

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

Ordnance

**Item number:** 2/1/23

**Title:** Assistant Director Ordnance  
Services, 1st ANZAC Corps

August 1918



AWM4-2/1/23

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**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

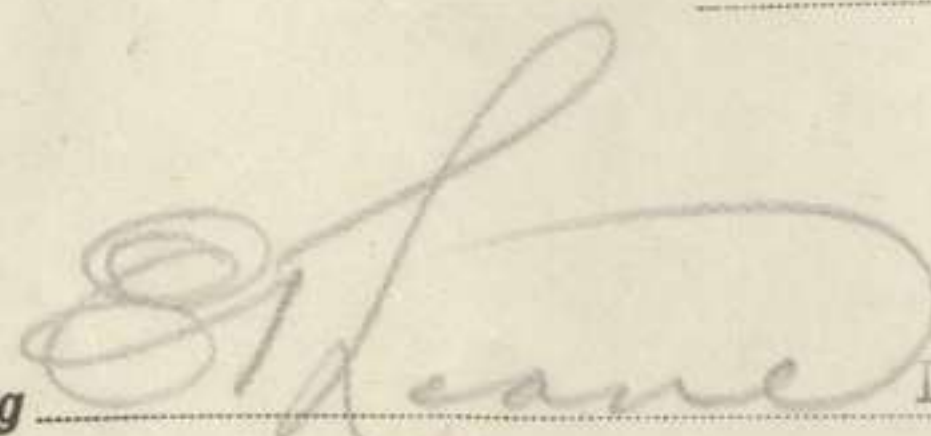
OF

A.D.O.S., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

FOR

AUGUST 1918.

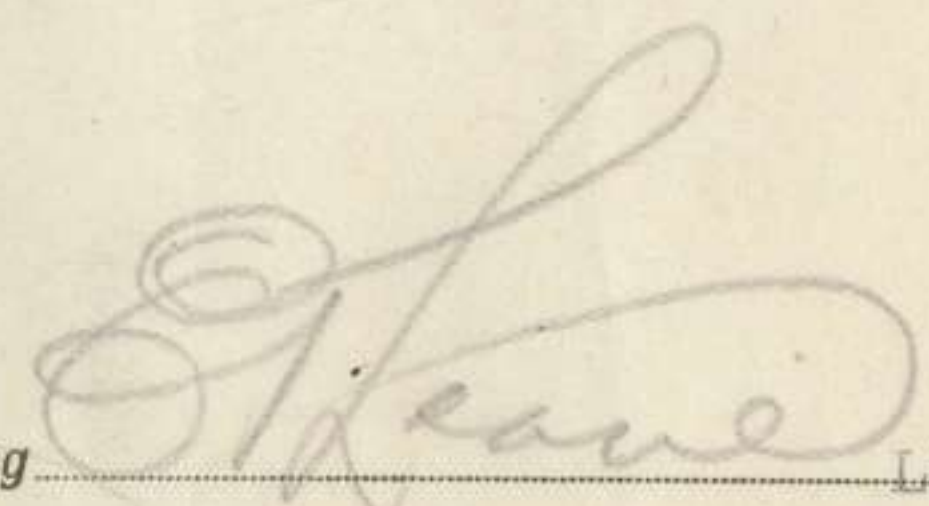
Signature of Officer compiling



Lieut-Colonel,

A.D.O.S., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Signature of Officer Commanding



Lieut-Colonel,

A.D.O.S., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

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.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BERTANGLES.	Aug. 1st.		<p>In change over with III Corps of Areas, this Corps loses BALLARAT Corps Dump and Ammunition Repair Dump, and FRECHENCOURT Quarry A.R.P. O.C., No.2 Ammunition Unit instructed to transfer his Unit to CANBERRA Dump.</p> <p>Asked "A" Branch to supply Guard of 1 N.G.O. and 6 Men for Ammunition Repair Dump at SALEUX. (WAGGA).</p> <p>To Corps Troops re issue of Rifles to Labor Coys. in exchange for present pattern. Found that 2200 Rifles Winchester pattern had been sent up quite new, feeling certain of error I Stopped issue and reported to D.D.O.S. who says quite correct. Continued issue.</p> <p>Visited WAGGA Dump and inspected work at Ammunition Repair Dump. Satisfactory but slow. To BOVES and inspected new A.R.P. (62/D., T.l.d.). Large quantities of ammunition being received and issued, and no time or opportunity to do more than most casual sorting.</p> <p>12th Divl. Arty. and Divl. Train Coy. transferred to Corps for duty, in charge of A.R.P. above, and to be administered for Ordnance by Aust. Corps Troops.</p>	
BERTANGLES.	2nd.		<p>D.D.O.S., Fourth Army called re application of "Q" Branch to Army "Q" for certain Battle Stores and discussed situation. Amongst Stores required were 100 Lewis Guns as Pool. D.D.O.S. pointed out that Pool was distinctly forbidden but he would be willing to authorise 100 being drawn from Gun Park by Corps Troops if I would undertake not to issue except on Indent to replace u/s by Divisions. Agreed.</p> <p>D.A.Q.M.G. says likely to have to move Corps Dump on account of change of area. Pointed out the considerable disorganisation this caused, and said in my opinion these moves were considered too lightly by Staff Officers, who only had to make the order and did not realise the loss of time and effort involved, and that I was after efficient service but was constantly being handicapped by changes of area and upsettal of Ordnance, Ammunition and Workshop Services.</p> <p>Minute to "Q" pointing out that owing to loss of BALLARAT Dump, No.2 Ammunition Unit was at CANBERRA and waiting for Salvage Ammunition to arrive to keep them employed, and asked that some be delivered at once.</p> <p>D.A.G., A.I.F. (92/2 of 30-7-18) approves of absorption into A.A.O.C. of Armourer Sergeants of Machine Gun Battalions.</p>	
BERTANGLES.	3rd.		<p>Arranged all matters in connection with issue of Battle Stores and wired all concerned. Visited D.A.Ds.O.S. and discussed.</p>	

*E. H. ...*  
H. Col

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BERTANGLES.	Aug. 3rd.		<p>To La Motte Brebiere and arranged accommodation for 100 Lewis Guns, spare part boxes, and Magazines, and instructed D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops to send a responsible N.C.O. and one Storeman to issue if necessary to replace unserviceable or destroyed by enemy action only.</p> <p>To Canberra Ammun. Dump and saw O. i/c No.2 Ammun. Unit who has no salvage to work on and his personnel are therefore idle. "Q" say there are no lorries to carry salvage ammunition at present.</p> <p>D.A.G., A.I.F. (45/365 dated 2-8-18) notifies promotion of Conductor A.F. GREEN, 3rd Aust. Division to 2/Lieut. and D.A.D.O.S. Trainee 3rd Aust. Division.</p>	
BERTANGLES.	4th.		<p><u>Return of Unserviceable Clothing.</u> Owing to the laxity of Units to return u/s clothing replaced by new issue, I submitted a Circular letter on the subject to A.Q.M.G. who approved, and copies to be forwarded to all Units and conditions enforced in future. *</p> <p>Corps Administrative Orders issued to-day notify a further change of area and consequent removal of Corps Units who have only just moved into it, and must now move out again.</p> <p>2/Lieut. WALKER, D.A.D.O.S. Trainee, 1st Aust. Division, called and stated Division on its way to rejoin Corps, expected to arrive to-morrow.</p> <p>Wrote D.A.G., A.I.F. recommended reduction of No.17 Sergt. NICOL A.McK. to the ranks as not likely to make an efficient member of the A.A.O.C.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops notifies receipt of 15190 Waterbottles and 330 Hot food Containers, instructed distribution as follows :-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Waterbottles - 2nd Aust. Div. 4000, 3rd Aust. Div. 4000, 4th Aust. Div. 4800. 5th Aust. Div. 2390.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Hot food containers - 2nd Aust. Div. 50, 3rd Aust. Div. 50, 4th Aust. Div. 100 5th Aust. Division. 100.</p> <p>D.A.Q.M.G. says 4th Aust. Division now require 1200 additional Waterbottles.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops advises Waterbottles and Hot Food Containers delivered, but 5th Aust. Division would only receive 50 of the latter.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops reports storing of 100 Lewis Guns at La Motte Brebiere, with Cpl. DALE and Storeman in charge.</p>	<p>Appendix No. 35.</p>

*E. J. Lane  
Lieut.*

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BERTANGLES.	Aug. 5th.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops says 3610 Waterbottles arrived and instructed delivery to 5th Aust. Division to complete their requirements of 6000.</p> <p>D.D.O.S., Fourth Army rang up and says 24,000 Waterbottles asked for by "Q", altered to 18,800, then 1200 additional asked for, but Base instructed to send only 18,800. If at last moment 1200 still required and not received from Base, they may be obtained from O.O., No.1 Army Troops, CONDY FOLIE. Notified "Q" accordingly.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops reports arrival of further 70 Hot Food Containers, making total of 400.</p> <p>Lieut. KENT and personnel of 1st Aust. Divnl Ordnance reported.</p> <p>Lieut. ANDERSON granted 10 days Paris leave and left en route to Paris.</p> <p>Lieut. KENT granted 14 days English leave.</p>	
BERTANGLES.	6th.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., 1st Aust. Division reported as having rejoined the Corps. Major PAGE with him.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 5th Aust. Division notifies change of location of Dump to GLISY, between GLISY and BLANGY TRONVILLE Chateau.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 1st Aust. Division reports location of Dump at 62D., M.l.central.</p> <p>4th Aust. Division ask for additional 600 Waterbottles; arranged with D.D.O.S. and collected from O.O., No.1 Army Troops.</p> <p>5th Aust. Division ask for additional Wire cutters, 100 S.A. and 100 Mk.V.; arranged with D.D.O.S. and to be drawn from No.4 Gun Park.</p> <p>D.D.O.S. asks that 60 Hot Food Containers may be supplied to III Corps out of 150 surplus. Instructed Corps Troops accordingly.</p> <p>D.A. &amp; Q.M.G. approved Circular re returning of u/s Clothing; same duplicated and sent to D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops for issue.</p> <p>16 Gunner P. O'GRADY reported from U.K. for transfer to No.1 Ammunition Unit. Promoted to Sergeant and posted accordingly.</p> <p>179 Bdr. BRANT T.H. was instructed to embark at same time but failed to do so.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>E. L. Lane</i> Lt Col</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>

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BERTANGLES.	Aug. 7th.		<p>To WAGGA Ammunition Repair Dump and inspected. O.C., No.2 Ammunition Unit reports that TYABB Dump has been cleared except about 1900 rounds 13-pdr Shrapnel and H.E. H.E. has 100 fuzes F.10 which will be sent to Base and rounds refuzed with 101E with delay: Shrapnel has 85 fuzes and these will be refuzed with No.80.</p> <p>All Battle Stores complete to full requirements of all Divisions. Attack takes place 4.20 a.m. on 8th instant.</p> <p>Army Commander rules re free issue of pistols, binoculars, and prismatic compasses, supporting the view taken by Corps. Copies to B.G., H.A. and G.O.C., R.A. for information. *</p>	
BERTANGLES.	8th.		<p>1st Aust. Division require Battle Stores as follows :-</p> <p>Packsaddles 50, Waterbottles and Carriers 4000, Water Tin Carriers pairs. 50, Lashing yds.6000, Wire Cutters No.5. 100, Hot Food Containers. 50, Grenade Discharger Cups. 200.</p> <p>Arranged with D.D.O.S. for supply.</p> <p>A.Q.M.G. says 17th Division coming in to-morrow and require Battle Stores :-</p> <p>Waterbottles and Carriers, 5000, Wire Cutters Mk.V. 200, Water Tin Carriers. prs. 100, Packsaddlery 100, Hot Food Containers 100, Yukon Packs 100.</p> <p>Arranged with D.D.O.S. for supply.</p> <p>D.D.O.S. notifies that Advanced Gun Park will open at LONGUEAU to-morrow for supply machine guns and spare parts.</p> <p>Inspected A.R.Ps at HAMELET and VAIRE, and FOUILLOY, and found them correct so far as is possible under existing conditions.</p> <p>To La Motte Brebriere - Lewis Gun Dump - and found 24 guns, 100 carriers, 400 magazines, have been issued to replace u/s and destroyed by enemy action.</p> <p>D.D.O.S., notifies that Advanced Gun Park from 9th at LONGUEAU. Informed all concerned.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 5th Aust. Division reports Advanced Dump in front of VILLERS-BRETTONNEUX.</p>	Appendix No. 36.
BERTANGLES.	9th.		<p>No.17 O.M.W. (L) moved to BLANGY TRONVILLE, No.18 moves from MADELAINE Farm to BOUTILLERIE. Australian Boots - 1615 pattern. Had same stripped and examined and find structural alterations have been made in accordance with what was laid down as necessary last year. Minute to D.A.G., A.I.F. accordingly. *</p> <p>Minute to D.A.G., A.I.F. re non-supply of size 10 Australian Boots, and asking that supply be arranged. *</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 1st Aust. Div. reports location of Dump - 62D., N.22.c.9.2.</p>	Appendix No. 37. Appendix No. 38.

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BERTANGLES.	Aug. 10th.		<p>Instructed D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops and A.I.A., Corps Armourers Workshop, to be prepared to move forward and to select a dump at CORBIE, if possible.</p> <p>No.53 O.M.W. (L) says by instructions of C.I.O.M., he is moving up to 0.29.d.8.6. - VILLERS BRETONNEUX.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 17th Division gives location of his Dump as ALLONVILLE.</p> <p>4th Aust. Division ask for 24 Hot Food Containers additional. Issued.</p> <p>Discontinued Lewis Gun Pool at La Motte Brebriere, and returned unissued guns etc., to No.4 Gun Park, LONGUEAU.</p> <p>Arranged for Corps Troops to move Dump on 12th to CORBIE. Instructed D.A.D.O.S. to suspend issues from Base pending removal.</p>	
BERTANGLES.	11th.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., 3rd Aust. Division reports removal of Dump to I.34.c.9.4. (La NEUVILLE).</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 1st Aust. Division asked for 400 Box Respirators, 50 Packsaddles, 50 Water Tin Carriers. The latter available; former made available out of Corps Reserve, authorised by A.Q.M.G. A.Q.M.G. says Liaison Division require 4350 Water Bottles and Carriers, - 2600 for 131st Regiment, U.S.A., 1750 for 13th Aust. Inf. Bde. Pointed out that 4th Aust. Divn. had already drawn 6000 Water Bottles and Carriers and 13th Brigade was then with Division. Asked D.D.O.S. to provide; he says supply in France about exhausted but will do what is possible.</p> <p>Arranged for 4 trucks to report to D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops at SALEUX at 8 a.m. 13th inst. to load for removal to CORBIE.</p> <p>Of Pool of 100 Lewis Guns at La Motte Brebriere, 21 were drawn by 4th Aust. Division, 6 by 2nd Aust. Division, 3 by 1st Aust. Division - total 30 -, balance returned to No.4 Gun Park.</p> <p>Arranged with Ammunition Officer, Corps M.T. Column, for No.2 Ammunition Unit to move from CANBERRA Dump to VECQUEMONT Dump to-morrow: CANBERRA to be evacuated and VECQUEMONT to become Corps Reserve Dump. He states that WAGGA Dump will also be evacuated and personnel removed to GLISY Dump. Arranged that No.1 Ammunition Unit moves at same time.</p>	
BERTANGLES.	12th.		<p>17th Division relieves 3rd Aust. Division in the line on night 12/13th instant.</p> <p>Australian Corps Headquarters will move to GLISY on 13th instant.</p> <p>D.A.G., A.I.F. sends on Board Proceedings for my remarks concerning discrepancy between articles sent to Campbell, Garrick &amp; Co. and returned by them. Made remarks. *</p>	<p>Appendix No. 39.</p> <p><i>E. J. Lane</i> <i>de Col</i></p>

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BERTANGLES.	Aug. 12th.		D.D.O.S. notifies that Gun Park No.4 moves on night 13/14th August to LONGUEAU. C.I.O.M., Fourth Army notifies moves of Workshops - No.2 O.M.W. (M) to DAOURS, this day. No.22 O.M.W. (L) to FOUILLOY, this day.	
GLISY.	13th.		Moved to GLISY. Corps Troops moved to CORBIE - 62D., I.34.d.3.4. D.A.D.O.S., 17th Division reports Dump at 62D., I.34.c.8.8. Corps Armourers Workshop moved to 62D., I.34.c.4.9.	
GLISY.	14th.		D.A.D.O.S., 4th Aust. Division reports move to Sheet 62D., I.34.a.6.4. To Headquarters Liaison Division and discussed Ordnance arrangements with "Q". To CORBIE and inspected Dumps of Corps Troops, 3rd & 4th Aust. Divisions and 17th Division; all satisfactory. Inspected new site for Corps Armourers Workshop, between CORBIE and LA NEUVILLE. D.A.D.O.S., 4th Aust. Division explained double drawing of 21 Lewis Guns satisfactorily. D.A.D.O.S., 2nd Aust. Division moves to Sheet 62D., O.10.d.8.8. Australian Clothing Returns for week ending 10th show - Jackets 5792, Breeches D.S. 1424, Breeches M.S. 623, Greatcoats 60, Hats 169, Boots ankle 742, Color Patches 71,542, still outstanding. Wrote C.O.O., ROUEN on matter, copies to D.D.O.S., Fourth Army and A.D.O.S. Provision (S) HAVRE.	
GLISY.	15th.		To VECQUEMONT Dump where No.2 Ammunition Unit is engaged sorting and repairing boxed ammunition. Large numbers of 9", 6" & 60-pdr. shells and components here; "Q" Ammun. has been advised and asked to get them removed. Authority from D.A.G., A.I.F. for the reduction of Sergt. NICOL to Private from 10th Aug. To Corps Salvage Dump at CORBIE and instructed that all Battle Stores (Waterbottles, etc.) are to be handed over to D.A.D.O.S., Aust. Corps Troops. To H.Q., 4th Aust. Division. All clear except for 24 Hot Food Containers which were required for the Americans (132 Regt.). Arranged for these to be supplied by Corps Troops.	

*E. Leane*  
*Lt Col*

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GLISY.	Aug. 16th.		<p>Complaint made by G.O.C., 1st Aust. Division to D.A. &amp; Q.M.G. that A.D.O.S. had interfered in Ammunition matters which were a Divisional concern, and that he had given D.A.D.O.S. certain instructions regarding return of Ammunition which conflicted with Divisional opinions. Saw D.A.D.O.S., 1st Aust. Division who confirmed that at no time had any instructions been given to himself by me, and at no time had he reported to Divisional Staff that they had. He had, however, reported instructions received from A.D.O.S., XV Corps when under him, and presumed the error had thus arisen.</p> <p>Went out to H.Q., 1st Aust. Division, but G.O.C. not at home.</p>	
GLISY.	17th.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., 5th Aust. Division notifies move to Sheet 62D., O.6.d.2.5. Armourers and Bootmakers Shops remain at N.20.d.8.0.</p> <p>C.I.O.M., Fourth Army notifies No.18 O.M.W. (Light) moves to join No.22 at FOUILLOY.</p>	
GLISY.	18th.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., 2nd Aust. Division called and discussed an order issued by his "Q" Branch that certain Mobilization Stores should be returned by Units to him, and was he to accept them. Replied that he was custodian of Ordnance Stores and his Dump the only place for them, if his Div. H.Q. ordered their return, but they must not be returned to Base until authority of Army H.Q. had been obtained. He stated that his "Q" had instructed the return to Base of Anti-gas Clothing. Instructed him these must be held until Corps "Q" had given authority to Divl. "Q" for return to Base, as other Units might be glad of them.</p> <p>Stores at MAUTORT. Said these should be returned to Base, listed and Waybilled, and copies of same kept for further use when financial adjustments took place.</p> <p>S.I.O.M., Aust. Corps notifies move of No.2 O.M.W. (M) to Sheet 62D., I.34.6.3. (CORBIE). 17th Division transferred to V Corps.</p>	
GLISY.	19th.		<p>32nd Division to march in from Canadian Corps 17th to 19th August. Wired D.A.D.O.S. for Location of Dump. Replied.</p> <p>To 2nd Aust. Division and discussed return of stores which units are unable to carry, including Mobilization Stores. Asked that full details should be taken of such Returns for future financial adjustment.</p> <p>Lieut. J.D. JONES, A.A.O.C. reported for duty and was posted to No.1 Ammunition Unit and sent to VECQUEMONT Dump to join his Unit.</p> <p>Instructions and copies of necessary publications forwarded to him.</p>	<p>7</p>

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GLISY.	Aug. 20th.		<p>Saw G.O.C., 1st Aust. Division regarding his complaint to D.A. &amp; Q.M.G. of my instructions to D.A.D.O.S. re Ammunition. He had no knowledge of the subject whatever. Saw D.A. &amp; Q.M.G. and reported to him accordingly.</p> <p>To 1st Aust. Div. H.Q. and A.A. &amp; Q.M.G. said he was perfectly satisfied with Ordnance Service, getting all required.</p> <p>To Ammunition Units No.1 and No.2, and inspected their working. Turning over and making available for issue, large quantities of boxed ammunition brought in as Salvage.</p> <p>To Corps Troops Dump and 3rd Aust. Division, also to Corps Armourers Workshop on inspection. Liaison Division disbanded. Arranged for all Battle and other Stores to be handed over to D.A.D.O.S., 3rd Aust. Division.</p>	
GLISY.	22nd.		<p>To Ammunition Repair Dump at VECQUEMONT and inspected progress of work. Quantity of Lethal Shell on Dump; instructed that formal notice should be sent to me, to pass on to "Qc", and have same removed.</p> <p>To Corps Armourers Workshop re boring Stokes Bombs to make Varley Smoke Bombs for 32nd Division. Arranged for same and notified D.A.D.O.S., 32nd Division.</p> <p>To 3rd Division D.A.D.O.S. and discussed Watchmaker being attached as A.A.O.C. to each Division, and system of working to be adopted.</p>	
GLISY.	23rd.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., 1st Aust. Division notifies removal of his Dump to Sheet 62D., I.34.c.9.9.</p> <p>O. i/c No.1 Ammunition Unit notifies that 71 Lethal &amp; 20 Lachrymatory 6" How. Ammunition have been left at Dump contrary to Fourth Army Standing Orders. Examined and found serviceable and asks for its immediate removal. Minuted on to "Qc".</p> <p>2nd Aust. Division asks to return Mobilization Equipment not required, and "Q" Branch authorise return to Base. Minute to "Q" Branch that this should not have been done without superior authority being first obtained.</p> <p>Watchmakers to be attached to A.A.O.C. Draft of proposals regarding same submitted to "Q".</p>	Appendix No. 40.
GLISY.	24th.		<p>Discussed with D.A. &amp; Q.M.G. (Brig-Gen. CARRUTHERS) my position as regards D.A.Ds.O.S. Divisions. He ruled that these were Officers of Divisional Staffs, and not to be subject to instructions from me, except through their Divl. H.Qrs., and that direct communication should only take place where a purely technical or Departmental question was concerned, which could not possibly conflict with their occupation or time.</p>	<p><i>Etienne de col</i></p>

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GLISY	Aug. 24th.		<p>D.A.G., A.I.F. notifies that Major F.W. PAGE having completed one month's duty in France as D.A.D.O.S. Trainee is to report to Admin. H.Qrs. for Ordnance work.</p> <p>Lieut. E.C. KENT, D.A.D.O.S. Trainee, 2nd Aust. Division, reported from leave to U.K. and rejoined his Unit.</p>	
GLISY.	25th		<p>To No.2 Aust. Ammunition Unit to try No.475 Pte. KELLY C.H. charged with "Absence without leave" from 17-8-18 to 20-8-18. Admonished and forfeits 4 days pay under Royal Warrant.</p> <p>To D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops Dump and D.A.D.O.S., 3rd Aust. Division Dump.</p>	
GLISY.	26th.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., 32nd Division notifies change of Dump to 62D., Q.32.c.3.8.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 4th Aust. Division notifies change of Dump to 62D., G.32.d.8.4.</p> <p>Lieut. J.D. JONES, O.C., No.1 Ammunition Unit evacuated to Hospital</p>	
GLISY.	27th.		<p>Australian Clothing. Correspondence with D.D.O.S., Fourth Army anent. *</p> <p>No.1 Aust. Ord. Ammunition Unit instructed to locate at WIENCOURT; No.2 Unit to locate between CORBIE and VAUX - both at Corps Reserve Dumps.</p>	Appendix No. 41.
GLISY.	28th.		<p>To Ammunition Units and discussed moves to new sites.</p> <p>To D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops and 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Aust. Divisions, and 1st Aust. Div. H.Q. re Ordnance Services. All correct.</p> <p>To Corps Armourers Workshop and inspected.</p> <p>Captain J. GRIEVE, M.C., having notified his desire to be relieved of his responsibility in regard to No.23 O.M.W. (L), D.A.G., A.I.F. says no other opening, but in view of his advanced age an application for return to Australia and termination of appointment will receive consideration. Notified D.D.O.S., Fourth Army accordingly.</p> <p>Corps Headquarters to move to MERICOURT-sur-Somme on Friday. In view of this, I issued instructions to No.1 Ammunition Unit that WIENCOURT would not now be a Corps Dump and pending settlement of location of new Dump, the Unit would proceed to VAIRE to-morrow and clear up a quantity of Ammunition requiring attention there.</p>	<p><i>B. Theane</i> <i>lieut</i></p> <p>9.</p>

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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GLISY.	Aug. 29th.		<p>C.I.O.M., Fourth Army wires that No.25 O.M.W. (M) is moving to LA NEUVILLE and No.17 O.M.W. (L) to LA FLAQUE.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 5th Aust. Division notifies move of Dump to 62D., Q.16.d.4.9.; Armourers and Bootmakers Shops remained at O.6.d.2.5.</p>	
GLISY.	30th.		<p>D.A.D.O.S., 2nd Aust. Division notifies move of Dump to 62D., R.4.a.8.4.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 2nd Aust. Division on leave to United Kingdom.</p> <p>Capt. H.S. BEST, A.I.A., on leave to U.K.</p> <p>D.A.D.O.S., 5th Aust. Division notifies change of Dump to 62D., M.27.c.central.</p> <p>C.I.O.M., Fourth Army notifies that No.53 O.M.W. (L) joins No.17 at LA FLAQUE on 1st prox. Visited A.R.Ps. of 2nd and 5th Aust. Divisions and inspected new locations of No.1 and No.2 Ammunition Units, and of Corps Reserve Dump at VAUX.</p>	
MERICOURT. sur-Somme.	31st.		<p>Australian Corps Headquarters moved to MERICOURT-sur-Somme.</p>	

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 Lieut-Colonel,  
 A. D. O. S.  
 AUSTRALIAN Corps.

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
 (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2 31 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

# WAR DIARY

OF

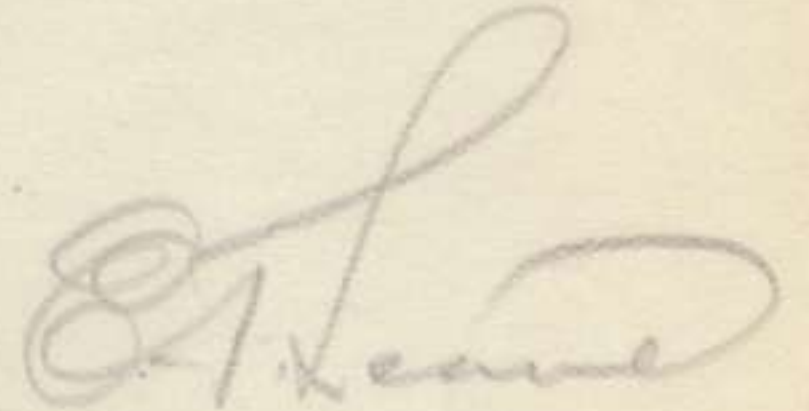
A.D.O.S., AUSTRALIAN Corps.

FOR

AUGUST 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject.  |
|-----|---|
| 35. | Circular to Units regarding Statement of Charges for any amount under 90% of unserviceable articles of clothing and equipment not returned by them after replacement. |
| 36. | Ruling from Army H.Q. in connection with losses of Revolvers and other articles of personal equipment, by Officers.   |
| 37. | Report on 1615 pattern Australian Boot and recommendation that no other pattern be sent to France for winter wear.  |
| 38. | Memo. asking for improvement in the supply of Size 10 Boots.  |
| 39. | Remarks on Board Proceedings in connection with shortages in returns of Clothing sent to Laundry.   |
| 40. | Draft of proposals for establishment of Watchmakers Shops attached to A.A.O.C.  |
| 41. | Statement of "actual deficiencies" of Australian pattern clothing as opposed to deficiencies stated by D.O.S., G.H.Q.   |



Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. O. S.  
AUSTRALIAN Corps.

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Appendix No 35

RETURN OF UNSERVICEABLE CLOTHING, ETC.  
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G.R.O. 420, as amended by G.R.O. 1865.- Care must be taken to ascertain that articles of equipment, clothing and necessaries are really worn out before replacing them, or that the articles have not been lost or become unserviceable through negligence.

Attention is called to Field Service Regulations, Part II, Section 76, and especially to the certificate which has to accompany all indents for free issues.

Articles lost or rendered unserviceable through negligence must be replaced at the expense of the individual, the amount to be charged being ascertained regimentally from the best evidence available as to the condition of the article at the time. This amount must not be less than one-quarter of the new value, unless satisfactory evidence is forthcoming that the actual value was less.

Charges to be notified to the Staff Paymaster i/c Clearing House, Base, and an entry of the amount made in Army Book 84. (9-12-14). (10-10-10).

A.R.O. 1185.- It has been brought to notice that there is a very considerable waste of clothing and equipment due to the non-return of articles replaced by new. Figures to hand show that the value as rags of unserviceable clothing not returned during the last year by the B.E.F. in France was nearly a million pounds sterling. All unserviceable clothing, particularly that made of wool, is required for remanufacture.

To prevent the continuance of waste the following procedure will be adopted forthwith, where not already in force :-

(i) Commanding Officers will ensure that articles of clothing, necessaries, and equipment are really worn out before replacement, and will see that charges are made, in accordance with G.R.O. 1865, for articles lost or rendered unserviceable through negligence.

(ii) All unserviceable clothing (including unserviceable underclothing from Divisional Baths, &c.) will be returned to Ordnance Officers of Formations; accommodation for this purpose and additional personnel (men of Employment Companies) necessary will be provided by Headquarters of Formations.

(iii) Ordnance Officers will keep a record by units and institutions of all articles of new clothing issued and of unserviceable articles returned. The record will be compared monthly and in any case where the clothing returned is less than 90% of that issued the matter will be reported to Formation Headquarters for disciplinary action.

(iv) Unserviceable equipment and stores will, as heretofore, be returned to Railheads or to Salvage Dumps. Salvage Officers will keep a record of each description of stores. The Formation O.O. will be in close touch with the Salvage Officer and will be responsible that no serviceable Ordnance Stores are sent to the Base, which can be utilized to meet outstanding authorised requirements.

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It is notified to all Units that where Clothing is demanded to replace u/s and the u/s is not returned to the D.A.D.O.S., Aust. Corps Troops within 7 days of the receipt of the new issue, to at least 90% of the new issue, a Statement of Charges will be rendered to the O.C. of the Unit concerned and copies of same forwarded to the Command Paymaster.

Headquarters,  
AUSTRALIAN Corps.  
4th August 1918.

*Rafanthes*

Brigadier-General,  
D. A. & Q. M. G.  
AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Appendix no 36

Fourth Army G.11/831.

D.D.O.S.,  
Fourth Army.  
-----

Reference A.D.O.S. Australian Corps No. 90/522 d/- 29-7-18.

- (1). In the instances given, free replacement of Binoculars, Compasses, Revolvers, etc., is not admissible.
- (2). Reference para.5. In normal times, if an Officer not on duty, had had these articles destroyed by shell fire in his dug-out, replacement at the public expense would be justified.
- (3). The Army Commander concurs in the opinion expressed in para.5 sub-para.4.
- (4). It should of course be understood that it is impossible to lay down any hard and fast rule, as exceptional cases may arise. See A.R.O. 2271.
- (5). Each case must be decided on its merits by the G.O.C. concerned.
- (6). G.H.Q. have been asked, and concur in this opinion.

H.Q., Fourth Army:  
3-8-1918.

Sgd/ W.H. COTTON, Major,  
for Major-General, D.A. & Q.M.G.

-2-

A.D.O.S.,  
Australian Corps.  
-----

D.D.O.S.  
Fourth Army.  
O/32/1/c.

Herewith ruling as requested in your above-quoted letter.

H.Q., Fourth Army,  
7th August 1918.

Sgd/ H.W. MANN, Lieut-Colonel,  
for D. D. O. S.

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Appendix APPENDIX<sup>o</sup> 37438 14

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Headquarters,  
9th August 1918.

D.A.G., A.I.F.  
-----

Boots 1615 pattern.

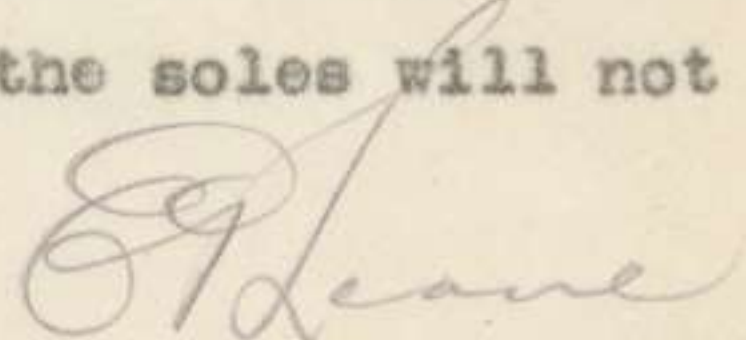
Further to my wire Q.O.790 dated 30-7-1918.

I have now to state that I have had the pair of boots sent from London stripped down and examined.

I find it to be constructed quite in accordance with the recommendations made last year when the question was under discussion and examination, and I have now no hesitation in stating that I consider pattern 1615 to be suitable for winter wear in France, if boots are up to the sample submitted.

May it be arranged please that only 1615 pattern be sent to France for the use of the troops here, and may it be made quite clear that heel plates and toe plates, with hobs on the sole, but not inside the heel, are essential.

It is also pointed out that the slugging of the soles will not be necessary if the hob nails are used.



Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. O. S.  
AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Appendix No 38

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Headquarters,  
9th August 1918.

D.A.G., A.I.F.  
-----

Boots - Australian Pattern.

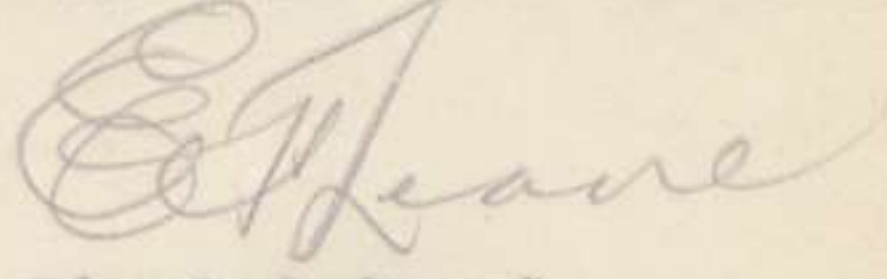
May instructions be given please which will bring about a supply of size 10 boots, Australian pattern.

We have never been able to get size 10 in France, and by the attached letter you will see that it is clear we cannot expect them; unless an alteration of size roll takes place and a larger proportion of this size is provided for.

There should be no reason why a man who wears a size 10 boot should not be catered for, as well as a man who wears any other size.

By the last Stock Sheets, A.I.F. Admin. H.Q. Base have a total of 107,000 pairs of boots, there are only 229 pairs of size 10 shown.

Eighteen months ago this question was brought prominently before the Defence Department, but up to the present time, no improvement seems to have taken place and it is essential that no more time be lost.



Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. O. S.  
AUSTRALIAN Corps.



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Director of Ordnance Services,

P.2854.

G. H. Q.  
-----

In reply to your O.S.G.1931 dated 10th instant, the inability of A.I.F. H.Q., at home to supply Boots ankle, Aust. pattern, only applies to Size 10.

Havre,  
13-7-1918.

Sgd/ E. DAVIDSON, Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. O. S. Provision (South).

Copy to -  
A.D.O.S., Australian Corps.

Copy for information.

Headquarters,  
12th August 1918.

D.A.G., A.I.F.  
-----

The attached file is passed to me for my remarks, as I "was apparently the responsible officer at the time the main discrepancies are alleged to have taken place".

But I see no evidence to establish that the "main" or any of the discrepancies happened during the time I was A.D.O.S. at A.I.F. Administrative Headquarters.

No discrepancy can be alleged to have taken place until 23-4-18, when stock was taken of the balance in the hands of the Contractors, and it was discovered that shortages existed.

The following facts were however, disclosed by the Board proceedings :-

1. The total number of articles sent to the Laundry in 19 months is stated to be 550,579½.
2. The total number of articles sent during my term of office is shown to be 282,497 in 5 months.
3. Of that number 185,851 were dealt with between 16-9-16 and 8-11-16, less than 2 months. Equal to 3500 every day of the period.

No efforts were spared to cope with the enormous amount of work to be done, and the number of articles to be dealt with, and every possible care was taken :-

Receipts were obtained from the Contractors, 2 men were placed at the Contractors premises in the Departmental interests, and proper accounts were kept of the articles issued to the Laundry and received back from it.

I submit that, having obtained a receipt from the Contractors for the articles sent to them, I could do no more, and my responsibility ended.

At the same time I will say that if mistakes did not occur, it was more than a miracle, for all the conditions were conducive.

1. The staff of sorters was small and quite untrained.
2. The space at Great Peter Street was inadequate to requirements.
3. There was a continuous stream of Clothing, etc., being received from A.I.F. Kit Store, which it was quite impossible to check, and which was heaped together as received, until time offered to sort it, and as the heaps sorted grew in size, they overlapped and mixed.
4. Many thousands of other articles, -blankets, jackets, breeches, boots, hats, saddlery, brushes, braces, to mention a few - arrived from Kit Store in heterogeneous masses, lorry loads at a time, and these had to be sorted, boots paired, new separated from part worn, serviceable from unserviceable, and all had to be dealt with without any delay, to make room for further quantities.

The statement of Staff. Sergt. JAMES that I instructed him to describe short-sleeved shirts as Vests, is not correct. No such instruction was given by me to anyone, and further, when it was found that shirts without sleeves were being received from the Laundry, described as Vests, I took the matter up and gave instructions that articles must be correctly described on the bales which contained them. I went out to the Contractors premises to our men who were baling and labelling, and personally instructed them.

If there is any point on which you would like information from me, please define it and I will give you all I am able. In the meantime I ask for a reconsideration of the statement of the Commandant, A.I.F. Administrative Headquarters.

*E. J. Deane*

Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. O. S.  
AUSTRALIAN Corps.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Headquarters,  
23rd August 1918.

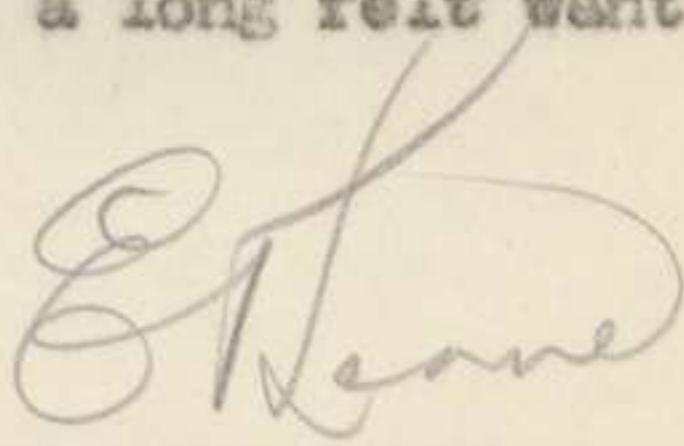
Q Branch,  
Australian Corps.  
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Watchmakers.

Referring to my proposal re Watchmakers being added to A.A.O.C. Establishment, the following are the lines on which same would be practicable :-

1. Establishment. Sergeants 6, Privates 18; being 1 Sergeant and 3 Privates at each Division and Corps Troops.
2. Tools and Materials for repair. To be provided from A.I.F. sources, and to be obtained through A.I.F. Admin. H.Q., London.
3. Location. At the Headquarters of Divisional and Corps Troops, D.A.D.O.S.
4. Prices to be charged. A scale of prices to be arranged, which will cover the cost of the time taken and materials used + sinking fund on cost of tools. Time to be calculated on the basis of pay of man employed and 6/- per day for Capitation cost.
5. Financial. Prices charged to be signed for on an Acquittance Roll and entered in Pay-Book before watch is delivered. Under no conditions is cash to be received.
6. Records. (a) Receipt to be given for each watch, showing Regtl. No., Name and Unit of Owner; Makers name and Regd. No. of Watch.  
 (b) Ledger recording receipt and disposal of every watch under the above headings.  
 (c) Workshop Book showing above "In" and "Out" of Workshop, time taken and materials used in repair.  
 (a) and (b) to be kept by D.A.D.O.S., (c) by Sergeant in charge of Shop.  
 Upon handing in a watch for repair, the Owner receives a receipt which he will deliver up after signing same, when he receives return of watch; these receipts being filed by D.A.D.O.S.
7. Casualties. Should the owner of a watch become a casualty before return of same, it will be returned to A.I.F. Kit Store, London, for disposal to next of kin and a debit entry made by Chief Paymaster in Ledger Accounts to cover cost of repairs done.

There will be small details to work out, but above are the general principles which I recommend be adopted. It must be remembered that roughly a Division carries about 13,000 men, with an average of a watch per man, and there is no possible means at present of getting repairs done, and I do not think 4 men would be any more than are necessary. They would only be employed as found necessary, and a long felt want of the A.I.F. would be provided for.

  
Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. O. S.  
AUSTRALIAN Corps.

Headquarters,  
27th August 1918.

D.D.O.S.,  
Fourth Army.  
-----

Reference D.O.S., O.S.G.2434 dated 24-8-18.

The above letter is not understood.

In my letter of 16th August I showed the actual deficiencies which existed on the demands for week ending 10-8-18 to be :-

Jackets	5792.
Breeches D.S.	4424.
Breeches M.S.	623.
Greatcoats.	60.
Hats C.P.	139.
Boots ankle.	742.
Color Patches	71,542.

For the week ending 17-8-18, the actual deficiencies are :-

Jackets	7288
Breeches D.S.	1638
Breeches M.S.	855
Greatcoats.	101
Hats C.P.	79
Boots ankle.	1055
Color Patches.	39,882

The reduction in Color Patches is caused by a large supply received from CALAIS, not because of any supply by ROUEN.

For the week ending 24-8-18, the actual deficiencies are :-

Jackets	5257
Breeches D.S.	2393
Breeches M.S.	632
Greatcoats.	8
Hats C.P.	83
Boots ankle.	349
Color Patches.	37,592

I have received a letter from C.O.O., ROUEN in which he states that dues out are only :-

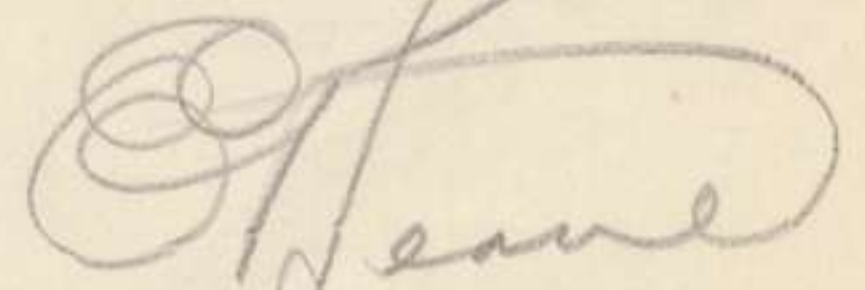
Jackets C.P.	3540
Color Patches.	21,025

and of other items - nil. No doubt this is the authority which causes D.O.S. to make the statement he does, but I can not imagine by what process these figures are arrived at.

So far as I am concerned the method of calculation is simple. -

Bulk demands of D.A.Ds.O.S. for the week are consolidated by me, as are the receipts, the balance is due out to this Corps, and there can be no error as to the actual deficiencies.

It is now requested again that as all Australian Trench Divisions are based on ROUEN, and as clothing cannot be supplied in sufficient quantity from that Base, arrangements be made to allow advantage to be taken of the Stocks which are in the country, and that the surplus Stocks at CALAIS be diverted to ROUEN. It is requested that an early reply be made on this point.



Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. O. S.  
A.I.F. France.

Copy to -  
D.A.G., A.I.F.