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

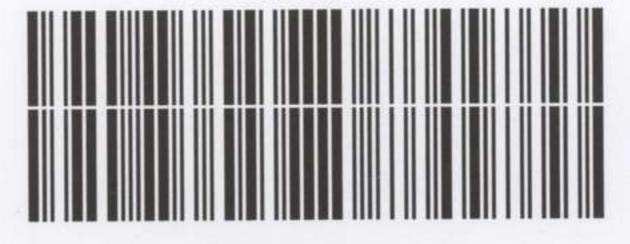
Provost

Item number: 3/9/1

Title: Assistant Provost Marshal, AIF

Depots in UK

January 1918



AWM4-3/9/1

3

BHURTPORE BARRACKS, TIDWORTH,

SALISBURY PLAIN.

10th January 1918.

HEADQUARTERS:

ANZAC PROVOST CORPS.

70. A.Q.M.G.,

Telegraphic Address:

"PROVOST, SALAUSTRA, TIDWORTH."

A.I.F. Depots in U.K.

POLICE REPORT FOR WHIK. ENDING 6th JANUARY 1917.

CONDUCT OF MILI-

Good.

CIVILIANS. FROM

Mil.

COMDUCT OF TROOPS Fair.

COMDUCT OF HOTELS . Satisfactory.

TRAFFIC.

No complaints or congestion.

SALUTING.

Indifferent.

GOVERNMENT PROPERTY. On Jany. 1st at the Salisbury County Sessions, H. Freemantle J. Edwards, T. Hennessey, E. Churchill were wach fined al forbeing unlawfully in possession of Australian issue boots. J. Harris was fined 10/- for the same offence.

The following will be tried at the City Sessions, Salisbury on the 7th inst. for being unlawfully in possession of Australian issue boots - F.Hill, H.Brudden, G.Follman, C.Jerrard, P.A.Wood, W.Rattue, J.F.Hussell, W.Wilmington, W.T. Miller, W.Childs, C.Barnes, & G.Chalk. At the same Court A.Penny will be charged with being unlawfully in possession of Australian issue leggings.

F.J. Turner is being charged at the Salisbury County Sessions on 8-1-18 with being unlawfully in possession of 1 pair of boots, 1 pair of leggings, 1 pair of socks, 1 pair of breeches and 1 shirt, the property of the A.I.F.

Mr. Legg of Heytesbury was charged before the Warminster Pelice Court on the 3rd inst. with being unlawfully in possession of Government boots. He was found guilty & fined £2.

GENERAL.

On the 30th Dec. 1917 a man wearing civilian clothes was arrestes on Suspicion of being an escaped Austrian prisoner. He informed the Military Police that he was an Austrian but was later identified as an Australian absentee named 2035, Sgt. Nathan, 3rd Bty. A.F.A. He has been charged with desertion.

4669, PTE. BLENNERHASSETT, R.H., 17th Bn., attd. Pay Office Admin. H.Q., London, uppeared at Bow St. Bolice Court on the 5th inst. charged with drunkenness & assault. He was found guilty & fined 20/- on the 1st charge & £3 on the second.

There is a decided increase in the number of offences for the week under review chiefly due to the large number of absentees arrested in London.

I would like to draw special attention to the prevalence of civilians trafficking in Government property, particular-



GENERAL.

ly in Australian clothing. Every effort is being made to suppress it, but so far without success. I am informed that a very considerable number of Australian boots and articles of clothing are being worn in and about Southampton and I have already taken steps to investigate the statement.

During the week under review I visited the Military Police Detachments at Salisbury, Hurdcott and Warminster and found everything satisfactory.

A special raid is in operation at present in London with a view to arresting Australian absentees.

Lieut-Col. G.O., ANZAC PROVOST CORPS.



ARZAC PROVOST CORPS.

SUBMIARY OF CASES DEALT WITH BY MILITARY FOLICE FOR WEEK - MEDING 30th DECEMBER1917.

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拉 路 路 路 路	TOTALS.	111	20	59	46	-	£3	96	2	26	25	406	356

Bhurtpore Barracks. Tidworth. 4-1918. Liout-Col.

A.P.M., A.I.F., in U.K., and

C.O., All MAG PROVOST CORPS.

ANZAC PROVOST CORPS.

SUMMARY OF CASES DEALT WITH BY MILITARY POLICE FOR WEEK - ENDING 6th JANUARY 1918.

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OFFENCE	LON- DON.	STATE OF THE PARTY AND ADDRESS.	WARMIN -STER.	WEY- MOUTH.	GRAN- THAM.		HURD- COTT.	BOURNE -MOUTH	BATH	TID- WORTH.	TO TAL	TO TAL FOR WA		
ABSENCE DRUNKENNESS INSUBORDINATION CONDUCT TO PREJUDICE- RESISTING ARREST ESCAPING FROM CUSTODY DISOBEDIENCE NEGLECT TO OBEY FORGED PASS ASSAULT BOUNDS FAILING TO SALUTE DESERTION BREACH OF TRAFFIC IMPROPERLY DRESSED STRIKING SUPERIOR STRIKING SUPERIOR	4171119112211	15 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	17 3 - 1 49	32 1 - 4 1		71111111111111	59		37	19 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	339 8 12 1 2 118 9 1 56 32 5 -	206 20 1 23 4 2 126 11 2 2 4 5	TO TIO	AU AU NO.
TOTALS	217	24	70	57	-	7	110	-	38	33	556	406	UNITED	BANKO -
	-	NO NEW YORK OF THE PARTY OF THE	and the same of the same of	-		Name of the Owner, or the Owne			THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T	CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER, CO.	1		121	2/

Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth. 10-1-18. Lieut-Col.

A.P.M., A.I.F. IN U.K. and C.O., ANZAC PROVOST CORPS.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



BHURTPORE BARRACKS, TIDWORTH,

SALISBURY PLAIN.

16th Jonuary 1918.

HEADQUARTERS:

ANZAC PROVOST CORPS.

A.Q.M.G.

A.I.F. Depots in U.K.

POLICE REPORT FOR WHISE ENDING 13th JANUARY 1918.

COMDUCT OF MILI-ARY POLICE.

Good.

COMPLAINTS FROM IVILIANS.

Mil.

COMDUCT OF HOTELS. Satisfactory.

computer of TROOFS. Fair with the exception of failute to salute and absence without leave.

COMPLAINTS.

A complaint was lodged by the Licencee of the "Boot Inn" at Shipton Bellinger to the effect that an Australian soldier had stolen the sum of £15-9-15 from his bar. Investigation went to show at the time the theft was alleged to have taken place that there were about 40 Australian and New Zealand soldiers in the bar and the Licencee, barman and barmaid were behind the bar and that during this time, in order to suatai the complaint, it would have been necessary for the soldier to have gone behind the counter to steal the money, and there is no evidence whatever to support the statement of the hotel keeper.

TRAFFIC.

Ho complaints.

SALUTING.

Indifferent.

TRAFFICKING IN GO VERLINENT STORES.

Special Reports under this head have been forwarded to Headquarters during the week and the question is now. I understand ander consideration of the G.O.O.

On the 6th inst. a special case however came under notice - particulars as follows :-

A kit bag was found at Codford Railway Station containing 1 Aust. tunic, 1 flannel, 4 pairs boots, 1 pair puttees and several other articles of Australian issue. The bag was addressed to W. Mothews, New Street Station, Birmingham and was marked in stencil, "3394, Pte. R.D. Gloss, 9/59th Bn., 15th T.B. Codford". The bag was taken to the Railway Station by a soldier who gave the name of No. 3430, Pte. Athews, 59th Battn. Result of investigation will be shown in my next weekly report.

The following cases were heard at the Salisbury City Sessions on the 7th inst. against the persons named below for being found in unlawful possession of Australian Boots and in each case a fine of al was inflicted by the beach :-

H. Brudden, G. Poolman, F. Hill, C. Jerrard, P.A. Wood, W. Rattue, W. T. Miller, H. F. Mussell, W. Wilmington.

W. Childs, C. Barnes,

le

In addition powers bove a man named Penny was fined first of being in possession of A.I.F. leggings.

The case against a man named G.W. Chalk was disposed of under the First Offenders Act.

At the County Sessions, Salisbury, Wm. Yates and Wm. Lock were each fined £1 for being in possession of Australian boots and A. Andrews was fined £1-5-0 for being in unlawful possession of Australian Boots and tunic.

The following cases of being in unlawful possession of Australian boots are still pending:
J.F. Turner, F. Curtis, F. Whitlock, A. E. Howard,

J. Pomeroy, R. Bugden, F. Whitlock, H. F. Pitman,

G. A. Whittle, S. Blake, A. B. Chant, F. W. Lucas,

T. H. Giddings, G. Beaven, H. White, S. Barber,

G. H. Wisdom, J. Leach.

on the loth inst. the A.P.H., A.I.F., Hurdcott proceeded to Southampton to investigate a rumour that second hand dealers were exhibiting for sale large quantities of Australian boots and clothing. This matter has been the subject of a special report which has already been submitted to Headquarters.

GENERAL. NO. 2239, PTE. P.J. HOURIGAN, A.A.S.C. was tried by D.C.M. at 58 Warwick Square, London on the 7th and 8th inst with (1) Desertion (2) Stealing from a comrade. He was found guilty on all charges and sentenced to 2 years imprisonment with hard labor.

MO. 1931, PTE. MILLER, 31st BaTTALION, was charged at Bow Street Police Court on the 11th inst. with drunkenness for which offence he was fined 2/6 and handed over to a Military Police Escort.

NO. 1647, PTE. GAW, H., 58th BN., was charged on the 12th inst. at Lambeth Police Court with theft from the person of another soldier in a Y.M.C.A. Hut at Camberwell Green. He was found not guilty of this offence but was subsequently charged as an absentee and handed over to an escort of Military Police.

on the 8th inst. No. 3640, Pte. SLUSHER, P.F., Australian Provest Corps, was responsible for stopping a pair or horses attached to a transport wagon which had bolted, the driver being thrown out and injured. Pte. Slusher shewed great presence of mind in jumping on the back of the wagon, climbing over the front and seizing the reins and thus preventing further accident or injury which appeared to be eminent at the time. This is the second occasion when this Military Policeman has distinguished himself in this direction. I therefore take the liberty of mentioning it.

A.P.M., A.I.F. IN U.K. and C.O., AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPSY

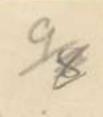
AUSTRALIAN PROVOST

DEALT WITH BY MILITARY POLICE FOR WEEK- ENDING 13th JANUARY 1918.

OFFRECE	LON- DON.	COD- FORD	Warmin -Ster.	WEY- MOUTH.				BOURIS -MOUTH	BATH	TID- WO RIH.	CS .	TO TAL FOR WE JENDG.
ABSENCE DRUNKENNESS INSUBORDINATION CONDUCT TO PREJUDICE RESISTING ARREST ESCAPING FROM CUSTODY DISOBEDIENCE NEGLECT TO OBEY FORGED PASS FAILING TO SALUTE DESERTION BREACH OF TRAFFIC IMPROPERLY DRESSED ALTERED PAY BOOK	4 1 3 1 1 1 1 5 1 7 3 1 1	8	34 5	107			43 - 14 11 13 1		15	19	298	339 8 12 1 238 9 1 6 5 5 24 5 2 5 2 5 2 5 2 5 2 5 2 5 2 5 2
TOTALS	253	23	56	27	-	5	105	-	15	47	531	556

Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth. 16-1-18. C.O., AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORES.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1003569





BHURTPORE BARRACKS, TIDWORTH,

SALISBURY PLAIN.

25th January, 1918.

HEADQUARTERS:

ANZAC PROVOST CORPS.

A.I.F. DEPOTS IN U.K.

POLICE REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 20th JANUARY, 1918.

CONDUCT OF MILI-

Good.

CIVILIANS.

Mil.

attention.

HOTELS.

Satisfactorily conducted.

CONDUCT OF TROOPS.

Fair. There is a considerable decrease in the number of cases dealt with by the military police during the week under review, in comparison with the previous week.

TRAFFIC.

No complaints or congestions.

SALUTING.

Fair. There is a substantial decrease in the number of offences under this head dealt with during the current week, in compaison with last week, and a marked improvement in the saluting of our troops in the London area, particularly in the vicinity of Administrative Head-quarters, is reported.

TRAFFICKING IN ERNMENT STORES AND CLOTHING.

GOV-A number of cases were heard at the Salisbury City
Sessions during last week, and the case of civilians
being in possession of Australian issue boots and clothing. Fines ranging from £1 to £2.10/- were imposed by
the Magistrator

GENERAL.

Ist Battalion, A.I.F. On Leave from B.E.F.

appeared at Clerkenwell Police Court on the 16th inst.
on a charge of assault on a civilian, and committing wilful damage to property.

on the evidence produced it appeared that DAVENFORT was sober at the time of the occurrence and that the complainant (James Lightfoot) was somewhat to blame.

The Bench inflicted a fine of 20/- and 20/- costs

which DAVENPORT paid, and was subsequently discharged.

He was instructed by 2/Lt. Booth of the London detach
ment to report to Administrative Headquarters for medical

No. 1359, Pte. MARTIN, R., and No. 1198, Pte. CORBETT both 47th Battalion, A.I.F. appeared at Great Marlborough Street Police Court on the 16th inst. on a charge of picking pockets and were remanded for a week to enable further enquiries to be made concerning them.

Extensive enquiries at the addresses of alleged illegal absentees have been made resulting in a number of arrests of soldiers who have been absent for lengthy periods.

A.P.M., A.I.F., in U.K., and C.O. AUSTRALIAN PROVOST COR AUSTRALIAE PROVOST CORPS.

SUBDIARY OF CASES DEALT WITH BY MILITARY POLICE FOR WEEK - ENDING 20th JANUARY, 1916.

* A		Name to the local district	no account of	MATERIAL STATE OF	SETTING THE PARTY OF		-	CHICAGO SIGNATURA	B. S. B. D. S. B.	posessi in redesig	purchase sony	AND STREET, ST
	OFFILIA	LOH- DOH.	COD- FORD	WEX- HOUTH.	BATH.	BRISTOL.	Maria Caracteria Carac	BOURNE- HOUTH.		TID- WORTH	TOTAL	TOTAL FOR W.O.
DR GO IN RES DI NO DE LES	SEECE	127	35	14 2	34		57 52 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		25	22 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	307 90 1 1 1 1 9 30 M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M M	298
Commercial Sections of the Commercial Sections o	TOTALS	127	21	40	34	34	96	2	62	3.7	438	531

Tidworth, 24-1-18.

A.P.H., A.I.F., in U.K., and G.O., AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORES.

10

BHURTPORE BARRACKS, TIDWORTH,

SALISBURY PLAIN. 2nd February, 1918.

Telegraphic Address: "PROVOST, SALAUSTRA, TIDWORTH."

Australian

HEADQUARTERS:

To. Headquarters, (A.Q.M.G.) PROVOST CORPS.

A.I.F. DEPOTS IN U.K.

POLICE REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 27th JANUARY, 1918.

PARY POLICE.

Good.

COMPLAINTS FROM CIVILIANS.

Mil.

CONDUCT OF HO TELS.

Satisfactory.

CONDUCT OF TROOPS.

Fair.

TRAFFIC.

No complaints.

SALUTING.

Fair.

TRAFFICKING IN GOVERNMENT PRO-PERTY.

Thomas Holton of New Town, Warminster, was convicted of being in possession of Government stores, during the week, and was fined £5, or one month's imprisonment.

GENERAL.

Mrs. Earle of 26 Victoria Road, Warminster, was bound over, during the week under review, for 12 months on a charge of harbouring soldiers. This woman had allowed Sgts. Smith and McClennan to live in her house, both M.C.Os being absentees for over 21 days

A fire occurred at a Cinema Hall adjacent to No.7 Camp, Sutton Veny, of which a full special report was forwarded to Headquarters on the 24th ult. A Board of Inquiry has been convened, and further information will be forwarded later.

Pte. HYMSOM, 3rd M.G.COY. was arrested by the Civil Police at Westbury for masquerading as an officer. At the time, HYNSON was wearing a Military Cross ribbon to which he was not entitled. He was an absentee from No. 4 Command Depot, to which Unit he has been returned for trial.

No. 391. Pto. FITZMAURICE, C.C. 4th Australian M.G. Coy. Grantham appeared at Bow Street Police Court on the 21st ult. charged with

(1) Stealing and receiving. (2) Forging and uttering.

The Defendant pleaded guilty on both charges and was sentenced to three months imprisonment with hard labor.

Lieut.C.M. Williams of the Australian Provost Corps attended the Court.

No. 727. Pte. CAVE, F.H. 47th Battalion, A.I.F., and No. 1198, Pte. CORBETT, C.W., 7th A.L.T.M.B., A.I.F. appeared at Marlborough Police Court on the 22nd ult.



charged with being suspicious persons, both men being arrested on the 14th ult. by the Metropolitan Police on suspicion of picking pockets. The charges were dismissed, and the soldiers were handed over to the police as absentees.

Lieut. Booth, Australian Provost Corps, attended the Court.

at the County of London Session, Clerkenwell, on the 22nd ult. on a charge of larceny. He was subsequently handed over to the Military Police as he had been absent from the 29th June last, and at the time of his arrest was dressed in the uniform of a South African officer. Several of BROWN'S accomplices were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment at the same Court.

No. 5530. Pte. SMITH, Claude, 1st. D.A.C. was charged at Lavender Hill Police Court on the 23rd ult. with being a suspected person, and loitering with intent to commit a felony. He was sentenced to two months imprisonment.

Lieut. Booth of the Australian Provost Corps attended the

Court.

No. 6044. Pte. CLEMENT-DAVIES, R.J., 24th Battalion, A.I.F. appeared at the Marleybone Police Court on the 26th ult. charged with

(1) Obtaining goods under false pretences.

(2) Stealing.

TIDWORTH

A.I.F. IN UNITED K

He pleaded guilty to both charges, and was sentenced to

12 months imprisonment with hard labor.

Lieut. Williams, Australian Provost Corps, attended the

the tall the six tile the day and

During the week under review I inspected Military Police detachments at Salisbury, Andover, Tidworth, and London, and found everything satisfactory.

I also paid a special visit to Scotland, under instructions from the G.O.C., A.I.F. Depots in U.K., and by arrangement with the Provost Marshal, Home Forces. I visited Edinburgh, Glasgow. Dundee, and Aberdeen, and the reports from the Military and Givil Police on the conduct of Australians generally were exceptionally good. Isolated cases of misconduct, of course, were reported. The provision made at the Edinburgh local Y.M.C.As, Railway buffets, Soldiers Homes, etc., particularly for the accommodation of Overseas troops was very good indeed, and worthy of the highest commendation.

A small detachment of Australian military police has been

temporarily stationed at Edinburgh.

Lieut-Col.

d.O., Australian Provost Corps.

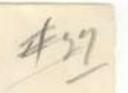
SUMMARY OF CASES DEALT WITH BY MILITARY POLICE FOR WEEK - ENDING 27th JANUARY, 1918.

OFFENCE			MEY- MOUTH		BRIS -TOL.	HURD- COTT.	BOURNE-	-STER.	WORTH.	TOTAL.	20th January, 1918.
ABSENCE DRUMKENNESS INSUBORDINATION CONDUCT TO PREJUDICE RESISTING ARREST ESCAPING FROM CUSTODY DISOBEDIENCE NEGLECT TO OBEY FORGED PASS ASSAULT BOUNDS FAILING TO SALUTE DESERTION BREACH OF TRAFFICK	9 - 1	011111011111	82 -11 - 21 - 37 1	13	421	23 - 1 8 1 51 2	02 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	37 3	23 3	292 12 1 31 1 128 9 3 7 8 2 1 7	307 9 10 1 97 3
TOTALS.	160	10	54	16	44	86	2	91	41	504	432

Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth. 31-1-18. Lieut-Col.

C.O., AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

10





DUPLICATE.

Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth, Salisbury Plains 7th February, 1918.

To.

POLICE REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 2ndFEBRUARY, 1918.

CONDUCT OF MILITARY POLICE.

Good

COMPLAINTS FROM

one or two minor complaints have been recieved, and have be en given attention. A complaint of fowl stealing was lodged by Mr. Carpenter of Sutton Parva, Heytesbury, Wilts. on the 28th ult. claiming allo compensation for some fowls which he alleges were stolen on the 24th ult. Investigation goes to show that there is no evidence that the robbery was committed by Australians, or any other soldiers.

CONDUCT OF HOTELS.

Good

CONDUCT OF TROOPS.

Fair. The number of cases dealt with by the Military Police shews a substantial decrease on those dealt with for the previous week.

TRAFFIC

Nothing to report.

SALUTING.

FAIR.

TRAFFICKING IN GOVERNMENT PROPERTY? On the 31st ult. the police visited a house,
No. 50 Pound Street, Warminster, occupied by M
Mrs. Maguire, and discovered the following articles
of Australian Military clothing: - 11 shirts, flannel;
5 prs. underpants; 2 singlets; 2 abdomonal belts;
7 prs socks, 2 web belts; 1 towel,; 1 Cardigan Jacket;
2 tunics; 2 breeches; 1 sea kit bag; 2 pull throughs;
1 pr. boots; 1 greateoat; 5 blankets; 1 waterproof
sheet.

Mrs Maguire is the wife of Pte Maguire of the Australian Forces. She was summoned before the local bench at Warminster on February 2nd and remanded pending her husband being arrested, and he will be charged jointly with her with being illegally in possession of the articles named.

At Southampton Civil Court on the 1st inst.

Mrs Beran was fined 10/- for being unlawfully in
possession of Government property (Australian clothing
Similar charges are pending against Samuel Barber
of Salisbury, Isaac White, of Shipton Bellinger, and
E.Woodford, of Donhead, St.Mary.

GENERAL.

On the night of the 28th ult. Messrs Deacon and Jays Tobacco and Stationary Hut in No. 4 Camp, Sutton Veny was broken into. A considerable quantity of Tobacco and cigarettes were stolen, also some fountain pens. Up to now we have been unsuccessful in fixing the responsibility on anybody, but a Court of Inquiry into the robbery is in process.

\$ 28

DUPLICATE

(2).

JOHN McGRATH appeared at Westminster Police Court on the 21st.ult. charged with being an unauthori sed person wearing Australian Uniform. He was sentenced to six(6) months imprisonment with hard labour. This man was previously arrested by a member of the Australian Police, and gave his name as Harris. He escaped whilst in the custody of the civil police. He was subsequently re-arrested by the Australian Military Police with the results as shewn above.

No.6152 Pte BURKE. J. J.13th. Btn.A.I.F. (Overseas Training Brigade) appeared at Bow Street Police Court on the 29th.ult.on a charge of larceny from soldiers in the Victoria League Club, London. Hewas found guilty and bound over on the sum of £5 to be of good behaviour for 12 months, and then handed over the military police as an absentee.

No.727 Pte CAVE F.M. 47th. Btn. A. I.F., appeared
Marlborough Police Court on the 22nd. ult. charged
with picking pokets. He was remanded for a week
in order to establish his identity. He was
subsequently acquitted of the charge, and handed
over to the military police (Australian) as an absented

The offence of absence without leave is still very prevalent.

During the week under review 1 inspected the Australian Po lice Detachments at Hurdcott, Codford and Warminster, and found everything satisfactory with the exception of the condition of the horses at Warminster, which is now receiving my special attention.

(sgd). J.WILLIAMS. Lieut-Col. A.P.M. A.I.F. IN U.K. & .. C.O. AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.