

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

Repatriation & Demobilisation

**Item number:** 30/1/2 Part 2

**Title:** Repatriation and Demobilisation, AIF

November 1918 [incomplete duplicate]



AWM4-30/1/2PART2



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL. ✓

DUPLICATE.

TRIPLICATE.

481

**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*Repatriation and Demobilisation Department*

FOR

*November 1919*

Signature of Officer compiling \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Officer Commanding \_\_\_\_\_

*C. H. Foon*



## 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		
London	16/11 1918		<p>For some time past, since March 1918 there had been a small Repatriation and Demobilisation Section, forming part of A.I.F. Administrative Headquarters. This was under the control of Major SHERINGTON, assisted by a staff of clerks. The Director of Education, A.I.F. (Chap. 4th Class the Rt. Revd. Dr. G.M. LONG) was also in a measure affiliated to this Section.</p> <p>Early in November, however, the rapidity with which military events on the Western Front were shaping, rendered it advisable to extend the powers and functions of the Demobilisation Department, and to this end, on 12th November, 1918 a Conference was held at Administrative Headquarters under Lt. Col. R.E. Jackson, C.M.G., D.S.O. The constitution, agenda and proceedings of this Conference are set forth in Annex. 1.</p> <p>Major-General C.B.B. WHITE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C. arrived from France during this week, and under his instructions the foundations of a Demobilisation Department were laid. A conference, under the Presidency of Major-General White was held at Administrative Headquarters on 16.11.18. The constitution of this conference is set forth in Annex. 2.</p> <p>In order that the various Branches, detailed at this Conference should establish themselves, and should possess a clear idea of their respective duties, circular memoranda were issued and complied with (Annex. 3).</p> <p>As the result of interviews between the Prime Minister of Australia, General Sir W.R. Birdwood and Lt. General Sir J. Monash, the latter took over the Demobilisation Department, with the various officers detailed in Annex. 3 and their staffs.</p> <p>Brig. General C.H. Foott, C.M.G., attended the 5th meeting of the Empire Military Demobilisation Committee (vide Proceedings thereof). <i>Annexure of</i></p> <p>During the week, an effort was made to secure suitable accommodation for the Department, since the accommodation at 130, Horseferry Road is not more than sufficient for present requirements. Apparently suitable premises were discovered at 54, Victoria St., S.W.1. and negotiations were opened with H.M. Office of Works (as Principal) and with the</p>	
	20/11 1918.			



## WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE-SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

481 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.

ce	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>War Aims Committee and the Ministry of National Service (as occupants).</p> <p>The Demobilisation Department entered into possession of part of the ground floor on 25.11.18.</p> <p>During the early part of the month the matter of maintaining the Comforts Fund received consideration. It was feared that the interest previously displayed by the people of Australia might cease, in view of the fact that hostilities had been suspended. With a view to combating this, Lt.-General Monash wrote on 12.11.18 to the Commissioner, A.C.F. in London (annexure 5.)</p> <p>The various matters requiring attention by this Department, arising out of the meeting of the Empire Demobilisation Committee on 20.11.18 are set forth in annexure 6.</p> <p>The custody of C.M. proceedings in the case of members of the A.I.F. formed the subject of correspondence (Annexure 7.)</p> <p>A conference of all heads of branches was held - (Annexure 8.)</p>	
	21/11 1918		<p>Post Bellum re-armament of the Australian Forces. The D.D.G. asked Ordnance and Finance to consider this question - (Annexure 9.)</p> <p>Lt. Col. Evans, C.M.G., Chief Paymaster, was posted to act as D.7 (Finance) - (Annexure 10).</p>	
	22/11 1918		<p>The question of the repatriation of certain classes of personnel and then wives and dependants was referred to the Demobilisation Directorate of the War Office (Annexure 11)</p>	
	23/11 1918		<p><u>Remounts.</u> The matter of disposal of Remounts on Demobilisation was referred to the various Veterinary Officers concerned (Annexure 12).</p>	
	26/11 1918		<p>Certain matters which had arisen since the departure of Lt.-General Monash for France were referred to him in a letter from D.D.G. (Annexure 13).</p>	



WAR DIARY  
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

ice	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	27/11 1918.		<p>At a meeting of Divisional and Brigade Commanders of the A.I.F. in France, the Director-General (Lt.-Genl. Sir J. Monash, K.C.B.) outlined the sphere and intentions of the Department .(Annexure 14).</p> <p>The Demobilisation Departments of the various Dominions were invited to consider the desirability of discussing matters affecting the Dominions (Annexure 15).</p> <p>A statement was drawn up by D.D.G. for discussion with the Director-General on his return from France. (Annexure 16).</p> <p><u>Athletics.</u> In order that the A.I.F. in England awaiting repatriation should have an opportunity to join in Service Sports, a letter was written to the A.A.Association - (Annexure 17).</p> <p><u>Education.</u> Certain queries were put to the Director of Education (Annexure 18)</p>	
	30/11 1918		<p>The Director-General returned from France and took up duty.</p> <div data-bbox="2037 1201 2546 1367"></div> <p>Brigadier-General. D/Director-General. Repatriation &amp; Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.</p>	



# WAR DIARY

OF

Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept.

FOR

NOVEMBER

1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Minutes of Conference held in room 113, Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. on 12.11.19.
2.	Constitution of conference under presidency of Major-General White held at Adm. H.Q. on 16.11.18.
3.	Formation of Repatriation and Demobilisation Dept.
4.	Proceedings of 5th Empire Military Demobilisation Committee held 20.11.18 .
5.	Letter to Commissioners for Australian Comforts Fund, dated 12.11.18.
6.	Matters requiring attention by this Department arising out of the meeting of the Empire Military Demobilisation Committee on 20.11.18.
7.	Correspondence re custody of Court Martial proceedings in case of members of A.I.F.
8.	Proceedings of conference of heads of all branches held on 21.11.18.
9.	Letter from D.D.G. to Ordnance and Finance asking them to consider the question of Post Bellum re armament of the Australian Forces.
10.	Appointment of Lt. Col. Evans, C.M.G. as D.7 -Finance.
11.	Letter to Demobilisation Directorate of War Office referring to the question of Repatriation of certain classes of personnel and their wives and dependants.
12.	Circular to Veterinary Administrators regarding the disposal of Remounts on Demobilisation.
13.	Letter to Director-General referring matters arising since his departure.
14.	Speech by Director-General to Divisional and Brigade Commanders in France.
15.	Letter to Demobilisation Department of various Dominions inviting them to consider the desirability of discussing matters affecting the Dominions.
16.	Statement drawn up by D.D.G. for discussion with D.G. on his return from France.



# WAR DIARY

OF

Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept.

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FOR

NOVEMBER.

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1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES. - 2.

No.

Subject.

17. Letter to A.A. Association on the question of members of A.I.F. in England waiting repatriation having opportunity of joining in Service Sports.

18. Queries referred to the Director of Education.

19. Minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Meetings of  
 Empire Demobilisation Committee

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Existing Admin: H.Q. Ldn.  
Brig.Genl.Dodds.  
(gradually reducing)

Demobilisation Branch (expanding)

Genl.Staff.

Administration.

Training.  
(Lt.Col.Peck )  
Demob. G.T.

Education.  
(Bishop Long )  
Demob. G.E.

A1. General Foott, C.M.G.  
Major Sherington.  
A2. Col. Somerville, C.M.G. D.S.O.  
A3.  
A4. Gen. Coxen, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Col. Leane (equipment)  
A5. Col. Kendall, C.M.G., V.D.  
A6. Col. Millard, C.M.G.  
A7.  
A8. Major Baillieu.

A1.  
Principles.  
Personnel.  
Discipline.

A2.  
Land & Sea  
transportation.  
Quartermen &  
movements.

A3. Supply &  
Transport.  
A4. Ordnance.  
Equipment.

A5.  
Remounts &  
Veterinary.

A6.  
Medical.

A7.  
Finance.

A8  
A.F.C.

Demobilisation Areas.

Aust.Corps.  
France.

Depots.  
France.

Depots.  
England.

A.I.F. Egypt.



Existing Adm. H.Q. Ldn.  
Brig. Genl. Dodds.  
(gradually reducing)

Demobilisation Branch (expanding)

481

General Staff.

Administration.

Training.  
(Lt. Col. Peck)  
Demob. G.T.

Education.  
(Bishop Long)  
Demob. G.E.

Demob. 1. Brig. Genl. C.H. Foot, C.M.G.  
Major G. Sherington.  
Demob. 2 Lt. Col. G.C. Somerville, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
" 3  
" 4 Brig. Genl. W.A. Coxen, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Col. Leane (equipment)  
" 5 Col. Kendall, C.M.G., V.D.,  
" 6 Col. Millard, C.M.G.  
" 7 Lt. Col. Evans, C.M.G.  
" 8 Major Baillieu.  
" 9  
" GT Lt. Col. Peck.  
" GE Bishop Long.

Demob. 1.  
Principles.  
Personnel.  
Discipline.

Demob. 2  
Land & Sea  
transport.  
Quartering &  
Movements.

Demob. 3  
Supply &  
Transport

Demob. 4.  
Ordnance.  
Equipmt.

Demob. 5.  
Remounts &  
Veterinary.

Demob. 6.  
Medical.

Demob. 7  
Finance.

Demob. 8  
A.F.C.

Demob. 9.  
Records.

Demobilisation Areas.

Aust. Corps.  
France.

Depots.  
France.

Depots.  
England.

A.I.F. Egypt.



21st November, 1918.

Demob.1. WJD/EB

MEMORANDUM.

To the Commandant,  
Admin. Headqrs. A.I.F.

CUSTODY OF A.I.F. COURTS MARTIAL PROCEEDINGS.

In view of the Demobilisation arrangements the above matter becomes of importance and urgency. The D.J.A.G., to whom the proceedings have hitherto been sent after promulgation has insisted on retaining these documents, but as a concession, has allowed these Headquarters to take copies - a laborious, expensive, and, it is submitted, a quite unnecessary proceeding.

It is therefore requested that

- (a) no further A.I.F. Courts Martial proceedings should be sent to the D.J.A.G.
- (b) A.I.F. proceedings already in his possession should be handed over.

I enclose memorandum on the subject from Capt. Denny, of this Section, from which it would appear that under the Commonwealth Defence Act these proceedings should be sent to the Minister of Defence, and not to the D.J.A.G..

Brigadier-General.  
Demob.1



481

CUSTODY OF COURTS MARTIAL PAPERS.

With reference to the request made by the Commandant to the A.A.G. for the custody of A.I.F. Courts-Martial papers, which request was refused, I have to draw attention to Section 99 of the Commonwealth Defence Act 1903-17, which provides:

"The proceedings of a Court Martial, other than a Regimental Court-Martial, shall, after promulgation, be forwarded to the Minister for transmission to the Attorney-General for record."

The Judge-Advocate-General takes the view that he is bound (presumably by Army Act, Section 98A) which provides -

"The proceedings of a Court Martial, other than a Regimental Court-Martial, shall, after promulgation, be forwarded, as circumstances require, to the office of the Judge-Advocate-General in London, or India, or to the Admiralty, and there preserved for not less, in the case of a General Court Martial, than seven years, and in the case of any other Court Martial, than three years."

But Sections 55 and 88 of the Commonwealth Defence Act lay down that the Army Act and the laws relating to Courts-Martial shall only apply except "so far as is inconsistent with this Act", i.e. Commonwealth Defence Act. The Sections of the two Acts relating to the forwarding of the proceedings of Courts-Martial are, however, clearly inconsistent and therefore Section 99 of the Commonwealth Defence Act would apply.

There is nothing in the Commonwealth Defence Act to shew that Section 99 is limited in its operation to proceedings of Courts-Martial held in Australia- nor, it is submitted, does Section 127 of the Army Act apply.

I would suggest, if desired, that the attention of the Judge-Advocate-General be drawn to the effect of Section 99 and that a further request be made that the proceedings be forwarded to the Minister and not retained by the Judge-Advocate-General.

16.9.18.  
London.

Captain.  
Administrative Headqrs. AIF.



Annexure 8

481  
MINUTES OF DEMOBILISATION CONFERENCE HELD IN  
ROOM 113, ON NOVEMBER 21ST, 1918, AT 10a.m.

Chairman. Brig.-Gen. FOOTT, C.M.G.

PRESENT.

Brig.-Gen. COXEN, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Col. LONG.  
Col. KENDALL, C.M.G.  
Lt.Col. EVANS.  
Capt. PERRIN.  
Capt. DENNY  
Major SHERINGTON.

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POLICY.

General Foott in opening the Conference stated that up to the present we had only been able to run through roughly what will be required. The big thing we have to think about is the various policies and questions that have yet to be settled.

A circular memo (No.2) had been issued, requesting Heads of Branches to submit questions which affected their Departments. Owing to an error, these had not been distributed in time for replies to come to hand for consideration at this Conference.

STAFF

General Foott requested those present to pick only men whom they knew to be suitable, or, if they knew a man who is good in another line, to suggest him for that particular Branch of the Demobilisation Department.

WAR DIARY.

General Foott stated that as Demobilisation will form an important part of the history of the A.I.F., he is very keen that the War Diary should be kept up. It will be compiled in his (General Foott's) Office, but each Branch will make its own appendices, and render same weekly. It is intended to keep one War Diary only, and any important rulings should go to the War Diary file, and letters be submitted as appendices.

POLICY FILE.

It was stated that this file is going to be our authority for all action. All rulings, decisions, etc. should be in writing, and the authority stated clearly on the file.

IMPERIAL PROCEDURE.

The head of each Branch was requested to get in touch with the War Office, and find out what the War Office considers to be the answer to any queries - although it may not necessarily follow that the ruling will apply to Demobilising the A.I.F.

EMPIRE DEMOBILISATION CONFERENCE.

General Foott stated that, at yesterday's conference at Park Buildings, many matters were discussed, one of which - apprentices - affected the Director of Education, who had been nominated to attend a small sub-committee, which was to be formed.

ACCOMODATION.

With regard to accomodation, it is hoped that we shall be able to move this Branch to 54, Victoria Street on Saturday next.

*C. Foott*  
Brig.-General.



DEMOBILISATION BRANCH.

54, Victoria Street,  
LONDON. S.W.1.

26th Novr., 1918.

481

Lieut. General Sir John Monash, K.C.B., V.D.,  
Australian Corps,  
FRANCE.

On the 25th instant, accompanied by Lieut. Colonel Somerville and Captain Perrin, I visited the War Office (Department of Movements and Quartering) and saw Brig. General Delano Osborne.

At this meeting the following points, relative to the transport of the A.I.F., were raised:

(1) Ports of embarkation in the United Kingdom.

It was stated that the following ports would be used:-

Southampton.  
Devonport.  
Liverpool,

and possibly one other.

(2) Ports of embarkation in France.

Probably Havre and possibly Marseilles.

(3) Upon the above information, I instructed Colonel Somerville to arrange for a sufficient Embarkation Staff for each of five ports, i.e. three in England, plus one in France, plus one spare. This he is doing.

(4) Leave.

It is understood that the Prime Minister of Australia desires that a certain amount of leave in England should be given to every member of the A.I.F. prior to embarkation for Australia. I would be glad of definite instructions on this point, as it very materially affects the question of camp accommodation and shipments.

(5) Numbers to be embarked.

The approximate figures of the A.I.F. are as follows:-

(21.11.18)	In France	-	95,000.
	In England	-	50,000.
	In Hospitals-		<u>11,000.</u>
			156,000.
	In Egypt	-	<u>18,000.</u>
	Total	-	<u>174,000.</u>

Taking the above figures, which of course are subject to revision, as a basis, it was laid down as a broad principle by the Department of Movements and Quartering, that we might anticipate the embarkation in France of 25% of those in Europe - 40,000, the balance being embarked from England in transports, i.e. fit men, or in Hospital Ships, i.e. invalids.

In conjunction with the embarkation of the 18,000 from  
Egypt



Egypt (which includes the small detachments in Salonika and Mesopotamia), consideration must be given to the question of cargo freightage between Egypt and Australia. The point was raised by General Delane Osborne that the cargo considerations might involve the shipping from Egypt of a greater number of troops than the 18,000 mentioned.

If this proved to be the case, it would involve a ferry service between some port in the south of France or Italy and Suez or Port Said. To this I ventured to express objection, as it would involve movements of troops across France, the institution of one or more additional ports of embarkation in France or Italy, and serious interference with any programme of leave in the United Kingdom if such were authorised.

Taking into consideration the fact that between now and the commencement of demobilisation, many members of the A.I.F. will have been granted leave to the United Kingdom, and also that many more will be more desirous of an early return to Australia than of availing themselves of English leave, I am of opinion that there should be no difficulty in providing 40,000 men for direct shipment ex France.

It will be seen that the matter of leave in the United Kingdom - particularly if such leave is of any extended duration, say 28 days - is closely allied to the question of accommodation in England for men awaiting shipment to Australia. If leave up to 28 days is to be granted prior to embarkation, it will be necessary, in my opinion, to provide camp accommodation at some convenient centres for at least 25% of those who have to be shipped from England. That is to say, camp accommodation would have to be provided for 30,000 men in England. Of these one-third would be going on or returning from leave; one-third would be awaiting shipment, having completed their leave, and one-third would be arriving from France for sorting out into categories, education, etc.

The provision of suitable concentration and drafting camps in France for the balance of say, 90,000 men at first, would have to be considered.

If the A.I.F. can retain in England the present accommodation at Salisbury Plain and elsewhere, the number to be accommodated in France after the commencement of embarkation, will, of course, be somewhat less.

I have not yet taken up with the War Office the question of a large increase in the accommodation available for the A.I.F. in England, as matters are not yet sufficiently settled to enable me to do so. I am of the opinion that considerable difficulty would be encountered in obtaining any marked increase in such accommodation.

#### (6) Shipment of stores and equipment.

I have asked General Coxen to ascertain definitely from the War Office the source of supply, i.e. England or France, of the various items of equipment, arms, etc. which will have to be shipped to Australia. It is obvious that if it is intended to use the same transports for the shipping of both men and material, arrangements will have to be made for the loading to take place in the country from which the equipment, etc. is to be drawn. Both the Ministry of Shipping and the Department of Movements and Quartering are anxious to obtain definite information on this point, and at present neither of them have such information.



481  
(7) Supply of equipment.

Closely related to the above question is that of the source of supply of certain articles of equipment which can be produced in the Commonwealth factories.

It might, for instance, lead to a certain amount of criticism from Australia if this Department procured from War Office sources of supply, such items as harness, saddlery and vehicles which the Commonwealth factories are capable of producing.

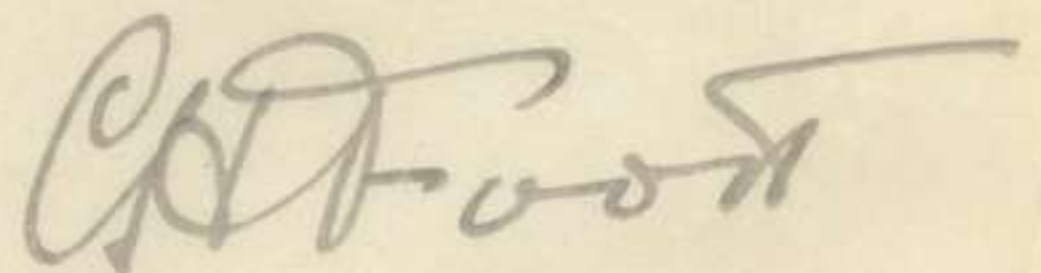
In this regard consideration must be given to the fact that Australia has already paid the British Authorities for very large quantities of material, which come within the above category. Is it intended that we should take over these articles in spite of the fact that Australia is capable of making them, or should it be our endeavour to secure a financial adjustment which will credit Australia with the value of such articles as she has paid for, but which she desires to replace from Australian sources of supply and not from British.

(8) I understand that it is the wish of Australia that the men should be returned thereto only at the rate of -

10,000 per month for the first 3 months.  
15,000 " " thereafter.

Assuming, however, that the Ministry of Shipping could provide tonnage to transport these men to Australia at a greater rate, and at the same time to transport the arms and equipment required by Australia, would it be feasible to accept this increased rate of transportation, and retain the men in camp in Australia, instead of in camp in France or England? It seems to me that the total expenditure involved would be no more, and the possibility of augmenting the rate of discharge to civil life in Australia, if circumstances rendered this desirable, is also worthy of consideration.

(9) Closely allied to the whole of the above questions regarding personnel, is the question of education, both technical and general. It is most desirable that the policy of the Australian Government regarding the technical education of the men and its relation to the various economic and Trades Union questions affecting it in England, should be defined.



Brigadier-General.



—O—

AUSTRALIAN

ARMY

CORPS

—O—

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 REPATRIATION and DEMOBILIZATION
 

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## AN ADDRESS

 to Divisional & Brigade Commanders  
 on November, 26th, 1918,

by

 LIEUT-GENERAL SIR J. MONASH, K.C.B., V.D.
 

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Having been appointed by the Commonwealth Government as Director-General of Repatriation and Demobilization, and had an opportunity of thinking over the problems involved, I have come to the conclusion that nothing could be of greater advantage and benefit, while I still had the opportunity, than to avail myself of this meeting of the Senior Officers of the Corps, to lay before them an outline of the policy, and to give some information - so far as definite information can be given at this stage - as to what is proposed to be done.

I had better begin with very broad and general principles, because I desire to strike at the outset the right keynote throughout the A.I.F.- I desire you to look at the problems, not only as so many General Officers, but also as so many representative citizens of Australia.

We are confronted with an unparalleled task - a task in which we have to consider on the one hand the interests of the Australian nation; and on the other hand the interests of the individual soldier; and these interests very often conflict. It will have to be our business to try to harmonise those conflicting interests, and to try to establish a policy such as will ensure that neither the one interest nor the other will be sacrificed.

We are faced with the problem of returning to Australia something like 200,000 individuals - comprising fighting men, munition workers and dependents (wives and children). The problem is not only how to return these people home to Australia in the most expeditious way, but also how to send them home in a condition - physically, mentally and morally - to take up their duties of citizenship with a minimum of delay, a minimum of difficulty and a minimum of hardship on the community and on the individual.

To begin with there is need for expedition, because, so long as the A.I.F. remains mobilized, it is costing Australia over £1,000,000 per week in actual expenditure, quite apart from the loss of the productivity of the men of the A.I.F. Therefore every week that passes is adding to the very heavy burdens of Australia, whose war expenditure is £80,000,000 a year. On these grounds - on financial and economic grounds - the need for rapid repatriation is very pressing.

But/



But the question of rapidity and speed is controlled by a great many other considerations - considerations of what is possible. Let us take a very broad national outlook. Our war expenditure has already exceeded £200,000,000. We have to carry that burden and we do not know whether there will be indemnities or not. We have to pay the interest on that burden. We cannot possibly do that unless we increase Australian production - and there is no agency so powerful to increase the national production of Australia as are the members of the A.I.F. If we were to dump down into Australia 200,000 individuals, unready to take up their duties of citizenship - unequipped and unprepared - it would be little short of a serious national disaster. On the other hand if we can concert measures here, during the progressive stages of demobilization, to create, without delay, first of all a proper morale, and then the means and machinery which will enable our men to equip themselves for their future industrial life, we are going to render our Nation a service which cannot be measured in money or in moral effect. Our men can be - I believe it is possible for them to be - made valuable to Australia in the future, and can make their influence felt industrially, educationally and politically. Just consider one aspect only, - the educational value of the influences that the experiences of the war have had on our men - the influence on their knowledge - on their character - and imagine what that will be worth to Australia if properly used and properly directed. It has been called, very aptly, "the spiritual momentum" which we can give to our community if we can return our men properly equipped and in the right frame of mind.

To do that we have to begin by creating a morale throughout the A.I.F. - a morale, which for want of a better word, I will call the "reconstruction morale".

Now in the beginning of things we took several hundred thousand Australian men - private citizens - and converted them into an Army. We created among them a fighting morale, which has carried them through the war victorious. We have succeeded in full measure in doing that. Is it too much to hope that, by putting our hearts and thoughts into it, we can now equally well create a "reconstruction morale"? That is to say, an attitude of mind on the part of every man as regards his future duties to himself, to his family and to his country. I say there is no doubt but that we should try to our utmost, and there is equally no doubt but that the responsibility for trying rests upon the Commanders of the A.I.F. It is the duty of the Senior Officers of the A.I.F., and I want to enlist their co-operation in this. It will not be possible for any Senior Officer to adopt in regard to the whole problem a detached attitude. It would be quite wrong. I am going to call upon all the Commanders of the A.I.F. to realize that it is not the business of somebody else - not only the creation of the right attitude of mind, but also the working of the machinery which we have to create - it is their particular business also. It is one of my objects today, not only to lay before you in rough outline some of the problems, but also to give an indication of the machinery I propose to create for dealing with them. I want your leadership in War to be converted, by stages, as and when the proper time arrives, into  
your/



your leadership in this question of Repatriation, and I want to make the fullest use I can of your prestige, authority and influence with your men, by operating through you so far as is possible. There must, as I have said, be no detached attitude. There must be the closest co-operation - just the same kind of co-operation that we have learned and used in battle.

But that is not by any means all. We must ensure that the men will help also. We want to create in the minds of the men the proper spirit, just as we created in them the proper spirit for their duties in the War. We need to create in them a desire to help individually, not in their own personal interests only, but also in the interests of their comrades and in the national interest. By the agencies that we shall build up and provide for the purpose, we want each man to acquire an outlook on his own future. We want, among the men, to ensure that same attitude of co-operation and mutual help, and, above everything else, we want to create in the minds of the men a lively sympathy for the difficulties of the whole problem. If we can achieve that attitude of sympathy, we shall obviate 90% of the inevitable grumbling and dissatisfaction that would otherwise arise. I do not think that what I am aiming at or wishing to achieve is at all impossible. We have, in the A.I.F., a most responsive instrument - an instrument which we have carefully tended and attuned, and which we Commanders have been in the habit of playing upon - and we must continue so to play upon it that this attitude of mind which I have described will be created and will live - a spirit of toleration - a spirit of continued self-sacrifice - and a determination to repress selfish interests, in the interests of the whole body of men and of the nation.

Now all this is by no means academic. Viewed in the right light it is very practical. Try to envisage the psychology of the man in the ranks today. He now has a confused and uncertain outlook. No one has yet spoken to him with any sense of definiteness. He asks, "What is going to happen? Are we going to Germany? If not, why don't they send us home? etc." There is a general feeling of uncertainty and unrest among the men, and, everyday that passes while that feeling of uncertainty and unrest continues, the men are slowly, from the psychological point of view, slipping from our grasp, and we ought therefore to take them into our confidence at the earliest possible moment. We ought to tell them all we possibly can as to the elements of the problems, as to the probable course that events will take, and as to what we hope in the course of time to be able to do for them. If we make no effort, this feeling of uncertainty and unrest will in a very few weeks develop into something very much worse. You all know what are the experiences in our hospitals, where men who are in various stages of convalescence acquire that peculiar disease which the medical profession call "hospitalitis". Through want of occupation, through want of outlook, they become, thoroughly and absolutely, mentally and morally disorganized; a complete temperamental disorganization takes place, and in a very little while they have acquired ingrained habits of sloth and a disinclination to exert themselves. Just exactly the same/



same symptom is noticeable in many shell shock cases - as in the case, for example, of a man with an injured arm, - he uses his arm slightly at first, but gradually ceases to use it at all, and it becomes paralysed. In the same way, if a man is given no definite trend to his thoughts, he will become mentally and morally paralysed, and consequently a much less useful member of society than he is at present.

The task which I have described - the creation of a proper spirit - is doubtless bristling with difficulties. I am out to discover them, to grapple with them, and to solve them, but I hope that these difficulties, and these incidental to the working out of the plans will all disappear when in due course our agencies and machinery have come into existence, and when we have created and fortified the attitude of mind I have indicated.

General Birdwood has announced to you that a special department for Repatriation and Demobilization has been established in London. It is desirable that I should explain in outline the fundamental basis and constitution of that Department. We have in the Australian Government two separate Ministries - the Ministry for Defence and the Ministry for Repatriation. There was every possibility and every probability of disaster to the whole situation owing to the separate existence of these separate Ministries, but the Government has very wisely decided that the function which is to be created at this end of the world is to be representative of both Ministries, and I - as Director-General of the Department - will be responsible to both Ministries. I shall therefore be able to co-ordinate what in many respects and in many directions are conflicting views and interests of the two Departments.

I cannot give you any minute details of the organization, but I can foreshadow that the whole Department will be under the G.O.C. A.I.F., which will have the enormous advantage that the whole existing A.I.F. machinery and the whole existing regulations can be made use of as a going concern, instead of there being an entirely separate Department with a separate existence - a separate machinery - with endless conflict and overlapping, and great gaps between functions. As things are, my whole organization will be part and parcel of the A.I.F., and practically the whole of the personnel of the A.I.F. are available to me to assist in one capacity or another. There will be a Board of Control, because there are considerable civilian questions involved, - financial, industrial and economic. What civilian representation there will be, and the extent of it, is not yet settled. It may be a board of four members - with myself as Chief, another Military Representative, and two civilians who are still to come from Australia with full and up-to-date information as to the requirements, - industrial and otherwise, - from the Australian point of view. The Department will have a number of Branches, amongst which will be an Administrative Branch, which will deal with all administrative questions and with principles and policies. The Personnel Branch will take charge of  
and/



and care for all personnel withdrawn from the field, or from the depots, for the purpose of commercial, industrial or educational employment. There will be an Ordnance Branch to look after war equipment and its shipment to Australia. There will be a Transport and Quartering Branch, which will deal with shipping, arrangement of ports of embarkation, etc., and will control the moves from this end and from Egypt. There will be a Medical Branch, a Veterinary Branch, and a special Branch for the Flying Corps - the future Australian policy in regard to the air service, equipment, etc. will have to be dealt with by it. A Finance and Pay Branch, and finally, but not the least important, an Employment Branch, which term I use in its very broadest sense as being for the employment of the Officer or man in a non-military sense, whether educationally by teaching him, or industrially by giving him work to do. Later I shall develop this question of employment more fully.

General Birdwood has agreed that I should be permitted to have direct communication with all formations of the A.I.F., with due regard to preserving the existing chain of responsibility in every way.

The policy of the Repatriation and Demobilization Department will have to be steadily and methodically built up, but unlike our experiences of the war where the presence of the enemy and the needs of secrecy have prevented our taking subordinates into our confidence, now the absolute reverse policy will be enforced, and everybody that matters will be told everything we possibly can tell them about our policies, our decisions and our arrangements. These policies will be announced to you in the form of memoranda, and I will ask you to arrange within your formations that they be properly kept and filed, so that each Commanding Officer will have at hand a complete declaration of the whole of the decisions that have been arrived at. Everything will be carefully considered and studied in all its bearings, but I have no doubt but that the policies which will hold good for December may have to be revised in January or February and so on. You will be taken fully into our confidence.

So much in a perfectly general way. I will now deal with a few basic questions. I think that on matters of this kind the men should be told as much as possible and as soon as possible. Our task is to repatriate 200,000 individuals, and in addition to collect and transport the war equipment of our 5 Infantry Divisions and of the Mounted Division. When can this task be commenced? Clearly not until Peace is signed. G.H.Q. is wisely emphasizing the point that the War is not yet over, but that we must remain in a condition of readiness, and that there can therefore be no thought of demobilizing the Army - no such thought can be entertained - until at least the peace preliminaries have been signed. When will that be?

( General Birdwood at this stage mentioned that they had secured shipping for 11,000 men between now and the end of the year, but that this arrangement formed no part of the demobilization scheme. It was estimated that 7,000 berths would be required for men now sick in England. The remaining space would be filled by "B" class personnel, by underage soldiers, and by men who embarked from Australia early in 1915 and who had not since returned home for any reason )

AS/



As General Birdwood has said, that is not "demobilization". You will quite realize that the pressing need in Australia is for materials, and that the pressing need in England is for raw materials. Much shipping is being made available quickly, but the demobilization proper cannot commence until at least peace preliminaries have been signed. It would appear that this cannot be before the beginning of February, and may perhaps not be until the end of February. Having estimated at what earliest time we could commence - the beginning of February - at what rate shall we be able to send the men home? That depends upon the shipping available, and there will be a very heavy demand by all nations, and for all purposes, on all available tonnage. That is an Imperial question; in fact it is an international question. Great Britain must be prepared to take her share of tonnage, and the Shipping Control will allot certain proportions to Australia. Our position is likely to be affected by the necessity, which I mentioned, of bringing from Australia to England a great amount of wool, wheat and meat. Therefore, sufficient shipping may possibly be available to carry the whole of the troops back to Australia in six or nine months. But that is not the only consideration.

We have also to consider the capacity of Australia to absorb the men, for it would be a great disaster to have dumped in Australia 200,000 men, who were either without employment themselves, or who would displace from employment those now employed. That is mere, the great majority of men who are new in France will not be able to find employment until there have been obtained raw materials on which they can work. The carrying of men and of raw materials must go hand in hand. This is a matter of high policy on which I cannot give you any determination. You may take it quite definitely, however, that the actual period of transport of the whole of our troops from this end of the world to the other, is likely to be spread over a period of twelve months, so that if the first man gets away on the 1st February, 1919, the last man will not go before the 1st February, 1920 - not from the point of view of shipping, but from the point of view of the ability of Australia to absorb them. This means that in 3 months from date, making the fullest use of opportunities for getting rid of munition workers and dependents, and sick, and "D" class personnel, we will still have left on our hands on the 1st March next over 150,000 men, and if you look ahead three months further, on the 1st June there will still remain at least 100,000 men. I speak of course of England, France and the East.

What are we going to do with this enormous number of men? It is an unparalleled problem, and I think there is only one solution. As far as we possibly can, we must set to work methodically to find useful employment for all of them. We cannot go on drilling them and giving them route marches etc., that is out of the question. We would ruin their capacity for becoming useful citizens again. In short this is the real problem we are up against. There is a most pressing necessity for some organization to be set up at once to find the means of providing useful and beneficial employment for all these men, and that is what my chief business will be.

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I think that, for the purposes of consideration, we may divide the men roughly into three categories. The first category may be taken to comprise eighty percent of our men - men who are only too ready and willing to undertake employment or education - such a high percentage, at any rate, after the matter has been explained to them. Then there is a smaller category of men who will be willing also if they are sufficiently coaxed and persuaded - they will require to be carefully handled, and this can best be done by their Commanders. A still smaller category of derelicts and bad characters will probably have to be concentrated, and kept under the strictest military discipline to keep them out of mischief. We must legislate for these different classes.

Commanders will have sooner or later to address themselves to this subject. What employment can be made available? We have Education, which will become part of the Demobilization Department, and will embrace :-

Commercial training.  
Preparing men for academic careers.  
University Courses.  
Professional or vocational training.

Then Industrial employment comprising :-

Commercial employment. Numbers of applications have already been received from men who have positions in England open for them.  
Scientific employment.  
New apprenticeship : young fellows willing to be indentured for some trade.  
Men who have broken their apprenticeship, or whose term of apprenticeship has been arrested, and who wish to continue in their trade.  
Wage-earning in a man's present trade.  
Learning of new trades: this is of special importance to Australia, who in future intends to open up new industries, such as tin-plate making, ship-building. And the men should be encouraged by Commanding Officers to take up employments of this kind.  
Agricultural and rural industries of many kinds, both as owner and as subordinate.  
Commonwealth Workshops. The Commonwealth proposes to establish workshops, stores, etc.

How are we going to carry out all this while continuing as a military organization? It is an ideal scheme, and is full of difficulties. Financial difficulties are not very serious, because this business is worth doing well, and after all, if it costs a couple of millions sterling, that will only amount to the cost of a couple more weeks of War. We do not know what the industrial conditions in England and France will be after the War. A great body of expert economic opinion considers that there will be a tremendous industrial boom in England - greater than has ever been known before. The War Office Authorities believe that so firmly that they have framed their policies and plans on that basis, i.e., that they will be able very /



very rapidly to absorb men from France into British industries. I do not know whether this will apply also to Australia. But whether it be true or not true, it is going to be a very important factor in our policy of finding employment at this end of the world for our men. If true, we should have no difficulty in placing large numbers of our men in the occupations of their trades under such financial conditions as will be attractive to them. We are, however, faced with another difficulty. That is the difficulty in regard to Trades Unionism. If we give our men better terms and conditions there will be trouble with the British Trades Unionists, and if we give our men less good terms, our men will be dissatisfied. Steps have been taken to get into touch with British Trades Unions with a view to arriving at agreement on these questions.

Then there is the attitude of the man himself. There is the man who says "I feel very comfortable in this camp - the Government are paying me - I prefer to stay where I am and I do not care how long". That is the man who must be specially dealt with. And how are we going to do it? By launching a propaganda. We have a very considerable amount of machinery for propaganda already in existence. The most obvious machinery is the present military organization. The prestige of the men's own Officers. Therefore, you must get at the regimental Officers and lead them into the right frame of mind. They will have to get at their men and keep them from the attitude of mind of saying "we will be loafers and sponge on our country as long as we can".

Apart from these military channels we have the Educational Staff, who have done an enormous amount of useful work - and few people realize what Bishop Long and his staff have already done in this respect. We also have our Chaplains, and I would like Brigade Commanders to see the Chaplains, so that their influence may be brought to bear. We have in addition members and ex-Members of Parliament in the A.I.F. These are public men with public responsibilities and I propose, after seeing some of them, to arrange for them to visit units to talk to the men from a broad national point of view.

There is, however, a class of man who is likely to be suspicious of the propaganda. I refer to the Unionist - the political Labour Unionist. We cannot get at him any better than by letting loose on him men of his own class. I want particularly to get hold in every unit of some good representative man - N.C.O.s, privates or gunners who are good speakers and who are "personae grates" with that particular class, and who are likely to carry personal influence with the men from the industrial and economic point of view. I would like you to obtain the names of one or two in every unit and send their names to me. I will make arrangements to have them brought to London, to investigate the whole question, and I will then ask you to facilitate their addressing meetings of the men. I want the man in the ranks, no matter to what class of society or politics he belongs, to believe that this is a National matter, into which politics do not enter at all, but in which we necessarily must have regard to a man's political creed, in order to persuade him that our motives are unselfish. I shall prepare in London a series of short lectures on the whole question from a National point of view and these will be circulated to you.

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I would ask you to put them into the hands of your Officers and to ensure that the men are made fully conversant with their contents. We should then very soon be able to switch the man's thoughts from war to reconstruction, and to create in their minds a wish to do everything they can to help.

I do not know whether you have yet received the A.I.F. Demobilization form. This form asks a number of very pertinent questions, one of which is "Are you a Unionist"? The filling up of a form like this in a perfunctory way, as one of these multitudinous forms in existence, would render nugatory the whole object which it is desired to achieve. I wish these forms to be treated very seriously. They will be the raw material that we are going to work on. Officers must "mother" their men, and advise them. They must try to encourage them to improve their position & prospects in life.

(General Birdwood at this stage stressed the importance of accuracy and rapidity in filling up this form. He stated that the delay in its issue occurred in Australia, as the Government at first queried the insertion of the question "Are you a Unionist". It rests entirely with the soldier as to whether he answers this question - it is quite optional.)

We wish to be able to place all Unionists in Unionist Shops, and non-unionists in non-union shops, and the answering of this particular question is intended to facilitate this. The men should be made quite clear on the point that it is not out of any mere curiosity that this information is desired. Will you please, therefore, take every care in the filling up of this form. Nor will it be the last form, by any means, that you will be asked to complete.

Now, a few words about the procedure. The first thing we shall have to do will be to establish a definite priority of selection as a basis for the actual order of repatriation. This is a very difficult question. There are dozens of conflicting policies. Is it to be done by units? By a man's marital condition? By occupations? By the fluctuating needs of Australia - as, for instance, shearers being required in the wool season? Most countries intend to work on the "occupational group" system. Australia is inclined to favour demobilization by units, but it has qualified that by saying that the demobilization must take place "by half-units in categories of priority."

(General Monash at this stage outlined the probable categories which would be adopted; married men with children being given first preference, and long service being given priority over ensured employment)

Thus each man will have a definite claim to a particular degree of priority. "A" will have the right to go before "B", and so on. If we have to demobilize by half units, then, in a Battalion which is, say, 600 strong, 300 men who have priority would go together in a bunch when their turn comes. The other 300 who fall into the lower categories would go away together in a bunch later. That is what ought to happen, if it were not for a number of disturbing factors. I foreshadow that the Unit principle is to be the basis, so far as it is consistent with the working of the repatriation by priority of selection, and wish

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the question of employment. All men of a given category and of a given Unit will if possible go home together. Such things as organized whole Unit marches through Brisbane, Sydney, etc., will, I fear, be entirely out of the question. For, having taken out the cadres, ordnance personnel, duty personnel, etc., etc. there will not be many of the Unit left. However, the sentiment of sending a Unit home together will be adhered to as much as can be. The first half of "1915" men will probably go away in lieu of leave before the definite demobilization starts - in order to fill up ships.

I trust that everybody will agree with me that, in whatever splitting up is necessary, we ought to keep bands together, and concert parties and pierrot troupes intact.

The probability is that every C.O. will be called upon to arrange his personnel in sequence of priority from "A" to "Z", being bound by certain rules of priority laid down by the Government, which must be adhered to rigidly - and then at any time when he is called upon to send two or three hundred men (who are not car-marked for any duty) to a Concentration Camp, he must be ready to do it.

The Unit Commander will be primarily responsible, and he will have to be prepared to carry the burden of his decision and make it fully known to the men. He must be able to settle internally all grievances and complaints. There are bound to be isolated cases of grievances, and false decisions by subordinate officers, which will have to be smoothed out when brought to notice.

We shall also require a very considerable duty personnel, and there can be no question of allowing any one to go home, if his services are required here. There will be the Unit cadres, by which I mean the personnel which will administer the Unit to the end, - the squaring up of Canteen and Regimental Funds, Quartermaster's Stores, Battalion or Unit records, etc. That cadre will have to remain to the end, not necessarily specific individuals, but the cadre must remain. Demobilization personnel, - this body of officials will be very numerous, not only at Headquarters and at the Concentration Camps, administering the demobilization procedure but also there will be large numbers who will have passed to the Department for "employment". Transport personnel will require to be held back to staff ships. We must retain at this end of the world sufficient staff for the last ship to leave. Ordnance - a large personnel will be required to look after the guns, stores, etc.

All such personnel should, as far as possible, be selected from men of lower category. If it should happen that the right man is what we might term an "old" man, he must be prepared to serve, if necessary, for twelve or fifteen months longer. A man's right is over-riden by the demands made by the Demobilization Department for duty personnel. That applies particularly to Officers. There is a large number of Officers in the A.I.F. who are men of independent means, who want, now that the armistice is signed and they consider their jobs finished, to get home. No Officer or man is to be permitted to acquire the idea that we have done with him until it is so stated. We will not have done with /



- 11 -

with an Officer or man until we say we have done with him, and although an Officer or man may have a right to go, we may say "No" if he has special qualifications which require his presence here. But, as I mentioned, personnel will be taken from the lower categories as far as possible.

I shall call on Divisions very liberally for assistance - for staffs, clerks, junior helpers, etc. These demands will not be heavy when the Corps is still functioning as a Corps, but when it is clear that it is about to break up, you will not be able to keep employed your existing staffs - there will be a great deal of dissolution and curtailment of functions - which will enable me to absorb in London necessary experienced Staff Officers who are accustomed to handling problems of this kind.

Early repatriation on compassionate grounds. I have received over a hundred letters in the last few days asking for special consideration in such cases. We are not going to provoke an infraction of the whole basic principle of demobilization, by yielding to every such demand that is made.

I shall ask Commanders to investigate each case very carefully before committing themselves to a recommendation, in order that no given individual should be allowed to go home in priority of his proper place, because by doing so - by allowing "M", for instance, to go away in priority to "A" - it is going to deprive "A" of his place. Many people will advance "urgent business reasons". A Divisional Commander must be very sparing and conservative in his recommendations. But in proper cases they will be considered, and I shall be glad if Divisional Commanders (if General Birdwood has no objection) will make recommendations direct to me. If you

make recommendations that these men should be allowed to go, then we will take it in hand, and do what we can.

The repatriation of dependents. It is estimated that there are in England 7,000 wives and children of members of the A.I.F. If a man has an idea that he can go home in the same ship with his wife, then that idea must be dispelled at once. The best plan will be for them to encourage their wives to go home to Australia first, - they should be advised to arrange their passages within the next two or three months before the rush sets in. As you know our transports are entirely unsuited for convenient travel by women folk, owing to limited cabin accommodation.

Withdrawal of personnel for employment. In such matters as education and apprenticeship, it is perfectly obvious that the sooner we get hold of the men the better. University activities depend upon dates. We have to begin at once to withdraw personnel and to put them into training. I am not yet justified in interfering with the fighting efficiency of the Corps, but the Army Commander has stated to me that, within reasonable limits, he will raise no objection at all to my creating machinery for the withdrawal of a considerable number of men from the Corps if I can find immediate employment for them. We shall begin to call up from you men of different classes/



- 12 -

classes and categories. We may take, say, five hundred to a thousand men very soon.- Supposing I found an establishment in England which would give employment to five hundred carpenters, I would ask the Engineer and Pioneer Units to supply them. It will be asked "what about depleting the strengths"? Well, the G.O.C., A.I.F., has decided to empty the English depots entirely. All sick men are to go back to Australia and reinforcements are to be sent over here for distribution. Men recently arrived from Australia will be kept in training for a fortnight and then sent over to France. There are several thousands of them, and the accretion of them will be more than compensation for the number I will be able to take away from you in the near future. We will endeavour to make an immediate start in this.

When we do call men up you will transfer them or strike them off the strength of your unit to my department, just as you do when they are evacuated to hospital. On the completion of their term of employment we will do either one of two things -

- (a) restore them to their units.
- (b) deal ourselves with their actual shipment to Australia.

How does that fit in with the question of employment? Supposing that during the course of a man's term of employment, his turn comes for him to return home? This question falls into two classes -

- (a) where you can take a man out of his job and send him home.
- (b) where a man is on contract of service, or undergoing a course at a school or university where we cannot interrupt his training without great waste of effort and injury to the man.

To meet this we will say to him before he commences :- "We can provide you with six months training. You must undertake, before you commence, to forgo any priority rights until the end of six months".

I propose to suggest to the G. O. C. A. I. F. that, a little later on, the smaller detached units of the A. I. F. - such as the Light Horse, Tunnelling Companies, Army Brigades of Artillery, Sanitary Sections, etc. shall be definitely allocated to one or other of the Australian Divisions, so that they may be administered thereby for repatriation purposes. I anticipate that all Depots will be similarly concentrated.

But I would ask you to remember that a man will be permitted to forfeit his priority, in other words no man is to be bound to go home in his order of priority. For example - if a man who has been a farmer wishes to take up some other trade or profession, he will be allowed to do so, even if entitled to return home, our object being not merely to get the men home but to get them home as better men than they were before.

I would like to repeat that this whole subject is naturally in embryo. I have spoken thus lengthily in order to give you a peep into what is involved, and I am sure that, if I have achieved nothing else, I have gained your hearty sympathy in the large task that is before me. I shall welcome most heartily, letters - official and unofficial - from Divisional Generals and Brigadiers, and any suggestions they may wish to make, or candid constructive criticisms of what is being done.

In conclusion, I ask for the utmost co-operation on the part of every officer and man; for what I am setting out to do is to be attempted in the common interests of ourselves, our men and our country. -



*Annexure 15*

Demob. 1.

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27th November,

8.

General Officer Commanding,  
Headquarters,  
Canadian Expeditionary Force.

Sir,

As each of the overseas Dominions and Colonies has now formed a Department dealing with Demobilisation of the troops of that Dominion or Colony, I venture to suggest the advisability of holding conferences between representatives of each of these.

I suggest that these conferences might be held for two main purposes -

- (a) To discuss questions regarding repatriation in which all the Dominions are interested.
- (b) Questions placed upon the Agenda paper of the Empire Demobilisation Committee, which the representatives of the respective Dominions and Colonies might wish to discuss between themselves before the meeting of the Demobilisation Committee.

If you consider these suggestions worthy of further action, I suggest that the meetings might be held at each of the Headquarters in rotation, and that a Secretary should be detailed by one of the Dominions to record the proceedings.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Also sent to -

South African E.F.  
New Zealand E.F.  
Newfoundland Military Forces.

Brigadier-General.  
Demob. 1.



*Annexure 16*

Demob. 1.

54, Victoria Street,  
LONDON. S.W.1.  
27.11.18.

- 481
1. Letter of 22nd November to General Monash. ✓
  2. Letter of 26th November to General Monash. ✓
  3. Military sports. It is suggested that this Department should get into touch with the Army Amateur Athletic Association at Aldershot with a view to entering individuals and teams for the Military Athletic events which are certain to form a large feature of the soldiers' lives during the next 12 months. I have written to the Headquarters Gymnasium at Aldershot asking them for particulars under this head. *Yes*
  4. It is recommended that the Demobilisation Department of the A.I.F. have a representative officer in Australia, or possibly in each Military District in Australia. *Yes later*
  5. It is assumed that liaison between this Department and the Australian Divisions in France has been, or will be arranged for through the medium of the G.O.C., Division. What steps should be taken to ensure a corresponding liaison with the Australian Forces in Egypt. *Yes but wait Egypt*
  6. I propose to set up a small Enquiry Bureau in connection with this Department, which will be able to direct applicants to the proper Department or to Commonwealth Office, War Office, etc. as the case may be. If it became necessary ultimately to set up our own information Bureau, this Enquiry Branch would form the nucleus thereof. *Yes a good N.C.O*
  7. Repatriation Scheme memorandum. There seems to be a certain amount of doubt as to the interpretation of this, and I suggest that it should be cleared up. ✓
  8. Press cuttings. Very frequently paragraphs appear in the Press, which, although probably correct in regard to British Forces, are not always so in regard to Dominion Forces; nor is it made clear that Dominion Forces are excepted. I think something might be done in this matter, as these incorrect statements lead to a lot of unnecessary enquiries. *When ready but not before*
  9. Demobilisation Form. Information regarding Demobilisation Form herewith. ✓
  10. Discharge in England. Numerous enquiries are being received from men regarding discharge in England. The policy should be laid down in this matter as early as possible. ✓
  11. Entertainment en voyage. I suggest that an officer should be detailed to supervise this matter, in touch with the Red Cross, Australian Comforts Fund and the War Chest Fund. *Appd*
  12. Concurrence of Dominion Governments. The Empire Military Demobilisation Committee has not yet received the formal concurrence of the Prime Minister of Australia to the various decisions embodied in the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Committee. *Lead file to Deane*



- 1381
13. Letter from the Secretary, War Office regarding Demobilisation. B F  
later
  14. Army Order No. 275, 1918.
  15. Letter to General Birdwood dated 11.10.18 regarding Registration Cards.
  16. Representation of D.M.S., A.I.F. in Demobilisation Department in London, including questions of stores and equipment. Barker
  17. General Coxen's proposals regarding taking over Arms and equipment. Talk  
Coxen
  18. Arrangements with High Commissioner's Office regarding repatriation of various classes. ✓
  19. Gratuity on discharge. The British Government are giving a gratuity on discharge to all members of their Forces. The G.O.C. New Zealand Forces in the United Kingdom (Brig. General Richardson) spoke to me about this today and asked whether the Australian Government were doing so to their men. I said I thought it was unlikely but would not commit myself. The point is raised. Referred  
to  
P.W.
  20. The question of conferences between the Demobilisation Authorities of the various Dominions - ?
    - (a) to discuss Dominion matters.
    - (b) to discuss prior to any meeting of the Empire Demobilisation Committee agenda which materially affect the whole or any of the Dominions.
  21. Suggest that the cable code for this Department be either - or ~~MOBAUST~~ DEMOBAUST. ✓
  22. Queries by Paymaster. *General Cunningham*
  23. Australian Flying Corps. Major Brinsmead's memoranda regarding completion of training of cadets. *Speak Blake*
  24. Australian Flying Corps. Major Brinsmead's personal letter to Major Baillieu on the subject of personnel and equipment of A.F.C. —
  25. Repatriation. Summary of questions regarding Repatriation, including repatriation of members of A.I.F. who desire to return to countries other than Australia. Summary prepared by Captain Denny, M.C. ✓

*C. D. Foot B.L.*



## WAR DIARY

*Duplicate*

OF

Repatriation and Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

FOR

November , 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.	
1.	Diary Demob. G.T.	(1.D.4.).
2.	Demob. 2.	(2.D.).
3.	Demob. 4.	(4.D.).
4.	Demob. 5.	(Sub-Branch 3.D.).
5.	Demob. 7.	(5.D.).

*{ Not With Duplicate }*

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I  
Appendix

WAR DIARY OF <sup>Demobilization</sup> (4) MILITARY TRAINING.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

481

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
A.I.F. ADMIN. H.Q. HORSEFERRY ROAD.	NOV. 16	10am.	First Conference of Demobilization Branch met in Room 113 Admin. H.Q. Horseferry Rd. Ldn.	
	17		SUNDAY.	
	18		Arrangement of Offices and selection of clerks. Conference with Director of Education.	
	19		Routine work in connection with formation of Staff.	
	20		Routine work in connection with formation of Staff.	
	21		Conference with Col. Earl and Lt. Col. Hewitt C.H. General Staff War Office in connection with training matters. Arrangements concluded with them to continue allotment of vacancies at schools for Australians.	
	22		Routine.	
	23		Routine.	
	24		SUNDAY.	
	25		Arranged for meeting with the Secretary of the Army Sports Control Board & a newly constituted Branch with view to affiliating.	
	26		Lt. B.C.Hartley, Secretary of Army Sports Control Board called and arranged to send communications issued. etc.	
	27 } 28 } 29 } 30 }		Routine work in connection with selection of Staff.	

*[Handwritten signature and "104" in bottom right corner]*



CONFIDENTIAL.

~~ORIGINAL.~~  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
TRIPLICATE.

481

Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

Branch  
2 D

OF

Repatriation + Demobilisation Dept.

FOR

November 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

Layton. Smith

Signature of Officer Commanding

P. Somerville  
Lt Col.



## 02

481

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

2D Branch

Place	Date 1918.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
London	Nov. 8		H.T. "GAIKA" sailed from Devonport with invalids.	See app. "A"
	" 20		H.T. "SUEVIC" sailed from Devonport with invalids.	See app. "A".
	" 23		Lieut.-Colonel G.C. SOMERVILLE, C.M.G., D.S.O., taken on strength from Headquarters, Australian Corps.	
	" 25		Capt. R.V. Spier   "      "      "      "      "      "      "	
	" 26		H.T. "ZEALANDIA" sailed from Liverpool with invalids and women.	See app. "A".

*J.S.*

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(10545) Wt 1300/P713 750,000 3/18 M 2688 Form C/211/18.



## WAR DIARY

OF

481

FOR

191

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

a

*Synopsis of sailings of military transports**J. Somerville*  
*Lt Col.*



481

481

Appendix A.

SYNOPSIS OF TRANSPORTS LEAVING FOR AUSTRALIA  
DURING NOVEMBER 1918

SHIP	<sup>Embarkation</sup> PORT	DATE	OFFICERS	NURSES	O/RANKS	TOTAL
GAIKA	Devonport	8/11/18	39	4	919	962
SUEVIE	DEVONPORT	20/11/18	23	7	976	1006
ZEALANDIA	Liverpool	26/11/18	5	6	36	47
			67	17	1931	2015

G.P.S.



*Appendix III*  
**CONFIDENTIAL.**

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

481

**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

Ordnance & Equipment Branch,

REPATRIATION & DEMOBILIZATION DEPARTMENT

FOR

NOVEMBER, 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

*H. H. Murphy*

LIEUT.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Edmund Allen*

BRIG: GENL.



# WAR DIARY

or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

481

Ordnance and Equipment Branch.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
London	Nov. 15		Brigadier-General W.A. COXEN, C.M.G., D.S.O., appointed to take charge of the Ordnance and Equipment Branch, and one Clerk (No. 18398 Sergt. C.E. THOMPSON) arrived from Australian Corps Headquarters, France, to commence duty in the Demobilisation Department, A.I.F. Temporary Offices were allotted to the Branch at Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F., 130 Horseferry Rd.	
„	16		Attended a Conference at Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. to discuss arrangements already made in regard to demobilisation. Colonel E.T. LEANE (A.A.O.C.) appointed to assist Brigadier-General COXEN returned to France from leave to make final arrangements before taking up his new duties.	
„	17		Visited the War Office to ascertain what had been done as regards supplying ordnance and equipment for shipment to Australia for the post-bellum army. Certain information had already been supplied to the Defence Department, Melbourne: was referred to General Scott for these and further particulars. Lieut. P.K. MURPHY from Ordnance Dept., Administrative Headquarters reported for duty.	
„	18		Nil.	
„	19		Interviewed General Scott (Artillery Officer for Ordnance at War Office) and obtained a statement shewing the estimated number of guns, carriages and ammunition required for arming and maintaining in the Field for six months on a basis of 5 Divisions of Field Artillery and two Corps of Heavy Artillery. General Scott also raised the question as regards requirements of Australia of Chemical shell. Submitted to Demob. 1 a proposal shewing/distribution of the Staff of the Ordnance and Equipment Branch as far as could be seen at present. Submitted to Demob. 1 a list of points concerning which information is desired or rulings given to form a basis of policy. Application made to Australian Corps, France, for names of Officers considered suitable and recommended to take charge of various Indent Sections in this Branch.	<div>Appendix..... 1.</div> <div>Appendix..... 2.</div> <div>Appendix..... 3.</div>

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( 2 )

## WAR DIARY

481

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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
will be prepared in manuscript.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Ordnance and Equipment Branch.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
London	Nov. 20		Application made to Australian Corps, France for further clerical assistance.	
"	21		Demobilisation Conference held at Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. - General Foott being in the chair - when general points which has been brought up were discussed. Minutes of the Conference are attached as Appendix.....	4.
"	22		Interview with Major-General Sir H.D. Parsons, D.E.O.S., War Office, to discuss generally the proposed organisation of an Ordnance Department in France for the purpose of taking over new material. He agreed that a staff of six officers and 60 other ranks should commence training as early as possible at main depots in France, such as HAVRE and CALAIS. He also emphasised the necessity of having a special Section trained in the work of shipping: the whole to be under the supervision of a Chief Ordnance Officer. A letter was accordingly written to 36th Aust. H.A. Group, France, to furnish the names of officers and other ranks recommended to undergo this training - members of the regular forces to be selected and single men taken into consideration first. General Parsons is anxious that the question of finance in connection with the taking over of new material as balanced against old material be settled without delay. These matters were discussed with General Foott and Colonel Evans. Interviewed Major C. Speckman, M.C., 1st Aust. Pioneer Battalion, and selected him for duty in this Branch. A letter was accordingly written to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F.	
"	23		Attended at Australia House with Colonel Gipps to see Colonel Buckley and Captain Rowe regarding general staff requirements at Australia House for Defence Department stores. Colonel Leane returned from France and commenced duty.	
"	24		Interviewed Captain G.J. Hammond, A.F.A. (R.B.A.A.) and arranged to ask for his services for the Field Artillery Indent Section.	

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( 3 )

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
will be prepared in manuscript.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Ordnance and Equipment Branch.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
London	Nov. 25		<p>Written application made to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. for the services of Captain Hammond and Lieut. S.H. Rainbird (Audit Section).</p> <p>Went into the subject of organisation of anti-aircraft with Bruce Hay when he recommended two batteries per Corps, each Battery consisting of 3 Sections of 2 guns each, making a total of 24 guns for the 2 Corps.</p> <p>Major C.A. Speckman, M.C., commenced duty as Officer i/c Indents Branch.</p>	
„	26		<p>The Branch moved into new premises at 54 Victoria Street, Westminster, and established offices on the Third Floor, which was lately occupied by the Imperial Ministry of National Service.</p> <p>Interviewed Colonel Wilson at the War Office regarding organisation of Heavy Artillery Brigades and on request he supplied approximate prices in bulk of various units such as Brigades of Field Artillery, Heavy Artillery, Ammunition, etc. Appendix.....</p>	5.
„	27		<p>Went into the question with Colonel Leane as regards organisation of the Branch in France and decided to recommend that the Imperial Authorities be asked to deliver equipment etc. <del>in</del> in Australia and so avoid the organisation and establishment of a new Ordnance Department in France.</p> <p>Discussed many matters regarding finance with Colonel Evans in answer to questions in memorandum by Demob. 1 of 22/11/18. Appendix.....</p> <p>Application made to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. for the services of Lieut. (Hon. Capt) J.F.S. MURRAY, M.C. Quartermaster at 1st A.A.H. to be made available for this Branch as Officer i/c Medical Indents Section.</p> <p>Lieut. R. SULLIVAN from 36th Aust. H.A. Group, France, commenced duty as Officer i/c Heavy Artillery Indents Section.</p> <p>The following other ranks were taken on strength.-</p> <p>No. 18506 A/Bdr. W.A. MULLEY ex 3rd D.A.H.Q., France. 5344 Pte. J.W. ELLERMAN ex 17th Battalion.</p>	6.



## WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

481

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.

Ordnance and Equipment Branch.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
London	Nov. 28		<p>Interviewed General Parsons at the War Office regarding the proposed formation of an Ordnance Department in France for the receipt of goods and he agreed that this will not be necessary if the Imperial Authorities arrange to ship all material to Australia. At his suggestion a letter was submitted through Demob. 1 representing these questions to the War Office, and General Parsons does not anticipate any objection by the War Office to the shipment of material by the Imperial Authorities direct to Australia. This will mean that his Department will continue working in the same way as was done with Australia in peace time: General Parsons stated the question of closing accounts was not a matter of vital importance.</p> <p>General Parsons still advocates the training of Officers and Other Ranks in Ordnance Depots in France which was concurred in by this Branch.</p> <p>Application made to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. for the services of Lieut. G.H. MILES, 1st Aust. Pioneer Battalion for Engineer Indent Section of this Branch.</p> <p>The undermentioned Other Rank taken on strength.-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No. 622 Pte. H.V. BAKER ex                      Battalion.</p>	
"	29		<p>Interviewed Colonel Kendall (A.A.V.C.) as regards an Officer for the Veterinary Section in this Branch but as he is too shorthanded to spare an Officer application was made to Australian Corps, France, for the name of an Officer suitable and recommended for this work.</p> <p>Colonel Kendall recommends the early demobilisation of the R.B.A.A. in order that the horses may be released and put into the market for sale as the Imperial and Canadian authorities had already commenced to take this matter up.</p> <p>Arrangements made with Colonel Millard and General Foott for a wire to be sent to No. 1 A.G.H., ROUEN, to take an inventory of all stores, including medical stores, and have them handed over under local arrangements to Ordnance and obtain receipt for the same in accordance with Demobilisation Regulations, Part II, para 1004.</p> <p>Submitted proposals to General Foott for Heavy Artillery for Australia. Appendix.....</p> <p>The Commandant, Ordnance College, Woolwich, was asked to lay down definitely the qualifications for an I.O.M.</p>	7.



( 5 )  
WAR DIARY

481  
Army Form C. 2118.

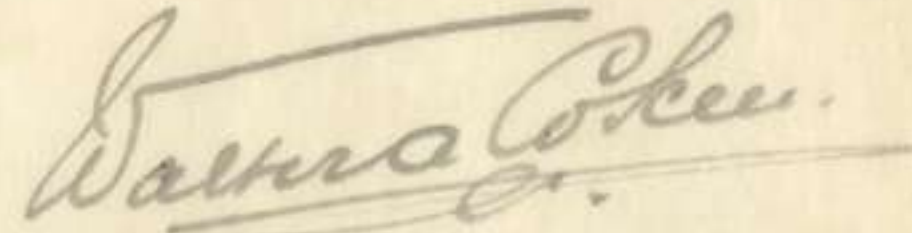
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.  
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages  
will be prepared in manuscript.

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Ordnance and Equipment Branch.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
London	Nov. 30		<p>Interview with Lieut-Colonel Gipps (C.M.F.) regarding the question of Inspectors for Ordnance Machinery and Officers for Courses at the Ordnance College. Ascertained that the preliminary Course for I.O.O's commenced in January, the Ordnance Course proper commencing in March.</p> <p>Received from General Napier, Director of Artillery at the War Office, statements shewing main stores required to equip various units. Appendix.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>G E N E R A L .</u></p> <p>Owing to the absence of a general policy it was not possible to carry out anything of a definite nature during the period. Various enquiries were made regarding probable and possible requirements and information gathered to assist the working of the Branch at a later date: an attempt was made to anticipate the requirements of the Staff for the Branch and generally organise the office accordingly.</p> <p>A list of the staff taken on strength during the period and their duties is attached as Appendix.....</p>	<p>8.</p> <p>9.</p>

  
Brigadier-General,  
4.D.

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(10344) Ws W 2300/P713 750,000 3/18 E 2588 Form C/225/14.



# WAR DIARY

OF

Ordnance &amp; Equipment Branch

REPATRIATION & REMOBILIZATION DEPARTMENT.

FOR

NOVEMBER, 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject.  |
|-----|---|
| 1.  | Statement showing estimated number of Guns and Carriages required for arming and maintaining in the Field (for 6 months) 5 Australian Divisions (2 Corps) and ammunition required therefor. |
| 2.  | Chart showing the proposed distribution of the Staff of the Ordnance and Equipment Section.   |
| 3.  | List of points submitted for ruling.  |
| 4.  | Minutes of Demobilization Conference held in Room 113, on November 21st. 1918, at 10 a.m.   |
| 5.  | Statement showing total cost of Guns, Howitzers, Carriages etc. (Rough figures).  |
| 6.  | Questions re Finance.   |
| 7.  | Proposals re Heavy Artillery for Australia.   |
| 8.  | Lists of main Stores required to equip various Units.   |
| 9.  | List of Personnel employed as at 30.11.1918.  |
-



Appendix 1.

481

Estimated number of Guns and Carriages required for arming and maintaining  
in the Field (for six months) 5 Australian Divisions (2 Corps) and ammunition required therefor.

CALIBRE	Estab- lishment	No. of equipts. to be main- tained in the Field.		No. of Guns and Carrs. required for six months' maintenance.		Total required.		3 months filled in thousands of rounds.	Tonnage.	Flat rate per gun per day.
		Guns	Carrs.	Guns	Carrs.	Guns	Carrs.			
18-pdr.	54 per div	270	270	162	97	432	367	777	9,675	32
4.5" How.	18 ,, ,	90	90	46	30	136	120	243	5,350	30
60-pdr.	24 ,, Corps	48	48	63	29	111	77	138	4,950	32
6" How.	60 ,, ,	120	120	65	54	185	174	368	18,350	34
6" Gun.	8 ,, ,	16	16	15	4	31	20	36	2,160	25
8" How.	12 ,, ,	24	24	7	6	31	30	51	4,890	24
9.2" How.	12 ,, ,	24	24	7	6	31	30	47	6,630	22
12" How.	4 ,, ,	8	8	3	1	11	9	4	140	6



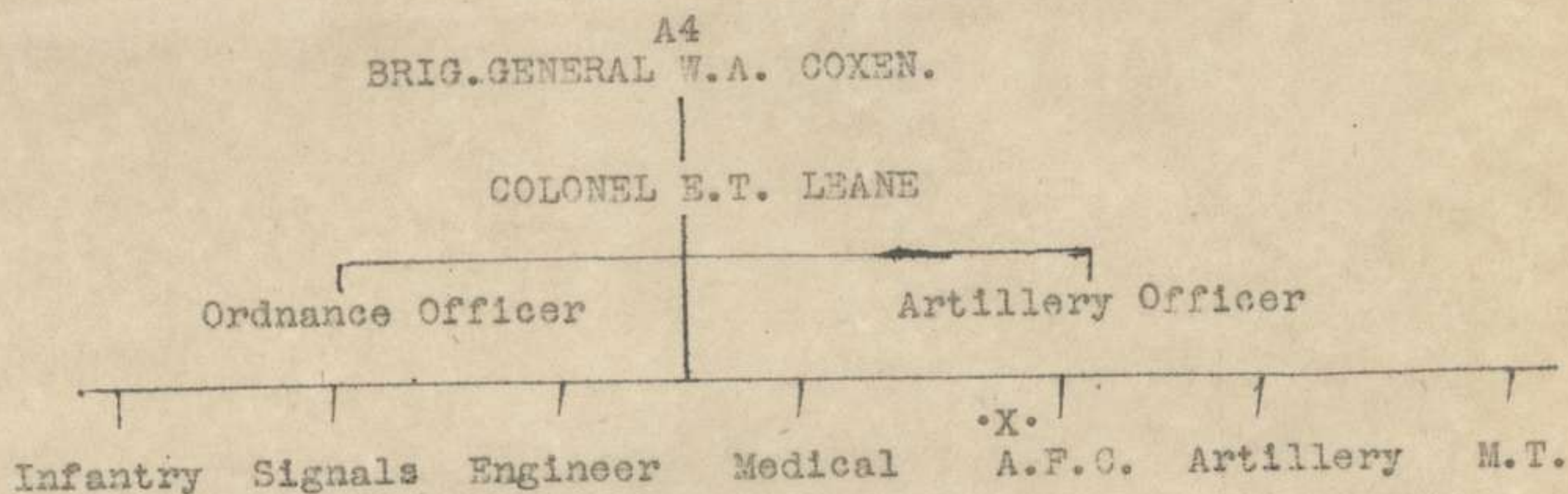
A4.  
DEMOBILISATION BRANCH.  
19th November 1918.

A.1. DEMOBILISATION BRANCH.

Reference Circular Memo. No. 1 of 19th instant.

A chart shewing the proposed distribution of the Staff of the Ordnance and Equipment Section (A.4) is given below.

Names of Officers and Other Ranks selected - or whom it is desirable to obtain - for particular positions, are inserted in pencil as requested.



Clerical Staff

- 1 Senior Clerk (Sergt).
- 1 Clerk (Cpl).
- 1 Clerk (Pte).
- 1 Typist.

Future possible expansion - 7 Clerks (i.e. one clerk (Pte) for each Sub-section will be required at a later date.)

•X• The question of equipment of A.F.C. being brought under the Ordnance, has been submitted for consideration.

sgd. W.A. COXEN,  
Brigadier-General.



DEMOBILISATION BRANCH.

481

Branch Staffs.

1. In order that a definite scheme of Staffs may be inaugurated, it is desired that the head of each Department should set out in detail the requirements of his department.
2. The following pro-forma is suggested: this is intended only as a guide.

A2.  
Land & Sea Transport.  
Quarters & Movements.

D.A.D.R.T.	D.A.D.Sea Tpt.	D.A.D.Quarters.
		Engineer Officer.

<u>Clerical Staff</u>	1 Clerk (Sergt) 2 Clerks (Ptes) (including 1 typist).
-----------------------	---

3. Present requirements only are asked for: future possible expansions if included, should be clearly indicated as such.
4. Will you please furnish by noon on 20th instant, to Room 112, the proposals for your Branch.
5. It would be useful, too, if you would insert in pencil the names of any officer or other rank whom you have already selected, or whom you desire to obtain, for a particular position in your Department.

sgd. C.H. FOOTT,  
Brigadier-General.

Distribution.-

Major-General C.B.B. WHITE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C.) for infor  
Commandant, Administrative Headquarters. ) mation.

Demob. 1.	Demob. 5.
2.	6.
3.	7.
4.	8.

War Diaries.



Appendix 3.

A4/1.

A.4.

DEMOBILISATION BRANCH.

19th November 1918.

481

A.1 DEMOBILISATION BRANCH.

Reference Circular Memo. No. 3 of 19th instant.

The following points are submitted for ruling.-

1. The War Office propose an organisation of 3 Brigades of Field Artillery to each Division, Brigades to consist of 4-gun Batteries.  
Is it the intention of the Commonwealth of Australia to take up this organisation?
2. What number of Divisions is it proposed to equip?
3. If this includes Mounted Divisions, will 13-pounder Batteries be required?
4. What is the policy as regards ammunition to be taken out with these guns?
5. What Heavy Artillery is required?  
A list of guns required for two Corps has been supplied by the War Office.
6. Will anti-aircraft guns be included in equipment?
7. Will trench mortars be included in equipment?
8. The question of port of embarkation of equipment - i.e. either France or the U.K. - is of importance. I am informed by the War Office that there are sufficient ~~guns~~ new guns in France at the present time to supply our demands.

Sgd. W.A. Coxen,  
Brigadier-General,  
A.4 DEMOBILISATION BRANCH A.I.F.



481

DEMOBILISATION BRANCH.

It is desired to settle as soon as practicable, various matters both of policy and of detail regarding demobilisation.

In order to obtain as far as may be, answers to questions now apparent, concerning which information or rulings are desired, will you please set out those affecting your department and submit them to me in Room 112.

The points thus raised will be collected in this office; rulings will be given where possible, and those matters requiring instruction or guidance from superior authority will be referred for the necessary instruction.

The list will, of course, be capable of, and subject to, addition as time goes on; the completed queries with their respective answers and rulings will then form the basis of a policy file, of which each Department will possess a copy.

Sgd. C.H. FOOTT,  
Brigadier-General.

Distribution.-

Major-General C.B.B. WHITE, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., A.D.C. ) For information.  
Commandant, Administrative Headquarters. )

Demob. 1.  
2.  
3.  
4.

Demob. 5.  
6.  
7.  
8.

War Diaries.



MINUTES OF DEMOBILISATION CONFERENCE HELD IN  
ROOM 113, ON NOVEMBER 21st 1918, AT 10 a.m.

Chairman. Brig-General FOOTT, C.M.G.

Present. Brig-General COXEN, C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Colonel LONG.  
Colonel KENDALL, C.M.G.  
Lieut-Colonel EVANS.  
Captain PERRIN.  
Captain DENNY.  
Major SHERRINGTON.

POLICY.

General Foott in opening the Conference stated that up to the present we had only been able to run through roughly what will be required. The big thing we have to think about is the various policies and questions that have yet to be settled.

A circular memo (No. 2) had been issued, requesting Heads of Branches to submit questions which affected their Departments. Owing to an error, these had not been distributed in time for replies to come to hand for consideration at this Conference.

STAFF.

General Foott requested those present to pick only men whom they knew to be suitable, or, if they knew a man who is good in another line, to suggest him for that particular Branch of the Demobilisation Department.

WAR DIARY.

General Foott stated that as Demobilisation will form an important part of the History of the A.I.F. he is very keen that the War Diary should be kept up. It will be compiled in his (General Foott's) Office, but each Branch will make its own appendices, and render same weekly. It is intended to keep one War Diary only, and any important rulings should go to the War Diary file, and letters be submitted as appendices.

POLICY FILE.

It was stated that this file is going to be our authority for all action. All rulings, decisions, etc. should be in writing, and the authority stated clearly on the file.

IMPERIAL PROCEDURE.

The head of each Branch was requested to get in touch with the War Office and find out what the War Office considers to be the answer to any queries - although it may not necessarily follow that the ruling will apply to Demobilising the A.I.F.

EMPIRE DEMOBILISATION CONFERENCE.

General Foott stated that at yesterday's conference at Park Buildings, many matters were discussed, one of which - apprentices - affected the Director of Education, who had been nominated to attend a small sub-committee, which was to be formed



ACCOMMODATION.

With regard to accommodation, it is hoped that we shall be able to move this Branch to 54, Victoria Street on Saturday next.

Sgd. C.H. FOOTT,  
Brigadier-General.



## Appendix 5.

481

Total cost of Guns, Howitzers, Carriages, etc.  
(Rough figures).

HEAVY ARTILLERY.

9.2" How. Battery complete (exclusive of M.T.)	£37,000.	0.	0.
9.2" How. & Carriage, sights, limber transporting, carriage bed & wagon transporting -	7,069.	0.	0.
8" How. Battery complete (exclusive of M.T.)	37,000.	0.	0.
8" How. & Carriage, sights & Carriage limber	5,078.	0.	0.
6" How. Battery complete	35,000.	0.	0.
6" How. & Carriage, sights & Carriage limber	3,528.	0.	0.
60-pdr. Gun Battery complete.	27,000.	0.	0.
60-pdr. Gun & Carriage, sights, carriage limber	3,015.	0.	0.
6" Gun Battery complete	35,000.	0.	0.
6" Gun Mk.XIX & Carriage, sights, carriage limber	5,555.	0.	0.
12" How. Battery complete	40,000.	0.	0.
12" How. & Carriage only.	4,906.	0.	0.

FIELD ARTILLERY.

18-pdr Battery complete	17,000.	0.	0.
18-pdr Gun & Carriage, sights, carriage limber	1,555.	10.	0.
13-pdr Battery complete	17,000.	0.	0.
13-pdr Gun & Carriage, sights, carriage limber	1,877.	15.	0.
4.5" How. Battery complete	17,000.	0.	0.
4.5" How & Carriage, sights, carriage limber	1,571.	0.	0.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT.

Anti-aircraft Battery (6 guns, latest type) complete	?		
A.A. Gun 3" - 20 cwt. carriage, sights	2,134.	4.	0.

AMMUNITION. (Approximate cost per round)

18-pounder	2.	6.	0.
4.5" How.	3.	12.	6.
13-pounder	1.	16.	0.
60-pounder	6.	0.	0.
6" Howitzer	7.	0.	0.
6" Gun.	9.	0.	0.
8" Howitzer	13.	10.	0.
9.2" Howitzer	22.	10.	0.
12 " Howitzer	47.	0.	0.
Latest type A.A. Gun.	3.	0.	0.

-----



A.4  
DEMOBILIZATION BRANCH,  
28th. November, 1918.

A.1 DEMOBILIZATION BRANCH.  
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Reference your Demob.1 of 22nd. instant:-

Question.

Answer.

6. In any event, whether supplied gratis or paid for by Australia, from what source would tentage be drawn - England or India?

I have spoken to General Sir H.D.E. Parsons, D.E.O.S., in this matter and he informs me that the tents would be supplied from England or France and not from India.

7. Consideration must also be given to special equipment, e.g. 13-pounder guns for L.H. Brigades, special bridging equipment &c.

The War Office are now providing me with a statement showing the cost of various equipments, 13-pdr. Anti-Aircraft, Heavy Artillery &c., but this information will not be available for four or five days.

(Sgd.) W. A. COXEN,  
Brigadier-General.



November, 1918.

Demob. 1.

The replies you seek are as follows:-

QuestionAnswer.

1. Is it correct to assume that the British Government will issue new or serviceable arms and equipment to the Australian Government free of cost?

1. Yes. Australia is entitled to serviceable arms and equipment for her Force in France, Egypt, Mesopotamia and India.

2. If so, to what extent?

2. To extent of establishment of the formations of the A.I.F. in these theatres.

3. Assuming a basis of any number of formations or units for such free issue (if any,) the following points arise:-

3.

- (a) Will the issue of equipment be on the War Establishment or on the present strength?
- (b) If on War Establishment, what War Establishment?
- (c) Is consideration being given to the quantity of arms and equipment provided by Australia for the reinforcements to the various A.I.F. units.

(a) The War Establishment now current for formations of A.I.F. Personal equipment may be on strengths, but this fact is not yet established.

(b) Current War Establishment (? Part VII).

(c) Yes. The War Office are considering a suggestion submitted by us.

4. What is the financial position regarding any extra or ancillary stores, arms, etc. which Australia might desire to obtain at the same time, e.g.

Heavy Artillery  
A.A. guns and mechanism.  
Sound ranging equipment.  
Field or A.A. searchlight equipment.  
Aircraft.

In event of Britain not making a present to Australia of our requirements, we must pay. With heavy artillery and aircraft it is pointed out that we are entitled to the equipment of our existing formations under No. 1 Clause.

5. What is the financial position regarding the supply to Australia of the following:-

Spare parts.  
Replacement of (say) 12 months' wear and tear.  
Ammunition of Heavy and Field Artillery.

Spare parts if initially paid for, we are entitled to have replaced at British expense. If not, Australia must pay.

Replacements, once the serviceable arms and equipment are handed over and accepted, are at Australia's expense.

Ammunition of all kinds, we



November, 1918.

Demob. 1.

Question.

Answer.

The replies you seek are as follows:-

5. (Contd.)

5. (Contd.)

Answer.

A.A. Guns and S.A.

1. Yes. Australia is entitled to serviceable arms and equipment for her forces in France, Egypt, Mesopotamia and India.

6. and 7. Refer only to Demob. 4.

Question

Existing as for pay we must pay "per capita" arrangements covering maintenance and expenditure on issue new or serviceable arms and equipment to the Australian Government free of cost.

2. To extent of establishment of the formations of the A.I.F. in these theatres.

2. If so, to what extent?

3. Assuming a basis of any number of formations or (Sigs) for such free issue (if any), the following:-  
Chief Paymaster,

(a) Will Demob. 7. be on the War Establishment or on the present strength?

(a) The War Establishment now current for formations of A.I.F. Personal equipment may be on strength, but this fact is not yet established.

(b) If on War Establishment, what War Establishment?

(b) Current War Establishment (Part VII).

(c) Is consideration being given to the quantity of arms and equipment provided by Australia for the reinforcements to the various A.I.F. units.

(c) Yes. The War Office are considering suggestion submitted by us.

4. What is the financial position regarding any extra or auxiliary stores, arms, etc. which Australia might desire to obtain at the same time, e.g.

In event of Britain not making a present to Australia of our requirements, we must pay. With heavy artillery and aircraft it is pointed out that we are entitled to the equipment of our existing formations under No. 1 Clause.

Heavy Artillery  
A.A. guns and mechanism.  
Sound ranging equipment.  
Field or A.A. searchlight equipment.  
Aircraft.

5. What is the financial position regarding the supply to Australia of the following:-

Spare parts if initially paid for, we are entitled to have replaced at British expense. If not, Australia must pay. Replacements, once the serviceable arms and equipment are handed over and accepted, are at Australia's expense. Ammunition of all kinds we

Spare parts.  
Replacement of (say) 12 months' wear and tear.  
Ammunition of Heavy and Field Artillery.



481  
Demob. 4.

Demob. 7.

DEMOB. 1.

Information is desired relative to the financial aspect of the re-arming of the Australian Forces. This information is required by the 27th. instant.

Please let me have your views, together with any settled policy or agreement by higher authority, on the following points:-

1. Is it correct to assure that the British Government will issue new or serviceable arms and equipment to the Australian Government, free of cost.
2. If so, to what extent?
3. Assuming a basis of any number of formations or units for such free issue (if any) the following points arise:-
  - (a) Will the issue of equipment be on the War Establishment or on the present strength.
  - (b) If on War Establishment, what War Establishment?
  - (c) Is consideration being given to the quantity of arms and equipment provided by Australia for the reinforcements to the various A.I.F. units?
4. What is the financial position regarding any extra or ancillary stores, arms, etc. which Australia might desire to obtain at the same time, e.g.
  - Heavy Artillery.
  - A.A. Guns and mechanism.
  - Sound ranging equipment.
  - Field or A.A. Search-light equipment.
  - Aircraft.
5. What is the financial position regarding the supply to Australia of the following:-
  - Spare parts.
  - Replacement of say 12 months wear and tear.
  - Ammunition for Heavy and Field Artillery, A.A. Guns and S.A.
6. In any event, whether supplied gratis or paid for by Australia, from what source would tentage be drawn - England or India.
7. Consideration must also be given to special equipment, e.g. 13 pn. guns for L.H. Brigades, special bridging equipment &c.

(Sgd.) C. H. FOOTT  
Brigadier-General.  
Demob. 1.

LONDON,  
22.11.18.



RECOMMENDATIONS RE HEAVY ARTILLERY FOR AUSTRALIA.

I would recommend that the following Heavy Artillery be obtained for Australia:-

2 Brigades MIXED )  
 2 Brigades MOBILE ) 6-Gun Batteries.  
 2 Batteries 6" Guns )

A MIXED Brigade consists of:- 1 9.2" How., 1 8" How., 2 6" How., and  
 2 60-pr. gun Batteries.

A MOBILE Brigade " " :- 2 6" How., and 2 60-pr. Gun Batteries.

The composition of Brigades and distribution of Batteries to be as follows:-

Nature of Bde. or Battery.	Composition in Guns.					Distribution
	Natures.					
	9.2" How.	8" How.	6" How.	60-pr. Gun.	6" Gun.	
1 Mixed	6	6	12	12		N. S. Wales
1 6" Gun Bty.					4	do.
1 Mixed	6	6	12	12		Victoria
1 6" Gun Bty. ) Mk.XIX )					4	do.
1 Mobile			12	12		(Queensland and (Tasmania 1 Bty. of (6" and 60-prs. per (State
1 Mobile			12	12		(South Australia and (West Australia (1 Bty. 6" and 60-pr. (to each State
TOTAL GUNS	12	12	48	48	8	
Already held by Australia	6	6	-	-	-	
Australia to pay for	6	6	48	48	8	

(SGD ) W. A. COXEN.  
 Brig. General.



30th. November, 1918.

My dear Coxen,

I have heard nothing more from you regarding your requirements, but I expect it is a pretty complicated subject.

I enclose you some more forms which may be of use to you as a guide.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) William Napier.

Brig. Genl. W. A. Coxen.  
C.M.G., D.S.O.



## MACHINE GUNS, SECTION 16 B.

Required to equip the following Units.

	VICKERS .303"	LEWIS .303"	HOTCHKISS .303" Butt.
5 Infantry Divs. (of 12 Inftry. & 1 Pioneer Battalions.)	320	2,695	
2 Cavalry Divisions	72		272
40 Batteries R.G.A.		80	
2 Corps Cyclist Btns.		108	
2 Corps Cavalry Rgts.			24
H.Q. & L. of C. Units	(7%)28	(5%)144	100
TOTALS	420	3,027	396



MAIN STORES REQUIRED TO EQUIP FOLLOWING UNITS (SECTION 15)

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	BINOCULARS				PERISCOPES				Range Finders Infantry No. 2.	TELESCOPES Signalling
	No. 2 Mk. II G.	No. 3 Mk. II G.	Pris- matic	Non Pris- matic	No. 9	No. 14	No. 18	No. 25		
5 Inf. Divisions (12 Inf. Bns. per Divn. 1 Pioneer Btn.)	315	435	480	2,715	1,840	95	5,200	115	275	360
2 Cavalry Divisions	32	52	2,072	120	264	8	450	-	42	314
(32 Siege	64	-	-	128	-	96	-	-	-	64
40 Btys. R.G.A. (	48	96	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	8
( 8 Heavy	-	-	-	120	-	-	-	-	2	4
2 Corps Cyclist Btys.	-	-	350	-	-	-	-	-	4	24
2 Corps Cavalry Regts.	-	-	770	380	250	-	800	10	30	20
Hqrs. & L. of C. Units	728	403	3,215	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Requirements for Officers of:-										
5 Inf. Divns.										
2 Cav. "										
40 Bty. R.G.A.										
2 Corps Cyclist Btys.										
2 Corps Cav. Regts.										
<b>186 TOTAL</b>	1,562	1,361	6,887	3,463	2,354	215	6,450	125	353	794

A.3./11/1918.



A/  
SECTIONS 21 and B.

Main Stores required to equip the following Units:-

	C A R T S							KITCHENS TRAVELLING	W A G O N S										BICYCLES
	Amb. Horse	Maltese	Tool R.E.	Officers Mess	Water Tank	Cable Lt.	G.S.		Limbered G.S.	G.S. R.E.	Amb. Mark VI.	Amb. Lt.	Cable	Pontoon	Telephone	Limbered Wireless	Raft		
5 Infty.Dvs. (of 12 Infy. & 1 Pioneer Bns.)	No fixed Establishment - Numbers hypothetically given.	130	120	160	315	10	275	1155	1245	10	45		20	45	15			2105	
2 Cav.Dvs.		24	16	32	50			290	270			36			2			704	
40 Batteries R.G.A.					40			600										80	
2 Corps Cyclist Btns.				2	2			4	6									630	
2 Corps Cyc. Regts.		2		8	2			20	12									42	
H.Q. & L.of C. (Units estm.)		25	20	30	55	2	45	200	210	2	8	3	4	8	3			600	
TOTALS	7	181	156	232	464	12	320	2269	1743	12	53	39	24	53	20	3	2	4161	

A.3.

186

28/11/18.



MAIN STORES REQUIRED TO EQUIP FOLLOWING UNITS (WEEDON SECTION & WOOLWICH SECTION No.27)

UNIT	Rifles	Bayonets & Scabbards	Pistols. Officers, N.C.O. and men.	Aim Correctors.	Implement Action	Reflectors Mirror	Breakers Wire No. 1.	Cutters Wire S.A.	Covers Breech	Bags Armourers.	Swords Cav. & Scabbards	Rifles fitted with Tel. sights.	Pullthroughs		Bottles Oil	Protectors	S.A.A. .303	S.A.A. .455
													Double	Mark IV				
5 Inf. Divisions (12 Inf.Btns.per Div. 1 Pioneer)	78,985	70,175	8,040	260	65	1,815	1,100	2,840	78,985	70	75	480	195	78,985	78,985	78,9	25,903,325	382,380
2 Cav. Divisions	12,972	10,966	2,652	-	-	246	250	-	12,972	24	8068	54	36	12,972	12,972	12,9	6,150,120	174,644
40 Btys. R.G.A.	6,040	6,046	320	-	-	80	-	-	6,040	-	-	-	-	6,040	6,040	-	419,200	13,520
2 Corps Cyc.Btns.	578	572	56	-	-	6	24	-	578	2	-	-	-	578	578	-	143,848	2,688
2 Corps Cav.Rgts.	726	726	180	-	-	18	26	-	726	-	756	-	-	726	726	-	250,080	9,024
H.Q. & L.of C. Units	10,000	10,000	1,500	20	20	180	86	640	10,000	10	1000	-	100	10,000	10,000	10,0	5,000,000	75,000
	109,301	98,485	12,756	280	85	2,345	1,486	3,480	109,301	106	9899	534	331	109,301	109,301	101,9	37,866,573	657,256

A.3. 26.11.1918.



RCDIG1003061



Appendix No. 9.Personnel employed as at 30.11.1918.

BRIG:GENERAL W. A. COXEN, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Director of Ordnance and Equipment.

COLONEL E. T. LEANE,

D/Director of Ordnance and Equipment.

LIEUT. P. K. MURPHY,

Staff Officer, 4.D.

MAJOR C. SPECKMAN, M.C.,

Officer i/c Indents Sub-Branch.

LIEUT: R. SULLIVAN,

Officer i/c H. A. Indents Section.

18398	Sergt. C. E. THOMPSON	... ..	Chief Clerk.
18506	A/Bdr. W. A. MULLEY	... ..	N.C.O. i/c Registration.
5344	Pte. J. W. ELLERMAN	... ..	Clerk - Indents.
622	Pte. H. V. BAKER	... ..	Orderly.