

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

Baths & Laundries

**Item number:** 18/1/4

**Title:** Australian Corps Baths and Laundries

July 1918



AWM4-18/1/4



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

ORIGINAL.

DUPLICATE.

TRIPLICATE.

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Australian Imperial Force.

# WAR DIARY

OF

BATHS & LAUNDRIES - AUST CORPS

FOR

July

1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

*W Mac Knight*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*W Mac Knight*



# 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
	1918 July 1st to July 31st. July 31st		<p><u>SUPPLY OF CLEAN CLOTHING</u></p> <p>During the month of July sufficient clean clothing has been received from Abbeville for all requirements. Wire received from No 1 APEA LAUNDRY ABBEVILLE advising that Australian Corps allotment had been increased to 140,000 pieces per week. During the month of July 65.00 pieces were issued per week to 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Australian Divisions and Corps Troops.</p> <p>( The original of above appears on the same sheet as entries for subsequent month and will be found with the diary for that month.)</p>	



STANDING ORDERS

Appendix

1. DRESS Fatigue dress may be worn while on duty. When off duty and outside the billet, baths or store uniform hat and belt will be worn.  
All ranks will be shaved each morning by 8 am.
2. BOUNDS No N.C.O. or man will leave the village in which he is billeted without a pass and no man will leave the billet baths or store without the permission of the senior N.C.O.
3. QUARTERS The senior N.C.O. is responsible that the quarters are kept in a clean and tidy condition at all times.  
Floors will be ~~kept swept~~ and kit made tidy by 8 a.m.  
Weather permitting all blankets and spare clothing will be hung or spread in the open air from 8 a.m. till 3 p.m. each Sunday.
4. RIFLES Rifles and equipment will be kept in a clean and serviceable condition and will be inspected at irregular intervals by the senior N.C.O.
5. Every man will be in possession of a steel helmet, field dressing and box respirator, and fortyeight <sup>hours</sup> rations at all times and will carry them on all inspection parades.

DAILY ROUTINE

7 a.m.	REVEILLE	
7.15 a.m.	BREAKFAST	
8 a.m.	PARADE OR DUTY	(on the job)
12 noon	DINNER	
1 p.m.	PARADE OR DUTY	(on the job)
5 p.m.	TEA	
6 p.m.	PARADE OR DUTY	(on the job) unless dismissed by senior N.C.O.
9 p.m.	ROLL CALL.	
9.30 p.m.	LIGHTS OUT.	

27/6/18

Lieut.  
Aust. Corps Baths Officer.



AUSTRALIAN CORPS BATHSINSTRUCTIONS FOR N C O I/C BATHSALLOTMENTS OF BATHS

Permanent ~~let~~ allotments will be made by Corps Baths Officer only, but NCO I/C Baths is authorised to allot times up to and including three clear days in advance.

RATE OF BATHING

is sixty (60) men per hour, 5 men will be admitted to undressing room each five minutes; this rate will be adhered to even for small parties.

VALUABLES ETC.

will invariably be put in sandbags to minimise the chance of mens belongings being mislaid.

DIRTY CLOTHING

The soldier at the dirty clothes window is responsible that shirts vests drawers & socks are handed to him turned inside out and that the socks are not folded together in pairs. He will not do this work himself ~~IE~~ but will insist on the bathers doing it.

CLEAN CLOTHING.

will be kept in ~~&~~ on the special racks provided. It will not be stored in other parts of the Bath building.

HOURS

Normally the baths will be available for troops from 8am till noon & from 1pm till 5pm. From 6pm onwards will be allotted when necessary.

The hours	7	till	8 am
	noon	"	1 pm
	5	"	6 pm

will be reserved for officers.

The N C O I/c Baths will arrange for one man to be in attendance while officers are bathing.

SHOWERS

A small box will be placed under each spray to enable men to soak their feet while bathing. These boxes will be scrubbed & disinfected with a 10% solution of creosol daily.

Tunics & breeches will be turned inside out by the ~~the~~ bather & handed in at NO 2 window. Oxford Powder will be sprinkled on seams of all garments whether lousy or not before they are ironed by means of small tins with perforating lids. Each man in the ironing room will have three flat irons marked so that he can recognise each one. These must be kept hot. Tunics and Breeches are ironed to kill the lice and eggs - not to improve the appearance of the clothing. Great care must be taken that all lice and eggs are directly exposed to the iron especially under the edges of the seams and in the crutch and fly flap.

After ironing the garments will be brushed with an ordinary scrubbing brush. The wire carding brush will be used only in special cases to remove clusters of lice, eggs etc. All brushing will be done in one part of the room and the fluff etc, will be gathered up and burnt in ironing stove at least once every half hour.



A 10 % solution of cresole will be kept near the brushing table and the brushes dipped in it at least once every half hour. Care must be taken that the hands are not exposed to this liquid as it will remove the skin.

Bath Room

Soap boxes will be fitted round the walls of bath room.

Lieutenant.  
Australian Corps Baths Officer.



FIRE ORDERS

1. Smoking in that portion of the store or baths which contains clothing or straw is forbidden.
2. No naked candles will be used. They must be put in improvised tin containers, covered on three sides and top and bottom, or in lanterns.
3. Six fire buckets or tins of water and six buckets or tins of sand or loose earth and all available fire pumps will be kept ready at the fire assembly point.
4. Two tins will be provided in the billet as receptacles for cigarette butts.
5. One N.C.O. or man will be on duty at all times as fire picket according to roster.
6. In case of an outbreak of fire the senior N.C.O. present will at once take charge and send one man to give the alarm to the Military Police and the nearest troops and will divide the men at his disposal into -
  - (a) Squad ~~to~~ to man pumps.
  - (b) Squad to carry water, & keep the pump buckets full.
  - (c) Squad to remove Government property from the building.
  - (d) Squad to demolish parts of the buildings, fences etc, to prevent spread of fire.
7. This order to be read in conjunction with Extracts from G.R.O. 2717.

Lieut.  
Aust. Corps Baths Officer.

27/6/18



N.C.Os and men are reminded that it is their duty to give no information of a military nature to anyone whilst they are on leave in England. Information which is widely known in England soon reaches the enemy and the success of military operations may be endangered thereby.

Non-observance of the above will lead to cancellation of any present leave granted to the offender and the stoppage of all future leave.

All ranks are warned that in all letters written by them they must avoid giving any information which might be useful to the enemy.

In no circumstances is specific reference to be made on postcards, in letters, on matter posted in parcels or in private diaries to -

- (i) The place from which they are written or despatched.
- (ii) Plans of future operations whether rumoured, surmised or known (this includes details of mining, bridging operations, railway construction and particulars of new inventions)
- (iii) Organization, numbers and movements of troops (under this heading are included hours, dates, system of reliefs, positions of batteries, machine gun and observing stations, position and description of billet, reinforcements and situation of the headquarters of brigades divisions etc.)
- (iv) Armament of troops or fortresses.
- (v) Defensive works.
- (vi) Condition of troops moral and physical.
- (vii) Casualties previous to the publication of the official lists or giving particulars not obtainable from those lists.
- (viii) The service of maintenance including the position of railheads and supply columns condition of roads, railways, reserves of supply and ammunition, shortage of supplies and ammunition.
- (ix) The effects of hostile fire.

XXXX Criticism of operations of other branches of allied troops, or of superiors is forbidden, as are statements calculated to bring the army or individuals into disrepute.

All ranks are forbidden to disclose in the contents or address of any letter the order of battle i.e. the grouping of units to which their own or any other unit may belong. Postal addresses may be communicated when required by only in the body of the text but never at the head of a letter.

Your address is :-

No -----

(Sgt) (Pte) -----  
Aust. Employment Company,  
c/o Baths Officer,  
Aust. Corps.

27/6/18

Lieut.  
Aust. Corps Baths Officer.



# WISSEY BOW HUT BATH

## LIST OF SUNDRIES REQUIRED

*appendix*

1. Stove to carry 12 Flat Irons

12. Flat Irons

1. Set round metal checks numbered 10 to 80 inclusive and fitted with safety pins.

1. Set round metal checks numbered 10 to 80 inclusive and fitted with bootlaces to hang round bathers neck.

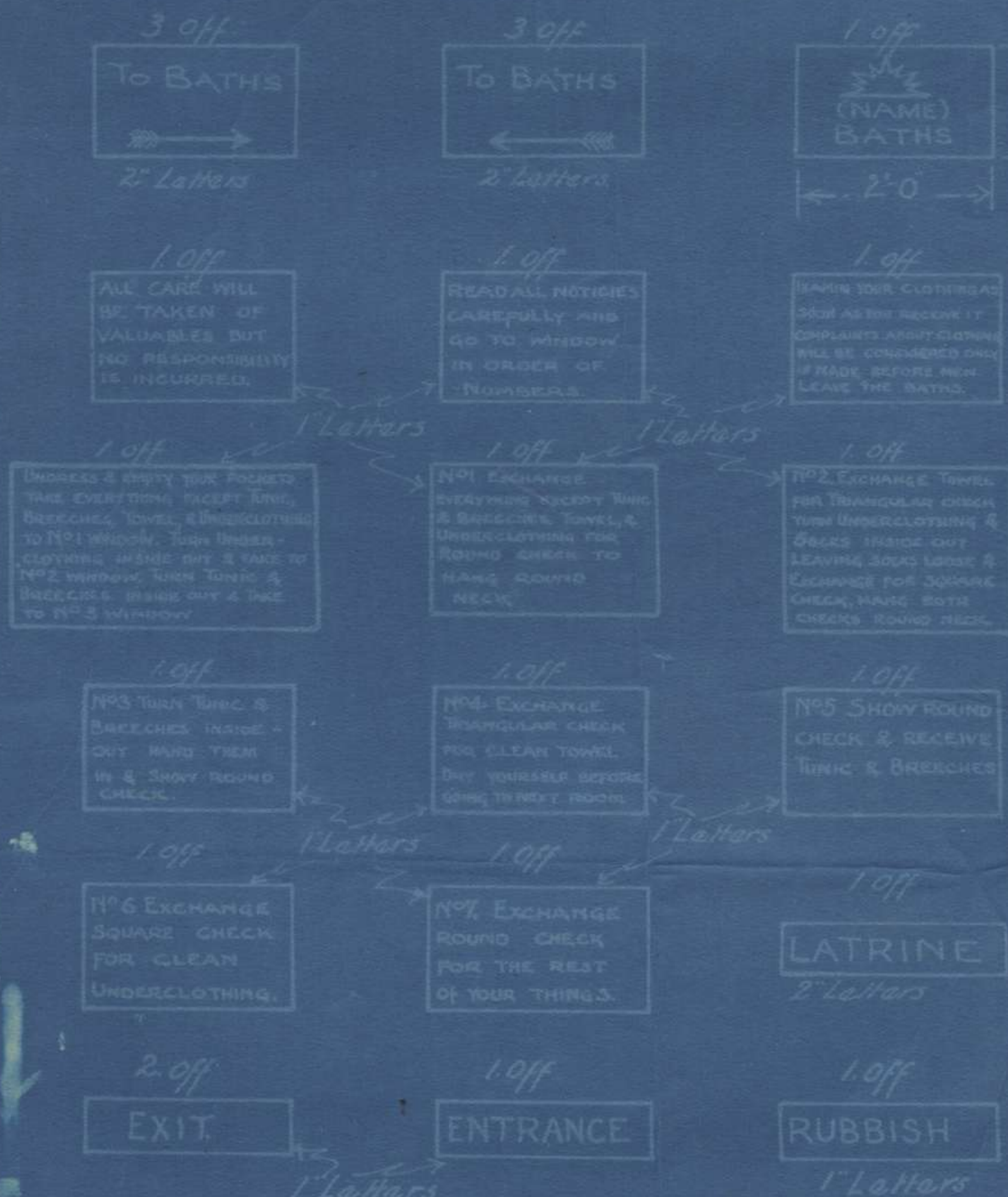
30. Square metal checks marked 1.

60. Square metal checks marked 2.

60. Square metal checks marked 3.

30. Square metal checks marked 4.

60. Triangular metal checks









Appendix 8

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