

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/68/16

Title: Q Staff, Headquarters AIF Depots in
UK

July 1918



AWM4-1/68/16

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE DEPOTS in the UNITED KINGDOM.

WAR DIARY JULY, 1918.

"Q" BRANCH

Summary.

Issue of Rations to Drafts
and others moving on
Duty.

Circular Memo. No.259 of
17th July, 1918.

Issue of Tobacco & Cigarettes
on Repayment to A.I.F.Troops
in England.

Copy of Routine Order No.5427
and Memorandum QC.28

Instructions for BOARDS
enquiring into UNIT
DEFICIENCIES of ORDNANCE STORES.

Copy of Circular Memo.No.264
and copy of A.I.F.Order No.
1291 of 9th July,1918.

STORES purchased from
REGIMENTAL & BY PRODUCTS FUNDS.

Copy of Standing Order No.5513
of 24-7-1918.

MESSING ACCOUNT: Supply of
Dripping & Vegetables to Units
through their own resources.

Copy of Standing Order No.5593
of 31-7-1918.

General.

Statement :-

showing, Issue of Training
Stores, Clothing & Equipment;
Rations & Supplies, &c. &c.

Accommodation

Copy of Accommodation Return



D.S. Matthews
CAPTAIN
D.A.Q.M.G.
A.I.F. DEPOTS IN U.K.



ISSUE OF TRAINING STORES:
CLOTHING and EQUIPMENT, etc.

1. Number of new Q.1 Forms created	2945.
2. Value of clothing and necessaries issued to A.I.F. Depot Troops (approx)	£28266.
3. Value of clothing, etc., withdrawn from troops proceeding Overseas and returned to Ordnance, repaired and re-issued.	£6116.
4. Cost of repairs.	£2316.
5. Value of issues to Reinforcements (approx).	£2190.
6. Amount collected on Acquittance Rolls for articles lost or destroyed by neglect of individuals.	£1310.
7. Cost of providing 752 men on return from front as casualties with new issues.	£9024.
8. Value of Training Stores issued.	£2000.
9. Value collected for damages (Rifles, Cycles, &c.,) other than fair wear and tear.	£45.
10. Number of Indents checked and approved.	1247.
11. Number of Board Proceedings approved.	85.
12. Per centage of Board Proceedings referred back to convenor with unjustifiable Finding.	7.

RATIONS & SUPPLIES.

13. Total of Rations for which claims have been checked.	837162.
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BARRACK SERVICES.

14. Number of Barrack Warden reports received and investigated.	33.
15. Total claims for Barrack Damages received from Southern Command Paymaster.	£573.
16. Total amount collected.	£573.
17. Balance, representing amounts in dispute, settlement of which is having attention.	-
18. Amounts collected in respect of previous period.	£212.

ANIMALS.

19. Total number received, treated and evacuated (approx.) at Parkhouse.	20.
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ANIMALS (Continued).

		Value	
20. Number on charge	765		£48195.
21. Evacuated	20	"	£1222.
22. Deaths	3	"	£189.



CYCLE REPAIR SHOP.

23. Number of Cycles on charge to Units. 286.

WASTE PAPER.

24. Amount collected. £38.

CORRESPONDENCE & RETURNS.

25. Inward. 1885

26. Outward. 2190.

27. Returns: Totals and Periods.

Daily ...	1.
Weekly ...	4.
Fortnightly	4.
Monthly ..	14.
Quarterly	1.

[Signature]
CAPTAIN
A.I.F. DEPOTS IN U.K.
A.Q.M.G.

CAMP ACCOMMODATION RETURN.

TIDWORTH.

A.Q.M.G. DEPARTMENT.

31st JULY 1918.



Unit.	CAMPS & LOCATION	Capacity allowing for Mis-appropriations.	Ration Strength	Total Strength
<u>BHURTPORE BARRACKS TIDWORTH</u>				
Headquarters & Attachments		532		725
A.M.T.S.		101		191
Aust. Provost Corps		128		498
			761	1414
<u>1st TRAINING BRIGADE SUTTON VENY</u>				
1st Training Bn.	3, 4, 2, 5,	4120	941	809
Signal School				277
Pioneer Trng. Bn	6 and R.E.	1830	373	473
Headquarters				61
		5950	1314	1620
<u>2nd TRAINING BRIGADE FOVANT.</u>				
5th Training Bn	1, 2, 3,	4320	1056	1171
9th do	4, 13	1000	1192	1401
Headquarters				65
		5320	2248	2637
<u>3rd TRAINING BRIGADE CODFORD</u>				
12th Training Bn.	3, 4, 8	3000	1399	1540
14th do	6 and 7	2000	1050	1126
A.A.O.C.	5			
Headquarters				59
		5000	2449	2725
<u>Overseas Trng. Bde. LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL.</u>				
	11, 12, 13, 14, 15	4920	3318	3946
<u>HEYTESBURY</u>				
R.B. A.A.	1, 2, 3, 4, & D.A.C.	2650	1655	1827
<u>SUTTON VENY.</u>				
No. 1 Command Depot	7, 8, 9, 10		3503	4084
Group Cllg. Hospital	Cyclists	4190	213	101
<u>No. 2 Command Depot. WEYMOUTH.</u>				
"A" Sub-Depot	Monte Video	2130	1521	1621
"B" Sub-Depot	Westham	2100	1722	1747
"C" Sub-Depot	Verne Citadel	1100		30
"D" Sub-Depot	Littlemoor	2316	1449	1615
		7646	4692	5013
<u>HURDCOTT.</u>				
No. 3 Command Depot	5, 6, 7, 8 & Cyclists	4200	3210	4157
<u>HURDCOTT.</u>				
No. 4 Command Depot	9, 10, 11, 12	4000	3584	3941
CARRIED FORWARD		43876		

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UNIT.	Camps and Location.	Capacity allowing for mis-appropriation	Ration Strength	Total Strength
BROUGHT FORWARD		43876		
<u>PARKHOUSE.</u>				
Convl.Trng.D Depot	Camp No.1	1000	432	507
Details	" 2	1000	61	62
Aust.Machine Gun T.D.	" 3	1000	969	1125
A.A.S.C.T.D Depot	" 4	}	436	817
A.A.V.C. "	" 4			33
Devons "	" 4			11
Various	" 4			6
		1000	436	867
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A.A.M.C.Training Depot	A.S.C.Camp, Fovant		421	456
A.I.F.Canteens	Salisbury		4	4
Aust. Heavy Art.Trng.D Depot	St Budeaux -Devenport		120	159
A.R.O.D. Depot	Longmoor		85	92
Field Engineers	Brightlingsea		981	1076
Signal Engineers	Clifton		223	404
Light Horse T.D Depot	Tidworth		28	64
A.A.O.C.	Codford		105	111
Detention Barracks	Lewes		53	36
1st A.D.Hospital	Bulford		303	261
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<u>GRAND TOTALS</u>		<u>47876</u>	<u>31219</u>	<u>36689</u>

A.A.S.C. DETACHMENTS.

Warminster	135
Fovant	88
Boyton	63
Weymouth	28
Bhurtpore	2
do	14
do	35
Sutton Veny	3
do	1
Chelsea	5
Tidworth	13
Brightlingsea	1
Deverill	1
Clifton	1
Longmoor	1
Lewes	1
St Budeaux	1
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	<u>393</u>

PIONEER DETACHMENTS

Parkhouse	7
Hurdcott	1
Devizes	30
1st Trng.Bde.	2
Tidworth	2
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Jm
CAPTAIN
D.A.Q.M.G.
A.I.F. DEPOTS IN U.K.

TIDWORTH 1st AUGUST, 1918.

STANDING ORDERS.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE DEPOTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

No. 5593. MESSING ACCOUNT.

Standing Order No.1357 of 15th August, 1917, is hereby cancelled and para. 2 of Circular Memorandum No.243 of 30th May, 1918, is modified in so far as it is inconsistent with this Order.

The following procedure will in future be adopted in regard to the supply to Units of Dripping and Vegetables obtained through their own resources :-

- (a) Fat rendered down into dripping for consumption by the troops (as authorised) or used in making Margarine for their consumption will not be charged against the messing account, or otherwise accounted for in money. The only charge made in the case of the manufacture of Margarine will be the cost of any other material actually purchased for cash in connection with its manufacture, e.g. the purchase of Milk, Colouring Matter, and Salt.
- (b) Vegetables produced and used by Units will be debited against the Messing Account and credited to the Agricultural Account at actual cost of production, plus 10% (no debit being made for labour employed in the production) instead of as heretofore being debited or credited at Market rates. C.O's will see that the cost of production is carefully estimated in accordance with the anticipated yield of each crop and adjusted if necessary by increasing the price of other crop yields where any particular crop ultimately results in a loss to the Agricultural Account.
- (c) Any saving effected in the Messing Account by the foregoing will be employed in the purchase of various articles of food excluding Meat, Bread, Sugar, Tea, Butter, Margarine or Vegetables.

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CAPTAIN
D.A.Q.M.G.
A.I.F. DEPOTS IN U.K.

WAR DIARY .

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For Month of July 1918.

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A. D. of S. & T. BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, A.I.F. DEPOTS IN U.K.

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PERSONNEL.

During the month four "A" class clerks were marched out for duties Overseas, and two "C.1" category men were marched out, as they proved unsuitable for the duties of this Department.

1. INSPECTION FIRST LINE TRANSPORT "L" SCHEME.

I carried out inspections on the 12th inst. of the following Units:-

- No. 4 Bn. Transport at 2nd Training Brigade, Fovant.
- No. 3 Bn. do. " 3rd do. do. Codford.
- Nos. 1 & 2 Bns. do. and Brigade H.Qrs. at Overseas Training Brigade, Longbridge Deverill.
- Animals of 1st & 2nd Bns. at A.A.S.C. Training Detachment, Warminster.
- 1st Coy. Pioneers Transport at 1st Training Brigade, Sutton Veny.

In all instances there was a full turn out of vehicles and animals, which were found complete and in very good order, showing a decided improvement on the inspection of the 5th June. Deficiencies and defects which existed at that time have all been rectified.

The pack animals and the infantry men told off as leaders were sadly in need of training. I consequently submitted the following recommendation:-

That pack animals should be exercised with loaded packs with a view to getting them familiar with the carrying of loads, and strongly recommend that a certain number of infantry men from each Battalion should be specially trained to properly control the pack animals, as this will not only perfect the men for the work in relation to "L" scheme, but will be a valuable help to the Units when the men go to France if pack animals are used.

2. BARRACK SERVICES.

Barrack Service Issues.

All Camps in A.I.F. Depots were inspected during the month, and everything was most satisfactory. All Coal yards are in perfect order, and issues are strictly regulated.

In view of the coming Winter arrangements are in progress to build Unit reserves of Coal so that the possibility of a shortage will be obviated.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

This service is well under control, and the results are most satisfactory.

Meters were installed in all Camps in Codford, Sutton Veny, Heytesbury and Longbridge Deverill Areas, and the rate of charge will in future be according to the number of Units consumed as registered by meter.

The price to be charged per Unit is still under con-

A.D.O.F.S. & T. OFFICE
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sideration at the War Office; therefore no comparison can be made of the saving effected by the installation of Meters over that of payment per candle power lamp, which was excessive.

WATER.

This service throughout is very satisfactory, and consumption is being steadily reduced to a minimum.

SANITARY SERVICES.

This service is entirely satisfactory. In A.I.F. Camps at Weymouth - No. 2 Command Depot - Sanitary Services are carried out by Private Contractor, and it was the custom to pay the contractor for the number of Latrine Buckets installed in the Camp at the rate of 2½d per bucket, irrespective of whether all buckets were actually emptied by him or not. Therefore, in order to strictly control this service Standing Order No. 5338 of 8.7.18, as under, was published, which has resulted in a total saving for Sub-Depots at Westham, Monte Video and Littlemoor of £8.7.4d over that of the previous month. This is most satisfactory:-

Standing Order,
No. 5338,
8. 7. 18.

" Sanitary Services.

The following procedure will be put into effect forthwith in all Camps where removal of night-soil and refuse is carried out by Private Contractors:-

One of the Camp Sanitary Squad will be detailed daily to accompany the Contractor round the Camp and count the number of buckets of night soil actually emptied by him, and inform the Quartermaster of the number of buckets emptied. This is most important, as the Contractor is only entitled to payment for the actual number of buckets emptied, and NOT the number available for use daily.

From the information supplied by the Camp Sanitary Squad the Quartermaster will render a certificate on the 1st day of each month to the British Officer i/c Barracks in the District concerned showing ~~the~~ total number of buckets emptied for the preceding month. A copy of this certificate will be forwarded to the Officer i/c Barrack Services at this Headquarters.

The following scale of buckets per 1000 all ranks accommodated in each Camp will be adhered to:-

Officers	-	10.	Sergeants	-	2.
O/Ranks	-	64.	Bde. H.Qrs.	-	2.
Guard Room-		1.			

In the event of the troops in occupation exceeding or falling below 1000, the number of Latrine buckets will be increased or reduced in accordance with scale. When a reduction takes place the buckets will be removed and the Latrines closed to prevent the possibility of their use."

3. SUPPLIES.

FORAGE.

During the month some Units have applied for their full issue of Forage owing to insufficient grazing arrangements. In such cases the full ration has been supplied.

In Warminster area the full issue has not yet been applied for, and their under-drawals in Forage during the month are as follows:-

Oats.	Amount.
3724	£35.15. 8½d.
Hay.	24.12.10½d.
8364	
Chaff.	123. 4. 9d.
39436.	
<u>Total.</u>	<u>£183.13. 4d.</u>

BEDDING STRAW.

The savings have been very marked at Warminster and Fovant, the figures given below being the actual quantity of used Paille-laise Straw taken over from O. i/c. Bk. Ss. AIF. after he passes it as unfit for further use by his Department. This means a saving of that quantity of Bedding having to be drawn from British A.S.C., the price of Bedding being 63/- per ton:-

	tns.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	=	Amount.
Fovant	- 114.	11.	3.	20	=	£378. 3. 4½d.
Warminster	- 48.	5.	2.	20	=	159. 6. 6d.
						<u>£537. 9. 10½d.</u>

This amount together with that covering under-drawals in Oats, Hay and Chaff - £183.13. 4d. - makes a total of £721. 3. 2½d, which is a substantial saving for the month.

BACON.

The issue of this commodity has not been very satisfactory during the month. Several issues have been condemned as unfit for consumption, but compensation has been received in each case from British A.S.C., further issues to replace unsatisfactory ones having been obtained.

BREAD.

Some trouble was experienced during the early part of the month owing to supply of Bread to Codford now being drawn from Warminster, this action being taken to economise as much as possible in use of labour. The conditions have now improved considerably.

DIETING OF GROUP CLEARING HOSPITALS.

It has been decided that these are to be dieted in accordance with A.C.I. 159 of 1918; this means that contracts shall be arranged by this Office, and up to the present arrangements have been completed for Hospitals at Fovant, Codford and Warminster.

As British A.S.C. hold contracts for their own Hospitals it was thought advisable to arrange with them to extend contracts to cover our demands.

Southern Command was approached on the matter, and they ruled in Memo. ref. C.R.S.C., 256119 (S) dated 25.7.18 that our wishes be complied with.

4. MECHANICAL TRANSPORT SERVICES.

The Workshop has again been particularly busy, and seven cars have been thoroughly overhauled during the month. The lathe is still working three shifts, but arrangements are in hand for the purchase of a new lathe which will enable us to turn work out more quickly, and do away with the necessity of working three shifts with the present lathe.

The Cycle Repair Shop has also been particularly busy, and five machines with cycle and side car combinations have undergone a complete overhaul.

ACCIDENTS.

There have been four accidents during the month, but, fortunately, all of a minor nature.

CONDITION OF ROADS.

The road to Salisbury is getting very bad, especially via



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Shipton; otherwise the roads over which our vehicles travel are in fairly good repair.

GENERAL RUNNING.

During last month the grade of Benzine has been changed from No. 2 to No. 3. No. 3 is not proving very satisfactory both as regards consumption and power. This is particularly the case with cycles and sidecars. It has been found that these machines "overheat," and the cylinder heads carbonize very quickly. It is estimated that if we still remain on No. 3 Grade Benzine a lot more work will be brought to the Workshop and the average of all machines will be considerably lower.

CHANGES IN ALLOCATION OF VEHICLES.

Buick Ambulance 606 A. has been transferred to Warminster. Overland 712 A. transferred to D.A.D.O.S. Codford for light lorry duties. Enfield Combination 428 A. transferred to Lewes in exchange for Triumph 449 A. 716 A. Republic Lorry sent from Weymouth to Chelsea on command on the understanding that should extra work require it the lorry will be returned.

MILEAGE.

The approximate mileage for the month was 98,000. This appears very high, but is accounted for by the fact that the returns for the month cover a period of five weeks. The general averages have been fairly good considering the latter part of the month has been done on No. 3 grade Benzine.

PETROL.

The total quantity of Petrol consumed for the month is approximately 5000 gallons.

PERSONNEL.

Arrangements have been made to attach M.T. men from Parkhouse for short periods whilst they are waiting for draft Overseas. This enables these men to keep at their proper trade, and so gives them some useful experience before going on Draft.

Ten men reported here from D.M.T.S., France, in exchange for ten A.M.T.S. personnel who had been sent Overseas the previous month; otherwise there have been no material changes.

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Bhurtpore Barracks,
Tidworth. 5.9.18.

A. Fredman
Lieut-Colonel.
A.D. of S. & T.
Headquarters, A.I.F. Depots in U.K.