

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

Signals

Item number: 22/10/1

Title: Australian Corps Headquarters
Signals Company

March 1918



AWM4-22/10/1

COPY.

Glasshouse Mts.
Queensland.

25. 6. 56

Official Historian,
CANBERRA.

*See correspondence on
Mow file 782/57. BH 11/7/57.*

Dear Sir,

For some considerable time I have considered writing Canberra to have the viewpoint expressed below conveyed to correct authority. I have addressed this to Official Historian but at the moment I am in doubt if the office exists. I trust this will be passed on to proper authority.

My reason for writing is in reference to what must surely be important omissions from C. E. W. Bean's "Official History of Australia in the War of 1914-1918" Volume VI.

I refer particularly to failure of the Official History to record that such a unit as "The Australian Corps Signal Coy", was formed in France in March 1918 and consisted of approx. 360 Officers and other ranks, all specialists and under command of Col. (Bull) Williams.

This unit took over from R.Es. and by doing so completed the position that Australian Corps was completely A.I.F. Several rare personal exceptions was retention of Gen. Fraser and Carruthers and a couple of staff in Intelligence but no B.E.F. units, as prior to this B.E.F. men had done all our sig work at H.Q.

As one of first five A.I.F. sigs to be drafted to Corps, I can state the intention was to have a slow changeover spread over approx. 3 months, but events proved otherwise.

I joined Corps H.Q. at Fletre approx. 7th March 1918. The break through in the South a fortnight later caused a sudden change in all plans and within a month the changeover was complete and at Villiers Bocage and later at Bertangles Aust Corps Sig Coy was breaking all Corps Sig records in France, in effect we were doing 4th Army Sig work, as communications were so disorganized in the rear we were doing the work at Corps.

Later when Gen. Monash took over he stepped up the work of communications to enable the August 8th offensive to go "according to plan".

In studying C.E.W.Bean's Volume VI which I understand was final, I find the only reference to Sigs is as shown in Index: page 27, shown as *Signal Corps 28, 684n, 1013n, 1014n.

A brief look at these pages will no doubt satisfy that the references are not really applicable to Signal Corps, the references being to various unit signal details.

I do not know that anything much can be done about that record now, but I would be pleased to hear from the appropriate person just what may be done? or if something is on record Where? and how may I obtain a copy.

As the signal mechanic who had the exceptional job of looking after Corps H.Q. phones, being in daily attendance on phones of Generals Birdwood, White, Monash, Blamey, Coxen, Foote, free and

complete access to all staff offices, my unique experience has many highlights. All these officers with exception of General Monash were so friendly the job was extremely interesting, yet I may add quite important. General Monash was the unapproachable, but his "Memoirs" explain his reticence - "he was busy planning the offensive which ended the war."

I believe my drafting to Sig Corps H.Q. may be worth recording.

As 4th Pioneer reinforcement drafted to Special Sig Training H.Q., Bedford, U.K., I was classified later as an Instrument Repairer, and as such was one of five details drafted to take over from R.E's at Heavy Artillery H.Q., Locre (near Bailleul) approx. 1st March 1918.

Five details viz., Telephonist, telegraphist, tally-clerk, despatch rider, and self, mechanic, were treated badly by the B.E.F. staff officers at Artillery H.Q. and at end of week we were put into a heavy truck with all gear and left for an unknown destination.

To our surprise we pulled up outside a staff H.Q. at Fletre with the sign G.O.C., A.I.F. over the door, and a smiling genial General we knew afterwards to be Brudenell-White welcomed us and advised "the General will see you straight away". To our dismay we strolled in to a table to find General Birdwood sitting waiting.

He very soon put us on the spot by saying "You chaps have been returned from Heavy Artillery H.Q. Do you know why?"

To which we replied "No, Sir". "Birdie" eyed us soberly for a little while - no doubt enjoying our discomfort as we were all just scared kids, then added shortly "You have been returned as INCOMPETENT" then smilingly adding "The Australians have done everything asked of them. Artillery H.Q. did not want you. I do. You are now on my staff. What do you do?" (and as each one of us said) "I am a telephonist, mechanic" etc., so did "Birdie" say "You will be my telephonist" - my mechanic, etc."

To complete the page an indication of highlights. When the A.I.F. went south and we followed to find no existing sig communications in Amiens area - actually no area maps available and units couldn't even give any location. - despatch riders were given a stack of messages and had to canvass area to find units to deliver to. These units were mostly stragglers of B.E.F. completely bushed.

A few weeks ensued before we were properly set up at Villiers Bocage, but after a couple of weeks there we had to start all over again at Bertangles approx. 5 miles South 10 miles Amiens. The British General who took over from "Birdie" at Villiers Bocage brought up as part of his Corps Troops about a dozen London buses and offered "Birdie" "the use of some of them if Fritz broke through again to enable us to get away safely." He also had a balloon to enable early report of Fritz advance.

"Birdie" declined very decidedly stating "We stay put, we go forward not back."

Hoping to hear from you.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) J. L. Smith
3600 Corps Sig Coy.

COPY

17 Eton Rd.,
Lindfield. N.S.W.

4 July, 1956.

Dear McGrath,

I'm sorry that the Australian Corps Signal Company did not receive a mention in Vol. VI of the Official History of 1914-8. If I had known some of the interesting facts mentioned in Mr. Smith's letter they certainly would have been mentioned.

I don't know whether any account of the signal service was written - an opportunity occurred after the war when part of the Anzac Book Fund was spent in helping units to publish their histories; about twenty or more were published, but I doubt if they contained any for the signal companies.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) C. E. W. Bean.

I think it would be worth attaching his letter, or a copy of it, to the unit diary containing the reports etc.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

~~ORIGINAL.~~ ✓

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

Australian Corps Signal Company

FOR

March

1918

Signature of Officer compiling

Im Grant Capt

Signature of Officer Commanding

Im Grant Capt

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.

Original

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	1-3-18	—	<p>In compliance with General Staff Circular No 9 the formation of the AUSTRALIAN CORPS SIGNAL COMPANY was commenced. Headquarters established at X2 Camp (Sheet 27 W. 4 a 52) near Fletre, commanded by Captain J.M. Grant, M.C. ex 1st Australian Divisional Signal Company.</p> <p>Lieut E B Stanbury and 2/Lt G.J. Willats reported for duty from 3rd Australian Divisional Signal Company in accordance with DAG A.I.F. 25/176 dated 25th February 1918.</p> <p>17 N.C.O's and men marched into camp. NCO's being selected by O.C.'s Divisional Signal Companies in accordance with letter from DAG. A.I.F. 25/176 dated 25th February 1918.</p> <p>2. NCO's in camp paraded to O.C. Company.</p> <p>Day spent procuring camp stores and improving quarters.</p> <p>2/Lt G.J. Willats visited signal Office at Corps Headquarters during afternoon in anticipation of taking over duties of Signalmaster</p> <p>3 Office Superintendents taken over signal Office at Aust. Corps.</p>	<p>Orders by O.C. 'K' Corps Signal Coy showing details of reliefs attached.</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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OR
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	2.3.18	-	Headquarters by Signal Master of 'K' corps Signal Company. Total number in camp 4 officers, 21 other ranks. Lieut. J. E. S. Stevens reported for duty from 5th Australian Div Signal Company.	
	3.3.18		Cold day. Snow fell during night. Day spent testing personnel sent to Company for trial as Office Telegraphists. C. Q. M. S. drawing stores. Improvements to camp proceeding. Signal Superintendent reported to Signalmaster at corps Hq in order to become acquainted with their duties in anticipation of relieving Superintendents at present supplied by 'K' Corps Signal Company. Sgt J. L. Johnston with 9am shift. Sgt J. J. C. Smith with 2pm shift.	
	4.3.18		1 NCO and 6 men reported for duty from 5th Australian Divisional Signal Company and 2 men from 12th Army Brigade, A F A Improvements to camp proceeding Total number in camp 4 officers and 30 other ranks.	

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OF INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices								
FLETRE	5.3.18	-	<p>Morning windy, afternoon fine.</p> <p>15 O.R's reported from 1st Australian Divisional Signal Company and 8 O.R's reported from 4th Australian Divisional Signal Company.</p> <p>O.C inspected draft of Signal Reinforcements at Australian Corps Depot and personally interviewed Switchboard Operators and Telegraphists with a view to their transfer to Company.</p>									
	6.3.18		<p>Fine Day. Telegraphists tested by Lieut. Stevens and Signal Superintendents. With few exceptions they were capable of receiving and sending at thirty words per minute.</p> <p>Arrangements made to receive 107 reinforcements from Australian Corps Depot, to be attached to Company for trial.</p> <p>Hours of daily parades as follows:-</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="745 1471 2548 1794"> <tr> <td>Reveille 7 am</td> <td>Dinner 12.30 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roll call 7.30 am</td> <td>2nd Parade 2 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1st Parade 9.30 am to 11.30 am</td> <td>Tea 4.30 PM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Roll call 12 noon</td> <td>Lathee 9 pm.</td> </tr> </table>	Reveille 7 am	Dinner 12.30 pm	Roll call 7.30 am	2nd Parade 2 PM	1st Parade 9.30 am to 11.30 am	Tea 4.30 PM	Roll call 12 noon	Lathee 9 pm.	
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	6.3.18 (contd)	-	<p>Squad drill and smartening up exercises on morning parade followed by short route march. Short route march in afternoon without rifles.</p> <p>Lieut. H. F. J. Hiscock reported from 5th Australian Divisional Signal Company for duty.</p> <p>20 OR's reported from 3rd Australian Divisional Company and 20 R's from 2nd Australian Divisional Signal Company.</p> <p>Total number in camp 5 officers and 80 O.R's.</p>	
	7.3.18		<p>Stores for Nos 1 & 2 Australian Motor Airline Section collected from 2nd Army Signal Store, St Sylvester Cappelle.</p> <p>Physical exercises carried out during the afternoon.</p> <p>2 Instructors for Physical Training supplied by Aust. Corps Reinforcement Camp. 107 Signal Reinforcements marched in from Aust. Corps Depot.</p> <p>Total number in camp. 5 officers & 195 Other Ranks.</p>	
	8.3.18		<p>Signal Reinforcements interviewed by Lieut Stevens. Many found to be wrongly classified at Engineers Training Depot before</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	8.3.18 (contd)	-	<p>proceeding overseas. Re-classified in accordance with civil occupation and previous Military Training.</p> <p>Route marches carried out during morning and afternoon.</p> <p>20 additional Signal Reinforcements marched in from Aust Corps Depot.</p>	
	9.3.18	-	<p>Morning devoted to physical exercises & route march. Class formed for purpose of instructing telegraphists who require further training.</p> <p>12 telegraphists and 4 Switchboard Operators took over duties in signal office at Aust. Corps Hqrs. under instructions of 'K' Corps Signal Company thus relieving an equal number of RE. Signal Personnel.</p> <p>No parade afternoon.</p>	
	10.3.18		<p>Additional equipment for Motor Airline sections collected from No 18 Airline Stores, Ballleul.</p> <p>1 NCO reported from No 88 Motor Airline section as instructor.</p> <p>Morning-church parade. Total number in camp 5 officers & 227 O.R.</p>	

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(A7893) Wt. W80/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2118/14

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETTRE	11.3.18	—	<p>Personnel in camp divided into respective sections according to their qualifications and Company establishment by trades.</p> <p>INCO from Company and 25 Signal Reinforcements proceeded to 4th Army Wireman's Course, St Sylvester Cappelle.</p> <p>Afternoon. Bathing Parade</p> <p>Company strength as at 4pm.</p>	
			6 officers 119 O.R.	
			Attached from Ref Camp 123 O.R.	Total 6 officers 342 O.R.
			Attached for miscellaneous duties 10 O.R.	
			Detached to Corps Hq. 18 O.R.	
			" " Corps Heavy Artillery 1 Off 11 O.R.	
			Total number in Camp 5 Officers 199 O.R.	
	12.3.18		<p>2 Signal Superintendents, 3 Motor Cyclists, 3 Office Telegraphists and 3 Switchboard Operators took up duties at Aust Corps Hq under OC 'K' Corps Signal Coy.</p> <p>2nd Lieut G.F Willats took up duties of Signalmaster at Corps H.Q.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	12.3.18 (Contd)		Total strength 6 Off 116 O.R. - attached 129 O.R.	
	13.3.18		<p>Lieut H.W. Watson reported for duty from 1st Australian Divisional Signal Company.</p> <p>Information received that Signal Section for Australian Corps Heavy Artillery will not be formed from A.I.F. personnel. (General Staff Circular No 13).</p> <p>Captain W.G. Lush returned to 2nd Aust. Div^{nl} Signal Company and personnel from Aust. Corps Sig Coy who had already commenced duty at Corps Heavy Artillery H.Q., returned to Company H.Q. for re-distribution to other sections.</p>	
	14.3.18		<p>O.C. Company interviewed fresh draft of Signal Reinforcements at Corps Depot and arranged for those who would be suitable for Corps Signal Company according to their respective trades, to be sent for attachment on trial.</p> <p>Wet day. 9.30 parade dismissed after inspection.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	14.3.18		Bathing Parade afternoon.	
	15.3.18		Strength - Officers 7 - OR 128 - attached 133 - total 268. Fine Day. No 1 Australian Cable Section relieved 'F' Cable Section, 'K' corps Signal Company and took over billets vacated by them at St Jans Capelle.	
	16.3.18		Fine Day. No 2 Australian Cable Section relieved 'WW' Cable Section 'K' corps signal company, and took over billets vacated by them at St Jans Capelle.	
	17.3.18		Sunday. Fine Day. Morning Church Parade Afternoon Football & Recreational Games Construction of new Airline route from Fletre to Strazeele commenced. Route surveyed by Lt. E.B. Stanbury.	
	19.3.18		Working party proceeded to St Jans Capelle. Improvements made to billets of cable sections & horse lines, and roads in vicinity	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PLETRE	20.3.18		Airline stores collected. Training of airline sections continued. Total strength 7 officers 337 OR's	
	22.3.18		21 OR's took up duties at Aust Corps Hqrs. Lieut A Messiter reported for duty from 2nd Aust Div ^{nl} Signal Company Material for construction of Fletre - Strazeele Route collected from 2nd Army Signal Stores. Party of 20 men reported to O.C. 2nd A. Div Signal Company for purpose of laying buried cable route at Revelsburg to replace airline route blown down by hostile shelling. 16 NCO's & men reported for duty to Aust Corps Hq under 'K' Corps Signal Coy.	
	24.3.18		Sunday Church Parade Fletre - Strazeele route - poles laid out ready for erecting. Test point situated at Mainie, Bailleul destroyed by shell fire. No 67 Sgt J.L. Johnston, reported buried in ruins. Working party unable to locate body.	

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(A7853) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 1/17 Sch. 52a Form C/2118/14

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	25.3.18		Fletre - Strazeele route proceeding.	
	26.3.18		Do.	
			<p>Lieut. E.B. Stanbury posted to Command No 1 Aust Motor Airline Section</p> <p>Lieut H.W. Watson posted to Command No 2 Aust Motor Airline Section</p> <p>Lieut J.E.S. Stevens took over duties of signal-master at Corps Hqrs.</p> <p>Total strength of Company 8 Officers - 335 O.R.</p> <p>Personnel not suitable for Corps signal Company but qualified for posting to Divisional signal Companies, transferred under instructions of A.D. Signals to each of the five Divisional signal Companies according to requirements by trades.</p>	
	27.3.18		<p>Approval asked for, to transfer signal Reinforcements attached for trial, to Company.</p> <p>30 signal Reinforcements transferred from attached to Company strength</p>	
	28.3.18		<p>Fletre - Strazeele route continued.</p> <p>Remaining personnel attached for trial, transferred to Company strength</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	29.3.18		<p>Personnel of Company distributed as follows:-</p> <p>Headquarters - Captain J.M. Grant MC (Comdg) Lieut J.E.S. Stevens 2/Lt G.F. Willats and 126 O.R.</p> <p>No 1 Cable Section Lieut H.F. Nescock and 35 O.R.</p> <p>No 2 Cable Section Lieut A.F. Day and 35 O.R.</p> <p>No 1 Motor Airline Section Lieut E. Stanbury & 43 O.R.</p> <p>No 2 Motor Airline Section Lieut H.N. Watson and 44 O.R.</p> <p>In Headquarters section 77 O.R. are at duty at Aust Corps Hq and exchanges in Corps Area - 49 O.R. ready to take up duties under OC 'K' Corps signal Coy when reqd.</p> <p>Telephone exchanges in Corps Area manned by Aust Corps Signal Company as follows:-</p> <p>Lindenhoek Exchange - 3 Switchboard Operators, 1 Permanent Lineman</p> <p>Westhof Exchange - 3 Switchboard Operators</p> <p>A.U.R.C. (St Jans Capelle) 5 motor cycle PR's, 2 telephonists, 1 permanent Lineman 1 Superintendent</p>	

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(A783) Wt. W80/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2118/14

WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FLETRE	29.3.18		Papot Exchange, 1 Switchboard Operator, 2 Telegraphists 1 Motor cycle D.R., 1 Permanent Lineman.	
			Scherpenberg Exchange 1 Telegraphist, 1 Motor Cycle D.R. 1 S'bd Operator 'E.E.' Test Box 1 Permanent Lineman	
	30.3.18		Fletre - Strazeele Route continued No Parade afternoon	
	31.3.18		Sunday - Morning Church Parade Fletre - Strazeele Route Continued. Company strength as at 7 pm 8 Officers 293 O.R. attached 19 O.R. Total 8 Officers 312 OR = 320	
			Im Grant Capt. OC Aust Corps Signal Coy.	

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A7883) Wt. W807/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/21/8/14



Jan 9

Orders by
Capt C H Walsh M.C.
Comdg K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

1187 The following is an extract from Aust Corps Circular letter
Dg. dated March 16th 1918, and is published for the information
of all ranks. :-

An individual of the name of HILSCHER, formerly of
SHEFFIELD and subsequently Sgt. Major, 2nd Batt. German
Foot Artillery, is reported to have been seen in this area
in the uniform of a Second lieutenant of a labour Battalion.
He is to be immediately arrested, if met, and information sent
to this office.

188. Appointment cancelled.

The appointment of the undermentioned. NCO to rank of
Lance Corporal reported in Company Order No 1163 dated 10-3-18
is hereby cancelled.

Authy: Col i/c ASC Section, letter P26/11530/96 dated 15-3-18.

No M/33475 Pte (a/cpl) Carter R.E.

MTASC. attached W18 M.A. Section.

6-3-18

Sd. C.H. Walsh Capt.
A.C. K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

328

Orders by
Capt G. H. Walsh M.C.
Comdg "K" Army Corps Signal Coy

1156.

Relief of "K" Corps Signal Coy R.E.

- (1) The undermentioned N.C.O's will arrive from Australian Corps Signal Camp on 9th March ^{men} and report at the Company Office at 10 am, on assuming duties under "K" Corps Signal Coy as detailed below.

Aust. Corps Signal Coy Name (1)	"K" Corps sig Coy + attached understudy to (2)	Location (3)	Date of assuming permanent duty (4)	Remarks (5)
15581 Spr Barry H. J.	94587 Spr Beale M.	Fletre	11 th March	Telegraph Operators. To be taken on strength of No 1 Relief from 9/3/18
10618 " Haslam L. R.	259850 " Smith P. A.	"	"	
2341 " Hercules N. V.	66317 " Hillman G.	"	"	
10674 " Shortall F. D.	74377 " Keate S. G. R.	"	"	
2815 " Walker H. H. R.	558662 " Pate H. S.	"	"	
15524 " Dillon R. D.	147953 " Hodgson H.	"	"	
15110 " Hogan M.	96320 " McLean D.	"	"	Telegraph operators. To be taken on strength of No 2 Relief from 9/3/18.
3689 " Wright A. M.	568214 " Jones G. D.	"	"	
275 " Jackson F.	78062 " Williams T.	"	"	
15884 " Cousins M. N.	94128 " Tadd E. W. O.	"	"	
5298 " Barron M. J.	142541 " Cooke J. S.	"	"	
4846 L/cpl Lawler R.	23084 " Fleet A. C.	"	"	
10653 Spr Peterson O. P.	76770 " Snedden T. D.	"	"	Switchboard operators. To be taken on strength of No 1 Relief from 9/3/18.
3297 " Davies O. J.	191452 " Beale D.	"	"	
966 " Stone G. E.	76756 " McElroy J.	"	"	Switchboard operators. To be taken on strength of No 2 Relief from 9/3/18.
3663 " Marks H. R.	76588 " Griffith M.	"	"	

On the date of the personnel of the Australian Corps Signal Coy assuming permanent duty as laid down in Column (4) the personnel whom they have been understudying will proceed to Signal Depot Abbeville by the 7.15 am train from Baillent, less Sprs Hodgson + Cooke of B.M. Cable Section who will return to Fourth Army on that date.

The hour of assuming permanent duty on 11th inst will be that of the morning relief 8.0 am.

The Senior Signal-master will make all necessary arrangements and give every facility to the personnel of the Australian Corps Signal Coy to enable them to understudy efficiently the outgoing personnel of "K" Corps Signal Coy.

The Q.M.S. will make the necessary arrangements to ration

(2)

the incoming personnel of the Australian Corps Signal Coy and also provide 48 hours rations for the outgoing personnel of 'K' Corps Signal Coy from the dates mentioned.

(2) Reference Company order No 1151 of 5.3.18
No 138 Sergt Benson D.M. will assume permanent duty as No 2 Relief Sergeant & Superintendant from 9th inst
Vice Sergt J. Cormack a/O.M.S.

1157 Travelling by French passenger Trains instead of by Leave Trains

It has been brought to notice that large numbers of officers when proceeding on and returning from leave are travelling by French Passenger Trains in preference to the British Leave Trains.

In view of the restricted accommodation on the French trains, no officer below the rank of Lieut-Colonel is permitted to travel on any train other than the recognised leave train when proceeding on or returning from leave, except on sections of line where no British leave train is being run.

1158. The following is an Extract from Fourth Army Routine Order No 1828 :-

"Yew" Poisoning

Cases having recently occurred of horses (remounts) dying of "Yew" poisoning, the danger of animals being allowed to nibble trees or hedges is to be brought to the notice of all concerned, and particularly of officers in charge of conducting parties.

8/3/18

Sd. G. H. Walsh Capt
OC 'K' Corps Signal Coy.

Orders by
Capt L. H. Walsh M.C.
Commanding 'K' Corps Signal Coy Rts.

1164. Relief of 'K' Corps Signal Coy Rts.

The undermentioned officers, NCOs and men will arrive from Aust. Corps Signal Camp on 12th March 1918, and report at the Company Office at 10 am, on assuming duties under 'K' Corps Signal Coy as detailed below:—

Aust. Corps Sig. Coy. Name. (1)	'K' Corps Sig Coy, and attached understudy to (2)	Location (3)	Date of assuming permanent duties (4)	Remarks. (5)
Lieut G.F. Willato	Lieut A. MacLaughlin	Fletre	13th March	Signal Master.
No. 67 Sgt Smith J.C.	No. 76273 Sgt MacDonald J.	-do-	16th "	Supt of No. 1 Relief
No. 10679 " Johnson J.G.	No. 76278 " Smith R.A.	Bailleul	19th "	Supt AURC.
No. 126. ^{no} /Cpl Stewart E.D.	No. 72750. ^{mc} /Cpl Latham H.	"	13th "	MC/Corporals. — Cpl Latham will report to OC C/168th Brigade RFA. for duty. Cpl Childs will report to OC D/168th Brigade RFA for duty. Cpl Berry will report to OC C/161st Brigade RFA for duty.
No. 475. Spr Andrews R.E.	No. 71682 " Berry B.	"	14th "	
No. 3106. " Goeldner G.A.	No. 29615. " Childs W.C.	"	15th "	
No. 4547. Spr Leslie W.K.	No. 76724. Spr Thomson R.S.	Fletre	14th "	Telegraph Operators to be taken on the strength of No. 1. Relief.
No. 3355 " Lincoln M.M.	No. 47674. " Carr G.	"	"	
No. 4818 " Kitto H.T.J.	No. 76797 " Maguire O.	"	"	Telegraph Operators to be taken on the strength of No. 2. Relief.
No. 10789 " Halls A.T.R.	No. 152236 " Meakin A.E.	"	"	
No. 17898. Spr Ballaghan F.	No. 76621. Spr Whitehill J.C.	Paprot	15th "	Switchboard Operators
No. 1476 " Gordon G.	No. 132813 " Linery R.J.S.	Westhof	"	
No. 1263. " Evershed D.V.	No. 76725 " Kennedy T.	Scherpen-berg.	"	
No. 17875. " Grimshaw S.	No. 76728 " Dickson W.	Fletre	"	Joiner
No. 2381. " Rayment A.C.	No. 74492. " Wilkinson J.E.	"	16th "	Instrument Repairer.
No. 6558. " Guthrie A.	No. 26235. Cpl Earl S.H.L.	"	—	Electrician for P. E. L. Set.

All ranks will be taken on the strength of 'K' Corps Sig. Coy. from 12-3-18.

On the date of the personnel of the Aust. Corps Signal Coy assuming permanent duty as laid down in Col (4.) the personnel whom they have been understudying will proceed to Signal Depot Abbeville, reporting to RTO Bailleul at 7-15 am on the date shown against their names in Col (4) unless otherwise remarked upon in Col (5). — The hour of assuming duty will be notified on arrival at the Company Office

—Continued—

(2)

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1164. The Senior Signalmaster will make all necessary arrangements and give every facility to the personnel of the Aust. Corps Signal Coy, to enable them to understudy efficiently the outgoing personnel of 'K' Corps Sig. Coy.

Superintendents of Sub-Offices and Local Exchanges will also assist Aust. Corps Signal personnel as far as possible to become acquainted with their duties before assuming permanent duty.

The CQMS will make the necessary arrangements to ration the incoming personnel of the Aust. Corps Sig. Coy, and will also provide 48 hours rations for the outgoing personnel of 'K' Corps Signal Coy from the dates mentioned.

1165. POSTINGS.

The following men are posted to Aust. Corps H.A. Signal Section from 11-3-18 under arrangements to be made by O.C. Aust. Corps Signal Coy. :-

No 19711. Spt Frost J.R.

No 17876. Spt Redpath C.A.

No 18791. " Bradshaw W.E.

No 18808. " Balgarny C.V.

The O.C. H.A. Signal Section 'K' Corps Signal Coy will arrange for the men of his Section to be returned to Signal Depot. Abbeville, when they are no longer required.

1166. MOVES.

The undermentioned officer proceeded to Aust. Corps H.A. Signal Section for attachment, on 8-3-18. :-

Capt W.G. LUSH. M.C.

11-3-18.

Sd. C. H. Walsh Capt
O.C. 'K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

Orders by
 Capt C. H. Walsh M.C.
 Comdg. 'K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

1172. POSTINGS.

The transfer of Aust. personnel to H.A. Signal Section referred to in Coy Orders No 1150, 1161, 1165, and 1166, is cancelled under Authority: Aust. Corps G.175/424 dt- 12-3-18.

The undermentioned personnel of No 1 Aust. Cable Section proceeded to Bailleul today to take over stores and equipment of 'NW' Cable Section, under authority DAG. AIF. 25/168 dt- 19-2-18 and G.S. Circ No 9 dt- 22-2-18. :-

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| No 239. Sgt Bryan J.F. | No 5786. Spr Williams J.C. |
| No 4877. Cpl Pearce C. | No 110. Spr Rainbird F.J. |
| No 780. Spr Sewell J.W. | No 5671. Spr Sheehey J.A.J. |
| No 473. Spr Norris J.W. | No 7647. Spr Greenwell H. |
| No 19006. Spr Clarke G.R.H. | No 7623. Spr Perrott T.H. |
| No 15934. Spr Heithersay W.S. | No 3695. Spr Anderson W.C. |
| No 15932. Spr Baillie J.H. | No 2900. Spr Germain E.H. |
| No 166. Spr Blanchard V.A. | No 14208. Spr Watts W.H. |
| No 3348. Spr Anson R.A. | No 5821. Spr Dowie J.L. |
| No 17436. Spr Blake J. | No 665. Spr Schell V.C. |
| No 17862. Spr Curtis B.D.W. | No 1579. Spr Pummeroy J.G. |
| No 2581. Spr Markham M.E. | No 7576. Spr Wynne W.F. |

Capt C. H. Walsh Capt.
 OC 'K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

13-3-18.

Orders by
Capt C. H. Walsh, MC
Commandg: 'K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

1173 Appointments. The undermentioned appointments have been approved, and will take effect from the dates shown:- 14/3/18.

no 76776 ii/cpl Stevens, T.R.
'K' Corps Signal Coy, R.E.

appointed as Corporal from 25/2/18, with pay from 13-3-18 (date of assuming duty) - to complete establishment.

Authority W.O. letter no 121/Finance/1435 (SD 2) dt- 25-2-18

no 76821 L/Cpl. Richard J.F.
'K' Corps Signal Coy, R.E.

appointed as ii/cpl from 25/2/18 with pay from 13-3-18 (date of assuming duty) vice no 76776 ii/cpl Stevens, T.R. app'd as cpl. 25/2/18

no 76700 Sgt. Fisher, J.
'K' Corps Signal Coy, R.E.

appointed L/cpl from 25/2/18 with pay from 13-3-18 (date of assuming duty) vice no 76821 L/cpl Richard, J.F. app'd as ii/cpl 25/2/18.

1174. Moves The undermentioned men of No 1 Aust. Cable Section will proceed to FINNIEBROUGH Camp tomorrow, 15th inst., to relieve 11 Drivers of WW Cable Section, who will proceed to Signal Depot at a date to be notified later:-

no 2424	Dvr Chambers, E.	no 14929	Sgt Coleman, L.J.
19732	" Watson, H.R.	19767	" McHardy, J.
11020	" Eagle, E.J.	7392	" Richardson, G.J.
474	" Lemon, J.C.	19115	" Ross, G.H.
2043	" Robbie, R.	18806	" Fletcher, W.H.L.
4889	" Cooper, R.		

1175 Fatigues. OC, 'WW' cable section will arrange for the whole of his Drivers to be at the disposal of the CQMS on the 16th & 17th inst., for the purpose of removing QMS Stores from Bailleul to St-Jans Cappel. These men will also be at the disposal of Sgt Adams on 18th and 19th inst. for the purpose of cleaning up Stable Camp at FINNIEBROUGH.

1176 Pay Parade. 'K' Corps Signal Company will parade for pay at 1-45 pm tomorrow - 15th inst.

Sd C.H. Walsh
Capt
O.C., 'K' Corps Signal Coy, R.E.

Orders by
Capt G. N. Walsh M.C.
Comdg K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

1177. Relief of K' Corps Signal Coy.

The undermentioned NCOs & men will arrive from Aust. Corps Signal Camp on 16.3.18, and report at the Company Office at 9.0 am, on assuming duties under K' Corps Signal Coy as detailed below. :-

Aust. Corps Sig Coy Name (1)	K' Corps Sig Coy. and attached understudy to (2)	Location (3)	Date of assuming permanent duty (4)	Remarks (5)
No 3620. Sgt J.L. Paddock	No 50117. Sgt F. Bowmar	Fletre	—	D.R. Sergeant.
No 1702. Cpl H.R. Bain	No 54378. ^{art} Cpl P.J. Warren	-do-	19 th Mch	Motor Cyclist Artificer Corporal
No 10686. Spr E.J. Vickers	on probation	-do-	16 th "	Telephone Exchange Operator.
No 4679. Spr R.D. Cook	No 71585 Spr W. Hemmings	-do-	17 th "	Instrument Repairer
No 3600. Spr J.L. Smith	No 29571 Spr S.W. Wood	-do-	17 th "	- do -
No 3546. Spr J. Hehir	No 4547 Spr W.R. Leslie (AIF)	-do-	16 th "	Telegraph Operator. Spr Leslie (AIF) will report to OC Signals Aust. Corps Sig Coy on return to duty.

All ranks will be taken on the strength of K' Corps Sig Coy from 16.3.18.

On the date of the personnel of the Aust. Corps Signal Coy assuming permanent duty as laid down in Col 4, the personnel whom they have been understudying will proceed to Signal Depot Abbeville, reporting to RTO Bailleul at 7.15 am on the date shown against their names in Col 4; unless otherwise remarked upon in Col 5. - The hour of assuming duty will be notified on arrival at the Company Office.

The senior Signal Master will make all necessary arrangements and give and give every facility to the personnel of the Aust. Corps Sig Coy to enable them to understudy efficiently the out-going personnel of K' Corps Sig Coy.

The CQM.S. will make the necessary arrangements to ration the incoming personnel of the Aust. Corps Sig Coy and will also provide 48 hours rations for the out-going personnel of K' Corps Signal Coy from the dates mentioned.

1178. Postings.

The undermentioned Officer, NCOs & men of No 2 Aust. Cable Section will proceed to Finnie Brough Camp tomorrow, 16th inst, at 10 am for the purpose of taking over 'F' cable Section. All arrangements for handing over of stores, equipment, wagons etc, will be made direct between Os. C. Cable Sections. :-

-Continued-

- continued -

(2)

Lieut A.F. DAY.

No 1171 Sgt Dunn R.G.

No 29 Sgt Batchelor C.H.

Four linemen in lieu of Telegraphists "A."

No 5289. Spr Lee A.C.

No 3316 Spr Down J.A.

No 14927 " Andrews M.J.

No 17037. " Nunan J.C.

Field linemen Mounted.

No 1070. Spr Diamond S.W.

No 998. Spr Doyle J.E.

No 9178 " Chapman C.T.

No 18541. " O'Brien O.W.

No 91714 " Weekes A.S.

No 5910 " Mostyn J.A.

No 18453 " Flavell L.

No 3171. " Stringer W.T.

No 18802. " Webster V.R.

No 19002. " Hammond N.J. W.

No 7619 " Hanson H.

No 7475 " Gealer T.G.

Wheeler.

No 746 Spr Hodges F.C. H.

Saddler.

No 301 " Walker E.

Pioneer.

No 7503 " Hayward H.

Batmen.

No 7473. Spr Bradley P.O.D. ∇ No 1644. Spr Mc Cullum A.B.

1179 MOVES.

The following personnel will return to Signal Depot Abbeville in accordance with instructions contained in D) Sigs Second Army letter No 3812/2 dated 14/3/18.

The party under S.T.C.S. Corporal Whylock will report to RTO Bailleul at 7-15 am 17-3-18, rations for 48 hours to be taken.

Regtl No	Rank + Name.	Unit.	Trade.
76437	S.T.C.S. Cpl Whylock C.	K' Corps Sig boy	S.T.C.S.
76544	Spr Patterson R.	W18 M.A. Sec	Fitter.
461573	" Knowlson H.	"WWS" cable Sec	F. L. dismounted
495320	" Parris J.A.	"F" - do -	- do -
191971	Priv Lancaster G.F.	W18 M.A. Sec	G.D. Pioneer
254824	" Hollins Em	"F" cable Sec	- do -
23761	Priv Pearce J.	- do -	- do -
161416	" Horton J.	"WWS" - do -	- do -

1180. MOVES.

The following Drivers of "WWS" cable Sec will proceed to the Signal Depot Abbeville by the 7-15 am train, from Bailleul, on the 20th inst.

- continued -



- continued -

(3)

No 80793.	Dvt	Fane G.	No 77529.	Dvt	Fulford G.
No 463279.	"	Davison T.W.	No 492231.	"	Hall W.
No 148434.	"	Lawton J.	No 61419.	"	Lovatt W.A.
No 71233.	"	Smith W.T.	No 72771.	"	Stevenson P.
No 80022.	"	Thurston G.	No 27365.	"	Blowes G.
		No 548433	Dvt	Wolveridge A.J.	

15-3-18.

Sd C.H. Walsh Capt
 OC K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

Orders by
Capt G H Walsh, MC
Commandg 'K' Corps Signal Coy R6

Headquarters
16-3-18.

1181 Parades & Inspections

Parades and inspections tomorrow 17th inst. will be as follow.

9-0 am Billet Inspection.

11-15 am Inspection of D.R.'s machines (all machines to be thoroughly cleaned), revolvers, gas helmets, and Field Dressings.

1182 Information. The Second Army Headquarters was reconstituted on 13th inst when General Sir Herbert Plumer, assumed comm. All units under Fourth Army came under Second Army on that date.

1183 Bounds. The field in which the Signal Company Camp is situated is out of bounds.

(a) no men are to go beyond the wire fence which surrounds the Camp

(b) no refuse pits are to be dug in the field.

1184 Moves.

no 16531 Sergt H.L. Adams, F Cable Section, will proceed EV37 on 20th inst to rejoin his section.

The undermentioned S.V.C.S. and drivers of F Cable section will proceed to Signal Depot Abbeville by the 7-15 am train from Bailleul on 18th inst.

no 78076 S.V.C.S. Short, J.	no 188687 Dr. Fretwell, W.
160804 Dr. Beer, B.	25829 " Jewess, W.
24156 " Brown, W.	24498 " Mears, G.
90763 " Bird, L.	91163 " Winn, T.
26466 " Cottingham, J.	38537 " Martin, F.
24648 " Cox, W.	20938 " Grainger, T.

The undermentioned Sapper of WW Cable section will proceed to Abbeville on 20th inst:-

no 78355 Sapper Keegan, P.

The undermentioned U.C.O. and men will rejoin their sections on 20th inst:-

-Continued-

Continued.

no 78227 Cpl Rennie W	}	W.W. Cable Sec. Neuve Eglise
113898 Spr Coates J		
78337 Spr Hoy HH		
78120 Spr Dodd A		
43590 Spr Houston, J		F Cable section EV 37.

1185 Posting

(a) No 3627 MC/Cpl N.G. Broadbent, Australian Corps Signal Company, relieved No 267655 MC/Spr Sutcliffe, C. (sick) at Papot Suboffice on 16-3-18. On return to duty MC/Spr Sutcliffe will report to 'K' Corps Signal Company H.Q. Helire

(b) The undermentioned drivers of No 2 Australian Cable Section will proceed to FINNIEBROUGH Camp on 17th inst to take over from the drivers of F Cable Section:-

no 707 Dvr Trueman, G.L.	No 1582 Dvr Roberts, G.L.R.
10469 " Murphy, P.J.	3749 " Francis, R.D.
4888 Spr Bennett S.J.	570 Spr Hill, G.
6035 " Holden G.J.	19701 " Watts, C.F.
18804 " Tyson, R.A.	18784 " Tuckett, R.E.
4244 Spr O'Flaherty, M.J.	

1186 Duty.

The following move will take place tomorrow 17th inst:-

No 78494 Spr Roff O.H. to AYA
WW Cable Section.

to relieve

No 142315 Spr Smith W
BM Cable Section.

who will rejoin his section

Sd. C.H. Walsh
Capt
OC 'K' Corps Signal Coy.



Orders by
 Capt G. H. Walsh M.C.
 Comdg K' Corps Signal Coy P.E.

1189 Remustering.

The undermentioned Pioneer is remustered Sapper Field Lineman "Proficient" from 27.1.18.

Authy: Rk Records Chatham R. 3/12530/18 dt 13²/₁₈.

No 78107 Pnr Barber A.

"WW" Table Section.

1190 Transfers.

The undermentioned Sappers of "B0" Table Sect. have been transferred to K' Corps Signal Coy from 7.3.18. :-

No 237966. Spr Rutter S.

No 288306. " Griffen A.

No 78516. " Mc Cabe R.

1191 Arrivals.

No 88 Motor Airline Section (Lieut G.F. BAYLISS, R.E. and 32 other ranks) arrived today from Second Army for duty with K' Corps Signal Coy.

1192 Arrivals and Departures.

No 3361 Spr Lornish S.W. arrived today from Aust Corps Signal Coy Reinft Camp for duty as understudy to No 73664. Spr Rayner P.W. (Counter Clerk). — who will proceed to Signal Depot on the 21st inst.

18.3.18.

Ga C.H. Walsh Capt
 OC K' Corps Signal Coy P.E.

Orders by
Capt C. V. Walsh M.C.
Comdg 'K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

1199. MOVES.

No 7678. Sapper Hodgson J.L. Aust. Corps Signal Company will relieve No. 7924. Sapper Sturcke H.G. on 23rd inst, in the Aust. Corps Signal Office.

No 7924. Sapper Sturcke H.G. on being relieved will return to Aust. Corps Signal Camp for further training.

The undernamed NCO will proceed to Signal Depot tomorrow, 23rd inst. :-

No 76667 Mc Cpl F. H. How.
'K' Corps Signal Coy. R.E.

22-3-18.

C. V. Walsh Capt
O.C. 'K' Corps Sig Coy R.E.

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Orders by
Capt. G.H. Walsh MC.
Commandg. 'K' Corps Signal Coy.

1200 Relief of 'K' Corps Signal Coy.

The undermentioned NCOs and men will arrive from Aust. Corps Signal Camp on 24-3-18, and report at the Company Office at 9.0am, on assuming duties under 'K' Corps Signal Company as detailed below:-

Aust Corps sig. Coy Name (1)	'K' Corps Signal Coy and attached. Understudy to (2)	Location (3)	Date of assuming perm ^t duty (4)	Remarks (5)
No 6777 Sqr WJ Allsop	No 32015 MC/cpl A. G. Gill	Hetre		Despatch Riders.
5083 " WJ Faragher	538581 " H.H. King	"		
560 " T.C. Lacey	484122 " W. Webb.	"		
16156 " R.E. Pusey	282110 " J.E.F. Brook	"		
4910 " A. Richards	250135 " S. Delves.	"		
17483 " A.W.B. Palmer	72590 Sqr HD Collinge	Paport*	26/3/18	Office telegraphists
3673 " S. Peel	73620 " H. Flood	" *	"	
17073 " Na Pitts	78302 " T. Combe (W18)	AURC*	"	
7253 " T.A. Horton	73572 " E. Bryant	" *	"	
310 " L. Westhead	78275 " S.F. Bale (W18)	Hetre		
7617 " B.J. Jennessy	94513 " W.H. Godwin	"		Telephone switchboard operators.
4729 " E.R. Makin	96585 " G.W. Landless	hindenhoek*	28/3/18	
5126 " H.R. Hunter	259883 Pn ^r D.M. Anderson	" *	"	
2065 " E.H.A. Block	255344 Sqr C.B. Gee	Hetre		Instrument Repairer
7471 " /cpl PH Andrews	76776 c/cpl T.R. Stevens	Hetre		Aest. Supts.
1987 " /cpl H.R. Quist	76611 Cpl K. Mackay.	AURC*	2/4/18	
Men marked thus (*) will return to Company HQ on the dates shown in Col. (4).				

All ranks will be taken on the strength of 'K' Corps Signal Coy from 24th 3/18.

The Senior Signal Master at the HQ office and the Supts at Corps sub-offices will make all necessary arrangements and give every facility to the personnel of the Aust. Corps Signal Coy to enable them to understudy efficiently the outgoing personnel of 'K' Corps Signal Coy.

The handing over of motor bicycles will be carried out between the Despatch Riding Sergeants concerned, and the necessary handing over certificates for each bicycle completed and signed will be sent in to the Company Office in triplicate.

Continued.

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(2)

The CC Mt will make the necessary arrangements to ration the incoming personnel from the date mentioned.

1200 Moves. The undermentioned men proceeded to Westhof for duty today as Switchboard Operators :-

<u>No 2567</u>	<u>Spr A. J. B. Cummings</u>	} Aust. Corps Sig. Coy
<u>4163</u>	<u>W H Jameson</u>	

The undermentioned man who has been doing duty at Westhof Exchange will rejoin his unit tomorrow, 24th inst.

No 5490 Pte H. G. Harrison,
Aust. Corps Cyclist Bn.

1201 Parades and Inspections

Parades and inspections tomorrow 23rd inst by 11/Lieut J H Turner will be as follows :-

9-0 am Billet Inspection

11-15 am Inspection of D.R.'s machines (all machines to be thoroughly cleaned) revolvers, gas helmets, and Field Dressings.

23/3/18

S. C. H. Walsh Capt.
OC 'K' Corps Signal Coy R.E.

Orders by
Capt C. H. Walsh M.C.
Commanding Officer Signal Coy R.E.

1209. RELIEF of Linemen.
No 1. Aust. Airline Section will commence relieving the permanent linemen of W 18 MAL Section situated at test-huts and Sub-Offices in the Corps Area, on 27th inst.
All arrangements for the relief will be made between O.C. Airline Sections concerned.
The personnel of W 18. MAL Sec. on being relieved will concentrate at W 18 MAL Sec. H.Q.s St Jans Capel.
The completion of this relief to be reported to Company Hqs by O.C. concerned.

1210. Billets
The Recreation Room will be closed from today, and will in future be used as a billet.

1211. Remustering.
The undermentioned NCO has been remustered Field Lineman, dismounted "Superior" with effect from 19.3.18. :-
No 86939 Gpl Newing T. J.
N.A. Signal Sec, K. Corps Sig Coy.

1212. Passes.
NCOs and men are reminded that passes must be submitted to the Company Office by 7pm on the day previous to that for which they are required, otherwise they will not be granted.

1213. Moves.
The following moves have taken place today. :-
- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|
| No. 72272. | Spr Bryant G. | K. Corps Sig Coy | } From AUIC |
| No. 78202. | " Bombe T. | W 18 MAL Sec | |
| No 72590. | " Bollinge H.D. | K. Corps Sig Coy | } From Papot |
| No 73620 | " Flood. H. | - do - | |

1214. Arrivals.
The undermentioned Motor Cyclist arrived today from Aust. Corps Signal Camp.

No 1815 Spr A.E. Bowles.
Aust. Corps Signal Coy.

26.3.18.

S^d C. H. Walsh. Capt.
OC K. Corps Signal Coy R.E.