

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

Ordnance

Item number: 2/8/15

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

October 1917



AWM4-2/8/15

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HE28 G15 C24.	Oct. 1st.		This month opened with the main dump at G15 C24, and the auxiliary one for the Artillery and for supplying the Units with absolute necessities at Dickebusch. The first news this morning was from my advanced dump, which had been heavily bombed the night before, and some men were casualties. The wounded men were evacuated to the C.C.S. I visited the C.C.S. and found that one man was so severely wounded that it would necessitate the amputation of a leg, but the others fortunately were merely slight cases. Two water-carts and a fair amount of other stores were also destroyed in this raid.	
	2nd.		I found, unfortunately, on visiting the C.C.S. this morning, that Pte. Hamilton had died. A funeral was arranged for the afternoon, and all the members of my staff attended. The issue of stores which had arrived from the Base was carried on.	
	3rd.		I visited the laundry with the D.A.Q.M.G. and the Baths Officer, and a thorough inspection was made of the whole concern. Indents had been wired from each Brigade as they came out of the line, and so were now being received.	
	4th.		A meeting of the General with all Brigadiers and C.O's. was held. Having received after this meeting all outstanding Indents, I left for Calais.	
	5th.		All arrangements were made with the Chief Ordnance Officer for the issue to this Division of all stores necessary to make it efficient when it returned to the line.	
	6th.		Visited D.H.Q., where "G" and "Q" Branches were visited for instructions. Stores going out to Brigades concerned very rapidly.	
	7th.		More lorries arrived back from Calais with stores necessary for re-equipment. These were sent immediately to advanced dump.	
	8th.		The camp was heavily shelled, and unfortunately two Corporals were killed by enemy shell-fire. Lots of damage was done to stores in the camp, but luckily no other personnel were injured.	
	9th.		Funeral of Corporals Robertson and Manfield took place, the 8th. Brigade Band attending and the whole of my staff. The forward dump was again re-established in regard to battle stores.	

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	Oct. 10th.		Winter underwear started arriving. This continued throughout the whole of the day.	
	11th.		Stores from Base arriving in proper order. Arrangements made with "Q" Branch as to the disposal of the winter clothing.	
	12th.		Indents passed to Base for the supply to Division of Horse-rugs and Blankets. Arrangements made with "Q" Branch as to their issue on arrival.	
	13th.		Visited D.H.Q., receiving instructions as to general procedure regarding issue for the Baths and winter clothing.	
	14th.		Visited baths at Winnipeg and Ottawa camps with D.A.Q.M.G. Everything proceeding satisfactorily. All units returning issue of summer clothing and receiving winter in exchange. Careful check on figures of returns and issues being made.	
	15th.		Issue of Horse-clipping Machines started. Arrangements made with D.A.D.V.S. for issue of Clipping Machines and receiving of Horse-rugs. This whole question was left to the Veterinary Surgeon.	
	16th.		Visited Calais. Reported to the C.O. All questions cleared up satisfactorily.	
	17th.		All stores from Base arriving satisfactorily.	
	18th.		Present at late A.D.M.S.'s. funeral as joint representative of "Q" Branch. Demands passed for supply of F.S. Boots, leather jerkins, and Coats, Sheep-skin lined, for long rein drivers.	
	19th.		Visited D.H.Q. Saw G.O.C. "G" and "Q" Branches. Reported as to issues. Stores arriving well from Base.	
	20th.		General issues taking place.	
	21st.		Visited Divisional Reinforcement Wing with A.A.Q.M.G. and got report on conditions. Made all arrangements regarding stores and clothing.	

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	Oct. 22nd.		Visited Laundry and Reinforcement Camp. All arrangements made yesterday going well as to exchange of clothing.	
	23rd.		Visited D.H.Q. Saw "Q" Branch and arranged for small Units to be supplied with Winter clothing.	
	24th.		All issues proceeding well. Arrangements made to send all 14th. Bde stores to new location.	
	25th.		14th. Bde Stores sent out. Stores arriving from Base.	
	26th.		Visited rear H.Q. and saw Camp Commandant regarding equipment and clothing. Instructions received from Corps re demanding Machine Guns and spares from base, now the Division is out of the line.	
	27th.		General receipts and usual issues.	
	28th.		A.D.O.S. called. Reported on general situation of Division.	
	29th.		Meeting at D.H.Q. Ordnance questions not raised. Units of Division being well supplied with stores.	
	30th.		Visited D.H.Q. Reported to "G" and "Q" Branches. Called in at 15th. Field Ambulance and 15th. Brigade to see situation.	
	31st.		I.O.M. visited to clear up all outstanding questions. General receipts and issues.	
			<p>This month has proved how rapidly a division may be equipped in regard to its technical stores, especially those of Machine Guns. The Division was re-equipped in 48 hours, and if Units will, on coming out of the line, instantly make inspections and demand at once for shortages, then they can be supplied by me sending lorries to the Base, after I have made all arrangements personally with the C.O.O. A delay was caused by one Battalion, and this held the whole Division up.</p>	

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			<p>The issue of winter clothing has been a great boon, and by the time the complete issue is received it will be possible to say that the Division is re-equipped, as by that time all technical stores will have arrived and been issued.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>J. A. D.</i> Captain, A.O.D., D.A.D.C.S., 5th. Aust. Divn.</p> <p>4th. November, 1917.</p>	

