

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

Salvage

Item number: 19/4/7

Title: 2nd Australian Division Salvage
Company

January 1918



AWM4-19/4/7

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Div Salvage Coy

FOR

January 1918

Signature of Officer compiling.....

Signature of Officer Commanding.....

Confidential Original

71

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

January 1918.

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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RABOT. Shut. 36. B7. 27.3.	1st		<p>Camped at RABOT. Party of 10 men & 1 NCO. reported to the 6th Brigade Headquarters for Salvage Duty. D.C. went to BAILEUL. to see the Corp. Salvage Officer. From Hyde Park Corner Dump. 4 Trucks dispatched to CONNAUGHT. DUMP. - from 5th Brigade Dump. PONT NIETTE. Two Motor Lorry load dispatched to Connaught. Dump. Transport reporting to-day. Two Lorries. Col. on return from BAILEUL. reported that Corp. Salvage Officer had met with an accident and that Col was for the time being to act as Corp. Salvage Officer. and that he had been engaged this day in that capacity.</p>	
	2nd		<p>Camped as before. Coy as usual. 1 Lorry & 1 Lumber transport reporting to-day. Col engaged with Corp. Work. 1 Man from the 6th Brigade marched in.</p>	
	3rd		<p>Camped the same. Coy as usual. Transport reporting. 3 Lorries & 1 Lumber. 6 Trucks dispatched. Connaught. Dump from Hyde Park Corner. Late in the day the Coy was paid. Reported that there is a great deal of engineering material for salvage.</p>	

J. Kertham for O.C.

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	4 th		Camped the same. Coy as usual. - All Returns made up. - Col went to BAILEUL. - Six Trucks dispatched HYDE PARK CORNER DUMP. to Commandant. Dump. Transport reporting 2. Lorry & 2 Lancers. nothing to report. - Weather mild. -	
	5 th		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - All Returns sent in Transport reporting 2. Lorry & 2 Lancers. - Col. carrying on with Coy went and Coy went to BAILEUL. & FLEC. but was unable to see. Major Marten at. F.A. - Trucks dispatched 6 Trucks Hyde Park Corner to Commandant. Dump. - Weather mild. -	
	6 th		Camped as above. Coy as usual. Transport reporting 4 Lancers. 1. Lorry dispatched 3 Trucks. 30 Tons Hyde Park. Comm to Commandant. Dump. - Col engaged with Coy went. Weather becoming cold again	
	7 th		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - Transport reporting 3 Motor Lorry 1. Lancer. - Three trucks dispatched Commandant. Dump. from Hyde Park Comm. averaging 10. Tons. Col engaged in Coy work also in forward Area. - Weather still cold. -	

J. Kerkham for O.C.

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	8 th		Camped as usual. Coy as usual. Transport none. - owing to the Lorry being prevented from using By Road. (Thaw prevention). Very heavy snow fell. Later in the day. greatly impeding Salvage operations.	
	9 th		Camped as usual. Coy as usual. Transport reporting 1 Lorry & 4 G.S. Wagons. Weather extremely rough and snowy. Salvage work greatly impeded. Capt Durant called also Capt Peter. snow falling again tonight heavily.	
	10 th		Camped the same. Coy as usual. Weather much milder. Thawing. Prepared Balance Sheet. Expenditure. Debit 189 francs. 25 cent. Credit the same. Contribution of 1.25 paid by Col. - all money found correct & handed over to Col who signed the sheet. No Transport reported. Weather now favourable.	
	11 th		Camped the same. Coy as usual. Weather becoming cold. Much snow fell. greatly impeding Transport & work in general. Transport reporting 5 G.S. Wagons. Snowing still.	

J. Kerham for OC

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	12 th		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - Weather very cold and snowy. - difficultly experienced in procuring soft salvage. Transport reporting 7 Luniten. Working area. DEAD COW FARM. - 6 th Brigade reported 9-2. Gun for salvage. report having been already made by this Coy. -	
	13 th		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - Weather sunny & cold. Transport & Luniten. It was reported from Base that extra care to be utilized in packing Ammunition in Train. - Coy circumvented all Brigade as to this. - OC went to DHQ. re transport.	
	14 th		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - Weather thawing and much mud appearing. 2 Luniten reported. and washed between RED LODGE ROAD & HYDE PARK CORNER. Coy paid later.	
	15 th		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - Transport ordered for the day. 6. G. S. Wagon & 4. South Luniten. - the Luniten reported 7-30 am. and G. S. Wagon 12-0 noon. - the G. S. Wagon on being detailed, stated that they were attached to the 3 rd Division and that they must report back to the OC. to find out if they could proceed with work for the 2 nd Div. - reported same to 2 nd Div Train also DHQ. - OC went to BAILEUL. returned in evening. - Weather very low raining hard at night very rough. -	

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	16 th	-	<p>Camped the same. - Coy as usual. Transport reporting 4 double Luntin, 6 G.S. Wagon. No Luntin. Thaw precaution still in vogue. No transport reporting information given that line had been washed away, & ground too difficult for working being flooded. In the evening Col. gave par Company camped at RABOT. a dinner to celebrate his birthday. Numerous speeches were made. the Col's health was proposed by Sgt. Kirkham. J.F. and drunk with musical accompaniment. - often to ask come. "Our Guests" (Capt Adam. 4th Div. Capt. Peter Corp Salvage Officer Lt. Nain Aust Comdr. Friend) to which each guest responded individually. - then followed the Toast of absence by Capt. Adam that of the Corp Salvage Officer by Sgt. Kirkham J.F. Aust Comdr. Friend by Col. and lastly the Cook. & waiter. a most enjoyable evening was spent which ended by an invitation to the Company present by Capt. Adam. to join him at the Entertainment.</p>	
	17 th	-	<p>Camped the same. - Weather very wet. Coy as usual. almost too wet to carry on. Transport reporting 3. G.S. Wagon & 4 Luntin. 4. G.S. was ordered ordered one failed to report. One Luntin had to report back owing to trouble with the track. In Transport was dispatched TOR SIDINA.</p>	

J. Kirkham for O.C.

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	17 th		(HYDE PARK CORNER) to CONNAUGHT DUMP. Cpt. Wolfe on returning to camp reported the area to be in a exceedingly bad condition for working. Much silt & flooded.	
	18 th		Camped the same. Coy on usual. Transport reporting 4 Litters & three Q.S. Wagon. Tried to get Litter but the Thaw precautions are still holding. Country again reported in a very bad condition also considerable difficulty experienced in salvaging owing to extensive working. Weather mild & wet.	
	19 th		Camped the same. Coy on usual. Two Wagon reporting & 4 Litter. Weather mild & fine. All return sent in. Six Trucks dispatched to CONNAUGHT DUMP.	
	20 th		Camped the same. Coy on usual. Transport reporting 4 Litter. 3 Q.S. Wagon. Seven Trucks dispatched to CONNAUGHT DUMP. Weather mild and wet.	

J. Kerkham for O.C.

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	21 st		Camped the same. Coy as usual. - Weather wet + mild. Transport reporting 4 Lumber + 2 G.S. Wagon. nothing to report.	
	22 nd		Camped the same. Coy as usual. - Weather wet. Transport reporting 4 Lumber + 3 G.S. Wagon. 1 Lorry. - Owing to evening shell fire it was found necessary to clear wood with the Lumber working forward. - One driver having a half lumber behind him in the area. - no casualties reported.	
	23 rd		Camped as usual. - Weather mild. Transport reporting 2 G.S. Wagon 2 Lorry + 4 Lumber. 3 rd Div Salvage Officer called to discuss taking over.	
	24 th		Camped as usual. - Coy as usual. - Large Party detached for HQ Dump RABOT to clear up and clear some. Transport reporting 4 Lumber. 2 G.S. Wagon. 2 Lorry. - Order sent out for all men attached to unit to report HQ. Dump to narrow high noon. men at Brigade HQ to remain on duty till further notice. - reported later that all Lumber taken. owing to evening shell fire. no casualties. Advance Party 3 rd Div Salvage arrived preparatory to taking over.	

G. K. Hambro for O.C.

2ND
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	25.		Camped as usual. - Coy as usual. - Weather mild. - 2 Lorrys. 295. Wagon. 4 Lorrys reported. No Trucks. dispatched. NCO. 1/2 Dump Hyde PARK CORNER engaged cleaning up same. to hand over. RABOT Dump being cleaned up. as well.	
	26.		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - Trucks were ordered to report but failed to do so. - ordered same number (two) again for tomorrow. Col. 3 rd Div Salway Coy called to discuss taking over. - Latin sent. 3 rd Div Salway Coy a signal to delay taking over as the Coy was awaiting further instructions from P.H.Q.	
	27.		Camped the same. - Coy as usual. - Trucks. 3 Lorrys. Truck dispatched two. TOR. SIDING. 15 Commaught. DUMP. Hyde Park Churn Dump cleaned up. - Midday French party 3 rd Div Salway Coy arrived.	
	28.		Camped the same. - Trucks. 1. Lorry reported for work at Nicops Dump. - Coy engaged cleaning up RABOT. Dump.	

J. Kirkham for O.C.

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	29 th		Camped the same. Coy paraded for our fitting late Battalion Parade.	
	30 th		Camped as usual. Coy cleared the Dump. 1. Long reported. Small quantity of Salvage being this morning to assist with in clearing.	
	31 st		Camped as usual. G.C. 3 rd Div Salvage Coy. arrived to take over the Dump & Camp. same was formally handed over receipt being taken for all kits etc. Clearance Biller Certificate being given. Biller Certificate duly made out and handed to the Maire of STEENWERCK. Coy left RAISOT by Long 11-0 am for DE KONNEBERE. Railhead, entered there 2-8 pm. for LUMBRES arriving there 7-15 pm. On detrainning marched to Bille No 23. Fair REBEUSE. VAL de LUMBRES. Took over Bille.	

Herham J. O.C.

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
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