

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

Bases & Depots

Item number: 33/17/14

Title: No 2 Australian Command Depot

July 1917



AWM4-33/17/14

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

260nd Spot.
July 1917

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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 |
|----------|------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | 1917 | | | |
| WEYMOUTH | 14.7 | | Major D. MARKS M.C. 13th. Battalion took over command of WESTHAM from Major LOWE | |
| | 21.7 | | Draft marched out for AUSTRALIA | |
| | 22.7 | | do do do | |
| | 27.7 | | do do do | |
| | | | July Arrivals 4098 | |
| | | | Departures 5345 | |
| | | | Average Daily Strength 5148 | |

2nd August 1917.

REPORT FOR MONTH OF JULY 1917.

| | Offs. | O/R. | Total |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| <u>Total in Depot on 30th June, 1917.</u> | 68 | 6327 | 6395 |
| <u>Total arrivals for July.</u> | 39 | 4059 | 4098 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | 107 | 10386 | 10493 |
| Departure for July to Port of Em- barkation to Australia. | 29 | 3894 | 3923 |
| To:- | | | |
| Overseas Training Depot | 3 | 76 | 79 |
| Other Command Depots | 2 | 1123 | 1125 |
| Illegal Absentees | | 16 | 16 |
| Hospital, over 1 month | | 66 | 66 |
| 1st A.D.H., Bulford | | 14 | 14 |
| A.A.S.C., Park House | | 3 | 3 |
| A.A.M.C., Park House | | 53 | 53 |
| Administrative Headquarters, Ldn. duty. | 2 | 15 | 17 |
| " " " discharge | | 12 | 12 |
| H.Q., A.I.F. Depots in U.K. (duty) | | 8 | 8 |
| Cobham Hall, Kent. | | 4 | 4 |
| Died | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Training Battalions | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Borden, transfer to A.R.O.D. | | 12 | 12 |
| Machine Gun Depot, Grantham | 1 | - | 1 |
| Embkn.Commandant, Southampton | 3 | - | 3 |
| " " Folkestone | 1 | - | 1 |
| | <hr/> | | |
| <u>Total departures for July.</u> | 43 | 5302 | 5345 |
| <u>Total in Depot on 31st July, 1917.</u> | 64 | 5084 | 5148 |

It is interesting to note that the above figures, in respect of arrivals and departures, constitute a record for this Depot. The numbers dealt with are nearly double those of any previous month.

The increase in the departures is mainly accounted for by the number evacuated to Australia: 1238 on 21st; 1583 on 22nd; and 1103 on 27th July.

The number of men sent to the Overseas Training Depot is very small compared with the months of June and May, but this is accounted for by the fact that all "Bla" Class men who would be fit for G.S. within three months were transferred to Nos. 1, 3 and 4 Command Depots.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The usual Y.M.C.A. CONCERTS, with CINEMA SHOWS at both Y.M.C.A. & GYMNASIUM HUTS, have provided entertainment for troops of this Command Depot during the month of July.

There have been no Matinee performances at the Jubilee Hall or Pavilion Theatre, Weymouth, this month.

INSPECTIONS.

The D.D.M.S., Southern Command (Surgeon-General BURRELL), arrived at this Depot on a visit of inspection on the 2nd July 1917.

Major A. PHILLIPS, DAAG, AIF. Depots in the United Kingdom visited these Headquarters on 9.7.17 and again on 25.7.17.

The Travelling Medical Board, composed of Colonels RYAN. C.B. and MAUDSLEY. CMG. AAMC. (Consultants to the AIF) were here several times during the past month when they reviewed Surgical & Medical Board cases at this Depot.

DEATHS.

It is regretted that since the forwarding of the previous report the under mentioned Officer and four other ranks died at the places and on the dates stated :-

- Medical) Captain F.A DERAVIN, A.A.M.C. (Died at Monte Video Camp
Officer) Weymouth on 8.7.17).
- No. 378 S/Sergt A.G. HARRISON, Admin. H'qrs. (Died at 33 South-
bourne Road, Bournemouth whilst on leave;
Date of Death, 21.7.17).
- No.1317 Sergt. A. GRIFFIN, 1st D.A.C. (Died at Sidney Hall
Weymouth, on 15.7.17).
- No. 138 Private L.N. MATTHEWS, 27th Bn. (Died at Sidney Hall
Weymouth, on 4.7.17).
- No. 839 Private P. BUTLER, 39th Bn. (Died at Sidney Hall,
Weymouth on 8.7.17).

ORDERLY ROOM.

The following figures denote the number of cases dealt with during the month, under each of the headings mentioned :-

| <u>For being DRUNK &c.</u> | <u>For ABSENCE</u> | <u>For MINOR OFFENCES</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 41. | 156 | 189 |

RED CROSS HUT.

The Red Cross Hut at Westham Camp was not completed last month as expected owing to the material not being available, but it should be ready for occupation this month.

REPORTS.

The following reports are attached :-

- MEDICAL, SANITARY & PIONEER by the S.MO. & Quartermaster.
- Report of the Officer i/c Post Office at this Depot.

Monte Video Camp,
WEYMOUTH.
2nd August 1917.

(sd) R. SPENCER BROWNE. Colonel,
Commandant.
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.
(WJM/EM).

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Australian Military Post Office,
No. 2 Command Depot,
Monte Video, Weymouth.
1st August 1917.

From Officer Commanding,
Australian Military Post Office,
Monte Video Camp.

To The Adjutant.

The following is a statement shewing the amount of postal business transacted at this Camp Post Office during the month of July, 1917:-

Bags of Mail received 222. Despatched 277.

Parcels.

| | |
|------------|------|
| Received | 2108 |
| Despatched | 1210 |
| Delivered | 881 |
| On hand | 17 |

Registered articles.

| | |
|------------|------|
| Received | 1847 |
| Despatched | 1093 |
| Delivered | 739 |
| On hand | 15 |

Telegrams.

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Received | 987 |
| Delivered | 936 |
| Redirected | 45 |
| No Record | 6 |

Stamps sold £233.15.5½

Postal Notes sold £24.4.3

Letters

| | |
|------------|--------|
| Received | 73.000 |
| Delivered | 53.000 |
| Redirected | 20.000 |

Express Letters

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Received and Delivered | 42 |
| Redirected | 5 |

Branch Army Post Offices at Verne and Westham are managed satisfactorily and records for this district are up to date.

Work in the Redirection Section of each A.P.O. in this district has been heavy of late owing to departure of so many troops for Australia.

Postal business generally has increased, as will be seen by a comparison of the above with previous returns.

(sgd.) H. Sells. S/sgt.

for Lieut.
Officer Commanding.
Australian Military Post Office.-

MEDICAL & SANITARY REPORT FOR MONTH OF JULY, 1917.

HEALTH.

Apart from wounds and sickness acquired on active service, the health of the troops has been very good. The attendance at sick parade has been very small.

Total number on sick parade for month:- 3810.
Average daily attendance:- 123.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases of infectious disease have occurred:-

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Cerebro-spinal-meningitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| | Diphtheria | ... | | | ... | ... | nil |
| xx | Gonorrhoea | ... | | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| xx | Urithritis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 166 |
| | Syphilis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| | Scabies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 63 |
| | Mumps | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| | Chickenpox | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | nil |
| | Measles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

xx 101 cases contracted in London; 13 in Edinburgh; 5 in Glasgow; 18 in Weymouth; 51 elsewhere in United Kingdom.

CONTACTS:

All contacts of infectious disease have been segregated under canvas at Monte Video Camp.

The number of contacts so isolated is at present 24.

OBITUARY. Capt. DERA VIN, A.A.M.C.

I regret to report the sudden death from apoplexy of the above named Officer.

One of the most capable Officers who has been on the Medical Staff of this Depot, his loss will be keenly felt by all with whom he came in contact.

Four other ranks also died during the month, three from pulmonary tuberculosis, and one from pneumonia.

SANITATION.

The sanitary conditions of Monte Video Camp, Westham, and Verne Citadel Detachments have been satisfactory.

ADMISSIONS.

4059 other ranks have been admitted to the Depot during the month.

CASES DISPOSED OF DURING THE MONTH.

5298 other ranks have been disposed of during the month as follows:-

FIT FOR GENERAL SERVICE:-

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----|
| To Overseas Training Depot | 76 | |
| Training Battalions. | <u>2</u> | 78 |

TEMPORARILY UNFITS:-

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|------|
| To other Command Depots. | <u>1123</u> | 1123 |
|--------------------------|-------------|------|

HOME SERVICE PERSONNEL:-

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----|
| <u>A.M.C. Duties,</u> | | |
| Ist A.D.H. Bulford. | 14 | |
| Parkhouse A.A.M.C. | 53 | |
| Cobham Hall. | 4 | |
| A.S.C. Parkhouse. | 3 | |
| <u>Clerical Duties,</u> | | |
| A.H.Qrs. London. | 15 | |
| Bhurtpore Barracks. | 8 | |
| Railway Trg. Depot. Borden. | <u>12</u> | 109 |

PERMANENTLY UNFIT:-

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Discharged in England. | 12 | |
| Transferred outside Hospitals. | 66 | |
| Returned to Australia. | <u>3894</u> | 3972 |

ILLEGAL ABSENTEES :-

| | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| | <u>16</u> | <u>16</u> | <u>5298</u> |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|

MESSAGE DEPARTMENT.

The total number of attendances for massage treatment during the month was 7320, a daily average of 24.

The installation of electrical equipment &c. and renovation of Massage Hut at Monte Video Camp, has been completed.

DRESSINGS.

In the Dressing Stations in the Depot the Total number of dressings was 8371, a daily average of 270.

DENTAL.

Dental Report attached.

(Sgd.) J. Norris Major.
S.M.O. No.2 Australian Command Depot.

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Medical Office,
Westham Camp,
31st July 1917.

FROM Medical Officer,
Westham Detachment.

TO S.M.O.,
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.

I have the honour to submit my report upon the health and sanitation of this Camp for the month of July.

HEALTH. The general health of the troops has been satisfactory.

SICK. The Daily average was 38.

DRESSINGS. The daily average was 90.

MASSAGE. The daily average was 40.

HOSPITAL. Total to Hospital for month 33.

VENEREAL. Urethritis 47.

EARLY TREAT-
MENT. The number of men reporting at the early treatment depot was 752.

DIPHThERIA. One case of diphtheria occurred during the month. The patient (Lieut. Bunbury) was removed to the Borough Isolation Hospital, Weymouth. All contacts were effectively isolated under guard. New blankets were supplied and the old blankets removed for disinfection. Swabs from all contacts were taken and one positive contact was detected. This man was removed to the Nothe Laboratory. The remaining contacts were freed and the hut disinfected as laid down in Routine Order No. 159 11/5/17 and declared fit for occupation after the expiration of 48 hours.

SANITATION. The sanitation of the camp is now satisfactory. A regular unnotified inspection is carried out.

VENTILATION. The necessary supervision with regard to proper ventilation is carried out at regular intervals.

GENERALLY. The health and sanitation of the camp is good.

(sd) E. MacKenzie Captain,
Medical Officer.

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY 1917.

1. ARRIVALS. 9 Officers, 2787 other ranks. Total.....2796.
2. DEPARTURES. 12 Officers 2782 other ranks Total.....2794.
3. DEATHS. 1.
4. COURTS-MARTIAL. Nil.
5. INVALIDED TO AUST. 5 Officers, 1066 other ranks. Total.....1071
(included in above list of Departures).
6. INSPECTION. By officer i/c Huts, twice daily.
By Quartermaster, daily, including Barrack Rooms, also at Breakfast and dinner.
By O.C. Westham Detachment, weekly on Sundays.
Mens' Barrack Rooms, Institutions and outbuildings.
The Medical Officer also renders a report (attached).
7. DISCIPLINE. The general conduct of the camp has been very satisfactory. The most frequent crime is that of overstaying leave or furlough. Efforts are being made to rectify this.
8. TRAINING. Owing to the fact that during the past month, Australia cases have been centralised at this Detachment for evacuation to Australia, very little training has been done. An N.C.O's. class has been maintained, and such classification present in camp have received the course of training laid down for them.
9. POST OFFICE. The N.C.O. i/c Post Office renders a report - as follows :-
During the past month, the working of the Camp Post Office has proceeded very satisfactorily, and I have no complaints to report.
All mail for men who have left this camp has been re-addressed to them at their various destinations.
The present staff comprises 4 men.
10. GENERAL. Sanitary matters and conditions have been closely watched throughout the month, and have been effectively carried out. Huts are kept thoroughly clean; bath houses and incinerators have received close attention.
The special Sanitary Officer, Portland Garrison, visits the camp weekly. The work of the Sanitary Contractor has been carried out satisfactorily. The camp is in a very satisfactory condition. The gardens are well repaying the attention which has been bestowed upon them.

(Sgd.) Dixon Hearder Major.
Commanding, Westham Detachment.

TO/ Headquarters,
No. 2 Australian Command Depot,
Monte Video Camp.

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MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY - 1917.

1. ARRIVALS. 15 Officers - 821 Other ranks - 836 Total.
2. DEPARTURES. 14 Officers - 1678 Other ranks - 1692 Total.
3. DEATHS. Nil.
4. COURTS-MARTIAL. Nil.
5. INVALIDED TO AUSTRALIA. 7 Officers - 1503 Other ranks - 1510 Total.
6. INSPECTIONS. By Officers i/c Barrack Rooms Daily.
By Quartermaster Daily, except Barrack Rooms.
By Orderly Officer Daily, including Barrack Rooms, also at Breakfast, Dinner and Tea.
By District Sanitary Officer occasionally.
By C.O., Verne Detachment, weekly, on Saturdays., men's Barrack Rooms, Institutions and Outbuildings.
The Medical Officer also renders a report on 1.8.17.
7. DISCIPLINE. The Discipline of the Detachment during the month has been good.
8. TRAINING. Route marches are carried out every day when the weather permits, and particular attention is paid to the Saluting drill on both morning and afternoon parades with very noticeable and good results. Beyond the above mentioned marching and saluting drill, no other training is given, on account of the classification of the men, which precludes training of a strenuous nature.
The usual fatigues are carried out daily.
9. POST OFFICE. The Pte. i/c Post Office renders a report attached.
10. GENERAL. More attention is being paid to the conservation of By-products and the prevention of waste. A By-products plant has been erected by the men of the Detachment, which will enable to deal more thoroughly with kitchen waste. During the month the following have been disposed of:- 3668 lbs. Bones to value of £13.19.6, 2738 lbs Fat to value of £63.1.5 and swill to value of £14.
From Revenue obtained by sale of By-products, the Detachment has purchased a Mechanical Potato peeler and an Electric Mincer. Up to to-day sufficient power for the latter has not been forthcoming but it is hoped that an arrangement may be made with D.O.R.E.

(sd) D.G. MARKS, Major.
C.O. No. 5 Coy. Verne Citadel, Portland,
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.

TO/ The Adjutant,
Verne Citadel Detachment, A.I.F.

During the past month the working of the Camp Post Office has proceeded very satisfactorily, and I have no complaints to record. All mail for men who have left this Camp has been re-directed to them at their respective destinations.
The present staff comprises myself and four men.

Verne Citadel,
31.7.17.

(sd) S. WILLSHIRE. Cpl.
i/c Verne Citadel Post Office A.I.F.

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No. 2 Australian Command Depot,
 Monte Vide Camp,
 WEYMOUTH.
 July 31st, 1917.

Pioneer & Sanitary Report. Monte Video Camp, Weymouth. July, 1917.

Roads General maintenance of Roads and Paths has been carried out
 & as necessary. All Asphalt Foot Paths leading to and connect-
Paths. ing Hospital Huts are now complete.

Sewerage. All Sewers, Gutters Etc., are disinfected at regular intervals.
 A few minor repairs have been carried out as necessary and
 all drains are in good working order.

Surface All Surface drains have been thoroughly cleaned. Grass etc.,
Water cleaned out and all drains maintained in good order and new
 & drains made where necessary.
Drainage.

Ablution A portable Ablution bench has been placed on North side of
Houses No. 7 Latrine, complete with drain water supply etc., for
 & use of Contacts in Isolation Camp. All Taps are repaired
Latrines. as necessary and washers replaced when required. All Urinals
 are treated with heavy Oil at intervals and all Latrine Pans
 are disinfected daily and all Galvanised Iron Etc., lime-washed.

Huts. Huts are in excellent habitable state, exterior of Huts,
 Store Rooms, etc., are being treated with Creosote.

Painter Breakages have been light during the month, and all broken
 & Windows repaired as promptly as possible. Interior of
Glazier. Ablution Room at rear of Officers Mess has been painted white.

Carpenter Barrack Room breakages have been repaired as necessary.
 & Joinery Work has been done for Hospital and Companies where
Joiner. necessary, and several chairs and forms repaired and
 returned to Store.

Bath Bath Houses are in good working order. The new Bath House
Houses. between Huts 27 and 28 is now complete and in use for
 Hospital Patients.

Cook
Houses.

Cook Houses are in good order.

Incinerators. All incinerators are in good order. Minor repairs have been carried out during the month.

Gardener. Gardens are returning a good profit. Several kinds of Vegetables including potatoes have been handed to the Mess. All round between Hospital Huts has been dressed with gravel and flower beds laid in various designs in centre.

Hospital
Huts. All Hospital Huts are now complete.

General. The Camp generally is in a satisfactory state.

(Sgd.) Geo.King. Captain.
Quartermaster.
No 2 Australian Command Depot....

(sgd.) W.O.Betts. Major,
S. M. O.
No.2 Australian Command Depot...
(AH/MF).....

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF DENTAL TREATMENT FOR JULY 1918.

No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Attendance | 1510. |
| Cases Treated | 840. |
| Teeth extracted..... | 254. |
| Anaesthetics (Local) | 225 |
| Fillings, temporary | 46 |
| " Permanent | 85 |
| " Root | 13 |
| Scaling cases | 53 |
| Dentures repaired | 29 |
| " supplied | 94 |
| Pyorrhoea cases treated | 247 |

H.W.Kiely, Capt. Dental Officer.

J.S.NORRIS, Major, S.M.O.

August 1st 1917.

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