably been given in England.

The War Office replied to the effect that in the event of the above situation arising, discrepancy reports would be carefully investigated, with a view to making good any deficiencies.

(Copies of the above communications are attached).

A letter was addressed to the Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne, forwarding three copies of a Consolidated Demand, Section I-A for One Mounted and Two Dismounted Divisions - 2nd. Military District. This communication deals particularly with the method to be adopted in advising the Commonwealth Government, in advance, of stores due to arrive in Australia.

On the 29th. October, the Director attended a Conference at the War Office, at 11-a.m., discussion being in continuation of the Conference held on 13th. October. Strong representations were made by the Imperial Authorities that the exact requirements of Dominions in stores and equipment might be forthcoming by the 15th. November 1919, failing which many items probably required by Dominions would be sold by the Disposals Board, and that the War Office would therefore be unable to fulfil our demands.

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



SER/DEG

4D36509/7/18/1

A.I.F. Hdqrs.  
130 Horseferry Road.

October 27th. 1919.

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

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your Q.M.G.10.A/4642 of the 21st. instant, relative to the attendance of Officers of this department at Imperial Ordnance Depots for the purpose of checking the shipment of stores for The Post Bellum Army of Australia.

In reference to para.2 of your letter, I am directed to request that you be good enough to state what would be the line of action as regards any discrepancies obviously due to incorrect packing that may be disclosed on detailed check of the stores in Australia should consent be given to the acquittance of vouchers at the time of shipment of the stores? It is desired that the matter of responsibility for the adjustment of such discrepancies be made quite clear as, obviously, it will not be practicable for our representative to vouch for the accuracy of the contents of the large number packages involved in this transaction.

In regard to para.3., I am to say that the attendance of officers at Weedon and Pimlico is also desired.

Your remarks re Medical and Veterinary stores are duly noted.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) C. SPECKMAN.

Major.

Director, Branch 4.D.

Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.



War Office,

London, S.W.1.

30th October 1919.

Q.M.G.10.A/4642.  
(Q.M.G.10.A.)

004135

6509/7/18/1

Sir,

With reference to previous correspondence terminating with your letter number 4D/6509/7/18/1 dated 27th instant, I am directed to inform you that the fact of a clear receipt being given in England on the Vouchers for the stores shipped to Australia would not preclude the authorities in the latter country raising a discrepancy report for an obvious instance of incorrect packing which might be disclosed on a detailed check of the stores at the final destination. Such discrepancy reports would be carefully investigated in England and where it is agreed that short packing has occurred, deficiencies would be made good.

I am further to inform you that arrangements have been made whereby facilities will be afforded at Weedon and Pimlico for Australian Officers to check packages and a communication should be addressed direct to the chief Ordnance Officers at these Depots regarding the dates &c when the Australian Officers will attend.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd.) C.M.STEPHEN. Lt. Col.

for Director of Equipment and Ordnance Stores.

The Brigadier General i/c Administration,  
Australian Imperial Force,  
Australian Imperial Force Headquarters,  
130 Horseferry Road,  
London.S.W.1.



## APPENDIX NO.3.

4th November 1919.

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

Sir,

With reference to Conferences held at the War Office on the 13th. and 29th. of October, it was intimated by the Chairman (General Elliston) that extreme pressure was being brought upon the War Office to dispose of its surplus stores and equipment, and that the chief object of the conference was to ascertain:-

- (a) The requirements of the Dominions in this regard.
- (b) When delivery would be taken.

In regard to (a), the conference was informed that the known requirements for Australia were the full equipment for five Dismounted and Two Mounted Divisions, less certain Sections which were to be tentatively withheld pending definite instructions being received from the Australian Commonwealth Government. It was further informed that no information was available regarding Lines of Communication Units and Corps Troops, but that cable advice would be immediately sought. This has been done, but up to date no reply has been received to this cable.

In reference to (b) it was pointed out that our main difficulty was the question of shipping, and that owing to the shipping strike in Australia it had been found impossible to despatch vessels to the United Kingdom, but that, as soon as the necessary vessels were available, every endeavour would be made to take delivery of all stores, packed and ready for shipment, thereby relieving the congestion existing at Imperial Issuing Depots.

I have been further directed by the Director General, Repatriation & Demobilisation, to inform you that under instructions received from the Australian Commonwealth Government, and which involve a question of high policy, we are bound to deal with the Australian Commonwealth Line of Steamers.



A Conference was held yesterday under the chairmanship of Lt. Ge. Sir. J. MONASH, at which representatives of this Department and the Commonwealth Line of Steamers attended. The extreme urgency of this matter was pointed out to the shipping representative, who assured the Conference that a boat would be placed at our disposal on or about the 1st. of December, which would be capable of taking the whole of the available equipment.

I shall be glad to have your views in connection with this matter, and as to whether these arrangements meet with your approval.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant.

(Sgd.) C. H. JESS  
Brig. Gen.  
Commandant, A. I. F. Hqrs.



PROGRESS REPORTBRANCH 4.D.3.11.1919 to 8.11.1919

During the week under review, much progress has been made in putting forward Demands for Equipment of the Post Bellum Army of Australia. Demands for the undermentioned Units have been completed and despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:-

3rd. MILITARY DISTRICT:

Field Squadron, Mounted Division  
 Divisional Headquarters, Mounted Division  
 Signal Squadron, Mounted Division  
 3 Signal Troops  
 3 Headquarters Mounted Brigade  
 Signal Sub-Sect. for Arty. Bde. with Mounted Division  
 3 Machine Gun Squadrons  
 9 Light Horse Regiments  
 A.V.S. Stores, Mounted Division  
 3 Cavalry Field Ambulances  
 1 Divisional Train (Mounted)  
 A.V.S. Stores for Infantry Division.

1st. MILITARY DISTRICT:

A.V.S. Stores for Infantry Division

4th. MILITARY DISTRICT:5th. MILITARY DISTRICT:6th. MILITARY DISTRICT:

} A.V.S. Stores for 1 F.A. Bde. and  
 1 B.A.C.

A letter was written to the Secretary, War Office, asking that the signature of Lt. Col. R. E. JACKSON, C.M.G., D.S.O., be accepted on Demands for Equipment, in addition to that of Brig. Gen. C. H. JESS, C.M.G., D.S.O.

In connection with the actual shipment of Equipment to Australia, a letter was received from the Commonwealth Government Line of Steamers, enclosing copy of a communication to General Monash in which it was stated that a boat would be available for shipping equipment about the 13th. prox. In view of the fact that the Imperial Authorities are pressing us to take delivery of stores packed ready for shipment, the above information was passed to the Secretary, War Office.

On 6.11.19, cable was received from Defence, Melbourne, requesting that Imperial authorities be urged to extend the time limit for submission of Demands for units over and above 5 Infantry and 2 Cavalry Divisions, until the 30th. inst. The request was immediately passed on to the Secretary, War Office.

(Copies of Cable from Defence and this Branch letter are attached).

*B. Jackson*

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



COPY

I N W A R D C A B L E G R A M

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON

FROM Melbourne

DATE 6.11.19

TIME 11.30.a.m.

---

ADMINAUST:

WI924 Your 83984 Grateful imperial authority will extend time for submission demands equipment until say 30th.Nov. to allow us opportunity consult Senator Pearce who is now in Western Aust. and with whom under present condition interrupted traffic trans-continental Railway personal interview or full mail communications difficult.

Defence.



COPY

CS/DEG

6th. November 1919

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

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter 4D/6509/7/18/1 of the 4th. inst., I now beg to submit a copy of the cable despatched to Australia, together with a reply received from the Commonwealth Defence Department.

I have been further directed by the G.O.C., A.I.F., to approach you concerning this matter, and to request that you be kind enough to allow the question of our Demands for Equipment of Units (Lines of Communication etc.), over and above Five Infantry and Two Cavalry Divisions, to stand over tentatively until a definite statement is received from Australia.

I shall, therefore, be glad to have your reply as early as possible, so that the Australian Government can be advised of your decision.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

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

ENCLO:  
Copies of Cables



PROGRESS REPORTBRANCH 4.D.10.11.19 - 15.11.1919

During the past week completed Demands as under have been despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:-

3rd.MILITARY DISTRICT

3 Mobile Veterinary Sections (Mounted)  
 1 Sanitary Section(Mounted)  
 2 Divisional Headquarters (France)  
 2 Headquarters Divisional Artillery  
 4 Medium Trench Mortar Batteries  
 2 F.A.Brigades for Dismounted Division  
 3 Headquarters Divisional Engineers  
 2 B.A.C's for Dismounted Division  
 Ammunition Dummy  
 Ammunition and Explosives.

1st.,4th.,5th., and 6th.MILITARY DISTRICTS:-

Ammunition and Explosives

(Copies of all above Demands have been forwarded to C.P.M.,A.I.F.)

Cable No.960 from Defence Department was received, asking for an approximate idea of rates to be paid to the Commonwealth Government for Equipment not returned to Australia.  
 (Copy is attached).

Copy of the above cable was immediately forwarded to the Secretary, War Office, requesting that these approximate rates be furnished at very earliest, for transmission to Australia.

A letter was received from D.of E. and O.S., War Office, advising that the signatures of Lt.Col.R.E.JACKSON, C.M.G., D.S.O. and Major C.SPECKMAN, M.C. will be accepted on Demands for Equipment.

Reference Report No.43, and the question of shipment of stores to Australia, letter was written to the Secretary, War Office, agreeing that a clear acquittance for stores would be given in England, on the understanding that discrepancy reports would have consideration by the Imperial Authorities.

A letter was received from D.of E and O.S., War Office, in reply to matters dealt with in the last two paras. of Progress Report No.44. War Office state they cannot



agree that the shipment of Equipment and Stores be confined to the Commonwealth Line of Steamers. They have no objection to extending the date for submission of final Demands to then 30th.inst.

A further communication on the above subject was received from the Secretary, War Office, forwarding a copy of a letter from the War Office to the Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office, pressing the Australian Government to Take delivery of all stores by the 31st. December, 1919

(Copies of both the above letters are attached )

*C. G. Guckman*

Major.

Director, Branch 4.D.

Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.



INWARD CABLE

AUSTRALIAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON

FROM Melbourne.

DATE 10.11.19.

TIME 5.p.m.

6509/7/18/1

6657

ADMINAUST.

WL960 My telegram 6th Nov. WL924 urgently await reply to request extension date to Nov. 30th for disposal of equipment AAA Reference Senator Pearce's cable P301 of 20th Sept. and your telegram 14th Oct. 82990 regarding rates to be paid C/Wlth for equipment not returned to Aust. essential we have some approximate idea at very earliest of rates likely to be received enable arrive decision AAA Wire approximate rate of as many articles as possible Group B. your telegram 15th Oct. 83026.

DEFENCE.



WAR OFFICE,

LONDON. S.W.1.

121/Overseas/6759.  
(Q.M.G.10A.)

12th November, 1918

6509/7/18/1

006928.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters Numbers 67609 and 4.D/6509/7/18/1 dated 5th and 7th instant respectively, and in reply, to inform you that owing to the urgent necessity for the removal of the stores, it is regretted that this Department cannot agree that the shipment of the stores should be confined to the Australian Commonwealth Line of Steamers, and consider that every available opportunity for shipping to Australia should be taken advantage of.

As regards paragraph 2 of the letter dated 7th instant, I am to say that there is not any objection to the time for the submission of demands being extended to 30th instant.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

C.M.STEPHEN. Lt.Col.

for Director of Equipment and Ordnance Stores.

The Commandant,  
Australian Imperial Force,  
54, Victoria Street,  
London, S.W.1.



WAR OFFICE,

LONDON. S.W.1.

13th November, 1919

092/1596. (Q.M.G.10A).

007079

6509/7/18/1

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to refer to War Office letter, Number as above dated 7th ultimo, on the subject of the supply of the stores and Equipment for re-equipping the Australian formations and units and to inform you that in view of the necessity for the immediate evacuation by the War Department of all buildings and premises temporarily hired for the accommodation of stores and for the disposal of all surplus stores, it is essential that the Demands for the stores, Etc. required to re-equip the Units should be submitted at once and arrangements made to take over and ship the stores at the earliest possible date.

I am further to inform you that with a view to accelerating the issue and despatch of the stores and Equipment a communication has this day been addressed to the Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office on the subject, copy of which is forwarded herewith for information.

I am,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) B.B.CUBITT.

The Commandant,  
Australian Imperial Force,  
Horseferry Road,  
S.W.



COPY

092/1596.(Q.M.G.10A)

13th. November 1919

Sir,

I am commanded by the Army Council to transmit to you for information copies of letters forwarded to the Military Headquarters of the Australian, New Zealand and Canadian Overseas Forces regarding the supply of the Stores and Equipment for re-equipping the formations and units of these Forces.

I am to say that in order that the disposal of all surplus stores may be effected at the earliest practicable period it is imperative that the requirements of these Overseas Forces should be declared to this Office without delay and while regretting any inconvenience that may be caused to the Dominions concerned it must be recognised that it is impossible to hold stores indefinitely to meet their possible requirements, and as it is of the utmost importance that warehouses and buildings held for the storage of these equipments be released at the earliest possible date, we must press that Dominions' requirements be removed by the 31st. December.

So far as the New Zealand and Canadian Forces are concerned it is understood that full information of their requirements is in possession of those Military Headquarters and no difficulty is anticipated, but up to the present the Australian Headquarters have not been able to state definitely what the extent of the future Military Organisation in Australia is to be, and I am therefore to ask that the Commonwealth Government may be pressed by cable to supply the required information at the earliest possible date.

I am,  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,

(Sd.) B.B. CUBITT

The Under Secretary of State  
Colonial Office  
Downing Street  
S.W.1.



PROGRESS REPORTBRANCH 4.D.17.11.1919 to 22.11.1919.

During the past week completed demands as under have been despatched to Imperial Ordnance Depots:

3rd. MILITARY DISTRICT.

6 Field Ambulances.  
 2 Sanitary Sections.  
 2 Mobile Veterinary Sections.  
 2 Divisional Employment Coys.  
 2 Pioneer Battalions.  
 2 Machine Gun Battalions.  
 2 Divisional Trains.  
 6 Infantry Brigade Headquarters.  
 24 Infantry Battalions.  
 6 Light Trench Mortar Batteries.  
 6 Signal Sub-Sections F.A.Bde.  
 2 M.G.Signal Sections for Div. Sig. Coy.  
 2 Divisional Signal Coys.  
 6 Field Coy. Engineers.

1st. MILITARY DISTRICT.

1 Divisional Headquarters.  
 1 Headquarter Div. Engineers.  
 1 Headquarters Divisional Artillery.  
 1 Divisional Employment Coy.  
 3 Infantry Bde. Headquarters.  
 1 Sanitary Section.  
 1 Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 1 M.G.Signal Section for Div. Sig. Coy.

A cable was despatched to Defence Department, Melbourne, in reply to cables Nos. WL.924 and WL.960 (attached to Reports Nos. 44 & 45), stating that War Office agree to the extension of time for submission of Demands to Nov. 30th 1919, and that Imperial Authorities are pressing us to take delivery of all Equipment by 31.12.1919. (Copy of cable is attached.)

Three copies of Consolidated Demand for R.A.C.D. Stores - One mounted & 2 Dismounted Divisions for 2nd. Military District, were despatched to the Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne.

Cable No.WK.64 was received from Defence Department, Melbourne, reference those items of equipment the issue of which had been temporarily suspended. Approval was given for the issue of all these items, but as regards extra divisional & L. of C. Units, it was desired that 6-inch Howitzers & 60 Pdr. guns to the same value obtained in lieu. (Copy of cable is attached).



Consequent upon receipt of Cable No. Wk. 64 above, letter was addressed to The Secretary, War Office, requesting that the supply of all equipment as demanded, be proceeded with, and notifying that arrangements have been made to commence taking delivery of equipment during the next few days. (Copy of this letter is attached).

*C. Geckman*

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



CS/DEG.

4D/6509/7/18/1

130 Horseferry Road-----

24th. November, 1919.

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

Sir,

With reference to this office letter 4D/6509/7/18/1 dated 7th. October, 1919, relative to equipment for the Post Bellum Army of Australia, it was asked that you withhold temporarily certain Sections which had been demanded, pending the receipt of definite instructions from the Australian Commonwealth Government.

I have now been directed by the G.O.C., A.I.F. to inform you that this suspension has been withdrawn, and to request that you be kind enough to proceed with the supply of all equipment for which demands have already been submitted.

I am further to inform you that arrangements have been made to commence taking delivery of equipment packed and ready for shipment to Australia, approximately 500 (five hundred) tons being removed from Woolwich during the next few days.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) C. SPECKMAN.  
Major.

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



OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

Australian Administrative Headquarters, London.

No. 4D/49

DATE 17th. Novr. 1919.

11.0.am.  
TIME DESPATCHED from 4.D.  
WA.M.

TO.  
DEFENCE, MELBOURNE.

REF. YOUR WL924 AND WL960 WAR OFFICE AGREE  
EXTENSION UP TO 30th. NOV. AAA APPROX. RATES  
ASKED FOR YOUR WL960 CABLED. IN A FEW DAYS AAA  
IMPERIAL AUTHORITIES STATE IMPERATIVE TAKE  
DELIVERY ALL OUR REQUIREMENTS NO LATER 31st. DECR.

ADMINAUST.

(SGD.) C.H. JESS.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL.



INWARD CABLEGRAM.

Australian Imperial Force Headquarters, London.

FROM Melbourne,

DATE 22nd November

TIME 12.30pm.

---

WK64 Your 8501 and 83984 Senator Pearce consulted and approval obtained for shipment to Australia all A.I.F. Equipment including articles mentioned in Senator Pearces cable P246 of 22nd August aas  
As regard extra divisional and lines of Communication units it is desired that in lieu of such Equipment of this nature as has been paid for by Australia six inch Howitzer and sixty pounder guns to fullest Equivalent value obtainable be secured and shipped.

DEFENCE.



**WAR DIARY**  
or  
**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.**

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
21, Gt. Peter Street, <u>LONDON. S. W. 1</u>			<p><u>WAR DIARY - BRANCH 5D.</u> Statistics for period 1.11.19 - 30.11.19.</p> <p>5D.1. records that 6 ships with a personnel of 2,758 were dealt with during the period. Total amount of cash placed on board these ships amounted to £21,555.</p> <p>5D.2. The following expenditure has been incurred as at 22.11.19 in respect of members on Non-Military Employment.</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Subsistence paid to 212 men</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£2,671 - 5 - 5.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Pay " " 448 "</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£4,148 -14 -10.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">Fees " for 239 "</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,015 -18 - 3.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">TOTAL.</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">£7,835 -16 - 6.</td> </tr> </table> <p>5D.3. <u>Returnees to Australia.</u>  <table style="margin-left: 40px; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">To return at own expense for discharge</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">" " " " " with 50 days pay</td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">NIL.</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Applications for Deferred Pay.</u> 499 applications have been dealt with of which 408 have been approved.</p> <p><u>Dependants' Passages.</u> 161 Forms 543, involving an amount of £3,778 - 15 - 0 to be credited to Family Passages on repayment Account have been passed to Accountancy Section for action.</p> <p>5D.4. effected 170 discharges in U.K.  Gratuities paid to 122 discharges amounted to £990 - 16 - 10.  Total disbursements for the month amounted to £30,076 - 0 - 11.</p> </p>	Subsistence paid to 212 men	-	£2,671 - 5 - 5.	Pay " " 448 "	-	£4,148 -14 -10.	Fees " for 239 "	-	£1,015 -18 - 3.	TOTAL.		£7,835 -16 - 6.	To return at own expense for discharge	-	15.	" " " " " with 50 days pay	-	NIL.	
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(contd.)



WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour																																	
			<p>5D.4. (continued.)</p> <p><u>DECEASED ESTATES.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Accounts being finalised in U.K.</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><u>No. Held.</u></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><u>No. Not finalised.</u></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><u>No. finalised.</u></td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><u>Amt. paid.</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>to 1.12.19.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">94.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">67.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">£4,879 - 9 - 6.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Amounts received from Australia for payment in U.K.</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><u>No. Held.</u></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><u>No. Not finalised.</u></td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;"><u>No. finalised.</u></td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><u>Amt. paid.</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>to 1.12.19.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">990.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4 02.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">588.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">£33,324 - 8 - 4.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Total amount paid £38,203 - 17 - 10.</p> <p>5D.5. 23 Officers and Other Ranks were recommended for Non-Military Employment, and 74 were approved through Part II Orders.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Correspondence.</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Inwards</td> <td style="width: 5%;">-</td> <td style="width: 45%; text-align: right;">5,638.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Outwards</td> <td>-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3,871.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Circulars</td> <td>-</td> <td style="text-align: right;">641.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>T O T A L.</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>10,150.</u></td> </tr> </table>		<u>No. Held.</u>	<u>No. Not finalised.</u>	<u>No. finalised.</u>	<u>Amt. paid.</u>	to 1.12.19.	94.	27.	67.	£4,879 - 9 - 6.		<u>No. Held.</u>	<u>No. Not finalised.</u>	<u>No. finalised.</u>	<u>Amt. paid.</u>	to 1.12.19.	990.	4 02.	588.	£33,324 - 8 - 4.	Inwards	-	5,638.	Outwards	-	3,871.	Circulars	-	641.	<u>T O T A L.</u>		<u>10,150.</u>
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*H. G. ...*  
1. 12. 19  
Capt. S. D.