

**AWM4**

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

Ordnance

**Item number: 2/8/7**

**Title: Deputy Assistant Director Ordnance  
Services, 5th Australian Division**

February 1917



AWM4-2/8/7

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

D. O. O.,  
5th AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISION.  
No. *R 570*  
Date.....

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Albert.	Feby.	17	General receipts from Base including 450 Muzzles Horse for distribution to Units, also quantity of spare parts for Lewis Gun. Meeting of D.A.D.O.S' with A.D.O.S., Lst. Anzac to discuss the Artillery Reorgan&ssation.	
	Feby	3rd.	370 Rifle covers taken over from 2nd. Aust. Division. Railhead moved to Quarry Siding. Members of my staff sent on to clear Railhead of stores, but orders received countermanding those previously issued and Railhead again moved to ALBERT.	
	4th.)		General receipts from Base including 9 Lee-Enfield actions for 2" T. Mortars; also 11 wheels	
	5th.)		for Divnl. Train Coys., and 700 Rugs Horse for distribution to Units.	
	6th.)		General receipts from Base including 1000 Rugs Horse, quantity spare parts for Lewis Gun.	
	7th )		1500 Capes Mackintosh for distribution, and Bulk Necessaries.	
	8th.)		5000 Palliasses taken over from 1st. Aust. Division. 11 G.S. Limbered Wagons returned by	
	9th.)		battalions of this Division and handed over to 4th. Division.	
	11th.		General receipts from Base, including 4 Periscopes No.4 - 2 for each of Y5A and Z5A T.M. Btys.	
			Visited Headquarters, 8th. & 15th. Infantry Brigades.	
	12th.		General receipts from Base including 12 wheels for 10th. Coy. A.A.S.C.; also 300 pairs Gloves	
			distribution to 8th., 14th., barbed wire proof for 5th. Divl. Training-School and 15th. Inf. Bdes, - 100 each.	

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Albert	Feby.	13th.	General receipts from Base including one Ord. Q.F., 18-pdr. No.5865 without B.M. for 53rd.Bty to replace one condemned by I.O.M., for 'scoring'. A.D.O.S., visited office and Depot.	
		15th.	<del>Mixed</del> Division moved to FIFTH ARMY, (from 4th. Army. )	
		16th.	General receipts from Base including quantity Gum boots thigh for 14th. & 15th. Inf. Bdes to replace others 'U/S'; also quantity spare parts for Vickers and Lewis Guns. 2000 Palliasses sent to Fricourt Camp. Visited 'A' and 'G' Branch, D.H.Q.	
		17th., 18th., 19th.	General issues etc. 900 covers breech No.1 rec'd for 5th.Pioneer Bn.	
		20th.	One Maltese Cart received for 58th. Battn.; one kitchen travelling body for 59th. Battn; one Ord., Q.F., 18-pdr. without B.M. No.5858 and carriage for 18-pdr. No.96412 rec'd for 50th.Bty.	
		21st.	Visited D.H.Q. 200 pairs gum boots thigh received from 2nd. Aust. Division.	
		22nd.	General issues etc. Visited A.D.O.S., at Corps Headquarters.	
		23rd.	General receipts from Base, including quantity spare parts for 3" Stokes T.M's for 14th.AL TMB. also quantity spare parts for Ord. Q.F., 18-pdr rec'd and issued to 5th.D.A.C. Visited D.H.Q.	
		24th.	Seven Forges Field received from Base, - 1 each for each Inf. and Arty. Bde H.Q's. A.D.O.S., 1st.Anzac visited office and Depot.	
		25th./28th.	Nil receipts from Base. General issues to Units. Visited D.H.Q. on 27th. inst.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Albert Feby.	1917		<p>At about 1.45 a.m. on the 8th. Feby. several bombs were dropped in the vicinity of my Depot and an incendiary bomb falling very close caused <del>an</del> a fire to break out in a row of buildings which adjoin my Depot. The falling bombs awakened my staff and they together with a number of attached men soon had the conflagration under control. Owing to their prompt action a more serious outbreak was averted and Brig-Gen. Lobiniere C.B. C.S.I., C.I.E., Chief Engineer 1st. Anzac Corps was exceptionally pleased with the good work which must have been displayed and thus preventing valuable engineers' stores and buildings from being destroyed. The A.D.O.S., (Col. J.G. AUSTIN., C.M.G., A.O.D. also expressed his keen appreciation of the promptness with which the staff and men attached, acted, <i>a congratulatory order (No 62 dt- 17/2/17) was published by Lt. Gen. Sir W. B. Bordenwood 1st Lt. K.C.M.G., C.O. 5th Bn.</i></p> <p>I have to report that the Divisional Boot Repairing Shop which had been closed down since we left the 2nd. Army Area was again inaugurated. At present there are 9 n.c.o's and men employed at this Shop and much excellent work is being done which will result in a large saving of boots ankle and boots F.S. Letters were also sent out to the C.O's Units asking if their bootmakers were at work repairing boots regimentally and replies were received that this was being carried out.</p>	<p><i>Capt. J.M. Rodd. A.O.D. 116 1384 1100 Lt. Col. Anderson, 5th Bn. + 1123026. Cpl. Harrison, 53rd Bn. + 1123026. Cpl. J.A. Buckingham 55th Bn.</i></p>

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ALBERT	Feb. 1917		<p>The exchange of Box Respirators Small which were issued prior to October 1916 was completed during this month and all officers and men are now in possession of one of these articles.</p> <p>Also all Units have been asked to submit indents for shy shortages in P.H. Helmets and Spicer Goggles. All troops should be in possession of these appliances but many men handed in their goggles at the time the P.H.G. Helmets were called in at Bac St Maur last year.</p> <p>During this month the Corps Armourers Workshop was organised and an officer appointed to superintend the repairs of all Units in the Corps. The opening of this Shop necessitated the closing down of the Divisional Armourers Shop which was much regretted as the men forming it had done much excellent work and their services had been recognised as having been of an extremely high and efficient character by the A.D.O.S. 1st. Anzac. The efficiency was so high that the Shop was allowed to work on for some time on its own as a part of the Corps Workshop, but it was felt that the necessity had arisen for all the men to be under one roof. This necessitated the disbandment of the Shop and the return of the armourers to their Units.</p>	

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			<p>Albert Feby. 1917. The thaw restrictions placed on the use of Motor Lorries during February caused some delay in clearing Railhead but I was enabled through the courtesy of the C.O., 5th. D.A.C. to make arrangements for G.S. wagons to report daily so long as the thaw restrictions lasted and was thus able to get the stores from Railhead into my Store.</p> <p>The artillery reorganisation which commenced in January incurred a considerable amount of work as a large quantity of stores and a number of vehicles <sup>and harness</sup> which had become surplus on the breaking up of the 15th. &amp; 25th. F.A. Brigades had to be returned to my Depot and carefully checked.</p>	



*Handwritten signature and '5th A.C.D.'*