

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

Provost

**Item number:** 3/4/10

**Title:** Assistant Provost Marshal, 3rd  
Australian Division

April 1918



AWM4-3/4/10



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
TRIPLICATE.

171

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*A.P.M., 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div.*

FOR

*April* 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*J. Leaper*  
Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Div.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*J. Leaper*  
Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Div.



A.P.M., 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div.

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.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

April, 1918

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ST. GRATIEN	1/4/18	10 am	This office closed at ST. GRATIEN, re-opening at FRANVILLERS at 3 pm.	
FRANVILLERS		6 pm	Instructions issued to M.M.P. to concentrate against tying of horses to trees; also against damage to crops	J. G. G. G. G.
	2/4/18		Traffic Post established at I. 35. 6. 6. 7, (sheet 62 D) Intelligence Officer posted in HEILLY. Instructions issued to O.C. Prisoners of War Compound, that prisoners will for the future be interrogated at HEILLY, before despatch to this office. Traffic Post established at ST. GRATIEN. 1 Cpl. M.M.P. and 2 Police detailed for duty in ST. GRATIEN. Report rendered to A.P.M., VII <sup>th</sup> Corps, ref. French civilian found shot dead at RIBEMONT.	J. G. G. G. G.
	3/4/18		Instruction issued to Traffic Control Post at ST. GRATIEN, FRANVILLERS, HEILLY, and RIBEMONT, ref. use of Headlights by motor cars and cycle.	J. G. G. G. G.
	4/4/18		Further information received regarding murdered <sup>civilian</sup> at RIBEMONT, proving that he met his death at the hand of an English soldier, whom he had apparently insulted. Saboteur men attached to this detachment during active operations recalled, and replaced by men from 10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Brigades.	J. G. G. G. G.

Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Division



A.P.M. 3rd Aust. Div.

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.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2113.

April, 1918.

127

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANVILLERS	5/4/18		Prisoners captured and evacuated, 1 O.R. Instructions received that British Serial Card passes will no longer be issued for cars and motor cycles, but that Duty Orders will suffice.	J.H.P. [unclear]
	6/4/18		Weekly Report forwarded (copy attached)	J.H.P. [unclear]
	7/4/18		Instructions received re. keeping sharp look-out for enemy agents dressed as British soldiers, creating panic and giving false orders.	J.H.P.
	8/4/18		Major J.L. FISHER arrived from England, and assumed duties of A.P.M. Sentences of men of the A.I.F. undergoing Field Punishment, at Aust. Hd. Punishment Compound, suspended by G.O.C., A.I.F.	J.H.P.
	9/4/18		1 additional Traffic Control Post established in ST. GRATIEN. Advice received that Aust. Corps is now under orders of 4 <sup>th</sup> Army. Battle Struggle Post at C.29. d. 7.8, shut by D. taken off	J.H.P.
	11/4/18		A.M. M.P. of this Detachment had occasion to fire on a soldier at CORBIE in self-defence. He is at present under close arrest, pending Court of Enquiry.	J.H.P.
	14/4/18		Court of Enquiry set to hear shooting case. The M. M.P. was exonerated from all blame.	J.H.P.

J.H.P. [unclear]  
Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Div.



A.P. No. 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div.

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.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

April, 1918

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANVILLERS	13/4/18		Weekly Report forwarded M.M.S.P. patrol at CORBIE taken off	Appendix B JH
	14/4/18		2 O.R. P.O.W. captured and evacuated to Corps Cage Administrative Instruction received ref. arrangements for Battle Shaggle	JH
			and Traffic Posts in the event of a withdrawal	
	15/4/18		40 O.R. P.O.W. captured and evacuated to Corps Cage Order received relating to prevention of removal of personal property	JH
			from P.O.W.	
	16/4/18		Orders received that ARBEVILLE and AMIENS are out of bounds to all ranks below Lieut-Col, and that no leave is to be granted to these towns	JH
	17/4/18		Investigation conducted in case of civilian at ST. GRATIEN who alleged that she was assaulted by Australian soldier, but the aggressors could not be traced.	JH
			Complaint received from French mission ref. horses grazing on clover. M.M.S.P. instructed to concentrate against them.	
	18/4/18		M.M.S.P. and Gendarme accompanied V.D. case to QUERRIEU to identify the woman from whom disease was alleged to have been contracted. She was identified, and the case left in the hands of the Gendarme.	JH

Head of Staff  
Major

Assistant Provost Marshal,  
8th Australian Divn.



A.P.M. 3rd Aust. Div.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

127

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.)

April, 1918

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANVILLERS	18/4/18		2 O.R. P.O.W. captured and evacuated to Corps Cage.	JH
			M.M.P. patrol withdrawn from RIBEMONT	
	19/4/18		no event of importance	JH
	20/4/18		Weekly Report forwarded (copy attached)	JH Appendix C
			P.O.W. captured and evacuated - 1 O.R.	
	21/4/18		M.M.P. instructed to concentrate on the following during the coming week: - (1) speed of lorries (2) spacing (3) look-out man.	JH
			Advice received ref. evacuation of PRISONERS by civilians.	
	22/4/18		Attention of D.H.Q. drawn to fact that Battalion Regimental Police are wearing M.P. badges.	JH
	23/4/18		Instructions received that obsolete Traffic Notices are to be taken down, and new ones put up.	JH
			Patrol of 5 M.M.P. sent to PONT NOVELLES for duty.	
	24/4/18		Divisional Order received ref relief of Div. by 4th Aust. Div.	
			Three additional Battle Struggle Posts manned - sheet 62 D.M.C. 29. d. 67.	JH
			(2) C. 28. d. 9. 0 (3) I. 9. 6. 5. 9.	

Headquarters  
3rd Australian Division

Assistant Provost Marshal  
3rd Australian Division



A.P.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> Arch. Div.

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.

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 1148.

(Erase heading not required.)

April, 1918

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FRANVILLERS	24/4/18		Speed-trap held: 7 lorries held up, and charges laid. Instructions received ref. having names of villages clearly marked up.	JH
			P.M.G. asked to supply paint and painter for same.	
	25/4/18		2 men of Traffic Control personnel gassed and evacuated.	JH
	26/4/18		1 O.R. P.O.W. captured and evacuated to Corps cage.	JH
	27/4/18		Search instituted for 2 O.R. of Traffic Control personnel, who were sent to ALLONVILLE on escort duty on the 25 <sup>th</sup> inst, and have failed to return.	JH
			Weekly Report forwarded (copy attached)	Appendix T
	28/4/18		A.P.M. Corps advised ref. missing escort, efforts to trace which have proved unavailing.	
			7 lorries taken up on the ATHENS-QUERRIEU-ST. GRATIEN Road for contravention of M.T. Circuit.	JH
			1 O.R. P.O.W. captured and evacuated.	
			3 abankers belonging to 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Arch. Divs. evicted by A.P.M. near ALLONVILLE.	
			M.M.P. instructed to pay attention to troops shooting game.	

Staff Sgt

Assistant Provost Marshal  
3rd Arch. Div.



WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

April, 1918

A.P.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div.  
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
FRANVILLERS	29/4/18		Missing escort turned up: reason for delay being fact that prisoner shot himself, and had to be escorted to C.C.S.	JH
			1 O.K. P.O.W. captured and evacuated	
			Capt P.O.W. cage moved to POULAINVILLE.	
	30/4/18		Enquiries instituted as to civilian car being used by Australian soldiers. The driver was traced, and steps taken to ascertain his authority for driving same.	JH
			2 M.M.P. detailed as Provost Agents to round up absentees in the Divisional Area.	JH
			Authority requested from D.H.Q. for A.P.M., and Traffic Control Officers to wear D.H.Q. colours.	JH

Shackleton  
H.M.P.

Divisional Provost Marshal  
3rd Australian Division



127

18,000-12/17-872

7

*Original*

# WAR DIARY

OF

*A.P.M., 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div.*

FOR

*April, 1918*

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
"A"	Weekly Report, Week ending 6/4/18
"B"	" " " " 13/4/18
"C"	" " " " 20/4/18
"D"	" " " " 27/4/18

*Leopold H. ...*

Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Divn:



127

Weekly return of events  
Report by A.P.M. 3rd Aust Div

Appendix A  
PROVOST MARSHAL,  
3rd AUSTRALIAN DIV.  
by [signature]  
Date

Appendix "A" Week ending 6.4.18.

a

Reports as compared with last week:-

	Last Week	This week	
ABSENTEES	TOTAL	34	41
	FRESH	11	10
	REPORTED	4	3
STRAGGLERS	3	49	
PRISONERS OF WAR	11	3	
COURT MARTIAL PRISONERS EVACUATED	NIL	2	
ESTAMINETS PLACED OUT OF BOUNDS	NIL	NIL	
CASES REPORTED BY M.M.P.	5	40	
ALLEGED THEFTS FROM INHABITANTS	1	NIL	
GENERAL CASES	5	NIL	

b

General discipline as shown by Police reports:-

Food

Police Charge reports 36:-

- 10 Breaking into house in search of plunder
- 19 Conduct to prejudice - in possession of plunder
- 2 Quitting posts
- 2 Neglect of duty
- 1 Failing to salute
- 1 A.W.L.
- 1 Disobedience

It is pointed out that in very few cases were the charges as to looting preferred against Australian Soldiers, Imperial troops being the worst offenders

c

Discipline of Military Police:-

Discipline - Good

Offences - 2 - (1) Quitting Post (2) Slowness while on duty

	N.O.	Sgts	Cpls	L/CS	Sps	TOTAL
FRANVILLERS		1	2	1	4	8
CORBIE	1	1		1	3	6
RIBEMONT			1		3	4
ST GRATIEN			1		2	3
HEILLY				1	2	3
BONNAY					1	1
L'ANNEVILLE					1	1
	1	2	4	3	16	26



(d) Traffic:-

1 Traffic Post has been established at St Gratien,  
and also 1 north of CORBIE  
that at LAHOUSSEYE is no longer manned

(e) Civilians:-

Several minor complaints have been received from  
civilians which have been dealt with.

(f) Vandalism:-

no cases reported during this period

(g) Courts Martial

18th Aust Int Bde	(1) Dishonour
	(2) Desertion
3rd Pioneer Bn	(3) A. H. L.

(h) Miscellaneous

This office closed at Franvillers at 9 A.M. on 31<sup>st</sup> ult  
reopening at St Gratien but was transferred again  
to Franvillers on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst.

Special steps have been taken to prevent horses being  
tied to trees, also as regards prevention of damage to crops.

NOTE

A large number of charges for looting and drunkenness were  
laid by 6 MMP of this division working in Corbie.

These charges were made by the Town Mayor at Corbie  
under instructions from A. P. M. VII Corps. They did  
not go through this office.

It is now being arranged that such charges shall  
pass through this office.

(Sd), J. H. F. Lovell Lt.

A. P. M., 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div.



127

Weekly Return of Events. Appendix, B

Report by R.P.M., 3<sup>rd</sup> Austral. Div.

ASSISTANT 10  
PROVOST MARSHAL  
3<sup>rd</sup> AUSTRALIAN DIV.  
Date 13/4/18

Appendix "B" Week ending 13/4/18

(a)	Reports as compared with last week:-	Last Week	This Week
	ABSENTEES	44	47
	TOTAL FRESH REJOINED	10	24
		3	18
		49	18
	STRAGGLERS		
	PRISONERS OF WAR	3	nil
	COURT MARTIAL PRISONERS EVACUATED	2	nil
	ESTAMINETS PLACED OUT OF BOUNDS	nil	nil
	CASES REPORTED BY M.H.P.	40	24
	ALLEGED THEFTS FROM INHABITANTS	nil	8
	GENEAL CASES	nil	nil
	MOVABLE "OFFICERS" CONTROLS	nil	nil

(b) General Discipline as shown by Police Reports:-  
 Very good  
 Police Charge Reports 22:-  
 1 - Slovenliness whilst on duty  
 1 - neglect of duty  
 1 - desertion  
 1 - Damaging civilian property  
 1 - Making a falsehood  
 3 - Conduct to the prejudice - in possession of plunder  
 1 - " " - entry of evacuated premises  
 in receipt of plunder.  
 7 - Entering evacuated premises without authority  
 1 - A.W.L.  
 5 - Contr. S.S. 193 - not carrying S.B.R. in Ready Zone.

(c) Discipline of military Police:-  
 Discipline :- good  
 Offences :- 1 - Slovenliness when on duty.  
 Distribution of military Police:-

	No. of	Spts.	Cpl.	Lt.	Tr.	Total
FRANVILLERS		1	2	1	2	6
RIBEMONT			1		3	4
HEILLY				1	2	3
BONNAY					1	1
CORDIE	1	1		1	3	6
LA NEUVILLE					1	1
ST. GRATIEN			1		2	3
AMIENS					2	2
TOTAL	1	2	4	3	16	26



(d)

Traffic:-

1 Extra Traffic Post has been established at ST. GRATIEN.

(e)

Civilians:-

8 Complaints have been received from Civilians regarding damage to their houses, and loss of property.

(f)

Vererent Cases:-

No cases were reported during this period.

(g)

Courts Martial:-

Three  
held as compared with, last week

(h)

Miscellaneous:-

Major J. L. FISHER arrived from England, and assumed duties of A.P. M., 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div., on the 7<sup>th</sup> inst.

No. 1 Battle Straggler Post at C.29.d.7.8, sheet 62 D, has been found unnecessary, and taken off.

28 men attached from 3<sup>rd</sup> Div. Salvage Coy. for duty at P.O.W. Compound and Battle Stragglers' Posts, have been replaced by men from 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Inf. Bdes., the former being returned to their Unit.

2 M.M.P. have been stationed for duty in AMIENS, under A.P. M., AMIENS.

An M.M.P. of this detachment stationed at CORBIE shot a soldier of the 4<sup>th</sup> Aust. Div., allegedly in self-defence. You have already been notified of this. A full report of the case will be included in next week's report, when the result of the Court of Enquiry is known.

*John Fisher*  
Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Divn.



127

Weekly Return of Work.

Appendix C

Report by R.P.M., 3rd Aust. Div.

ASSISTANT  
PROVOST MARSHAL,  
3rd AUSTRALIAN DIV.No. 12  
Date 20/4/18

Appendix C Week ending 20/4/18.

(a).	Reports as compared with last week:-	Last week	This week
	ABSENTEES	47	53
		74	20
		15	14
	STRAGGLERS	18	1
	PRISONERS OF WAR	Nil	8
	COURT MARTIAL PRISONERS EVACUATED	Nil	Nil
	ESTAMINETS PLACED OUT OF BOUNDS	Nil	Nil
	CASES REPORTED BY M.M.P.	Nil	9
	ALLEGED THEFTS FROM INHABITANTS	8	7
	VENEREAL CASES	Nil	15
	MOVABLE "OFFICERS" CONTROLS	Nil	Nil

(b). General Discipline as shown by Police Reports.

Very good.

Police Charge Reports 3:-

1 A.W.L.

2 On evacuated premises without authority.

(c). Discipline of Military Police:-

Discipline - Excellent

Offences - Nil

Distribution of Military Police

	W.O.D.	Sgt.	Cpl.	Pvt.	3rd	Total
FRANVILLERS	1	1	2	3	6	13
RIBEMONT					1	1
HEILLY					1	1
BONNAY					2	3
LA NEUVILLE					1	1
FRECHENCOURT		1			1	2
PHIENS					2	2
ST. GRATIEN			1		2	3
Total	1	2	4	3	16	26

(d). Traffic:-

There are 2 Traffic Posts now established in FRANVILLERS

(1). C.23.C.8.1, sheet 62 D.

(2). C.23.C.5.0. " "

Particular attention has been paid by Traffic Control Posts to the prevention of use by lorries of roads not available for M.T.



(k). Civilians:-

7 cases of offences against civilians were reported as compared with 8 for last week.

(l). Venerent:-

15 cases were reported as compared with 11 last week

7 cases alleged to have been contracted in	LONDON
1 .. .. .	IRELAND
1 .. .. .	AUSTRALIA
1 .. .. .	PARIS
1 .. .. .	ROUEN
1 .. .. .	BOULOGNE
2 .. .. .	CALAIS
X 1 .. .. .	QUERRIEU.

In the case contracted at QUERRIEU, the soldier concerned, in company with a M.M.P. and French gendarme, identified the woman; and the matter was left in the hands of the French Préfet to dispose of the woman.

Total Contracted in V.K. 8  
 .. France 6

(g). Courts Martial:-

7 as compared with 11 last week

3 <sup>rd</sup> Pioneer Bn.	1 A.W.L.
	4 Drunkenness
11 <sup>th</sup> M.G. Coy.	1 Wounding a soldier through carelessness
40 <sup>th</sup> Bn.	1 A.W.L.

(h). Miscellaneous:-

Rep. case of the M.M.P. of this detachment, who shot a soldier in self defence - as reported in last week's return by the finding of the Court of Enquiry, the M.M.P. concerned was completely exonerated from blame.

M.P. patrols have been recalled from CORBIE and RIBEMONT.

A civilian at ST. GRATIEN was assaulted by two soldiers, who she alleges were Australians. This case was investigated by M.M.P. and gendarmes, but no clue was found as to the identity of the aggressors.

M.M.P. patrols have paid special attention to the prevention of horses feeding on crops but complete success in this endeavour has not been possible, owing to the fact that in many cases horse fences are actually situated on growing crops.

*J. C. ...*  
 Assistant Provost Marshal,  
 3rd Australian Divn.



127

Weekly Return of Events

Appendix, D

Report by R.P.M., 3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Div.

Appendix D

Week ending 27/4/18

ASSISTANT	14
PROVOST MARSHAL,	
8 <sup>RD</sup> AUSTRALIAN DIV.	
No.	27/4/18

(a)	Reports as compared with last week:-	Last Week	This Week
	ABSENTEES	53	57
	( TOTAL FRESH REJOINED	20	18
		14	14
	STRAGGLERS	1	1
	PRISONERS OF WAR	8	2
	COURT MARTIAL PRISONERS EVACUATED	nil	nil
	ESTAMINETS PLACED OUT OF BOUNDS	nil	nil
	CASES REPORTED BY M.M.P.	9	41
	ALLEGED THEFTS FROM INHABITANTS	7	5
	VENEREAL CASES	15	7
	MOVABLE OFFICERS CONTROLS	nil	nil
	COURTS MARTIAL	7	2

(b) General Discipline as shown by Police Reports:-

Good

Police Charge Reports 39:-

- 3 - Damaging Civilian property.
- 2 - Leaving Cart and Horse unattended.
- 2 - Damaging crops.
- 1 - Contr. G.R.O. 3058, no look-out man on lorry.
- 4 - Game shooting.
- 1 - Grazing on crops.
- 2 - A.W.L.
- 6 - Exceeding speed limit.
- 2 - Contr. A.R.O. 1001, galloping horses.
- 12 - Contr. S.S. 193, not carrying S.B.R.
- 1 - Contr. 3718, out of billet after 9.30 pm.
- 1 - Creating a disturbance.
- 1 - Drunkenness.
- 1 - Contr. G.R.O. 2888 - out of Div. Area.

During the period special attention has been paid to the following, in accordance with instructions received:-

- (1). Speed of Lorrys.
- (2). Spacing.
- (3). Look-out man.

Steps have been taken also to prevent the shooting of game.







127

Weekly Return of Work (continued)

(g)

Courts Martial -

2 As compared with 7 last -

- (1). 11<sup>th</sup> Inf. Bde. A.W.L.
- (2). 88<sup>th</sup> Coy., Div. Train. Misappropriating Govt. property.

(h)

Miscellaneous -

2 Traffic Control men had to be evacuated owing to the effects of gas, suffered during the bombardment of BONNAY. 3 m.m.p. at the same town also were slightly affected, but have resumed duty.

3 Suspected cases of prostitution have been reported from ST. GRATIEN. French gendarmes are investigating this matter.

Certain changes have been made in the position of Battle Dressing Posts. A list of the posts at present manned is attached.

*Joseph Joseph Brown*  
 Assistant Provost Marshal,  
 3rd Australian Divn.



Appendix, D.

List of Traffic Posts as manned 27/4/18

ASSISTANT  
PROVOST MARSHAL,  
3RD AUSTRALIAN DIV.

" 27/4/18

no.	map location	Personnel	Hours Manned
1	Sheet 62 D. C.23. A. 0.5	2	12
2	" " C.23. C. 5.5	2	12
3	" " B.27 Central	4	24
4	" " H.12 C.5.V	4	24
5	" " H.17. A.8.5	4	24
6	" " H.17. A.5.V	4	24
7	" " H.16. B.9.V	4	24

*Joseph Verhagen*

Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Division





Appendix, D

ASSISTANT  
PROVOST MARSHAL,  
3RD AUSTRALIAN DIV.

No. 27/4/18  
Det.

Battle Straggler Posts as manned 27/4/18

no	Map Location	M. in charge	Personnel
1	Sheet 6 D, C. 29. d. 8. 3	1	4
2	" D. 27. b. 3. v	1	4
3	" J. 7. d. Cent.	1	4
4	" I. 23. b. 7. v	1	4
5	" I. 4. b. 9. 9.	1	4

*John ...*

Assistant Provost Marshal,  
3rd Australian Divn.

