

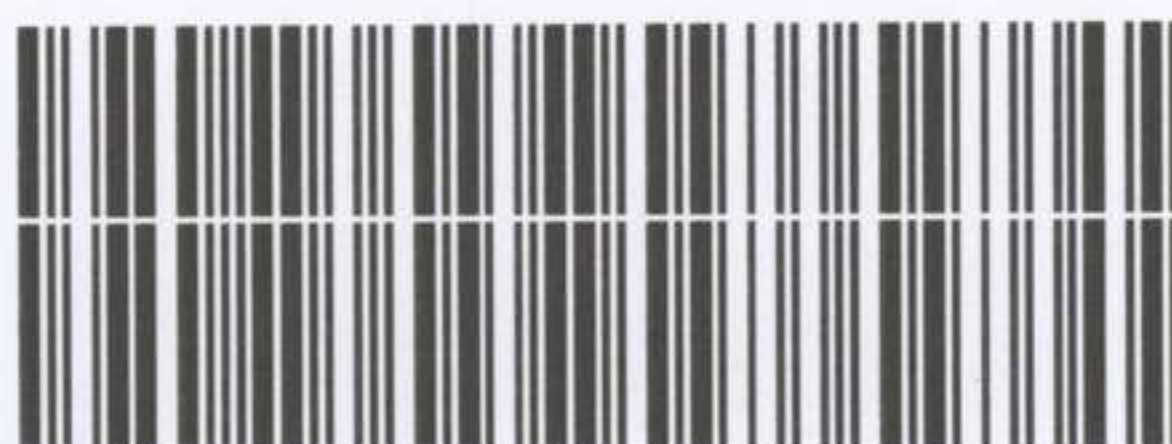
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Claims

Item number: 4/4/9

Title: Claims Officer, 4th Australian Division

April 1918



AWM4-4/4/9

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

183

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th Aust Divⁿ D.C.O

FOR

April 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*A. W. Symon
4th Aust D.C.O*

Signature of Officer Commanding

[Signature]
Lieut. Colonel
A. A. & Q. M. G. 4th Australian Division

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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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VADENCOURT	April	1	D.C.O. arrived at D.H.Q. after completing duty in Northern France and Belgium. D.C.O. Routine.	
BEAUCOURT	"	2	D.H.Q. arrived. Maire seen at VADENCOURT. His departure and clearance given.	
VADENCOURT	"	3	D.C.O. Routine.	See Appen. 1
& BEAUCOURT	"	4	D.R.O. No. 474, paras. 2040 & 2050 published re Looting & Damage to Crops	
	"	5	Germans shelled Village this morning purporting to attack on Div. front. Many claims being received for looting by British Troops in previous operations. A.A. & Q.M.G. of Division & A.Q.M.G. of Corps seen. D.C.O. instructed to allow matter to stand for the present owing to the tactical situation. In meantime all Claims to be registered for future action by necessary authority.	" " 2
	"	6	Return of No. 1056/4 after perusal by G.O.C.	" " 3
	"	7	D.C.O. routine and important letter to Claims Commission re Looting etc and Claims Commission reply. G.O.C. notified	
ALLONVILLE	"	8	D.H.Q. arrived.	
	"	9 -15	D.C.O. Routine. Many claims received for large amounts. Already record for this month established. Claims are chiefly for goods taken in absence of Inhabitants on account of evacuation etc., all troops are more or less concerned.	
	"	16-17	D.C.O. Routine.	
	"	18	D.C.O. presided at Court of Enquiry on death of Lieut. V. MASTERS, Aust. Wireless Sec., killed accidentally. Letter to G.O.C. at his request re position up to date of Claims. D.C.O. Routine. Australian Corps now part of FOURTH ARMY from THIRD ARMY.	" " 4-5
	"	19	D.C.O. Routine.	" " 6
	"	20-	Administrative Instructions No. 77 re Claims. D.C.O. Routine. D.C.O. took Summary of Evidence re	" " 7
	"	23	G.C.M., Captain YOUNG, 47th Battalion	" " 8
	"	24-7	D.C.O. Routine. Claims work still very heavy. A.F.N.1531a signed by G.O.C. and forwarded to Paymaster, Base. Q1056/4 forwarded to Corps. Grand total record exceeded since appointment of D.C.O. to this Division.	" " 9
	"	28	Battle Echelon to move to GLISY, Rear Echelon to remain at ALLONVILLE, for the present.	
	"	29)	D.C.O. Routine. Letter to Divisional Headquarters re Remarks of Monsieur TRIAL, Manager for	
	"	30)	Monsieur. HENNESY, Chateau ALLONVILLE.	
	"	31)		

A. W. Agman

Major.

D.C.O.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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18,000-12/17-8723

APPENDIX 2

WAR DIARY

OF

4th Aust Div - Blain's Office

FOR

April 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|--|
| 1) | D.R.O. No 474 Paras 2049, 2050
re discipline and lossing of Damage
to creps. |
| 2) | Army G 1056/4 re Blain's record
for month, after perusal of G.O.C |
| 3) | Blain's Commission correspondence
re lossing. |
| 4) | D.R.O. 480 Para 2074 Comby Enquiry |
| 5) | Summary of Blain's for G.O.C
to date for this month. |
| 6) | Administrative instructions No 77
re damage to property. |
| 7) | A.F.N 1531 ^A for Paymaster's statement
of Receipts & Disbursements for April
after signature by G.O.C |
| 8) | Army G 1056/4 for April re Blain's
record. |
| 9) | Report on M. trial of Allowell,
Somme. |

ROUTINE ORDER NO. 474,

by

Major-General E.G. SINCLAIR MACLAGAN, C.B., D.S.O.,
Commanding 4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

4th April, 1918.

HONOURS AND REWARDS. 2047. Under authority granted by His Majesty the King, the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief has awarded the Military Cross to the undermentioned Officer and desired his congratulations to be conveyed to the recipient. The Divisional Commander wishes to add his congratulations to those of the Corps Commander.

Lieut. C.E. NORTHOVER, 15th. Battalion, A.I.F.

ORDERS. 2048. Attention is drawn to the following orders :-
G.R.O. 3723 - Conservation of French Foodstuffs.
3724 Marriages between British soldiers and French or Belgian women.
3725 Records of marriages.
3720 - Method of Registration in Hotel Visitors' Books in France and Belgium.

DISCIPLINE. 2049. As a consequence of the present operations, many French people have been forced to leave their homes and abandon the whole of their possessions. Many of these homes lie in the area occupied by British Troops, who therefore become Trustees to the French people for their abandoned property. The Army Commander exhorts every Officer, Warrant Officer, Non-commissioned officer and man in the Third Army to do all in his power to protect the homes and property of our allies who are fighting our common enemy. The penalty for the crime of looting is known and the sternest disciplinary measures will be taken to put a stop to it.

This order will be read out to all troops in the Third Army three times.

DAMAGE TO CROPS. 2050. With reference to the recent orders from the Corps as to avoiding damage to growing crops, Artillery Units in particular are reminded of the importance of the subject. It is only in the neighbourhood of Battery positions that driving over crops may be unavoidable, elsewhere riders, lead horses and wagons must invariably keep to the tracks.

P.T.O.



2.

LEAVE TO ALIENS. 2051. Officers under the rank of Lieut-Colonel and Other Ranks are not allowed in ALIENS without a pass signed by the Commanding Officer of their respective units.

SICK - WEST OF GONTAY. 2052. "U" section, 4th. Aust. Field Ambulance has opened Main Dressing Station at School House, BEAUCOURT, and will clear sick of the Division located west of GONTAY.

Sick of details of 4th. Aust. Division in BUANCOURT will parade at the above A.D.S.

Sick of details and Infantry Brigade Transport Lines AGNICOURT and BAVELINCOURT will parade to R.A.O. 4th. Aust. Div. Train, AGNICOURT.

The above cancels all other orders issued on the subject.

R. Dowds

Lieut-Colonel,
A.A. & Q.I.G.,
4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Notices.

1. Strayed from Horse Lines of 106th. Field Ambce. on night of 30th. ult., at LA HOUSOYE -

L.D. mule, Dark Bay, Mare, 15 hands, star, rear on near shoulder, No. 35 on near fore.

L.D. mule, Black, gelding, 15.2 hands, No. 36 on near fore.
Information to O.C. 106th. Field Ambulance, 35th. Division.

2. LOST on 27th. March, from Wood N.W. of BRESLE -

Bay Mare, Rider, 14.2 hands, star, 203 off hind, 8 off fore, clipped trace high, hogged mane, bushed tail.

Bay Mare, Rider, 14.2 hands, race star, stacking off hind, 203 off hind, 2 off fore, clipped trace high, hogged mane, bushed tail.

Information to C.R.E., 35th. Division.

P.T.O.



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3.Notices (cont)

3. Lieut. S.W.GULLETT, A.I.F., has been appointed as Officer in charge of the Australian War Records Section in France.

For the present his address will be -

Care Headquarters, Aust. Corps.

The duties allotted to him are as follows -

- (a) to explain to Units the objects and work of the Section.
 - (b) To keep them in touch with what has been accomplished, and what is in hand for ensuring the complete collection of complete official records, of museum exhibits, of photographic and cinema records, of works of art, etc.
 - (c) To assist units in compiling War Diaries which will ensure their achievements receiving in history the recognition they deserve and which will provide material for future study by the Australian military authorities with a view to effecting improvements in the organisation, training, &c., of the army.
 - (d) To supervise the collection of material for war museum.
 - (e) To carry out administrative arrangements in connection with the Official Photographers and artists, and supervision of the work of the artists to be appointed to the W.R. Section.
-

2/ 4th Aust Divⁿ
1/4/18

Hqrs
4th Aust Divⁿ

H.Q.
4TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
No. 921/10/1
Date

Herewith monthly
Report for the
information of the
G. O. C, please.

A. V. Agnew
4th Aust D.C.O

CLAIMS OFFICE 4TH AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No. A/12
Date 1/4/18

ACO
Shaw for
1/2



Return 2^d Army Q. 1056/4.

189

Under G.R.O. 763.

Total amount claimed: F 4224

Total amount awarded: F 185

No. of claims : 4

No. Disallowed : 2

(Including those sent to C. Com
for final settlement.)

Under G.R.O. 634.

No. of claims: 4

27. 3. 16.

A. W. Aginaw

Major 4th Australian J.C.O.

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX 3

Headquarters,
4th. Australian Division.
6th. April 1918.

CLAIMS OFFICE
4TH
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
A/C
6/4/18

Claims Office,
General Headquarters.

It is desired to obtain your advice and ruling in the following:-

This Division is now in many villages vacated by the inhabitants (including the Maire).

Prior to our arrival, I regret to say, a large amount of looting had taken place by British Troops. When the people return, a number of claims will no doubt be lodged and it is quite impossible to trace the individual units concerned.

It is also impossible to deal with the situation as it is now, except in a perfunctory fashion.

The A.P.M. is using his best efforts to recover live stock and then evacuate same, but he of course cannot deal with the household effects of whole villages.

This Division has already published orders against looting and same will undoubtedly be punished very severely.

Your review of the situation will be

/valuable

- 2 -

valuable to me at the present moment.

I am in close touch with the French Mission, but so far no real solution has been evolved.

W. G. ...

Major.
D.C.O.

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

3 3/4

4th Aust Divⁿ
7/4/18

Pages
4th Aust Divⁿ

CLAIMS OFFICE
4TH
AUSTRALIAN DIV.

No. A/12

Date 2/4/18

The attached letter is
forwarded for your
information and return
please.

A. H. G. man
4th Aust Divⁿ C.O.

H.Q.
4TH AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION.

No.

Date

R.P.
7-1-18
8/4/18



3

Claims Commission - British Armies in France.



Claims Officer,
4th Australian Division.

Your A/12 of 6-4-18.

Kindly keep fullest records concerning the villages to which you allude with, wherever possible, data concerning formations or units by which occupied. Any reports which you can send, naming villages and alluding to specific cases of looting, etc. which have come to your notice, or in respect of which you can obtain evidence, will be of the greatest possible use when a settlement of these matters can be contemplated.

CLAIMS OFFICE
4TH
AUSTRALIAN DIV.
No. A/12
Date 14/4/18

Carl Lindemann

Major,
for Major General,
President, Claims Commission.

Headquarters,
Claims Commission,
A.P.O.S/79,
11th April 1918.
SW



ROUTINE ORDERS No. 480

by
Major-General L.G. SINGLAIR MAULAN, O.B., D.S.O.,
Commanding 4th AUSTRALIA DIVISION.

15th April, 1918.

HONOURS AND REWARDS. 2073. The Corps Commander has awarded the Military Medal to the undermentioned, and desires that his congratulations be conveyed to the recipients. The Divisional Commander wishes to add his congratulations to those of the Corps Commander.

<u>4th Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.</u>			<u>24th Aust. M.G. Company.</u>	
No. 1354	L/Cpl. O'BRIEN	G.M.	No. 435	Pte. OLIVE
5898	Pte. SMITH	P.O.	426D	Sgt. SUGG
3536	Pte. BUCKLEY	W.H.	740	Pte. HINES
			42PB	Cpl. H.J. HEYWOOD
			3753	Pte. GRANT
				F.R.
				U.
				J.A.
				R.A.

COURT OF ENQUIRY. 2074. A Court of Enquiry composed as hereunder will assemble at a time and place to be arranged by the President to enquire into and report upon the circumstances attending the death of Lieut. VALLASTERS, Aust. Corps Wireless Section, who was killed on the ALLOUVILLE-BEAUCOURT Road on the 15th instant.

President - Major A. W. NYMAN, 4th Aust. Div. Headquarters.
(Capt. A. L. ROSSITER, 4th Aust. Div. H.Q.
Members - (Lieut. J. B. CALDER, 51st Battalion

WATER SUPPLY. 2075. On 15th April a standpipe for filling water carts will be available in Chateau Grounds, ALLOUVILLE, where about 20 carts per diem can be supplied. The standpipe is situated near the overhead tank and access is obtained through gateway near church. Sheet 520 - 6.12.6.1.3.

WATER CART RETURNS. 2076. Weekly certificates to be forwarded by C.S.O. Units to show -
(i) number of serviceable water carts held is up to establishment.
(ii) That interior of water carts have been cleaned during week.
(iii) That chloride of lime is carried by all water carts, and that chlorination of drinking water is being carried out.
To reach office of A.S.M.S. by 9 a.m. Monday of each week made up to noon on Sunday.
D.R.Os. 1552 and 1581 are cancelled.

SCALE OF BATTEN. 2077. With reference to A.I.F. Order 1190, para 5, Units will forward reports to reach this office by 9 a.m. on the 28th instant.

PROTECTION OF CIVILIAN PROPERTY. 2078. With reference to Aust. Corps Order No. 90 of 11th April, 1918, this order will be read out on parade three times.

BOUNDS. 2079. (i) No one under the rank of Lieut-Colonel is permitted to enter ALLOUVILLE without a pass signed by his Commanding Officer. No leave to ALLOUVILLE is to be granted. When special duty passes are issued, they are only to be made available between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
(ii) ALLOUVILLE is placed out of bounds to all troops. No passes are to be issued to anyone to enter the town except those proceeding on duty. Authority - 4/Army A.O. 52 of 13/4/18.

R. Jones
Lieut-Colonel,
A.A. & Q.A.G.,
4th AUSTRALIA DIVISION.

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5
Headquarters,
4th Australian Division.
18th April 1918.

Headquarters,
4th Australian Division.

Herewith Summary of Claims dealt with to present date for month of April. I make the following observations:-

1. Clearly identifiable against this Division F1932.
2. In reporting to Claims Commission, ROUEN, I am compelled to state in many cases, the identity of units cannot be ascertained owing to congestion, but the liability of the Army is clearly established and final assessments and adjustments is left accordingly in their hands.
3. In the within total there was one claim for F26,523 for Wine taken at VADENCOURT by British Troops, and six claims of owner of Chateau amount to F13439 for the following:-

<i>ALLOUVILLE</i>		
Sundries, Clothing	1602f	
Magneoes etc	<u>1800</u>	3402f
Produce		9246
Live Stock		<u>791</u>
	Total	<u>13439</u> Francs.

4. All these are more or less rightly founded and must be charged for the most part against the Public, owing to all units being involved.
5. It would appear that there is a great lack of real supervision on the part of all officers in regard to the matter of claims, generally.

A. W. Hyman

Major.
D.C.O.
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



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APPENDIX

5/13

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS FOR MONTH up to 18th April
in SOMME AREA.

Total number of Claims	36.	
Total amount claimed		59,513 Francs.

NATURE OF CLAIMS.

Produce, Wheat, Oats, Lucerne, Hay & Straw	18
Furniture	1
Wine, Beer etc	3
Wood	10
Live Stock	13
Sundries, Boiler, clothing etc	10

UNITS CONCERNED.

4th. Aust. Div.	8
3rd. Aust. Div.	2
5th. Aust. Div.	4
Aust. Units not identi- fiable	7
British Units	10
Units unknowns	10

18/4/18



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APPENDIX 6 14

6

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Administrative Instructions No. 77

Headquarters,
4th Aust. Div.
19th April 1918.

The Divisional Commander has again had it brought to notice that some troops under his command have been guilty of causing wilful and unnecessary damage to the property of inhabitants, and also of petty pilfering.

All ranks are again reminded that they are trustees to our French Allies for all property in the area where the Division happens to be quartered.

The Divisional Commander expects all officers, N.C.O.s. and men to see that the fair name of Soldiers of the A.I.F. (who as a whole have so splendidly upheld our good traditions and played the game) is kept untarnished, and that offenders are brought to book and severely punished.

Redours

Lieut-Colonel.
A.A. & Q.M.G.
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.





THE HONORABLE THE SECRETARY
OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Handwritten signature

Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a memorandum or letter.

FOR THE SECRETARY

H.Q.
4TH AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION.
No.
Date

Large blue handwritten scribble or signature over the stamp.



Handwritten number '264'.

Handwritten number '183'.

FOR USE IN THE FIELD

Army Form N. 1531 A. (adapted)
(To be made out in duplicate)

ACCOUNT of sums received and expended by the Imprest Holder, FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION Unit.

for period from 28th March 1918 to 27th April 1918, in account with the Paymaster A./12.

Dr.					Cr.														
Date	No. of Voucher	From whom received	Particulars	Amount					Date	No. of Voucher	To whom paid	Particulars	Amount						
				Francs	c.	£.	s.	d.					Francs	c.	£.	s.	d.		
1918									1918										
April									April										
"	9	1261	4th Aust. Div. Headqu arters	10					"	14	1284	VRAYET E.	Building	60					
"	25	1302	43th Battalion	20					"	14	1289	LEMAIRE C.	Lucerne	80					
"	27	1305	4th Aust. M.T. & S Col.	150					"	15	1280	BELMERE L.	Poultry	50					
"	26	1284	15th Battalion	20					"	15	1281	LECOQ C.	Poultry	75					
"	26	1263	15th Battalion	30					"	17	1293	DEBAUVAIS P.	Wood	30					
									"	19	1302	BERNAUX I.	Straw	125					
									"	23	1309	SAGUEZ Mde.	Wood	30					
									"	27	1305	DELUCHOUX H.	Hay	220					
									"	27	1319	CAMPON L.	Wheat	30					
			Total Receipts	230									Total Expenditure	700					
			Balance due to Paymaster on last Account ...	543	30								Balance due by Paymaster on last Account ...						
			Balance due by Paymaster on this Account ...										Balance due to Paymaster on this Account ...	7330					
			TOTAL DR.	773	30								TOTAL CR.	773	30				

I certify that the above Account is correct.

Station and Date In the Field, 27th April 1918.

[Signature]
Major.
D.C.O. Imprest Holder
4th Aust. Div.

1. This Account is to be made out by the Imprest Holder and should be forwarded, as soon after the termination of the period as possible, to the Field Cashier or Base Paymaster.
2. Vouchers representing disbursements on this return should bear distinctive numbers.

(signed) C. B. ...
MAJOR-GENERAL.
Commanding 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

APPENDIX

FOR USE IN ¹⁷ THE FIELD

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(To be made out in duplicate)

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for period from 28th. Feby. 1918 to 27th. March 1918 1918, in account with the Paymaster A/12.

Dr.					Cr.												
Date	No. of Voucher	From whom received	Particulars	Amount					Date	No. of Voucher	To whom paid	Particulars	Amount				
				Francs	c.	£.	s.	d.					Francs	c.	£.	s.	d.
1918					1918.												
Mch. 11	1098/4	4th. Aust. Div.	Supply Column	15					Mch. 7	1233/4	BEKERVIEL G.	Hop Poles	20				
24	A/12.	4th. Aust. Div.	Paymaster	300					"	1235/4	VERWAERDE E.	do. do.	50				
									Mch. 26	1242/4	DUBAELLE A.	Hay	15				
									27	1258/4	DEVASSINE J.	Field	25				
Total Receipts				315					Total Expenditure				110				
Balance due to Paymaster on last Account ...				338	30				Balance due by Paymaster on last Account ...								
Balance due by Paymaster on this Account ...									Balance due to Paymaster on this Account ...				543	30			
TOTAL DR.				653	30				TOTAL CR.				653	30			

I certify that the above Account is correct.

Station and Date In the Field - 27th. March, 1918.

A. W. G. ...
Major, Imprest Holder
4th. Aust. D.C.O.

1. This Account is to be made out by the Imprest Holder and should be forwarded, as soon after the termination of the period as possible, to the Field Cashier or Base Paymaster.
2. Vouchers representing disbursements on this return should bear distinctive numbers.

(Signed) E. H. ...
Major-General,
Commanding 4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

APPENDIX

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APPENDIX 9 17

4

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
C L A I M S

Monthly Return under Army No. Q.1056/4.

Under G.R.O. 703.

Total amount claimed	F. 80,654
Total amount awarded	F. 700
Number of Claims paid	9
Number of Claims disallowed	4

(10 including those sent to Claims Commission for final adjustment).

Under G.R.O. 634.

Number of Claims 5

Total Number of Claims dealt with for Month 60.

Headquarters,
27th April 1918.

A. W. G. M. A. W. G. M. A. W. G. M.
Major.
D.C.O.
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



183
1
APPENDIX 9 18
FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Headquarters,
30th April 1918.

Headquarters,
4th Australian Division.

Reference attached.

I have to report all claims lodged by this man have been most promptly and carefully investigated. There has been no delay whatever, as I recognised the importance of immediate inspection.

There has been a considerable congestion of troops at ALLONVILLE owing to the tactical situation, and a certain amount of damage has been unavoidable.

Apart from this, every consideration to prevent further damage was taken by all units concerned and where they have been held responsible, they are making the necessary refunds as assessed by me.

With reference to the matter of trees, I saw one being cut and the matter was dealt with at once and a Picquet posted by the unit concerned. Every claim has been assessed by me and passed to Claims Commission for final adjustment.

I ask that the strongest exception be taken to the allegations of Monsieur TRIAL, and this Report be passed to French Mission, G.H.Q.

This man is a most difficult, unreasonable and tactless individual and it is hard to realize that he belongs to a nation of gallant Frenchmen. His reputation is notorious in the district. Monsieur TRIAL left the Village after writing his report and there has been no opportunity of interviewing him.

These facts can be confirmed by reference to the French Mission, 4th Divisional Headquarters.

A. W. Hayward

Major.
D.C.O.
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

183

Translation

APPENDIX 9 19

Capt. Tual manager of the estate
of Fallsville

To Major General Sinclair MacLagan
Commanding 4th Australian Div.
A.S.F.

I beg to inform you, that in spite of my repeated
claims and the orders you gave, the estate of Fallsville
is still being plundered. I shall chiefly point out the
two following facts.

1^o Every night sheaves of oats unthreshed are
being stolen and used for litter.

2^o Trees in full growth are cut daily in the
wood close to the "Haras".

On the 25th inst. I myself caught six soldiers
belonging to 4th Aust. Division cutting twenty four
choice trees. I immediately informed the S.C.O.
and had him to witness the damage. Yesterday
I found that the matter had not been taken
into consideration and that the cutting down
of trees for fuel so that the part of the wood
which constituted a reserve of a great value is
disappearing.

I cannot stand any longer witnessing

T. S. V. P.

20

The plan being at Ballantray, so I made up
 my mind to leave the estate and inform the
 other Mr. Jean Hermessy M. P. of what is
 going on
 signed: Tnal

