

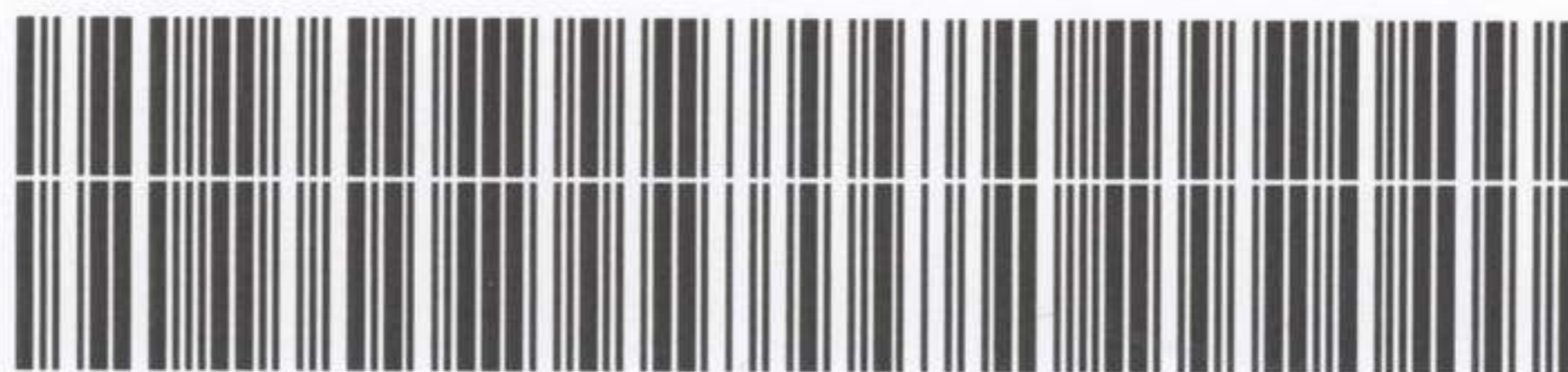
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

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AWM4-17/1/3PART1

OCTOBER

1917

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

DADPS 1st Anzac

1 12

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
HOOGRAAF	1/10/17		<p>Position of Divisional Railheads now as follows, 1st Australian Division (R.W.1) 5.K. (Dickebusch) 2nd Australian Division (R.W.2.) 5.K (Dickebusch) 4th Australian Division(R.W.4.) 2.E (Caestre) 5th Australian Division(R.W.5) 5.H. (Wippenhoek) S.83 and units served through(R.W.1) Dickebusch, S.82 and units served through(R.W.5) who opens at Reninghelst Siding in order to serve S.82 there being no other Railhead available. A.P.O., S.64 (Hoograaf Siding) vouchers on R.W.5. The following changes of location are notified F.P.O. T.W.3 (3rd Australian Div. Train) 3rd Austn Div Artillery Headquarters, V.X.Y.Z. 3/A Trench Mortar Batteries. 8 and 9 Australian Field Artillery Brigades 3rd Austn Divisional Ammunition Column, 3rd Australian Ammunition Sub Park, No. 867 Coy A.S.C. (No. 1 Company 3rd Australian Divisional Train) to 3rd Australian Divisional Railhead (R.W.3.) at 5.H. (Wippenhoek) and passes to administration of II Anzac Corps. 17 Anzac Light Railway Operating Company to S.83(5K.) 2nd Australian Field Ambulance to 1st Australian Divisional Railhead (R.W.1.) at(5.K.) 3rd Australian Field Ambulance to H.W.I. (1st Anzac Headquarters) Hoograaf.</p>	<i>bf</i>
"	2/10/17.		<p>"B.D." cable Section to II Anzac Corps, 4th Australian Pioneers 4 and 24 Austn Machine Gun Coys, 12th Australian Field Ambulance, 4,12 and 13 Austn Field Coy Engineers remaining in forward areas and relocated to S.83 - remained of 4th Australian Division in rest in Caestre - Steenvoorde areas . 345 Road Construction Companys to S.83. Following units left this area 51st Labour Coy relocated to S.61 by II Anzac 1st Tailhead supply Detachment relocated to R.49.</p>	<i>bf</i>
"	3/10/17.		<p>71 Chinese Labour Coy leaves for Second Army 4th Australian Div Artillery H.Q. rejoins its Division and relocated to own Railhead (R.W.4.) at 2.E. (Caestre) Visited and inspected the following offices R.W.5. (5th Aus. Div Railhead) Railhead at 5.H. (Wippenhoek) A.P.O. working at 5.G. (Reninghelst Sididng). <i>ap's R.W.1 & R.W.2 Dickebusch, FPO 6W Dickebusch, a po R.W.4 (4th Aus Divisional Railhead) Caestre and F.P.O 4W Steenvoorde; R.W.1 at Dickebusch (serving 583 units) dealing with heavy mails in excellent fashion. all other offices inspected - in good order and everything satisfactory</i></p>	<i>bf</i>

Confidential Original 146

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hoograaf	4/10/17		3,6, and 12 Australian (Army) Field Artillery Brigades leave this Corps today. Following location issued - 42nd Army Troops Coy to H.W.I.; 314 Road Construction Coy and 12th Australian Machine Gun Coy to S.83; 24th Australian Machine Gun Coy rejoins its Division and relocated to R.W.4. at 2.E. (Caestre); 33 motor airline Section to A.2. (Second Army Headquarters Cassel).	<i>JP</i>
do	5/10/17		The following join this corps and are located to-day as follows; 1/1 Cambridgeshire and 1/1 Hertfordshire Regiments to S.83; H and B Battalions Tanks to F.P.O. Q.2 (2nd Brigade Tanks Headquarters) Hoograaf. Wired 3,6 and 12 Austn (Army) Field Artillery Brigades to collect mails at A.D.2. (Second Army Depot) Hazebrouck. 1st Field Squadron R.E. leaves this Corps for Fifth Army today - A.D.P.S. Fifth Army and D.A.D.P.S. XVIII Corps advised accordingly.	<i>JP</i>
do	6/10/17.		The following locations wired to St.Omer today; 1st Anzac Cavalry Regiment (13th Australian Light Horse) to S.83. Owing to uncertain Divisional movements have advised Boulogne to load S.83 and units as for Group 5.K. irrespective of Railhead. It is hoped that this will avoid to a certain extent the diversion of mails to a wrong location. Visited this afternoon A.P.O's R.W.I and R.W.2. F.P.O. 6.W (H.Q. 6th Australian Infantry Brigade) and T.W.5 (5th Australian Divisional Train) all at Dickebusch, F.P.O's 2.W. and 3.W (2nd and 3rd Austn Infantry Brigades) at Chateau Segard (map location Sheet 28 H.30. a. 4.9.) . Work at all A.P.O's and F.P.O's stationed at Dickebusch very satisfactory especially at R.W.I. who is dealing with S.83 and units; accommodation is comparatively good all being billeted in partially destroyed houses. F.P.O. 2.W. is accommodated in two small tin shacks, each about 6 feet by 5 feet roofs very leaky and floors of both a mass of slush. F.P.O. 3.W. sharing a nissen hut with Brigade Orderly Room and Brigade Canteen; parcel mails dealt with in adjoining cook-house. Interviewed Staff Captain pointed out unsatisfactory state of affairs and asked for more attention to be paid to accommodation in future otherwise I would be compelled to withdraw the F.P.O.	<i>JP</i>

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WAR DIARY

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3

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF.	6/10/17		the F.P.O. to a more suitable locality . This F.P.O. was moved by orders of Staff Captain 3rd Australian Infantry Brigade and left stranded at Brigade transport lines with mails and cash for two days without accommodation .	<i>BA</i>
do	7/10/17.		The following changes of location wired - 19th Labour Company to S.83 2nd Tanks Salvage Coy to Q2. Visited this afternoon following A.P.O's and F.P.O's 4.W. and 13.W. (4th and 13th Austn Infantry Brigades) D.W.4 (4th Austn. Div. Headquarters) all at Steenvoorde, A.P.O. R.W.4 at Caestre all in good order and very little work owing to many units of this Division being in the forward areas and served through other F.P.O's Nissen hut provided for Railhead R.W.4. at Caestre is leaky and unsatisfactory have communicated with A.D.P.S. Second Army with a view to having it repaired.	<i>BA</i>



WAR DIARY

Confidential Original 156
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF	8/10/17		Following location changes wired : 5th Aust.Ammunition Sub-Park from II Anzac to F.P.O. H.W.1 (1st Anzac H'Qrs) Hoograaf.	<i>af</i>
"	9/10/17		Following location changes wired to St.Omer to take effect from 11th inst: Stationery A.P.O. S.83 to R.W.4 (4th Aust.Div.Railhead) at Railhead Group 5 K, Dickebusch; S.82 to R.W.1 at 5 G (Renninghelst Siding) ; R.W.4 and R.W.5 to 5 K R.W.2 to 2 E(Caestre), R.W. 1 to 5 G; F.P.O. T.W.2 (2nd Aust.Div.Train) and 748 Coy A.S.C., 2nd Aust.D.A.H.Q., 4 & 5 A.F.A.Bdes, V,X,Y,Z/2A T.M.Batteries, 2nd Aust.D.A.C., 2nd Aust.Ammunition Sub-Park to S.82; 61 Labor Coy to S.82.	<i>af</i>
"	10/10/17		Following changes wired S2 asked to locate 16 Railhead Supply Detachment now at Lumbres: 1st Aust.Sanitary Section to S.83; 4th Aust San.Section to H.W.1, No 2 Sec. 61st Auxiliary Petrol Coy to S.82; 13th Aust.Light Horse Regt.to R.A.2 (2nd Army Railhead, Caestre); 1st & 21st Aust.M.G.Coys to R.W.1. Visited following offices A.P.O. R.W.5 & F.P.O. T.W.2, Renninghelst Siding; F.P.O. T.W.4, Renninghelst Village; A.P.O's R.W.1 & R.W.2 and F.P.O's 5W, 6 W, 7 W, D.W.2 & 15 W at Dickebusch. A.P.O's R.W.1 & R.W.2 preparing to move after completion of despatches for the day, the former to Renninghelst Siding and latter to Caestre. Owing to heavy nature of S.83 work and the confusion caused by Divisional move, the work at R.W.1 (1st Aust. Div.Railhead) was slightly behind time and finals for F.P.O's 1 W and 2 W (1st & 2nd Aust.Inf.Bdes) were not out until 3.30 p.m. Instructed a lorry to deliver immediately. A.P.O. R.W.2 (2nd Aust.Div.Railhead) clear and out at 3.30 p.m., moving F.P.O's 5 W, 6 W & 7 W to Steenvoorde by postal lorries at the same time; D.W.2 (2nd Aust.Div.H'Qrs) moves with Div.Headquarters on morning of 11th inst; also to Steenvoorde. F.P.O. 15 W (15th Aust Inf Bde) moved into Dickebusch on night of 8th inst and shared accommodation with F.P.O. 6 W. F.P.O. 2 W moved to camp at Sheet 28 G.29.d.9.7; office accommodation in wooden hut - moved there night of 9th inst - everything satisfactory. F.P.O's T.W.5 and 8 W both at Dickebusch. Instructed former all official correspondence posted prior to 3 p.m. to be taken to R.W.5 (5th Aust.Div.Railhead) for despatch same day. Owing to heavy rain and bad state of repair of F.P.O. billets in Dickebusch, all leaking badly	<i>af</i>

4

WAR DIARY

Confidential Original 166
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF	XXXXXX 10/10/17	(contd)	badly and conditions far from favorable. Work proceeding satisfactorily under adverse circumstances.	<i>CF</i>
"	11/10/17		<p>Following Railhead changes take effect as from today :- 1st Aust.Div.(R.W.1) to Renninghelst Siding - 2nd.Aust.Div.(R.W.2) to Caestre. 4th." " (R.W.4) to Dickebusch - 5th Aust.Div.(R.W.5) to Dickebusch. S.82 to R.W.1 at Renninghelst Siding - S.83 to R.W.4 at Dickebusch. Following changes of location wired today:- F.P.O. T.W.4 & 754 Coy A.S.C.(No.1 Coy 4th Aust.Div.Train) V.X.Y.Z/4A Trench Batteries, 10 & 11 A.F.A.Bdes.4th Aust.D.A.C. 4th.Aust.D.A.S.P. to 4th.Aust.Div.Railhead (R.W.4) at Dickebusch; F.P.O. T.W.5 & 757 Coy A.S.C.(No.1 Coy.5th Aust.Div.Train), 13& 14 A.F.A.Bdes, 5th Aust.Div. Artillery Headquarters, V.X.Y.Z/5A Trench Batteries to own Railhead (R.W.5) at Dickebusch; 2nd.Field Coy Aust.Engineers remaining in forward area and re-located to S.83 at Dickebusch; 9th.Battn, Canadian Railway Troops to H.W.1 (1st Anzac Corps H'Qrs) Hoograaf; 5th.Battn, Canadian Railway Construction to Fifth Army; "A"Battn Tanks to S.2 (St.Omer). Following units of 2nd.Aust.Div.remaining in forward areas and re-located to S.83 served by R.W.4 at Dickebusch :- 5,6,7 Field Coys Aust.Engineers, 5 & 7 Aust.Field Ambulances, 22nd.Aust.M.G.Coy, 2nd Aust.Pioneer Battalion. No Supply Train Mail arrived today from Base Port (Boulogne).</p>	<i>CF</i>
"	12/10/17		<p>Visited following F.P.O's :- T.W.5,8 W, A.P.O'S R.W.4 & R.W.5 at Dickebusch; F.P.O. 4 W at Ypres. Dickebusch offices all O.K. Instructed R.W.4 re disposal of mail for Area Commandants of forward areas located on S.83. F.P.O. 4 W (H'Qrs.4th. Aust.Inf.Bde) quartered in Infantry Barracks at Ypres,had just moved in when I arr arrived and were quartered with rest of Brigade Staff. No provision made for separate accommodation for the F.P.O. work, and the portion occupied was being used for a kitchen and general mess room for the Bde staff. Interviewed Staff Captain and insisted on accommodation being provided, failing which the F.P.O. would be moved back to Dickebusch. He agreed to screen a portion off for the F.P.O. and this was being done when I left about an hour later. The barracks are practically demolished and the whole of the 4th. Aust.Inf Bde is billeted in the ruins</p>	<i>CF</i>

WAR DIARY

Confidential Original 17
6

Army Form C. 2148.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF	12/10/17	(contd)	ruins. So far as protection against thieves, etc goes, the F.P.O. has none and is open to anyone who cares to enter. Following locations issued today:- 11 & 12 Port Construction Coys. and 2nd Aust. Sanitary Section to S.83, Dickebusch; No.1 Section, 367 Coy A.S.C. (9th. Auxiliary Steam Coy) to S.82, Renninghelst Siding; 16 Area Signal Detachment to S.83.	[Handwritten initials]
"	13/10/17 13/10/17		Following changes wired:- 2nd Aust. Salvage Coy & C.R.E. 2nd Aust. Div. to S.83; 1st Aust. Field Coy Engineers & 1st Aust. Pioneer Battn. to R.W.1; 22nd Aust. M.G. Coy. & C.R.A. 2nd Aust Div to R.W.2. Location Lists not received from S.2 (St. Omer until 6.30 p.m. in evening cross post from S.4 (Abeele). F.P.O. T.W.4 (4th. Aust. Div. Train) moved from Renninghelst Village to Dickebusch today.	[Handwritten initials]
"	14/10/17		Following locations issued:- 93 & 114 Labor Coys to S.83; 116 Siege Battery to A.D.2; (Hazebrouck); 17th Aust. Depot Unit of Supply to Fifth Army (Proven) S.66).	[Handwritten initials]
"	15/10/17		Following Locations wired:- "A.T" Cable Section & 4th Aust. Amm. Sub-Park to H.W.1 (1st Anzac Corps H'Qrs) Hoograaf. Ptes. Sherwin & Christie reported from hospital today; Sherwin allotted for duty to R.W.5 and Christie to F.P.O. 6 W (6th. Aust. Inf. Bde.). Inspected the following offices :- A.P.O.'s R.W.4 & R.W.5, F.P.O.'s 8 W, 14 W 15 W & T.W.5 all at Dickebusch. R.W.4 with S.83 & units very busy but work well in hand. All other offices in good order & work normal. N.C.O. i/c R.W.5 requested removal of Pte Condon for insolence & insubordination. Have removed him to R.W.4 and warned him that any further complaint would lead to his transfer to a combatant unit. N.C.O. i/c T.W.5 returned from leave and immediately evacuated to hospital with excema. F.P.O.'s 4 W, 12 W & 13 W in Belgian Chateau area at Sheet 28, H.23.b.3.7. Accommodation of both 4 W & 12 W very poor, and no provision made by either Staff Captain responsible for their F.P.O.'s. Am again bringing this matter under notice as 4th. Aust. Inf. Bde is consistently bad in the treatment of their F.P.O. F.P.O. 12 W arrived at their present location in a perfect tornado of wind and rain and the staff had to turn to and dig a dugout as temporary accommodation for the night: In the meantime the F.P.O. stores, mail, stamps, cash and Postal Orders were left unprotected from the weather or loss by theft. For two days practically no shelter was available. F.P.O. 13 W accommodated in a small elephant-iron dugout about 9' X 6' very small but otherwise satisfactory.	[Handwritten initials]

Confidential Original 186

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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7

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF	15/10/17	(contd)	small but otherwise satisfactory. N.C.O. i/c of this F.P.O. temporarily absent on leave. Inspected F.P.O. D.W.5 (5th.Aust.Div.H'Qrs) at Walker's Camp at Sheet 28, H.27.b.7.7. Accommodation provided for this office is in strong contrast to that provided for other F.P.O's - everything here is in excellent order. On the whole the mail distribution of the Divisions in line (4th & 5th. Aust.Divs.) is working well in spite of adverse climatic conditions.	<i>sf</i>
"	16/10/17		Locations changes :- 20 Rahlhead Supply Detachment & H'Qrs 2nd Aust.Div.Train to S.82 (Renninghelst Siding); 19th Aust.Inf.Battn to S.83 (Dickebusch); "B" Battn. Tanks leaves this area on 18th - S.2 (St.Omer) advised. 1/1 Cambridgeshire Regt. and 1/1 Herts Regt. leave for IX Corps today. Mail for 46 Pumping station undeliverable this area - cannot locate "A" of this Corps again informed accordingly. Fifth Army advised to re-direct mail for 17th Aust. Depot Unot of Supply (present location S.66, Proven, to S.64, Hoograaf, as the move of this unit is cancelled for the present.	<i>sf</i>
"	17/10/17		A.D.P.S. Second Army visited me today. We proceeded in company to Dickebusch, where he inspected A.P.O's R.W.4 (with S.83 and units) & R.W.5 also F.P.O's 15 W, & T.W.4. He expressed himself as well satisfied with the manner in which the mail was being disposed of. Cash balances of all F.P.O's concerned are down to regulation amount, Divisional Supervisors collecting twice weekly and paying in surplus cash to nearest Field Cashier. Location issued :- 2nd. Battn. Royal Welsh Fusiliers to S.83 (Dickebusch).	<i>sf</i>

Confidential Original 19

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8

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
OUDERDOM	18/10/17		Locations wired:- 3rd.Aust Battn. to S.83, 5&7 Aust.Field Ambulances to S.82. Visited A.P.O's R.W.1 & R.W.2 at Renninghelst Siding and Caestre respectively. Matters all in order(S.82 via R.W.1). Mail for 33% Infantry details of Divisions in line ans Corps reinforcement Camp are being dealt with satisfactorily br R.A.2 (Second Army Railhead, Caestre). Interviewed O.G. Corps Reinforcement Camp and found that mail matters are quite in order. Received wire from D.W.4 (4th.Asst. D.H.Q.) asking me to call tomorrow in reference to violation of registered mail.	<i>SA</i>
"	19/10/17		Visited F.P.O. D.W. 4 at Smythe's Camp in reference to violation of registered mail reported yesterday. No responsibility incurred so far as the Army Postal Service is concerned, violation having occurred while the mail was in possession of 4th. Aust.D.H.Q. Postal Orderly. Camp Commandant agrees to make good the value (£3). have pressed for disciplinary action with the man concerned and have called for a full report on the matter from the N.C.O. i/c D.W.4 with a view to taking action with the authorities responsible for the safe custody of the mails if necessary. Inspected F.P.O. D.W.5 (5th.Aust.D.H.Q.) at Walker's Camp; A.P.O's R.W. 4 & R.W.5, and F.P.O's T.W. 4 & T.W.1 all at Dickebusch; Nothing in hand and S.83 and units served by R.W.4 all being disposed of without trouble. Other offices in good condition and staff well up to their jobs. Following locations wired:- 35 H.A.G., 66 H.A.G., 23, 74, 118, 143, 229, 233, 247, 275 & 294 Siege Batteries and 141 Battery R.G.A. all to A.P.O. S.57, Ouderdom, in 10th Corps Area. 62 & 63 Mobile Pigeon Lofts to H.W.1, Hoograaf; 39 & 265 Siege Batteries to rest in Renescure Area - mails and rations to St.Omer (S.2).	<i>SA</i>
"	20/10/17		Located Area Commandant, Halifax Area to A.P.O. S.57, Ouderdom (10th.Corps Area). Advised Fifth Army to hold mail for 17 Mh.Aust.Depot Unit of Supply, as unit is now joining that Army. Wired Second Army to locate 11th.Bde. A.F.A. on R.A.2 - unit moving to Oudezeele.	<i>SA</i>

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9

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HOOGRAAF	21/10/17		<p> "H" Battn "Tanks", 1 & 2 Tanks Salvage Coys., 2nd Bde.Tanks Workshop, 2nd.Bde Tanks Signal Coy, & "A" Section Gun Carriers, Tanks Corps to S.64, Hoograaf. Advised St.Omer that F.P.O. Q.2 (H'Qrs.2nd.Bde.Tanks) and 2nd Bde Tanks H'Qrs. are moving to Arras tomorrow, 22nd inst. : arrangements made for last express bags to circulate to this area for delivery tomorrow morning. Instructed A.P.O. S.64, Hoograaf, to deal with Q.2 miscellaneous bags and bills, after which the latter to be posted to Q.2 for filing. Wired Fifth Army and asked for return of Sapper Wallworth from S.4 to Q.2 before Q.2 proceeds to Arras in Southern Sector (Third Army area). Advised A.P.O. R.W.4 his Railhead opens at Renninghelst Siding on 24th.inst and F.P.O. T.W.4 will remain on his relative Railhead (R.W.4) - arrangements for lorry service to be made by Div.Supervisor concerned and late postings at F.P.O. T.W.4 (4th Aust.Div.Train), Dickebusch, to be passed to A.P.O. R.W.5 (Dickebusch) for disposal. Advised Div.Supervisor R.W.1 that his railhead (1st Aust.Div.) opens at Dickebusch on 24th.inst and that S.83 and units will be served therefrom. Issued instructions for second despatch from F.P.O's of Divisions in line vouching on Dickebusch railheads are to close not earlier than 2 p.m. Asked Second Army to cancel instructions in reference to 11th A.F.A.Bde issued yesterday as the unit's move is now cancelled. Asked X Corps to locate 66th Heavy Artillery Group which has not yet appeared in location lists although the unit left this Corps yesterday. 16th.Area Signal Detachment moved to X Corps and latter was advised accordingly. </p>	<i>SP</i>

Confidential Original 218

WAR DIARY

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10

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF	22/10/17		16 Area Signal Detachment joins X Corps. Latter asked to re-locate.	OF
"	23/10/17		Inspected the following offices:- A.P.O. R.W.L & F.P.O. T.W.1 at Renninghelst Siding. all in full swing - offices clean and neat and work proceeding satisfactorily. 1st Aust Div. Supply Column is one postal man short but distribution continues normal personnel of both offices in good condition and equipment O.K. ; R.W.4 (with S.83) and R.W.5 at Dickebusch; both narrowly escaped destruction by bombs and aerial torpedoes preceding night; work at both offices well in hand; personnel in fine fettle and equipment O.K. T.W.4 (Dickebusch) - heavy work being dealt with expeditiously; R.W.2 (Caestre) very little work, circulation normal - Artillery of this Division is still in line and is served by another Division. Pte Henson on leave and postal column one man short (sick); F.P.O's 6 & 7 W (Steenvoorde) work exceedingly heavy owing to Brigades being in rest. Former office receiving over counter and average of 120 registered items per day and latter an average of 200 per day; postal order and cable business also very heavy ; both offices in order and working satisfactorily. Following units re-located today:- F.P.O. T.W.4 and 754 Coy. A.S.C., 10 & 11 Bdes A.F.A., V.X.Y.Z/4 A Trench Batteries, 4th.Aust D.A.C. & 4th. Aust.Div.Artillery Headquarters to S.83.	OF
"	24/10/17		S.83 to R.W.1 ; S. 82 to R.W.4 ; R.W.4 to Renninghelst Siding ; 12th Aust Field Coy. Engineers, 4th.Aust. Pioneer Battn. 4 & 12 Aust M.G. Coys & 12th Aust Field Amb. to R.W.4; 4th Aust Salvage Coy and 2nd Worcester Regt. to S.83. Express mails for 4th Aust.Division less Artillery and 4th.Aust.Inf.Bde. to A.D.1 (1st Army Depot, Lillers). for delivery on 26th.inst. 4th. Aust Inf Bde to S.83 for 26th. inst., afterwards to A.D.1. 8 & 15 Field Coys Aust Engineers, 5th.Aust Pioneer Battn , 8 & 14 Aust M.G. Coys to R.W.5 ; 5,6&7 Aust Field Coys , 2nd Aust Pioneer Battn, 2nd. Aust Salvage Coy, 1st Aust Sanitary Section , C.R.E. 2nd Aust. Division, 19th. Aust. Inf. Battn. to R.W.2; C.R.E. 1st Aust.Division , 2 & 3 Aust Field Coys, 1st Aust. Salvage Coy; 2nd Aust Sanitary Section & 3rd. Aust Inf.Battn to R.W.1 ; 92 Labor Coy to S.83. Advised R.W.5 that T.W.5 would remain on relative railhead and that postal torry of Division would deliver mails for latter office to Dickebusch . Owing to heavy	OF

10

Confidential Original 29
Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

11

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF	24/10/17	(contd)	heavy nature of work at Dickebusch railheads, impossible to serve T.W.5 through the Dickebusch group.	b.f.
"	25/10/17		Locations wired:- 170, 226, & 265 Siege Batteries & 159 Heavy Battery to S.64 (Hoograaf) . Wired XIII Corps to re-locate following units leaving for his area on 27/28 inst:- 1/1 Highland Battery & 230 Siege Battery; advised V Corps similarly in reference to 204 Siege Battery. 92 Labor Coy instructed to collect mails at Dickebusch and also 2nd. Worcester Regt.	b.f.
"	26/10/17		4th. Aust Division, less Artillery to Lillers xxxxxxxxxxx Area today. R.W. 4 draws at Lillers for the first time today ; expresses and cross post via A.D.1 (1st Army Depot).	b.f.
"	27/10/17		Leave warrants issued to Ptes Bennett, R.W.2 28/10/17 , Curtis, R.W.4 31/10/17, F.P.O. 13 W reports by telegraph complete loss of stock, stationary box and records etc during staging move to Bomy Area. Have advised A.D.P.S. Second Army and requested him to arrange for the necessary action to be taken pending my investigation.	b.f.
"	28/10/17		313 Road Construction Coy to S.82 . Visited Bomy Area in connection with the loss of stock etc by F.P.O. 13 W ; no investigations were commenced by the Brigade staff prior to my arrival. At my request an officer from the Brigade staff got telephonic communication with 18th Auxiliary Bus Coy who moved the Brigade from Ebblinghem to the Bomy Area. Nothing known there of missing box and same results on enquiry at 4 and 12 Aust. Inf. Brigades who were afterwards moved by the same Bus Coy. Returning via Hazebrouck I called at Headquarters 18th Auxiliary Bus Coy and ascertained the number of the lorry (D 9) which moved the Brigade. Lorry D.9 not yet returned to park but O.C. requested to cause immediate search to be made on its return. Indifference shown by the 13th. Aust. Inf. Brigade to its responsibilities in the matter appalling. Inspected D.W.4 (Bomy) - all well there and this F.P.O. the first office of 4 Div, Headquarters to open for business after the new area.	b.f.

A6945 Wt. W.H. 1000 to 1400 D. D. & I forms/C. 2118/14

11

WAR DIARY

Confidential Original 23⁶
Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

12

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOOGRAAF	29/10/17		18th Aux. Bus Coy wired me Lorry D.9 returned, but no trace of the missing box. Reported the matter to Second Army, A.P.M. 1st Anzac, and D.D.P.S. A.I.F. Locations wired :- "F" Cable Section to S.83, "P" Cable Section joins Second Army. Requested Second Army by telegraph to divert expresses for 2nd Aust. Div. Artillery Headquarters to S.78 (Bailleul).	<i>Copy of reports attached</i>
"	30/10/17		Visited R.W.5 at Renninghelst Siding, 8 & 15 W at Renninghelst Village - all O.K. Interviewed O.C. No.1 Coy, 1st Aust. Div. Train who states mail arrangements quite satisfactory. Following offices located at Dickebusch, and all in good order:- F.P.O.'s T.W.1, 6 W, A.P.O.'s R.W.2 & R.W.1. Latter office working S.83 and very busy - mail matter being distributed without delay.	<i>OS</i>
"	31/10/17		Inspected F.P.O. 14 W near Steenwerck. N.C.O. of this office on leave, but Pte. in charge a capable lad and matters well managed. Saw A=D=P=S= Second Army and arranged for a new stock to replace that lost by F.P.O. 13 W. Interviewed C.O. 1st Anzac Reinforcement Camp with reference to establishing a camp Post Office to deal with reinforcement personnel. Following units located today:- 21st Reserve Park and all Second Aust. Div. Train to S.82, 42 Army Troops Coy to S.83, 4th Aust Div. Artillery (less Headquarters) to Morbeque on 2nd. proximo. Arranged with Second Army for mail to circulate to A.D.2 (Hazebrouck). Advised VIII Corps that 2nd Worcesters leave for that area and 4th Suffolk Regt, who relieve former located to S.83. Advised St. Omer "H" Battalion Tanks rejoins 2nd Bde Tanks at Arras on 2nd. proximo.	<i>OS</i>
				<i>OS D.A. 1st Anzac</i>

AUSTRALIAN ARMY POSTAL CORPS.

3

D.A.D.P.S.,
 I ANZAC.
 H.W./3348
 No.....
 Date.....

The D.D.P.S.,

A.I.F.

I have to inform you that Field Post Office 13.W reported by wire on 27th instant the loss of his stationery box containing a total value in cash, stamps and postal orders of approximately 7,700 Francs. I communicated the matter to the A.D.P.S. second Army and attached are copies of the report of my investigations.

Although the Division passed for administration to 1st Army on 26th instant, (it has not been notified postally) I felt it incumbent on me to do all in my power to recover the missing property.

Until the report of the official enquiry is made known I must refrain from further comment, but I feel that steps should have been taken by the Brigade Concerned to immediately inform me of the loss, instead of which a matter of thirtysix hours elapsed before the telegraphic report reached me.

I proceeded by car the next morning to the BOMY area, where the Brigade is located, a distance of about forty miles from here.

Sd/ C.Fletcher Lieut.,
 D.A.D.P.S.,
 First ANZAC Corps.

29.10.17.

COPY.

D.A.D.P.S.,
 I ANZAC.
 H.W. 73348.
 No.
 Date

14

The A.P.M.,

Ist ANZAC.

I have to report the loss by Field Post Office 13th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters, of a stationery box containing approximately 7,700 Francs in cash, postal orders and stamps during the move of that unit to BOMY area.

The following information which may be of use in any enquiries you may undertake is furnished from enquiries I have already made.

The stationery box was loaded on to a G.S. Wagon supplied by 4th Australian Divisional Train which proceeded with 13th Australian Infantry Brigade's baggage as far as EBBLINGHEM where it off-loaded on to a motor lorry (D.9) supplied by 18th Auxiliary Bus Coy., Late on the night 25th instant. This lorry (D.9) arrived at Wandonne (13th Aus. Inf. Bde. Headquarters) at 1.30 a.m. 26.10.17 and unloaded there, returning to WIZERNES where it arrived at 5.30 a.m. 26.10.17. It is stated by 13th Aus Inf Bde that the box was not off-loaded at WANDONNE, although the loss was not reported at the time. D.9 moved off with motor convoy from WIZERNES for DELETTE later on morning of 26th arriving at latter place at 4.30pm.

The shaft coupling of D.9 then broke and it remained at DELETTE until 4.30 p.m. on 27.10.17 from whence it returned to WIZERNES arriving there at 6.p.m. the same day. It again moved off with convoy from WIZERNES to EUUIRRE on the 27th arriving at the latter place at 11 p.m. the same night. Lorry D.9 was here ditched and remained so until pulled out by "First Aid" at 2.30 p.m. on 28th. D.9 then returned to Headquarters, 18th Aux Bus Coy, HAZEBROUCK arriving at "Park" at 8.p.m. on 28.10.17.

Enquiries have failed to trace the missing box.

Will you please take this matter up and advise of result of your enquiries. I understand 13th Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters has also taken action in this matter.

Sd/ C.Fletcher Lieut.,
 D.A.D.P.S.
 First ANZAC Corps.

28.10.17.

D.A.D.P.S.,

I ANZAC.

H.W./3348

No.....

Date.....

The A.D.P.S.,
Second Army.

Attached is a report I have forwarded to A.P.M. Ist ANZAC Corps as a result of my enquiries of yesterday in connection with the loss of a stationery box by F.P.O. 13.W.

I instructed F.P.O., 13.W., to forward a list of the numbers of the missing postal orders (if available) to A.D.P.S. First Army by D.R.L.S., and also to forward a duplicate copy to me.

I interviewed the O.C., 18th Aux. Bus Company personally at 5.p.m. yesterday but the motor lorry concerned had not returned to park.

I have subsequently learned by 'phone that the box has not yet been recovered.

I understand that an officer was in charge of the convoy all the way, and from what I can gather the Private in charge of the F.P.O., took reasonable precaution to safe-guard the Postal Property.

Pending an official enquiry I cannot furnish further details but no doubt the matter has since received attention from A.D.P.S. First Army although no change in the administration has yet been notified. I would point out that the Division passed under the First Army administration on 26th instant on leaving this Corps Area.

From what I can gather no very close investigation has been conducted by the Brigade concerned prior to my arrival there about 12.45 p.m., yesterday.

Sd/ C.Fletcher Lieut.,

D.A.D.P.S.,
First ANZAC Corps.

29.10.17.

D.A.D.P.S.,

I ANZAC.

No.....

Date.....

The A.D.P.S.,
Second Army.

In continuation of my 3348 of yesterday.

Perhaps payment of the notes enumerated below could be suspended pending enquiries.

Value.	No's	from	to
3/-		838436	838485
5/-		801201	801250
10/-		206091	206140
20/-		894621	894720

Sd/ C.Fletcher Lieut.,

D.A.D.P.S.,
First ANZAC Corps.

30-10-17.