

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

Bases & Depots

Item number: 33/17/15

Title: No 2 Australian Command Depot

August 1917



AWM4-33/17/15

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

2600 Depot.

Army Form C. 2118.

August 1917 470

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	
WEYMOUTH	1917	20.8	Captain C.G. Johnston 17th. Battalion took over command of VERNE CITADEL from-Major MARKS.		
	25.8		Draft marched out for AUSTRALIA	3 Officers	1167 Other Ranks
	27.8		do do do	5 Officers	1414 Other Ranks
			August Arrivals 4098	Departures 5345	Average Daily Strength 5148.

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To; Headquarters,
A.I.F. Depots in U.K.
TIDWORTH.



See Ybook
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REPORT FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 1917.

	Oftrs.	O/R	Total.
Number in Depot 31st July, 1917.	64	5084	5148
Total arrivals for August.	40	5581	5621
	104	10665	10769
Departures for August to:			
R.B.A.A., Lark Hill	1		1
1st A.A.H., Harefield.	1	1	2
3rd A.A.H., Dartford.	1		1
Military hosp. Bulford, duty.	1	1	2
A.H.Q., London duty.	2	16	18
" " discharge		41	41
Embarkation Commandant, Southampton.	2		2
Port of Embarkation for Australia	8	2586	2594
Overseas Tng. Bde. Perham Down		11	11
Other command depots.	2	1171	1173
Illegal absentees.		6	6
Hospital over one month.		87	87
A.A.M.C., Parkhouse.		4	4
H.Q., A.I.F. Depots, Tidworth. duty.		5	5
Deceased		4	4
Training Battalions.		5	5
17th Field Ambulance, Ludgershall.		2	2
2nd A.A.H., Southall duty.		6	6
<u>Total departures for August,</u>	18	3946	3964
<u>Number in Depot 31st August, 1917.</u>	86	6719	6805

In comparing the above figures with those of last month it will be noticed that the arrivals have increased considerably and the departures decreased, but the number dealt with shows a slight increase.

The decrease in the departures is accounted for by the number evacuated to Australia. Only 2594 were sent against 3894 for the month July.

The number of men transferred to the Overseas Training Brigade has decreased considerably, but as all the B.1a class personnel have been transferred to other Command Depots, this matter is out of our control.

On the whole these figures compare very favorably with those of the preceding month, which was a record for this Depot.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

Four cinema shows were given with the Depot plant. The Y.M.C.A. gave cinema entertainments at the various camps as undermentioned :-

<u>Monte Video</u>	<u>Westham</u>	<u>Verne Citadel</u>	<u>In wards of Camp hospital.</u>
9	6	6	20

Three theatre entertainments and one concert were arranged by the President of the Regimental Institute in Weymouth.

ENTERTAINMENTS (CONTD.)

The number of concerts given in each camp for the month are:-

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Monte Video.Westham.Verne Citadel.

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INSPECTIONS.

Major-General J.W. McCAY, C.B., V.D., G.O.C., A.I.F. Depots in U.K. paid visits of inspection on the 26th and 27th ultimo.

Major-General W.G.B. Western; C.B. i/c administration, Southern Command visited this Depot on the 27th August, 1917.

Major AM Phillips, D.A.A.G., A.I.F. Depots in U.K., visited this Depot several times during the month.

The consultants of the A.I.F. have visited this Depot on several occasions during the month and reviewed all surgical and medical cases boarded for Australia.

DEATHS.

It is regretted that since the forwarding of the previous report the undermentioned N.C.O. and men died at the places and on the dates shown :-

No. 4275	Cpl.	W.A.	SPURDING,	50th Battn.
			(Died at Monte Video Camp hospital, on 16.8.17).	
No. 7647	Pte	A.	Mc DONALD,	A. M. C.
			(Died at Sidney Hall Mil. hospital on 8.8.17).	
No. 3007	Pte.	K.	WIGGLESWORTH,	32nd Battn.
			(Died at Princess Christian hospital on 28.8.17)	

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 etc.</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>For.</u>
<u>Within Garrison</u>	<u>Outside Garrison.</u>	<u>ABSENCE.</u>
		<u>MINOR OFFENCES.</u>
21	7	193
		228

REPORTS.

The following reports are attached :-

MEDICAL, SANITARY & PIONEER,
by the S.M.O., and Quartermaster.

Report of the Officer-in-charge, POST OFFICE at this Depot.

DRUNKENNESS.

There were 21 local cases of drunkenness dealt with during the month, for an average daily strength of 7017. This works out at .098 per thousand per week. This is a big decrease on the preceding month.

Monte Video Camp,
Weymouth.
2nd September, 1917.

R. Spencer Brown Colonel.
Commandant.
No. 2 Australian Command Depot (WEM/WK)

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Medical Office.
Monte Video Camp.
Weymouth.
31st August, 1917.

MEDICAL AND SANITARY REPORT FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 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 - 3079
Average daily attendance - 99

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases of infectious disease have occurred:-

	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.....	Nil
	Diphtheria	Nil.
x	Gonorrhoea	57
x	Urethritis	113
	Syphilis	7
	Scabies	80
	Mumps	Nil
	Chickenpox	Nil.
	Measles	Nil

109 Cases contracted in London.

26	"	"	"	Weymouth.
7	"	"	"	Edinburgh
3	"	"	"	Glasgow.
25	"	"	"	Elsewhere in U.K.

CONTACTS.

All contacts of infectious disease have been released from isolation.

OBITUARY.

Four other ranks died during the month from causes as follows:-

Pernicious anaemia	1
Diaphragmatic hernia.....	1
Septicaemia.....	1
Pneumonia	1

SANITATION.

The sanitary conditions of Monte Video and Westham camps and the Verne Citadel have been satisfactory.

ADMISSIONS.

5581 other ranks have been admitted during the month.

CASES DISPOSED OF DURING THE MONTH.

3942 other ranks have been disposed of during the month as follows:-

FIT for GENERAL SERVICE.

To Overseas Training Battln -	11	
" Training Battalions -	5	16

TEMPORARY UNFITS.

To other Command Depots. -	1171	1171
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MEDICAL AND SANITARY REPORT FOR MONTH OF AUGUST 1917. Continued.CASES DISPOSED OF DURING THE MONTH. CONTINUED.HOME SERVICE PERSONNEL.

To A.M.C. duties in U.K...	-	14	
" Clerical duties London	-	16	
" " " Tidworth-		<u>5</u>	35

PERMANENTLY UNFIT.

Discharged in England	-	41	
Transf'd outside Hospitals	-	87	
Returned to Australia	-	<u>2586</u>	2714

ILLEGAL ABSENTEES.

	<u>6</u>	6
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MASSAGE DEPARTMENT.

The total number of attendances for massage treatment during the month was - 4209. An average attendance of 145.

DRESSINGS.

In the Dressing Stations in the Depot the total number of dressings during the month was 10,750, a daily average of 347.

DENTAL.

Dental Report attached.

W. O. Best Major.
S.M.O. No. 2. Australian Command Depot.

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S.M.O.

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Medical Office,
WESTHAM
September 1st 1917.

From:- Medical Officer,
Westham Camp.

To:- Senior Medical Officer,
No 2 Australian Command Depot.

HEALTH AND SANITATION REPORT FOR MONTH OF A U G U S T 1917

I have the honor to report that the health of the troops in Westham Camp is satisfactory.

SICK. The daily average was 43.

DRESSINGS The daily average was112.

MASSAGE The daily average was55.

HOSPITAL. The total admitted to Hospital for the month was31.

VENEREAL. Urethritis40.

SCABIES The number of scabies during the month was 6.

SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of the Camp is satisfactory.

VENTILATION.

To ensure that the regulations relating to Ventilation were properly carried out, "Surprise visits" were made to all huts throughout the Camp at late hours. All huts were found to be properly ventilated .

GENERALLY. The Camp and its surroundings are in a satisfactory condition.,

O. J. G. G.
Captain.
Medical Officer.
Westham Camp Detachment.

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Medical Office
Verne Citadel.
Portland.

1/9/17.

Medical Officer
Verne Citadel
Portland
No: 3 Group.

To
Senior Medical Officers.
No 2 Australian Command Depot.
Monte Video.

Health and Sanitation Report for the month of Aug 1917.

The Daily Average Sick being.	33.
The Daily Number of Dressings.	50.
Number Cases trans. to Hospitals are as follows	
Monte Video.	38
Sydney Hall.	Nil.
Bulford.	28.
Total.	66

Venerical Cases.

Wrethitis	36
Ven Sores.	5.
Syph.	4

Infectious Diseases

Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Nil.
Diphtheria	Nil
Scabies.	51
Chumps	Nil
Chicken Pox	Nil

Sanitation
All Huts are Properly Ventilated + Kept Clean. Latrines are in good order and the General surroundings of the Camp are in good condition. There has been no overcrowding during the month.

W. B. Lyden ~~Capt.~~
M.O. i/c No. 5 Coy, VERNE.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE IN ENGLAND.

A.F. No. 470

Monthly Summary of Dental Treatment.

Month. August 1917.

STATION.	Attendance.	Cases Treated.	Teeth Extracted.	Anæsthetics.		Fillings.			Scaling Cases.	Dentures Repaired.	Dentures Supplied.	Pyorrhœa Cases Treated.	Fracture of Mandible.	General Surgical Cases.	REMARKS.							
				General.	Local.	Temporary.	Permanent.	Root Filling.														
	1466.	717.	246.	2.	216.	67.	134.	22.	35.	23.	141.	65.										
Estimated Value of above Treatment at Imperial Contract Rates.																						

Menstruating Gingivitis & Pyorrhœa

Date August 31st 1917.

AW Hooker Capt Dental Officer in Charge.

S.M.O.

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

MONTHLY REPORT FOR AUGUST. 1917.

- 1 ARRIVALS. 17 Officers. 2112 Other Ranks 2129 Total.
- 2 DEPARTURES. 14 Officers. 1697 " " 1711 Total.
3. DEATHS. NIL.
4. COURTS MARTIAL. NIL.
5. INVALIDED TO AUSTRALIA. 4 Officers 1415 O/Rs. 1419 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 CO. Verne Detachment, weekly, on Saturdays.
men's Barrack Rooms, Institutions and Outbuildings.
The Medical Officer will forward a report independently.
7. DISCIPLINE. The discipline of the Camp during the month has been fair. The number of Minor Cases show a great increase, which is accounted for by the exceptional strength of the Camp during this period. The number of charges from A.P.M.s outside the Weymouth area has been the smallest since the opening of the Camp.
8. TRAINING. The recent bad weather has cut down Route Marching considerably.
Saluting Drill is carried out on morning and afternoon Parades.
The usual fatigues are carried out daily.
9. POST OFFICE. The Pte. i/c Post Office renders a report attached.
10. GENERAL. The G.O.W. A.I.F. visited this Camp on the 26th inst., There are still about 500 men under canvas here. As most of these men are permanently unfit the present severe weather is not doing them any good, as the only available site for the tents is the most exposed part of the district. Damage has already been done to some of the tents and a Board of Officers convened to report upon the matter. The proceedings of the Board were forwarded to Headquarters on the 28th of August.

Verne Citadel.
1st August, 1917.

M. Winston
Capt.
C.O. No. 3 Group, No. 2 Command Depot. A.I.F.

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Australian Military Post Office,
No. 2 Command Depot,
Monte Video, Weymouth,

1st September, 1917.

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

To *The Adjutant,
No. 2 Command Depot, A.F.F.*

The following is a statement showing the amount of postal business transacted at this Camp Post Office during the month of August, 1917.

Bags of Mail Received 308. Despatched 382

Parcels.
Received 2959
Despatched 1760
Delivered 1068
On hand 131

Registered Articles.
Received 1874
Despatched 1141
Redirected 703
On hand 30

Telegrams.
Received 941
Delivered 892
Redirected 41
No Record 8

Stamps sold. £207-18-8.

Postal Notes sold. £17-13-2¹¹/₂

Letters.
Received 85000
Delivered 60000
Redirected 25000

Express letters.
Received and delivered 47
Redirected 4.

J. J. Seals
Supt. for
Lieut,
Officer Commanding
Australian Military Post Office.

No. 2
AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT,
31 AUG 1917
WESTHAM DETACHMENT,
WEYMOUTH.

No. 2 Group, Westham.
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.
WEYMOUTH.....31st August 1917.

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MONTHLY REPORT FOR AUGUST 1917.

1. ARRIVALS: 6 Officers, 3010 other ranks. Total..... 3016
2. DEPARTURES: 2 " 2637 " " " " 2639
3. DEATHS: Nil.
4. COURTS-MARTIAL. Three.
5. INVALIDED TO AUSTRALIA: 2 Officers, 621 other ranks. Total..... 623.
(included in above list of departures.)
6. INSPECTION: Hut Inspection by Company Commanders daily. By Quartermaster daily, including Barrack Rooms, also at Breakfast and dinner.
By Group Commandant weekly, on Sundays, the entire Camp is inspected.
The Medical Officer inspects the Camp at irregular intervals during the week, and a weekly inspection is carried out by the Special Sanitary Officer, Portland Garrison. Medical Officer's report attached.
7. DISCIPLINE: Discipline throughout the month has been generally satisfactory. Absence without leave, chiefly overstaying furlough is the most frequent crime.
8. TRAINING: Remedial and hardening ~~exercises~~ courses of physical training are continually carried on. The N.C.O's. Class for instructors shows good results. Five N.C.O's have taken a Devonport course and four are now qualified for a further course at Aldershot.
9. POST OFFICE: The N.C.O. i/c Post Office renders a report which is attached.
10. GENERAL: Sanitation has been closely watched during the month, and the general good health of the troops in the Camp is very gratifying. Huts are kept thoroughly clean and every effort made to maintain thorough cleanliness throughout the whole Camp.
Inspections have been made by the General Officer Commanding, A.I.F. in the United Kingdom and Major-General Weston of the Imperial Administrative Staff during the month. There were no complaints.
The Camp is in a very satisfactory condition. Vegetables from Camp gardens are being used by all messes.

B. Campbell Major.
Commandant, No. 2 Group, Westham.
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.

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NO. 2
AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT,
81 AUG. 1917
WESTHAM DETACHMENT,
WEYMOUTH
POST OFFICE:

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No. 2 Group, Westham.
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.
WEYMOUTH....31st August 1917.

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.

Lu Janelle
Corpl.
i/c Post Office.
No. 2 Group, Westham.

TO:- Adjutant, No. 3 Group,
Verne Citadel.

MONTHLY REPORT FOR AUGUST, 1917.

The working of Verne Citadel Post Office for the past month has been satisfactory and I have no complaints to record. All mail for men who have left the Camp is re-addressed to them at their respective destinations. The Staff comprises 1. N.C.O. and 5 Men.

Verne Citadel.
31.8.17.

S. Meechum
N.C.O. i/c Verne Citadel Post Office.

Cpl.
A. I. F.

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No 2 Australian Command Depot,
Monte Video Camp,
WEYMOUTH,
September, 1st. 1917.

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

Roads & Paths All main Roads in Camp are to be re-metalled. Two new Foot-paths have been constructed from existing road at North end of Huts No 3 and 6 to existing path at South end of Huts No 4 and 7, and from existing road at No. 1 Latrine to existing path at South end of Huts No. 7 & 10.

Sewerage All sewers Gutters Manholes etc., are disinfected at regular intervals, several sections have been cleaned out during Month and are in good order.

Surface Water & Drainage All surface drains are in good order and all siltage etc., washed down during recent heavy rains is being removed.

Ablution Houses & Latrines All Ablution Houses and Latrines are in good order. Broken & Worn out taps are replaced as necessary. All Urinals are treated with heavy oil at regular intervals and Latrine seats scrubbed, and Pans disinfected daily.

Huts A few hut roofs leak the D.O. having been advised, otherwise all Huts are in excellent habitable state.

Painter & Glazier Owing to heavy gales during latter part of Month breakages have been more numerous, all broken windows are being repaired as promptly as possible. The stage in Depot Gymnasium has been renovated during Month.

Carpenter & Joiner Barrack Room Breakages have been repaired as necessary. Small boxes and drawers complete with locks and keys have been made and fitted in Company Orderley Rooms for safe keeping of Passes and other Company documents.

Bath Houses All Bath-Houses are in good working order. 12 Worn out Hot & Cold mixers for showers in mens bath houses have been replaced with new. Exterior of Nos 1 & 2 Bath-Houses have been re lime washed.

Cook Houses Minor repairs are needed to ranges otherwise both Cook Houses are in good order. Exterior Coal Boxes have been built at West end of Nos 1 & 2 Cook Houses and no Coal is now stored interior of Cook Houses.



Incinerators All incinerators are in good order.

Alterations The stage in Gymnasium has been altered and enlarged. The Cinema roof of operating Room has been highered 2 feet and it is now possible to show large pictures.

Kerosine Store A Kerosene Store (Brick) has been erected for storing kerosene for use of Hospitals and Dental Surgery.

Grease Traps All Grease Traps (4) are now complete & in good working Order. Grease is cleaned out twice a week and all sediment removed from bottom every week.

Plumber Two new Porcelaine Wash Basins have been fitted in Ablution room in rear of Officers Mess.

Gardener The gardens generally are in a satisfactory state.

Generally The Camp generally is in a very satisfactory state.

Geo. Quinn

Captain,
Quartermaster.
No 2 Australian Command Depot.....

W. Roberts

Major,
S. M. O.
No 2 Australian Command Depot(MF)...