

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

Repatriation & Demobilisation

Item number: 30/1/4 Part 5

Title: Repatriation and Demobilisation, AIF

January 1919



AWM4-30/1/4PART5

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

4.

481

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

REPATRIATION & DEMOBILISATION DEPARTMENT
ORDNANCE & EQUIPMENT BRANCH

FOR

JANUARY 1919.

Signature of Officer compiling

W. H. Murphy

Capt.
4.D.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Walter Colson

Brig.Genl.
4.D.

Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

481

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	1st.		----- H O L I D A Y -----	
	2nd.		<p>Saw D.G. reference organisation and instruction of Calibration & Sound Ranging Sections, and he proposed to delay action in this matter until arrival of General White, Chief of Staff, A.I.F.</p> <p>Letter was written to S.M.T.O. Australian Corps, France, asking him to submit a recommendation for appointment of an Officer to carry out the despatch of M.T. Equipment to Australia.</p> <p>Went into matters generally with regard to the selection of 6 Officers and 60 Other Ranks for formation of an Ordnance Depot in France with Colonel Leane.</p> <p>The undermentioned Other Rank reported for duty in this Branch:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3566 W. H. BRIDGES, - 5th. Pioneer Battalion.</p>	
	3rd.		<p>Received notification from Commandant, Administrative Headquarters, that suggestion to send 7 Officers to Ordnance Course and 4 Officers to Gunnery Course had been approved by Defence Department, Melbourne.</p> <p>Names of further 5 Officers for Ordnance Course, and 4 for Gunnery Courses were accordingly submitted, and copy of letter is attached as -----APPENDIX</p> <p>Received estimated cost of A.A. & Searchlight, fixed and mounted positions, and Sound Ranging Section, from War Office.</p>	1.

127

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

~~INTELLIGENCE~~-SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 2. 181

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	4th.		----- General Routine Work. -----	
	5th.		----- General Routine Work. -----	
	6th.		<p>A hastener was sent for the services of the undermentioned Officers already applied for:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">T/Capt. W. E. POPE Lieut. S. H. RAINBIRD Lieut. W. H. THOMAS, M.C.</p> <p>Progress Report No. 1 was rendered to 3.D. and copy is attached as -----APPENDIX</p> <p>Instructions were issued to Major D.V.J. Blake, Officer i/c A.F.C. Section, to hand over duties to Major E. C. Brinsmead, and report to Administrative Headquarters for disposal.</p> <p>The undermentioned Officer reported for duty in this Branch as Officer i/c Medical & Dental Section:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Capt. J. F. S. MURRAY, M.C.</p>	2.
	7th.		<p>Received information that the replacement of Major D.V.J. Blake was not possible at present, as Major E. C. Brinsmead had applied for his discharge. The matter was held over for the present.</p> <p>Interviewed D.G. with regard to reduction of batteries from six to four guns, and was instructed to formulate a proposal for reduction of batteries and D.A.C., and demobilisation of Trench Mortar Batteries.</p>	

128

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 3.

481

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	7th. (ctd.)		<p>Recommendations were submitted to the D.D.G. for promotions of N.C.Os. in accordance with Establishment which is considered necessary to carry out the work of this Branch.</p> <p>The undermentioned N.C.O. reported for duty to this Branch today:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">18526 Bdr. E. L. PHILP - 7th. A.F.A. Brigade.</p>	
	8th.		<p><u>11 a.m.</u> Director of Ordnance & Equipment attended Conference with D.G. on questions regarding Office work generally.</p> <p>Submitted to D.D.G. proposals for the reduction of F.A. Battery organisation from 6 to 4 gun Batteries; reduction in vehicles of D.A.C. and B.A.C. and withdrawal of equipment on charge to M.T.M. Batteries, and the transfer of the personnel thus released to the Divisional Artillery concerned. Copy of this letter is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	3.
	9th.		<p>Saw Commandant, Administrative Headquarters, regarding the War Office declining to take any Stores from Training Depots in U.K. and he stated that a letter had been written to the War Office asking for a reconsideration of that ruling.</p> <p>The undermentioned Officer and N.C.O, reported for duty in this Branch today:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Capt.R. ROSS - A.F.C. 1330 Flight/Sgt. J. L. TIMEWELL - 3rd. Squadron, A.F.C.</p>	
	10th.		<p>Major E. C. Brinsmead called re taking over from Major D.V.J. Blake. On consultation with the D.D.G. it was decided that the Commandant, Administrative Headquarters be asked to instruct Major Brinsmead to take over at once.</p>	129

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 4. 481

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	10th. (ctd.)		<p>Major R. J. Morse, O.C. Australian Elec. Mechanical & Mining Boring Coy. (attached Imperial Army) called with reference to taking Mining and Boring Plant back to Australia. Major Morse was instructed to submit a list of the material proposed for Australia.</p> <p>The following man was taken on strength of this Branch:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">163 Pte. G.F. NILE - 1st. Field Ambulance.</p> <p>The undermentioned Officer was evacuated to Hospital today:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Col. E. T. LEANE</p> <p>The undermentioned Other Rank was struck off strength of this Branch today:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">3568 Pte. L. J. CHAPMAN.</p>	
	11th.		General Routine Work.	
	12th.		General Routine Work.	
	13th.		<p>Went into details with Col. Whitham regarding the clothing and equipment for men repatriated to Australia, prior to his proceeding to G.H.Q.</p> <p>Letter was written to D.D.G. recommending that authority be cabled for the return to Australia of the 1st. Squadron, A.F.C. less certain personnel who should be instructed to proceed to England with all records and vouchers. Copy of this letter attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	4.

130

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 5.

(Erase heading not required.)

481

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices												
LONDON	13th.	(ctd.)	<p>Capt. W. E. POPE, 1st. Australian D.A.C. reported for duty to this Branch today.</p> <p>The undermentioned Other Ranks reported for duty to this Branch today:-</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="1003 656 2336 815"> <tr> <td>11 S/Sgt. H.H.E.SWAN</td> <td>-</td> <td>"C" Records, A.I.F. Hdqrs.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22348 Bdr. M.W.R.METH</td> <td>-</td> <td>8th. A.F.A. Brigade</td> </tr> <tr> <td>34137 Dvr. J.L.MITCHELL</td> <td>-</td> <td>3rd. Army Brigade A.F.A.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1414 Dvr. R.O'NEIL</td> <td>-</td> <td>4th. A.F.A. Brigade</td> </tr> </table>	11 S/Sgt. H.H.E.SWAN	-	"C" Records, A.I.F. Hdqrs.	22348 Bdr. M.W.R.METH	-	8th. A.F.A. Brigade	34137 Dvr. J.L.MITCHELL	-	3rd. Army Brigade A.F.A.	1414 Dvr. R.O'NEIL	-	4th. A.F.A. Brigade	
11 S/Sgt. H.H.E.SWAN	-	"C" Records, A.I.F. Hdqrs.														
22348 Bdr. M.W.R.METH	-	8th. A.F.A. Brigade														
34137 Dvr. J.L.MITCHELL	-	3rd. Army Brigade A.F.A.														
1414 Dvr. R.O'NEIL	-	4th. A.F.A. Brigade														
			Submitted to 3.D. Progress Report No. 2, copy attached as -----APPENDIX	5.												
	14th.		Sent instructions to Major Brinsmead S.O. for Aviation, to make out the proposals for demobilisation of A.F.C., attaching copy of cable sent to "STRALIS" Egypt, reference 1st. Squadron, A.F.C. Copy of cable is attached as -----APPENDIX	6.												
	15th.		<p>Went into Major Brinsmead's proposals regarding the policy of Australian Air Force, which has been placed before the D.G.</p> <p>Prepared and submitted list of questions regarding Artillery matters to General White, Chief of Staff, A.I.F. Copy is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	7.												
			Letter was written to The Secretary, Air Ministry, notifying the replacement of Major D.V.J. Blake by Major C. E. Brinsmead. Copy is attached as -----APPENDIX	8.												
	16th.		Lieut. S. H. Rainbird, Audit Section, Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. reported for duty to this Branch today.													

131

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 6. 481

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	17th.		<p>Interviewed Chief of Staff, A.I.F. with reference to general Artillery Policy. Letter written to Commandant, Administrative Headquarters, re Issues of clothing to members of A.I.F. reporting from France for embarkation to Australia. Copy of letter is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	9.
	18th.		<p>General Routine Work.</p>	
	19th.		<p>----- N I L -----</p>	
	20th.		<p>Received from Lt. Col. P. F. Borwick (Liaison to Prime Minister) copy of War Office letter No. 57/Woolwich/4798(Q.M.G.10c) of 20.12.18. notifying that all demands for Ammunition and Explosives hitherto addressed to D.D.O.S., Woolwich Arsenal, should in future be addressed to A.D.O.S., (Ammunition) Adastral House, Victoria Embankment.</p> <p>Forwarded to Chief of Staff, A.I.F. copy of proposals for Artillery Equipment, also copy of cable received from Defence Department, Melbourne, re purchase of surplus stores.</p> <p>Progress Report No. 3. 13.1.19 to 20.1.19 was rendered to 3.D. and copy is attached as -----APPENDIX</p> <p>Letter was written to 3.D. asking that action be taken to ensure that Lieut. W. H. Thomas M.C. reports for duty as early as possible, application for his services being long outstanding.</p> <p>Wrote to Commandant, Administrative Headquarters, asking if reply had yet been received from Ordnance College, Woolwich, reference qualifications of Assistant Is.O.M.</p> <p>The undermentioned Other Rank reported for duty to this Branch today:-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">61487 Pte. A. K. TUCKFIELD - Guard Coy. Tidworth.</p>	10.

132

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 7.

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
LONDON	21st.		<p>Letter written to Chief of Staff, A.I.F. recommending for consideration the training of Anti-Aircraft personnel during the period of demobilisation. Copy of letter is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	11.
	22nd.		<p>Suggested by 2.D. that an issue of rope-soled slippers, or canvas shoes be made to all troops proceeding to Australia, and this matter was investigated by this Branch at the request of the Director General. On enquiry it was found that these shoes are unobtainable from Imperial Ordnance in anything approaching the quantities required for fitting out the A.I.F. personnel returning to Australia, nor can they be purchased from outside sources.</p> <p>List of questions requiring ruling and decisions was submitted to Chief of Staff A.I.F. Copy is attached together with answers subsequently received. -----APPENDIX</p> <p>The services of Lieut. R. L. Mashford, Australian Corps Signal Coy. were applied for, for supervision of Wireless Equipment.</p> <p>Letter was written to D.D.G. reference A.I.F. Form 500 Q.1. (personal equipment of men returned to Australia) and suggesting that a cable re this matter be sent to Australia. Copy is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	12.
	23rd.		<p>No. 2632 Pte. C. G. PATMAN was struck off strength of this Branch today.</p> <p>Copies of all General Instructions issued to date were forwarded to Lieut.Colonel Newton, Representative G.O.C., A.I.F. in Egypt, accompanied by a letter embodying the points raised in these Instructions. Copy of letter is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	13.

433

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY 1919.

Page 8. ⁴⁸¹

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	24th.		<p>Information received from Woolwich Ordnance College to the effect that Capt. T. Henderson is the only I.O.M. qualified to hold the position of Inspector of Ordnance Machinery.</p> <p>Letter was written to Commandant, Australian Base Depot, Havre, informing him that Lieut. S. H. Rainbird of this Branch would report to him at an early date, for purpose of obtaining full information re system in operation at Le Havre of handing in and accounting for equipment taken over from personnel proceeding to U.K.</p> <p>Hastener was sent to 3.D. for services of an Officer to take charge of Veterinary Equipment Section of this Branch.</p> <p>Interviewed D.G. reference preparation of instructions for the handing in of Equipment in France.</p> <p>Letter was written to Director of Demobilisation, Air Ministry, requesting copy of Minutes and Decisions based on Conference held on December 28th. 1918.</p>	
	25th.		<p>Wrote to Commandant, Administrative Section, A.I.F. Headquarters, asking for information as to the release from his present duties of Major G. S. Down, M.C., A.A.O.C., this Officer being required to proceed to Egypt to carry out duties in connection with this Branch. Copy of letter is attached as ----- APPENDIX</p> <p>Instructions were drafted out relative to the taking in of material into Ordnance Depots in France.</p>	15.
	26th.		<p>----- N I L -----</p>	

134

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919

Page 9. 481

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	27th.		<p>Further instructions drafted out for handing in of material into Ordnance Depots in France.</p> <p>Recommendations were forwarded to D.D.G. reference the disposal of Dental Equipment in U.K., France, and Egypt. Copy is attached as -----APPENDIX</p> <p>Draft of General Instructions in course of preparation reference handing in of stores was received from 3.D. and remarks and suggested amendments were forwarded to D.D.G.</p> <p>Weekly Progress Report, No. 4. for week ending 27.1.19 was rendered to 3.D., and copy is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	<p>16.</p> <p>17.</p>
	28th.		<p>Correspondence has passed recently between this Branch and 5.D. reference the recredit due to the A.I.F. on return of Stores and Equipment to Imperial Authorities, and the proposal to approach the War Office with a view to cancellation of claims either on behalf of the A.I.F. or War Office, on the ground that returns could be taken as a set-off against issues.</p> <p>This Branch notified 5.D. today, that 66 2/3% of Vocabulary Price is not considered an equitable figure upon which to obtain recredit for equipment returned from A.I.F. to Imperial Authorities, for the following reasons:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Stores issued to A.I.F. in many instances were not new, but were "serviceable", and it is assumed for these the A.I.F. was charged full price. 2. A daily rate for maintenance of these Stores was paid by A.I.F. to keep them up to standard, and to replace those lost or destroyed through the exigencies of the campaign. 	

135

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 10.481

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	28th. (ctd.)		<p>3. Practically therefore, the Stores were in exactly the same condition when returned as they were when drawn.</p> <p>4. New Stores should therefore be recredited at full value, and as full value was believed to be charged for part worn Stores, this value should be allowed on return of same.</p>	
	29th.		<p>Interviewed Chief of Staff, A.I.F. regarding a reply to Defence, Melbourne, in connection with selection of Is.O.M. and forwarded papers Commandant, A.I.F. Headquarters, recommending that a cable be sent to Australia informing them that Capt. Henderson is the only one qualified for I.O.M. and asking permission to select one other Artificer from A.I.F. for the necessary training. Copy is attached as -----APPENDIX</p> <p>Letter written to A.D.O.S., A.I.F. Headquarters, instructing withdrawal from members of A.I.F. in Unit Depots in U.K. of various articles of equipment, including Binoculars, Telescopes etc. etc.</p> <p>A similar letter was written to A.D.O.S., Australian Corps, France. Copy of same is attached as -----APPENDIX</p>	18.
	30th.		<p>"Instructions for Handing in Stores and Equipment in the A.I.F." were handed to General Foott for inclusion in General Instructions.</p> <p>Director of Ordnance & Equipment visited the War Office with regard to the cost of various materials required by Australia.</p> <p>Wrote to Commandant, A.I.F. Headquarters, requesting that War Office be asked to supply the various Syllabi of the Courses held at the Ordnance College, Woolwich, as these</p>	19.

136

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY, 1919.

Page 11. 481

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LONDON	30th. (ctd.)		<p>would be of great use when selecting men for courses, from time to time.</p> <p>Information having been received that Lt. Col. T. B. W. James may not be available to attend Gunnery Course for which he has been nominated, the names of the under-mentioned Officers were submitted to fill this probable vacancy -</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lieut.Col. F. THORNTHWAITE, M.C.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Major R. E. FANNING, D.S.O.</p>	
	31st.		<p>Advice was received that approval has been given to Officers attending the Preliminary Ordnance Course at Woolwich remaining on A.I.F. Rank and Pay during currency of same.</p>	
			<p>5th. February, 1919.</p>	

James Coler.

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
4.D.

Repatriation & Demobilisation Department, A.I.F.

137

481
4.D. SECTIONS & OFFICERS.

GENERAL OFFICE:-

Cypher	Nature of Duty	Officers.
	Director	Brig.Gen.W.A. COZEN C.B., C.M.G. D.S.O.
4.D.	Deputy Director	Col. E.T. LEANE
	Staff Officers	Capt. P.K. MURPHY Lieut. S.H. Rainbird (applied for not yet reported.)
4.D1	<u>SECTIONS.</u>	
	General Equipment	Major C.A. Speckman M.C.
4d.1a	Heavy Artillery	Lt. R. Sullivan
4D.1b	Field Artillery	Capt. G.J. Hammond
4D.1c	Ammunition	Lieut. G. Light
4D.1d	Light Horse	Capt. Pope not yet reported
4D.1e	Engineers	Lt. Thomas M.C. " "
4D.1f	Infantry	Capt. A.H. Caswell
4D.1g	Signals	Lt. J.E.S. Stevens
4D.1h	Supply	Capt. R.T. Ramsay
4D.1i	Miscellaneous.	Lt. M.B. Connor
4D.2	<u>DEMOBILISATION</u>	
4D.2a	A.D.O.S. France)	Present Officers holding these appointments acting in Liaison with 4 D.
4D.2b	A.D.O.S. U.K.)	
4D.2c	Staff Officer Demob. & Egypt	Not yet appointed. Major G.S. DOWN, M.C. applied for.
4D.3.	<u>TRANSIT.</u>	Lieut. C.A. Hiven
4D.4	<u>A.F.C.</u>	Major D.V.J. Blake
4D.5.	<u>Medical & Detal Stores.</u>	Capt. J.F.S. Murray M.C.
4D.6.	<u>Veterinary Stores</u>	Not yet selected
4D.8	<u>Accountancy.</u>	W.O. Class 1 9 N.C.O.'s and Ptes. (not yet selected).

WAR DIARY

OF

REPATRIATION & DEMOBILISATION DEPARTMENT

~~ORDNANCE & EQUIPMENT BRANCH~~

FOR

JANUARY

1919.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|--|
| 1. | Letter to Commandant, submitting names of 5 Officers for Ordnance Course, and 4 for Gunnery Course. |
| 2. | Weekly Progress Report No. 1. |
| 3. | Proposals to D.D.G. for reduction of Batteries, Vehicles etc. and transfer of personnel. |
| 4. | Letter to D.D.G. recommending that authority be cabled for the return to Australia of the 1st. Squadron A.F.C. |
| 5. | Weekly Progress Report No. 2. |
| 6. | Instructions to Major Brinsmead, S.O. for Aviation, to make out proposals for demobilisation of A.F.C. |
| 7. | List of questions re Artillery matters, submitted to General White. |
| 8. | Letter to Air Ministry notifying the replacement of Major Blake by Major Brinsmead. |
| 9. | Letter to Commandant, re Issues of clothing to members of A.I.F. reporting from France for embarkation to Australia. |
| 10. | Weekly Progress Report, No. 3. |
| 11. | Letter to Chief of Staff, recommending for consideration the training of anti-aircraft personnel. |

481

WAR DIARY

OF

REPATRIATION & DEMOBILISATION DEPARTMENT

~~ORDNANCE & EQUIPMENT BRANCH~~

FOR

~~JANUARY~~ 1919.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|--|
| 12. | List of questions requiring rulings and decisions submitted to Chief of Staff, with answers thereto. |
| 13. | Letter to D.D.G. re A.I.F. Form 500 Q.1. suggesting cable be sent to Australia. |
| 14. | Letter to Lieut.Col. Newton, Representative G.O.C., A.I.F. in Egypt, enclosing copies of General Instructions. |
| 15. | Letter to Commandant asking for information re release of Major G.S.Down, M.C. for duty in Egypt. |
| 16. | Recommendations to D.D.G. for disposal of Dental Equipment in U.K., France & Egypt. |
| 17. | Weekly Progress Report, No. 4. |
| 18. | Letter to Commandant recommending that cable be sent to Australia informing them that Capt. Henderson is the only qualified I.O.M. and asking permission to select one other Artificer for training. |
| 19. | Letter to A. D.O. S. (France and London) instructing the withdrawal of various articles of equipment including Binoculars, Telescopes etc. |
-

139

File No. 4330/26/50.

3rd. January, 1919.

Commandant,
 Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F.

In reply to your memorandum of the 2nd. inst. (No. C2/4330/26/50) I beg to submit the names of the following Officers for Courses referred to herein:-

ORDNANCE COURSE - Commencing 6th. January, 1919.

Major (A.I.F.) B. M. MORRIS.
 Major (A.I.F.) L. E. BEAVIS, D.S.O.
 Major (A.I.F.) E. J. MILFORD.
 Captain W. W. WHITTLE
 Lieutenant C. J. BROOKES, M.C.

GUNNERY COURSE - Date not yet fixed.

Lt.-Col. (A.I.F.) T. B. W. JAMES, D.S.O.)	Field
Major (A.I.F.) A. M. FORBES, M.C.)	Artillery.
Major (A.I.F.) H. C. BUNDOCK, D.S.O.)	Garrison
Major (A.I.F.) E. K. SMART, M.C.)	Artillery.

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
 4.D.

PROGRESS REPORT NO. 1.REFERENCE DEPARTMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS NO. 1.

Week ending 4.1.19 was not particularly remarkable.

Progress developed towards the completion of Staff required for carrying out the work allotted to the Section. Certain Officers reported for duties in connection with the various Sub-Sections. Their names have been submitted with diagram forwarded, also as set out in D.I. No. 1.

Colonel E. T. Leane returned from France 30.12.18, where he had made necessary arrangements in connection with Ordnance personnel and reorganisation of A.A.O.C. to carry out return of Unit Stores to Imperial Ordnance Depots.

Office Routine towards the bringing up to date of certain Army Books, Forms, Publications etc. necessary in the work of the Section was carried out.

The organisation of this Branch is now practically complete to carry out duties with which it is considered it will be called on to deal. The framework for necessary Staff is ready; certain minor positions require to be filled in, and further progress on general lines is waiting on definitions of questions of general policy.

(Sgd.) Walter A. COXEN,
Brigadier General,
4.D.

6.1.19.

481
File No. 6509/1/56.142
8th. January, 1919.Deputy Director-General,
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept.

Owing to the reduction of the personnel of the Artillery, due to men on leave to Australia, educational reasons and other causes, I make the following recommendations for favourable consideration:-

(a) BATTERIES, F.A.

That the batteries of Australian Field Artillery be reduced from a 6-gun to a 4-gun organisation and that the whole of the equipment, including harness and saddlery, of one section (2 guns) be returned to Ordnance.

(b) D.A.C. & B.A.C.

That the complete equipment of 12 18-pdr and 4 4.5" How. ammunition wagons and limbers of each D.A.C. and 6 18-pdr. and 2 4.5" How. ammunition wagons and limbers of each B.A.C. be returned to Ordnance.

(c) HORSES.

That arrangements be made for the disposal of the teams belonging to the above vehicles in (a) and (b). All demands for horses should be satisfied throughout the Corps before disposing of the surplus horses.

(d) MEDIUM TRENCH MORTARS.

That the equipment of Medium Trench Mortars be returned to Ordnance and the personnel thus released be taken on the strength of the Divisional Artillery and disposed of as required throughout the Batteries and D.A.C.

It is essential that all equipment and stores returned to Ordnance be properly accounted for and necessary receipts obtained.

(Sgd.) Walter A. COXEN
BRIGADIER GENERAL,
4.D.

481

File No. 4343/54/11.

143

4.D.

D.D.G.

13th. January, 1919.

Demobilisation of 1st. Squadron, A.F.C.

With reference to the attached cable, I recommend that authority be cabled (through the Air Ministry for their information) for the return of the 1st. Squadron, A.F.C. to Australia, less the following, who should be instructed to proceed to England with all Squadron records and vouchers:-

3 Officers, viz. Equipment Officers (2), Stores and Wireless Recording Officer.

2 N.C.Os., viz. Stores Sergt. BELL and Transport Sergt. SLEEMAN.

I understand that material etc. to replace that handed in to the Air Force Stores in Egypt will be drawn in England.

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
4.D.

4.D. PROGRESS REPORT NO. 2. 6.1.19 to 13.1.19.

During past week, work of organising this Section for future duties was continued.

Major D.V.J. Blake, A.F.C. ceased duties as Liaison Officer i/c 4.D.4. His place will be taken by Major Brinsmead, A.F.C.

Captain F. J. S. Murray, M.C., A.A.M.C., reported for duty as Officer i/c 4.D.5. This Section of 4.D. is engaged in collation of data regarding demobilisation of stores of A.A.M.C. Units and remobilisation of stores to be drawn in replacement.

Work of amending and bringing up to date Army Books, Forms etc. which will be required as basis of action by 4.D. was continued.

General questions dealt with were such as the sale of Motor Cycles to Despatch Riders of the A.I.F. and deductively of any Government Stores to A.I.F. personnel, which is not favoured by 4.D., partial demobilisation of stores of F.A. Batteries, D.A.C., B.A.C., M.T.M. Batteries, on which suggestions were put forward, the allocation of detached Units of the A.I.F. to Repatriation Groups and the bearing thereof on the activities of this Branch; financial adjustments on Stores Basis as between A.I.F. and Imperial Government, retention or handing in of personal equipment by members of the A.I.F. leaving France, transfer of Unit Equipment to Australia.

(Sgd.) Walter A. COXEN,

BRIGADIER GENERAL
4.D.

13.1.19.

4.D.

File No. 4343/17/12.

Major Brinsmead,
S.O. for Aviation.

14th. January, 1919.

Re Demobilisation of 1st. Squadron A.F.C.

I am attaching copy of cable sent to Headquarters, Egypt, with reference to the demobilisation of the 1st. Squadron, A.F.C. Will you please arrange to notify the Air Ministry of the action taken.

(Sgd.) Walter A. Coxen,

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
4.D.

COPY OF CABLE.

From:- Demobaust

To:- Stralis, Egypt.

Your C.A.675 1st. Squadron A.F.C. to hand in Equipment to A.I.F. credit and be demobilised in its turn AAA Send to England with all records and vouchers two Equipment Officers Stores and Wireless Recording Officer, Stores Sergt. Bell and Transport Sergt. Sleeman.

(Sgd.) DEMOBAUST.

13.1.19.

QUESTIONS TO BE DECIDED.ARTILLERY.FIELD ARTILLERY.

Q.

A.

1. The War Office are reorganising on a basis of 3 Brigades of 3 6-gun 18-pdr. batteries and 1 4.5" How. Battery per Bde. cutting out all Army F.A. Brigades.

Is it decided to adopt this organisation?

2. The question of the organisation of the D.A.C. for these Brigades of Divisional Artillery has not been settled by the War Office.

The questions to be considered are-

- (a) Should we return to a B.A.C. organisation for each Brigade?

or

- (b) Should we increase the strength of the D.A.C. as it exists?

If the S.A.A. Section of the D.A.C. was abolished and in its place an Artillery Ammunition Section organised, it would appear to meet the case. But, the question of whether the S.A.A. Section would have to be organised under Supply for Infantry requirements requires consideration.

From talking with those at the War Office I am inclined to think that the organisation of B.A.Cs. will be adopted.

3. Has it been decided to re-equip with articles that can be produced in Australia, such as harness, saddlery etc?

4. The question of type of 18-pdr. is also one of great importance. If we re-equip with the air-recuperator buffer type it will mean at a later date re-arming with the new pattern 18-pdr. At present the War Office say that there are not sufficient of these guns to meet our requirements.

Had we better delay equipment say for Reserve Divisions so as to get the more modern weapon later on?

TRENCH MORTARS.

5. Is it decided to equip with medium Trench Mortars. If so, will it be 2 Batteries of 6 guns each per Division?

HORSE ARTILLERY.

6. Is 13-pdr equipment to be provided for Mounted Divisions. If so, on what organisation?

Q. 487

A.

No definite organisation appears to be adopted, varying according to the theatre of war.

I recommend organisation of 3 Batteries of 4 guns each to each Mounted Division.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY.

Is it intended to take to Australia any anti-aircraft equipment?

If so, will it be for use -

- (a) With the Corps, or
- (b) For defence of localities, or
- (c) For both?

Will search-lights be required in conjunction with the above?

HEAVY ARTILLERY.

To what extent is it intended to equip with Heavy Artillery?

(A proposal has been submitted.)

- 0. Heavy Trench Mortars (Corps). Is it intended to take any Heavies back to Australia?
- 1. To what extent will Tractors and M.T. for Stores and Ammunition supply be required?

AMMUNITION.

- 2. Upon what scale is it proposed to equip with ammunition, on the basis of -
 - (a) Requirements for 3 months war, or
 - (b) Peace practice requirements?

In considering this question the keeping qualities of the ammunition as regards cartridges must be taken into consideration. The propellant manufactured under war conditions will undoubtedly not have the keeping qualities of pre-war manufactured cordite.

- 3. The question of amount of storage accommodation in Australia will also regulate the rate at which the ammunition is supplied.

SOUND RANGING & SCREEN CALIBRATION.

- 4. Is it proposed to purchase sets of the above instrument?

The Screen Calibration Set should prove of value for proof work in connection with the Arsenal Work.

481

Q.

A.

148

5. UPKEEP OF EQUIPMENT & SPARES.

On what scale should this question be considered -

- (a) Upkeep for war requirements, or
- (b) Upkeep for peace requirements ?

6. Ports to which shipping?

File No. 4330/44/1.

15th. January, 1919.

The Secretary,
Air Ministry,
STRAND, W.C.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 17th. December, 1918, (No.1555/2/6) I have the honour to inform you that Major D. V. J. Blake, Australian Flying Corps, A.I.F., has now been relieved for other duties, and Major H. C. Brinsmead, M.C., A.F.C., has been appointed to this Department in his stead in connection with the demobilisation of the Australian Flying Corps.

This Officer, acting under my instructions, will deal with all questions relating to the demobilisation of the Australian Flying Corps.

May he be accredited please to the Officers of your Ministry?

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

BRIGADIER GENERAL
Deputy Director General.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

17th. January, 1919.

Commandant,
Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F.

Issues of Clothing to Members of the A.I.F.
reporting from France for embarkation
to Australia.

With reference to the attached communication from you on the above subject, in the view of this Department it is the obligation of the Imperial Government to return our men from France clothed in serviceable uniform and in possession of necessaries set out in Table IV War Clothing Regulations 1918, such table to be amended as necessary to provide for the distinctive Australian pattern uniform. Members of the A.I.F. reporting from France for embarkation to Australia who arrive wearing unsuitable uniform should therefore be considered to come under the same financial arrangement as regards new issues as if they had come on leave from France.

The above interpretation is of course on general lines and is not intended to exclude the possibility of dishonesty on the part of individual members of the A.I.F. nor the fact that members of the A.I.F. reporting to this country in unserviceable clothing may be due to the negligence of the Quartermaster of their Units in France.

As the distribution of clothing is an Ordnance service it would seem that the whole position should be placed before the War Office, and that arrangements might be entered into whereby quotas coming from France could be separately administered as regards clothing by Quartermasters of Depots to which they report, the Quartermaster furnishing certified lists of new clothing issued to such quotas to replace unserviceable or as a first issue where the articles are not in possession, you to charge the War Office periodically for such issues, and the unserviceable clothing withdrawn to be held apart and delivered to the War Office as their property, the procedure being a replica of that which is being worked at the Overseas Clothing Store. There is of course the possibility of the institution of a large Depot at the A.I.F. Camp, Havre, bulk supplies to be made to that Camp from Imperial stocks in France, which if possible, would obviate financial adjustments in the U.K.

It is also proposed to introduce a modified form of A.I.F. form 500 into France, but details in this regard are not yet settled. If introduced it will prevent members of the A.I.F. from obtaining by false representations unauthorised issues in the U.K.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

ENCLOSURE:-
File No. 6506/20/41.

4.D. PROGRESS REPORT NO. 3. 13.1.19 to 20.1.19.

Routine work was carried out in General Office and in Sub-Sections.

4.D.1. has been engaged in checking and amending Mobilisation Store Tables.

4.D.4. on the collection of data etc. regarding policy of Australian Air Force.

4.D.5. on questions affecting the demobilisation and disposal of stores of Dental Units of the A.I.F.

General questions dealt with were adjustment for clothing and equipment of Quotas leaving France for repatriation, and financial adjustment for any issues made in U.K. to A.I.F. arriving in this Country with unserviceable clothing, or clothing not up to scale; the disposal of Binoculars, Pistols, Compasses etc. in possession of A.I.F. personnel in Egypt; arrangements through Administrative Headquarters for provision of Colour Patches for A.I.F. returning to Australia, and modification of Q.1. Form to suit circumstances as they are anticipated when A.I.F. leave France.

(Sgd.) Walter A. COXEN,

BRIGADIER GENERAL
4.D.

20.1.19.

481

152

4.D.
54, Victoria Street,
21st. January, 1919.

Chief of the Staff, A.I.F.,
130, Horseferry Road, S.W.1.

In view of the probability of the employment of anti-aircraft batteries in Australia in the future, I recommend for favourable consideration the question of the training of anti-aircraft personnel during the period of demobilisation.

Up to the present, with the exception of a few Militia Officers who joined up with the British Artillery, there are neither Officers nor men of our regular service, who, to my knowledge, have had any experience in the handling of this type of battery.

I would suggest that arrangements be made through the War Office for the training of 4 Officers and 40 Other Ranks in anti-aircraft batteries, half of whom should be drawn from the 36th. (Aust.) H. A. Brigade regular personnel or R.A.F.A. personnel with the Divisional Artilleries.

In selecting the personnel, special attention should be directed towards men who are capable of using or handling instruments, as the success of an anti-aircraft battery depends wholly upon a knowledge of the use of the instruments employed.

If it is the intention to train such personnel, the matter should be taken up quickly in order that training may be given with British batteries before these are demobilised.

(Sgd.) Walter A. COXEN,
Brigadier-General,
4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept.

4.D. ORDNANCE & EQUIPMENT BRANCH.Query Sheet No. 2.
22nd. January, 1919.QUERY

1. Has the War Office agreed to us returning Stores into Ordnance? I understand that they refused to accept stores into Ordnance in the U.K. from our Depots on the grounds that the War is not yet over.
2. If we are allowed to hand in stores and demobilise Units I should like the following given early consideration:-

(a) Demobilisation of 36th.(Aust) H.A. Brigade, after the personnel for special instruction in Calibration, Sound Ranging and Anti-Aircraft have been selected.

(b) Demobilisation of 3rd. Australian D.U.S.

(c) Demobilisation of 7th. Australian D.U.S.

(d) Demobilisation of 1st. Australian Field Butchery.

(e) Demobilisation of personnel of Mobile Workshops, of which we have three. I understand the stores of these Workshops do not belong to Australia.

This also includes the question of training of I.O.M., the Commdt. Ordnance College, Woolwich, having been asked (thro' the Commdt. Adm.H.Q.A.I.F.) to give his opinion as regards the capabilities of the Officers who have passed through his hands at various times, with a view to considering their further training.

The question of Major Tuckett as A.D.O.S., Australian Corps, has again been referred to the G.O.C. A.I.F., as it is understood that Genl. Hobbs raised objection to his appointment. It is necessary that this position should be definitely filled as early as possible and instructions issued to the effect that this Officer would act in direct liaison with 4D. A letter has already been submitted on these lines. Until

DECISION

We intend to hand in stores and you should proceed on this basis. (Financial consideration delayed U.K. settlement of question.)

We have asked for permission to hand in equipment of 36th. Brigade in which case the personnel will come up for demobilisation in its turn. Aust. Corps has been instructed to arrange courses in Calibration and Sound Ranging.

This is entirely in hands of Director-General of Demobilisation the only condition being that sufficient of these Units must be retained to meet needs of forces.

Headquarters, A.I.F. detachment at Australian Corps will be instructed by G.O.C., A.I.F., to have this personnel freed.

Will be considered whenever you refer it.

A.M.S. is dealing with this. Upon Genl. Hobbs' arrival the matter will be settled.

QUERY.

this Officer is definitely appointed instructions as regards handing in of Stores is delayed.

The attached letter infers that only a certificate from the O.C. Units "that all stores in possession have been returned or if any are retained" is all that is required when handing in the stores to Ordnance. This appears merely a suggestion from the Fourth Army D.O.S. A ruling should be obtained from the War Office to ensure that this is all that is required.

Dental Units. These Units have not been equipped on any definite mobilisation store table, as none exists in the British Force. They have merely been equipped on a scale laid down by Australia and paid for by Australia. As these stores are now being shipped with Units on the various transports, it is recommended that approval that all dental stores be brought up to the original scale and these stores taken back to Australia by the Units as they repatriate. It will be seen that having already utilised a certain amount of this equipment on the transports, that a general adjustment of the store account - if these articles are returned into British Medical Stores - will become complicated. On these grounds I recommend that a Unit moves out with its own equipment.

DECISION.

Demobilisation should issue instructions that handing in will be done on Mob. Store Table plus a requisitions for deficiency which should be marked "Not to be fulfilled". War Office should be asked by Demob. to concur.

Dental equipment has been purchased by A.I.F. and therefore belongs to Australian Government. Units in France should consequently be instructed upon demobilisation to despatch such stores to a Base (Medical) Depot in England to be notified by D.M.S., A.I.F. Certain of these stores are sent out on transports and should be disposed as laid down in A.I.F. Standing Order No. 126. The D.M.S., A.I.F., should be responsible for final return to Australia or disposal of Dental equipment collected in Base Depots Medical Stores in England.

4.D.

D.D.G.

481

File No. 4308/19/37.

APPENDIX 13.

155

22nd. January, 1919.

Reference Attached.

The Q.1. form, as proved by its use in the United Kingdom since October, 1917, should meet the case.

It is pointed out, however, that Australia does not favour the Q.1. form, and the cable is, therefore, capable of two interpretations. -

- (a) The obvious one, on the face of the cable, that instances are occurring of members of the A.I.F. returning to Australia without Q.1. forms.
- (b) From knowledge of the standpoint from which Australia regards this form - that it is not satisfactory as a statement certified correct by member concerned of clothing in his possession.

It is suggested that a cable be sent to Australia as follows:-

"Your WQ 434 re certified statement of clothing AAA Proposed adhere A.I.F. Form 500 Q.1. as heretofore AAA Does your cable mean men arriving without this form or that form is in itself unsatisfactory."

Brigadier-General

4.D.

Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

File No. 7041/10/1.

23rd. January, 1919.

Lieut. Colonel Newton,
Representative G.O.C., A.I.F.,
in EGYPT.

With reference to attached instructions from D/Director General, Repatriation and Demobilisation Department, hereunder please find statement embodying as far as possible the points raised in D.D.G's instructions.

(1) Name of Branch and Cipher.

Ordnance Branch, Repatriation and Demobilisation Department, A.I.F. - Cipher 4.D.

(2) Organisation.

Organisation (General Scheme) is set out in diagram forwarded herewith.

(3) Liaison with other Branches.

4.D. is brought into contact mainly with Branch 3.D. Administration, Repatriation and Demobilisation Department. Points of contact are on Routine matters such as correspondence, discipline, employment of personnel etc. Where likely to be brought in contact in future with other Branches, this is shown on diagram referred to in Para. 2.

(4) Matters controlled by Branch and Sections thereof.

The basis of functions of Branch are that the post-bellum Army of Australia shall have complete set of serviceable equipment, plus an estimated reserve based on active service conditions, Artillery, Equipment etc. now held by A.I.F. Units being handed back to R.A.O.D. and new or serviceable equipment being drawn in lieu and shipped to Australia; quantities to be so drawn and shipped depending on constitution of the Australian post-bellum Army. Certain financial adjustments, will, it is anticipated be necessary over such equipment as in some cases, surplus to the quantities now held by A.I.F. as per Mobilisation

48
157

Store Tables; in others less than equipment held by such Units. The Branch will also have a generally supervisory control of disposal of surplus stores other than Mobilisation Stores held by A.I.F. whether in U.K., France, or Egypt.

In addition, it is generally responsible for advice on questions of policy connected with A.F.C., Mechanical Transport, Medical and Dental, this through Liaison Officers with existing administration of these services.

(5) Method of dealing with matters and obtaining rulings.

Routine matters are dealt with direct through junior officers. Questions entailing matters of principle are referred by them to Head of Branch, and where deemed necessary, i.e. on matters involving a general commitment of policy, replies are drafted for signature by D.D.G.

Queries on matters where rulings are sought are referred to D/D.G. or to Director General through D/D.G.

(6) Important Rulings given.

Rulings given to 4.D. so far have been few. The important ones - affecting Egypt too - are

- (a) Demobilisation of 1st. Squadron A.F.C. and Squadron Records to come to England with Equipment Officers and N.C.Os. Authority in cable of D.G. (File No. 4343/17/2.)
- (b) Pistols, Binoculars, Compasses which are a free issue to A.I.F. Officers in Egypt are to be withdrawn prior to embarkation and returned separately to R.A.O.D. Ruling conveyed in reply to War Office 23.1.19 (copy of all correspondence attached.)
- (c) General. That A.I.F. should, as regards clothing, return from active service spheres clad by Imperial Government according to scale laid down in War Clothing Regulations for said sphere of operations. This is an enlargement of principle embodied in General Instruction No. 10. applicable in intent to A.I.F. Units in France, but also applicable on same grounds to those spheres of operation where a capitation maintenance rate obtains.

(7) No actual dealings direct with outside Departments as yet, except as regards points which have been referred to War Office through Director General or Deputy Director General.

481

158

Anticipated that in the future much contact will be established direct between this Branch and D.D.O.S., Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, A.D.O.S. Ammunition, Adastral House, and similar subordinate departments of Imperial Government.

(8) As regards nexus of this Branch with Demobilisation work in Egypt, the local conditions there are at present very much unknown to us. A general outline of Equipment Demobilisation duties there is given on diagram forwarded herewith. A Staff Officer for 4.D. is to be appointed with a long A.I.F. experience of Ordnance and Equipment matters, who will have to attune these general responsibilities to local conditions in Egypt.

BRIGADIER GENERAL,
4.D.

4.D.

APPENDIX 15.

481

159

25th. January, 1919.

The Commandant,
Administrative Section,
A.I.F. Headquarters,
Horseferry Road, S.W.1.

Major G. S. Down, M.C., A.A.O.C.

The services of an Officer with field rank are required in connection with the operations in Egypt of this Branch.

It has been verbally agreed between your A/A.Q.M.G. and the Branch that the above named Officer would, on certain arrangements being made for a successor in his present appointment, be released to carry out the duties of this Branch in Egypt.

It is becoming daily more imperative that an Officer should be selected to proceed to Egypt at the earliest possible date. Can you, therefore, inform me what is the present position in regard to Major Down's release, as it is particularly desired to secure his services.

BRIGADIER GENERAL

4.D.

Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.

481
File No. 4D/1508/10/65.D.D.G.
(Through 5.D.)

27th. January, 1919.

Recommendation re Disposal of
Dental Equipment.

It is recommended that as Dental Units are demobilised, all Dental Equipment on charge be disposed of as follows:-

(a) United Kingdom.

All Stores to "Dental Stores, Sub-Depot, London". They can there be sorted out and Ordnance Stores not required to complete Kits for use of Dental Officers allotted to Transports to be returned to A.I.F. Ordnance on G.1033 as directed by A.D.O.S., London.

Dental Equipment to be made up into Kits for use of Dental Officers, Transports, as required.

(b) France.

Ordnance Stores to be returned to parent Field Ambulance or Hospital Unit (in case of detached Dental Units to nearest Ordnance Depot) receipted G.1033's to be sent to A.D.O.S., A.I.F., France.

Dental Equipment to be sent to Dental Stores, Sub-Depot, London.

(c) Egypt.

Ordnance Stores - as in (b). Receipts to Staff Officer, Demob. Egypt.

Dental Stores to O. C., Australian Base Depot, Medical Stores, Suez.

Reference Paras. 2 and 3 of S.O., A.D.S.' memo of 10.1.19. As Dental Equipment will be needed for use on Transports to Australia, it is recommended that the present practice of embarking Dental Kits on Transports be continued. The Equipment must however be handed over to the Senior Medical Officer in charge of Transports at Final Port, Australia.

The question of disposal of balance of Dental Equipment remaining after Transports have been fitted out could be considered at a later date. It is not considered that any great quantity would remain on hand.

(Sgd.) Walter A. Coxen,
BRIGADIER GENERAL, 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept.

4.D. PROGRESS REPORT. 27.1.19. No. 4.

Week 20.1.19 - 27.1.19. General Office of this Branch has been occupied in dealing with General Questions regarding return of Mobilisation Stores held by A.I.F. to Imperial Ordnance Depots, adjustment of matters affecting clothing and personal equipment to be taken from Units by members of A.I.F. on leaving France for repatriation, the adaptation of a Q1 form for use in France (which adapted form is now rejected), consideration of utility of its introduction there, reference to Australia for statement as to whether that form, in opinion of Defence, constitutes the necessary certified statement required of clothing in possession; also the return to A.O.D. Egypt, of Compasses, Binoculars, Pistols from A.I.F. Officers there, conferences with A.Q.M.G., Administrative Section, A.I.F. Headquarters, re scale of clothing with which A.I.F. should return from scene of hostilities, and the incidence of financial charges for making good deficiencies, and consideration of the accounting problems which will arise at Australian Base Depot, Havre, with regard to personal equipment and completion of clothing and necessaries to scale. Another important question dealt with was the basis on which A.I.F. is to secure free reissue of Mobilisation Stores for its Units.

In addition to above Routine Work necessary to carry on present and prepare for future work of the Section generally was carried out.

Sections of this Branch performed routine duties.

BRIGADIER GENERAL, 4.D.
Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept., A.I.F.
(Sgd.) Walter A. Coxen.

27.1.19.

4.D.
487

162

File No. 4327/43/2.

29th. January, 1919.

Commandant,
A.I.F. Headquarters,
130, Horseferry Road, S.W.1.

Reference your memorandum of the 22nd. instant (A.4237/43/2) relative to the qualifications of Assistant Is.O.M., and Artificers of the A.I.F.

In view of the reply received from the Commandant, Ordnance College, I recommend that the following cable be despatched to Australia:-

"Your WR705 of 11th. November 1918. AAA Instructions are being effected AAA Henderson fully qualified but no one available with required qualifications to remain under instruction AAA Are you prepared allow us secure candidate from A.I.F. if so what inducement can be held out AAA In British service requirement for I.O.M. is full Engineering apprenticeship Technical degree and actual experience Mechanical Engineering."

BRIGADIER GENERAL.
4.D.

4.D.

File No. 6509/1/52.

48

163

29th. January, 1919.

A.D.O.S.,
 Administrative Section,
 A.I.F. Headquarters,
 130, Horseferry Road, S.W.1.

The following amplification of Para. 47 of General Instructions No. 11 of Repatriation and Demobilisation Department is about to be promulgated:-

"Reference General Instructions No. 11, Para. 47, as therein stated Unit Commanders will at once take steps to return to Ordnance (i.e. Administering D.A.D.O.S.) Binoculars, Telescopes, Range Finders, Compasses, Pistols, and Watches (except Signal Service.)

Compasses, Pistols and Binoculars, and Accoutrements other than Web Equipment, will be withdrawn from Officers, packed and returned separately, and shall not be handed in to R.A.O. Depots as Unit Mobilisation Stores, but held by D.A.Ds.O.S. until such time as instructions for their disposal are communicated.

Officers Commanding Units will be held responsible that all such articles are collected, or that he obtains and hands over to D.A.Ds.O.S. in lieu thereof, a Certificate from each Officer who does not hand in any such article, clearly stating his disposal of same.

In the case of L. of C. Units or other Units not administered by a D.A.D.O.S., the C.C. of the Unit concerned will take charge of all Binoculars, Pistols and Compasses so returned by Officers, or Certificates in lieu thereof, and on completion will notify the A.D.O.S. or S.O. 4.D. Egypt concerned, and will act in accordance with his instructions regarding the final disposal of same."

These instructions were drawn up primarily with intent to apply to France.

Will you be good enough to ensure that if it has not already been done, steps be taken to withdraw from all members of the A.I.F. the Stores referred to, and have them returned to Units' Quartermaster, as regards Units and Depots of the A.I.F. in U.K.

BRIGADIER GENERAL, 4.D.
 Repatriation & Demobilisation Dept. A.I.F.