

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

Provost

Item number: 3/5/2

Title: Assistant Provost Marshal, 5th
Australian Division

February 1918



AWM4-3/5/2

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CONFIDENTIAL.

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

A.P.M. 5th. Australian Division.

FOR

February 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

A. Nesbitt

Signature of Officer Commanding

A. Nesbitt

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	February	1st.	A. P. M's Office moved from SAMIER Rest Area to DRANOUTRE forward area per Motor Lorry. 3 M.M.P. despatched with each Brigade for purpose of keeping strict march discipline.	
"	"	2nd.	Traffic Control Posts in forward area taken over from 1st. Australian Division.	
"	"	3rd.	M.M.P. distributed to various parts of the Divisional area for purpose of maintaining discipline.	
"	"	4th.	M.M.P. patrol all roads in forward area for purpose of regulating traffic, also to rectify irregularities such as:- Motor transport using roads which are not shown on M.T. Circuit Maps Double banking on roads -rendering assistance when blocks occur, and to check soldiers, who may be proceeding in the danger zone without Box Respirators.	
"	"	5th.	A Divisional Guard room established and men selected from the Division for a guard. Object of this Guard room is to hold all prisoners awaiting trial, awaiting Courts Martial, and notorious characters, whom the Unit are incapable of holding.	
"	"	6th.	Straggler Posts established, as in the case of Active Operations- these are placed in such a manner, so as to is practically impossible for soldiers to stray out of the front line system without coming in contact with these posts. In many cases soldiers lose their way accidentally and are put on the proper course by these posts.	
"	"	7th.	A census of Motor lorries taken- position of look out man and speed carefully observed. This is necessary for the preseveration of roads and to avoid accidents by passing traffic.	
"	"	8th.	Sgt. ADAMS and Cpl. MONK M.M.P. of this Division despatched to United Kindom for duty, after performing continual duty in FRANCE since the arrival of the Division.	
"	"	9th.	Disposal of 4 German Prisoners of War to Corps. Cage after interrogation by Intelligence result of raid made 5th. Australian Division on German trenches.	
"	"	10th.	Traffic Control Sentries issued with cards for the purpose of recording names of Officers and men who attempt to force their Post. In the event of an Officer or soldier deliberately forcing the post when called upon to halt, he is fired upon.	

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In the Field	February		Orders issued to the effect that Officers must forego the habit of tethering their horses in such places which are likely to draw fire from the enemy's guns.	
"		11th.		
"		12th.	No. 4290 Pte. COLLARD S.G. 29th. Battalion despatched to Base Prison to undergo 5 years Penal Servitude awarded him for deserting while in the face of the enemy.	
"		13th.	Arrangements made to erect numerous sign boards in the area, indicating directions to dumps, villages, railheads and hospitals, also the indications as to the restrictions against gas.	
"		14th.	Raid made on dugouts in the area, resulting in the capture of No. 1628 Pte. Reaburn J. 60th. Bn. and No. 2431 Pte. Johnstone 57th. Bn. two longstanding absentees.	
"		15th.	No. 3114 Pte. McQuellan W.J. 5th. Pioneer Battn. evacuated to Base Prison to undergo sentence of 1 years I.H.L. for disobeying a lawful command given by his superior officer.	
"		16th.	Movable Officers Control arranged - Posts established in different parts of the area to take a census of Motor Cars and names of occupants and duty - so as to prevent Officers and soldiers from "joy-riding" and misusing transport.	
"		17th.	Reported robbery of 39,000 francs from an Estaminet near LOCRE - as usual, alleged to have been committed by Australian Soldiers - Enquiries made by Gendarmerie and secret Provost Agents but with fruitless results.	
"		18th.	Camera and films, property of Lieut. JEFFREYS - forwarded to Divisional H.Q. to be used as evidence against this Officer - case held later on and Lieut. JEFFREYS was severely reprimanded.	
"		19th.	Disposal of 7 German Prisoners of War to Corps cage after being interrogated by Intelligence Department (result of raid on German Front Line system by troops of this Division)	
"		20th.	House of Rene LEMAIRE DEKEUWER, DRANOUTRE, placed out of bounds to troops for an indefinite period owing to infectious disease.	
"		21st.	M.M.P. detailed to prevent coal from being stolen from coal train - several soldiers were caught stealing coal and charge sheets were made out against them.	
"		22nd.	Major Langley A.P.M. 5th. Aust. Division proceeded to Aust. Corps H.Q. to take over duties of A.P.M. Corps.	

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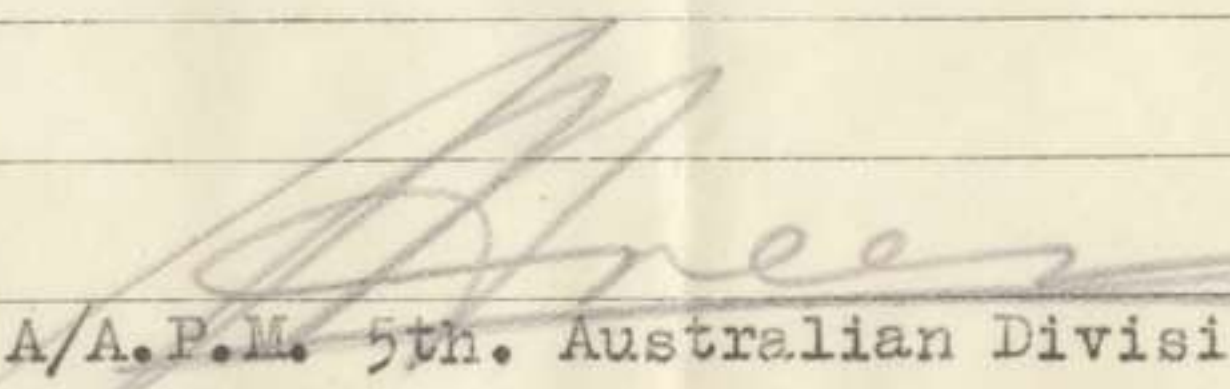
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1918. In the Field February			Claim received from inhabitant of SAMER AREA for a she-goat, supposed to have been taken away by Australian troops - claim investigated by M.M.P. but the goat could not be located.	
"	23rd.			
"	24th.		No. 4897 Pte. SMITH N. 31st. Battalion evacuated to Base prison to undergo sentence of 2 years I.H.L. awarded for disobeying a lawful command given by his superior Officer and deserting in the face of the enemy.	
"	25th.		Claims received from Civilian of DRANOUTRE for loss of one pig,alleged to have been committed by Australian soldiers - case investigated but without success.	
"	26th.		M.M.P. given special instructions to keep a sharp lookout for unshaded lights,which may prove a target for enemy aircraft during night time.	
"	27th.		All Units of the Division who carry G.S.Wagons on their strength, issued with arrows marked "Horse Transport".	
"	28th.		Civilian house inspected at LOCRE, in which young lady is supposed to have contracted Lupas all necessary precautins taken to prevent a spreading of this contagious disease.	
				
			Lieut.	
			A/A.P.M. 5th. Australian Division.	
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