

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

Salvage

Item number: 19/7/12

Title: 5th Australian Division Salvage
Company

May 1918



AWM4-19/7/12

241

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

5th Australian Salvage Coy.

FOR

May 191*8*

Chas. E. Owen
Capt.

Signature of Officer compiling.....

Signature of Officer Commanding.....

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
SALVAGE COMPANY.
No.....
Date.....

241

5th Aust Salvage Coy

WAR DIARY

Month of

Army Form C. 2118.

May 1918.

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
Daours,	May 1 st	10 AM	<p>Fine weather. Capt Viner proceeded to 15th Bde H.Q. for F.G.C.M. on L/Cpl Powell. Memo of alteration to following day reached orderly room at noon.</p> <p>P.M. Drew 14.00 francs & partly paid unit.</p>	
	2 nd	noon	<p>Fine & warm. Capt Viner attended as prosecutor at F.G.C.M. at 15th Bde H.Q. on L/Cpl Powell.</p>	
	3 rd	P.M.	<p>Bomb dropped on Daours by E.A. Fine & warmer, Shower after 10 P.M. Capt Viner paid men at Corbie & inspected their billets.</p>	
	4 th	P.M.	<p>Capt Viner to D.H.Q., asked Col. Ralph for horse transport to clear salvage from roadsides in area.</p>	
	5 th		<p>Day fine, roads sticky. One H.V. 5.9 gun playing into Daours during the night, about fifteen shots.</p>	
	6 th		<p>Fine, roads sticky, rained after 5 P.M. Capt Viner routine till 5 P.M. at D.H.Q. Col. Bruche said the G.O.C. was pleased with what the Salvage Coy had done during the week.</p>	
	7 th		<p>L/Cpl, now Pte Powell awarded 42 days F.P. No 2. Taken from detention to work it with the Coy.</p>	
	8 th		<p>Fine day. Capt Viner proceeded to Railhead, Ailly sur Somme, paid & inspected men & billets there, - satisfactory.</p>	
	9 th		<p>Showery till 10 AM. then fine. Capt Viner visited Aubigny, noted ammunition on Corbie road there. Then proceeded to Corbie, Town Major & F.P.M. inspected billets, - satisfactory.</p>	
	10 th		<p>Fine day. Capt Viner paid in balance of pay at D.H.Q., & proceeded to Quervieu, & arranged with Capt Law, ofc No 2 Sect. 5th DAC, Amm. Dump to</p>	

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P.T.O.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Months of

May 1918.

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Daours	May 8 th (contd)		<p>put two men there to supervise empty returns. Then inspect Salvage Dump at Pont Noailles, & ordered two men from there to 5th D.A.C. Dump.</p> <p>9th Fine. Capt Viner routine work, local dumps etc.</p> <p>10th Fine day, - B.A. planes over Daours 4 AM. D.H.Q. with Capt Viner left weekly salvage return at D.H.Q. Informed Staff Capt. Artillery that 20 men are needed on D.A.C. Dump at Daours to handle returned empties.</p> <p>11th Fine Day - Corps Salvage Officer, & War Museums Officer called, left word that ammunition empties would not be received at Saleux. P.M. Capt Viner informed Staff Capt Arty that only six men had been put on Daours Dump, & were not sufficient to cope with the amount of work.</p> <p>12th Fine day. Capt Viner visited D.A.C. Dump Laurieu & left word that empties were not to go to Saleux. Then inspected salvage dump at Pont Noailles.</p> <p>13th Fine - cold, Unit engaged on routine work.</p> <p>14th Fine. 4 AM Enemy bombing planes over Daours. Capt Viner pointed out to D.A.A.G. that orders were coming to Salvage Officer direct from 3 sources, namely, Corps Salvage Officer, Corps Salvage Staff Officer, and D.H.Q. 5th Aust Div. Instructed to take orders only through D.H.Q.</p> <p>15th Fine day. Capt Viner proceeded to Corbie & found that 8 men had been evacuated gassed, & several others suffering through gas. Changed 3 gas. Relieved three gassed men from Daours. Paid Unit.</p>	

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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
Daours	16 th		Day hot. Capt Viner spoke to DAAQ re eleven men out of party of 20 at Corbie had been evacuated through working gassed material. Suggested their return to unit, until gas is out of town, he is calling for report from Town Major Corbie, whom under whose instructions the men are working. 3 men evacuated gassed.	
	17 th	10 PM to midnight	E.A. bombing planes over	
	17 th		Hot day Routine work.	
	18 th	10 PM	Enemy bombing planes over	
	18 th		Very hot to 4 PM then thunderstorm. Routine work.	
	19 th	PM	Daours shelled from 9 PM onwards by 5.9 H.V. gun.	
	19 th		Very hot Capt Viner to 5 th D.A.C. Dump at Quervien, & Salvage dump Pont Noyelles Three ORanks evacuated gassed. Total now fifteen	
	20 th		Daours shelled on & off all day, 5.9 HV.	
	20 th		Very hot. Unit changed billets from no 9. to no 2. Daours shelled 7 AM to 10 AM. 14 th Fld Amb. Supply Dumps moved from village	
	21 st		Hot. - Routine	
	22 nd		Hot - Routine.	
	23 rd		Hot. Cool change at 7 PM. Corps Salvage Office called with Capt Anderson, Staff Capt for Salvage. The latter's first call	

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WAR DIARY

Month of May 1918

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Daours	24 th		Cool Day - Routine	
	25 th	PM	cool - afternoon warmer Capt Viner visited fresh Salvage dumps at freshly established refilling points, on Albert Road.	
	26 th	noon	Daours shelled, about 20 rds, 4.2 H.V. Two men A.S.C men killed opposite billets Fine day. Routine work.	
	26 th	10 PM	Daours Bussy bombed.	
	27 th	AM	Fine day Capt Viner inspected Salvage Dumps on Albert Rd. & called at Mobile Vets to exchange horse but none suitable available. Daours shelled all day, and bombed from 10 PM to 1 AM next day.	
	28 th		Fine day routine work.	
	29 th		Fine day routine work. Daours shelled after 11 PM.	
	30 th		Fine day. Capt Viner called on Staff Officer for Salvage at Corps, and suggested colors for unit, reverse of D.H.Q colors, i.e. black on white • suggested inspection trip to Calais ordnance workshops for Salvage Officer in Corps Reserve	
	31 st		Fine day - warming up. Received instructions from D.H.Q. to take over from 4 th Div Salvage Coy at Amiens & Salena. Capt McAuliffe, 4 th Div Salvage Officer at noon - arranged to change over six men to Corps on 1/6/18, two to Quenvien 1/6/18, & change of billets on 2/6/18. 5 th Salvage Coy to send 20 men to Salena railhead on 2/6/18.	

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
SALVAGE COMPANY.

No.....

Date.....

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WAR DIARY

OF

5th Aust Salvage Coy.

FOR

May 191*8*

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Working diary
2	Salvage of War Material
3	French Civilian
4	Clothing Handed to 5 th Div. Ball's by this Coy.

5 TH AUSTRALIAN SALVAGE COMPANY.	
No.
Date

Monthly Working Diary of Above Coy for Month of May 1918.

Date	Area in which working	Working Strengths	Actual Strengths	Remarks.
1-5-18.	DADOS 5 th Aust Divn Daours (28 th AA SC) Daours (29 th AA SC) Pont Noyelles, (18 th AA SC) Bussy- Corbie, (Town Major) Ailly-sur-Somme Daours Amm Dump Aubigny	2 1 2 2 2 20 2 8 6	56	Gas Guard 4 Tick 1. Detention 1. Duty Billet 5
2-5-18.	DADOS Daours (Supply Dumps) Pont Noyelles Bussy Ailly Corbie Daours Amm. Aubigny	2 2 4 2 2 20 5 5	56	Gas Guard 4 Detention 1. Guard & Witnesses 5 (FGCM) Duty Billet 4
3-5-18.	DADOS Daours Supply Pont Noyelles Bussy Ailly Corbie Daours Amm. Aubigny	2 2 4 2 2 20 7 7	56	Gas Guard 4 Duty Billet 5.
4-5-18	DADOS Pont Noyelles Bussy Daours Supply Ailly Corbie Daours Amm. Aubigny	2 4 2 2 2 20 7 6	56	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Hospital 1.
5-5-18	DADOS Pont Noyelles Bussy Daours Supply Ailly Corbie Daours Amm Aubigny	2 4 2 2 2 20 6 6	56	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Hospital 1. Tick 2

Monthly Working Diary for Month of May 1918

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Date	Area in which working	Working Strength	Actual Strength	Remarks
6 5 18	DADOS Pont Noyelles Bussy Daours Supply Ailly Corbie Aubigny	2 4 2 2 2 20 6	56	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Sicks 1 Hospital 1
7 5 18	DADOS Pont Noyelles Bussy Daours Supply Ailly Corbie Daours Amm. Aubigny	2 4 2 2 2 20 6 6	56	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Sick 2 Hosp 1
8 5 18	DADOS Pont Noyelles Bussy Daours Supply Ailly Corbie Aubigny Daours Amm	2 4 2 2 2 20 7 5	56	Gas Guard 4 Billet 6 Sicks 1 Hosp 1
9 5 18	DADOS Pont Noyelles Bussy Daours Supply Ailly Querrieu Daours Amm Aubigny Corbie	2 2 2 2 2 2 6 5 20	56	Gas Guard 4 Billet 6 Sick 2 Hosp 1
10 5 18	DADOS Querrieu Pont Noyelles Bussy Ailly Daours Supply Daours Amm Corbie Aubigny Corbie Road	2 2 2 2 2 2 6 20 6 2	56	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Hosp 1

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5th Austr. Salvage Company

APPENDIX. I

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Monthly Working Diary for Month of May 1918

Date	Area in which working	Working Strength	Actual Strength	Remarks
11-5-18	DADOS Querrieu Pont Noyelles Bussy Ailly Daours Supply Daours Amm. Corbie Aubigny	2 2 2 2 3 7 20 8	57	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5
12-5-18	DADOS Querrieu Pont Noyelles Bussy Ailly Daours Supply Corbie Daours Amm Aubigny	2 2 2 2 3 20 6 9	57	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5
13-5-18	DADOS Querrieu Pont Noyelles Bussy Ailly Daours Supply Daours Amm Corbie Aubigny	2 2 2 2 3 4 15 ^x 11	52	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 x 5 to hosp (Gas)
14-5-18	DADOS Querrieu Pont Noyelles Bussy Ailly Daours Supply Corbie Daours Amm Aubigny	2 2 2 2 3 13 ^x 6 9	50	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 2 to hosp (gas.)
15-5-18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy Daours Supply Pont Noyelles Ailly Corbie Daours Amm Aubigny	2 2 2 3 2 2 6 9	49	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 1 to hosp (gas)
16-5-18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy Daours Supply Pont Noyelles Ailly Corbie Daours Amm Fuilloy	2 2 2 3 2 2 8 ^x 5 7	45	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Lick 3 4 to hosp gas.

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5th Aust Salvage Company

APPENDIX. 1

Monthly Working Diary for Month of May 1918

Date	Areas in which working	Working Strength	Actual Strength	Remarks
17.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy Daours Supply Dumps Pont Noyelles Ailly Corbie Daours Amms Fuilloy	2 2 2 3 2 2 8 5 7	45	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 3
18.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28th AFSC 29th AFSC Pont Noyelles Ailly Corbie Daours Amms. Fuilloy	2 2 2 1 2 2 8 8 4	45	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 3
19.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28th AFSC 29th AFSC Pont Noyelles Ailly Corbie Daours Amms Fuilloy	2 2 2 1 2 2 8 6 7	42	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 (Noop 3 gas.)
20.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28th AFSC 29th AFSC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fuilloy Daours Amms.	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 8 7 6	42	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5
21.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28 AFSC 29 AFSC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fuilloy Daours Amms	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 8 7 4	42	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 2

5th Aust. Salvage Company
 Monthly Working Diary of Month of May 1918

Date	Area in which working	Working Strength	Actual Strength	Remarks
22.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28 th AFSC 29 th AFSC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fuilloy Daours Amms	2 2 1 1 2 2 8 6 4	42	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 3.
23.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28 th AFSC 29 th AFSC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fuilloy Daours Amms.	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 8 5	41	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 1 to hosp.
24.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28 th AFSC 29 th AFSC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fuilloy Daours Amms Daours, collecting	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 7 6 2 4	40	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 1 to hosp (gas)
25.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28 th AFSC 29 th AFSC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fuilloy Daours	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 7 6 5	40	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 1.
26.5.18	DADOS Querrieu Bussy 28 th AFSC 29 th AFSC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fuilloy Daours Amms. Daours, collecting	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 7 4 4 3	41	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 2. 1. rejoined from hosp.

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5th Australian Salvage Company
Monthly Working Diary for Month of May 1918

Date	Area in which working	Working Strength	Actual Strength	Remarks
27 5 18	DAPOS Quernew Bussy 28 th ASC 29 th ASC Ailly Pont Noyelles Corbie Fulloy Daours Amms. Daours collecting	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 6 6 3 3	40	Billet 5 Guard 4 Licks 1 1 to hosp gas
28 5 18	DAPOS Quernew Bussy 28 ASC 29 ASC Pont Noyelles Ailly Corbie Fulloy Daours Amms Daours collecting	2 2 2 1 1 2 2 6 6 3 3	40	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 1
29 5 18	DAPOS Quernew Bussy Supply Dumps Ailly Corbie La Neuville Daours Amms Daours Dump	2 2 2 4 2 6 6 3 3	40	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 1
30 5 18	DAPOS Quernew Bussy Supply Dumps Ailly Corbie La Neuville Daours Amms Dump Daours Dump	2 2 2 4 2 6 6 3 3	41	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 2 1 rejoined from hosp
31 5 18	DAPOS Quernew Bussy Supply Dumps Ailly Corbie La Neuville Daours Amms Dump Daours Dump	2 2 2 4 2 6 6 4 3	41	Gas Guard 4 Billet 5 Licks 1

5TH AUSTRALIAN SALVAGE COMPANY.
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5th Australian Salvage Coy

APPENDIX. 2

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Monthly Salvage Return for Month of May 1918.

Nature of Article	Quantity	Remarks
<u>I Ammunition</u>		
Small Arm Amm.	14 bags	
do do do	74 boxes	
Y.A.A. clips bags	25	
Y.A.A. Shells, bags	82	
Y.A.A. Blanks, rds	1500	
Y.A.A. Boxes, empty	55	
Live Shells, 18pdr rds,	1255	Defective
clips, 18pdr bags	612	
Fuzes, 106, boxes	12	300 per box
Fuze Pins, boxes	99	
Fillings, 18pdr bags	36	
Rubbers, 18pdr, bags	47	
Plugs, 18pdr, boxes	1013	
Chokes, wooden, boxes	131	
Empty boxes, 18pdr	32581	
Empty boxes, 4.5 how,	13718	
<u>II Rifles</u>		
Rifles S.M.L.L.	1492	
Rifles German	8	
Oil Bottles brass	74	
Parts rifle bags	2	
<u>III Guns & Parts</u>		
Barrels, Lewis M. Gun	30	
Belt Boxes, empty	8	
Belts, Vickers	29	
Magazines, Lewis M.G.	172	
Parts, Machine Gun, bags	7	
Machine Guns, Vickers	7	
Machine Gun, Lewis	8	
Barrels Hotchkiss	1	
Lowers, Machine Gun	2	
Stand, Lewis M.G.	2	
Chests Lewis	29	
Magazine carriers	21	
<u>IV Equipment</u>		
Bayonets	485	
Bottles water	1041	
Belts waist	231	
Braces webb	452	
Bandoliers leather	202	
Bandoliers S.A.A.	565	

Monthly returns of Salvage evacuated during Month of May 1918

Nature of Article	Quantity	Remarks
<u>IV Equipment cont'd</u>		
Carriers water bottle	226	
Carriers E.T. head	139	
Carriers E.T. helve	80	
Containers S.B.R.	900	
Covers rifle long	71	
Covers Mess Tin	128	
Troop bayonet	230	
Melons E Tool	310	
Heads E Tool	327	
Haversacks webb	395	
Helmets steel	626	
Pouches Amms webb	313	
Packs webb	1243	
Respirators Small Box	1796	
Scabbards	687	
Swords Scabbards Cavalry	4	
Support Straps	528	
Shets ground	225	
Shets webb complete	347	
Webb mixed sacks	49	
Leather man sacks	25	
Shings rifle	471	
Tins Mess	600	
<u>V Clothing</u>		
Breeches ms	1375	
Blankets 95	1505	
Boots ankle ms	2751	
Boots 75 ms	191	
Boots gum "	20	
Boardskins	1482	
Boots fur lined	33	
Boots 75	149	
Comforters woollen	309	
Gloves woollen	716	
Hats felt	809	
Jerkins leather	1090	
Pantaloon	600	
Puttees	1195	
Rags woollen	21	
Rags cotton	62	
Scarves	198	
Tunics	1900	
Coats great	1370	
<u>VI Medical</u>		
Stretchers fld Amb	22	
Shings Stretcher	10	

Return of Salvage evacuated during Month of May 1918

Nature of Article	Quantity	Remarks
<u>VII Supplies</u>		
Petrol bases empty	22	
Petrol Tins empty	88	
<u>VIII Transport & Harness</u>		
Breechings G.S.	23	
Breast plates	18	
Brake blocks	1	
Axle limber	1	
Body limber	1	
Breast collar	5	
Bars supporting	12	
Axle waggon G.S.	6	
Pole draught	3	
Pole perch	6	
Rugs Horse	380	
Pole waggon G.S.	1	
Pole limber	1	
Stalls head	34	
Traces	23	
Saddles pack	5	
Saddles universal	112	
Wheels G.S.	91	
<u>IX Various</u>		
Bicycles	10	
Bicycle frames	22	
" wheels	45	
" tyres.	116	
Motor cycle frame	2	
" " wheel	1	
" " tyres	48	
Boilers T.K.	50	
Kettles camp	68	
Side car	1	
Machines skencing	4	
Propeller aeroplane	1	
Rubber scrap bags	23	
<u>X Shell Cases.</u>		
Brass 18 pdv	95,100	
Brass 4.5 low.	36,328	

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No.....

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Return of Goods Material evacuated from hotels during May 1918

Nature of Article	Quantity	Nature of Article	Quantity
Wool	{ 99 cases 45 panniers 71 baskets 97 sacks 1028 bales	Foodstuffs	17 cases
Wines	{ 334 cases 45 barrels	Haricots	12 bags
Alcohol	{ 63 kegs 216 cases	Cats	102 bags
Books & Skins	5 tons	Soup Tablets	5 cases
Laines	{ 189 cases 57 sacks 44 bales 8 bags	Cotton	403 bales
Soap	{ 331 cases 15 barrels 104 sacks	Grain	500 sacks
Meat	330 cases	Oil	180 barrels
Coffee	4 cases	Brushes	6 cases
Rice	18 cases	Flides	330
Dried Fruit	4 barrels	Superphosphates	66 bags
Leather	1500 pieces	Carbonate of Soda	{ 94 bags 24 boxes
Flour	25 sacks	Dyeing material	91 barrels
Jute	4 cases	Twine	17 baskets
Paper	383 rolls	Hessian	24 bales
Essences	80 litres	Salt	267 bags
Hoops	53 bales	Beetroot seed	79 bags
Spices	4 cases	Linin	14 rolls
		Cotton wicks	{ 54 bags 59 packages
		Leather goods	{ 8 trunks 19 bags
		Shoes	6 cases
		Soles	12 cases
		Buttons	1 bag

5TH
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5th Australian Salvage Coy

APPENDIX. 4.

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Return showing clothing handed to 5th Aust Div Baths by
 above Coy during month of May 1918

Article	Quantity
Shirts, flannel	3542
Ginglets, woollen	850
Socks, pairs	4330
Underpants, pms	2325
Undervests	582

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