AWM4

Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

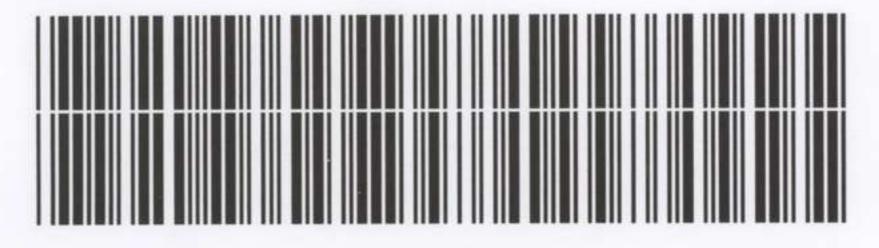
Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/68/20

Title: Q Staff, Headquarters AIF Depots in

UK

November 1918

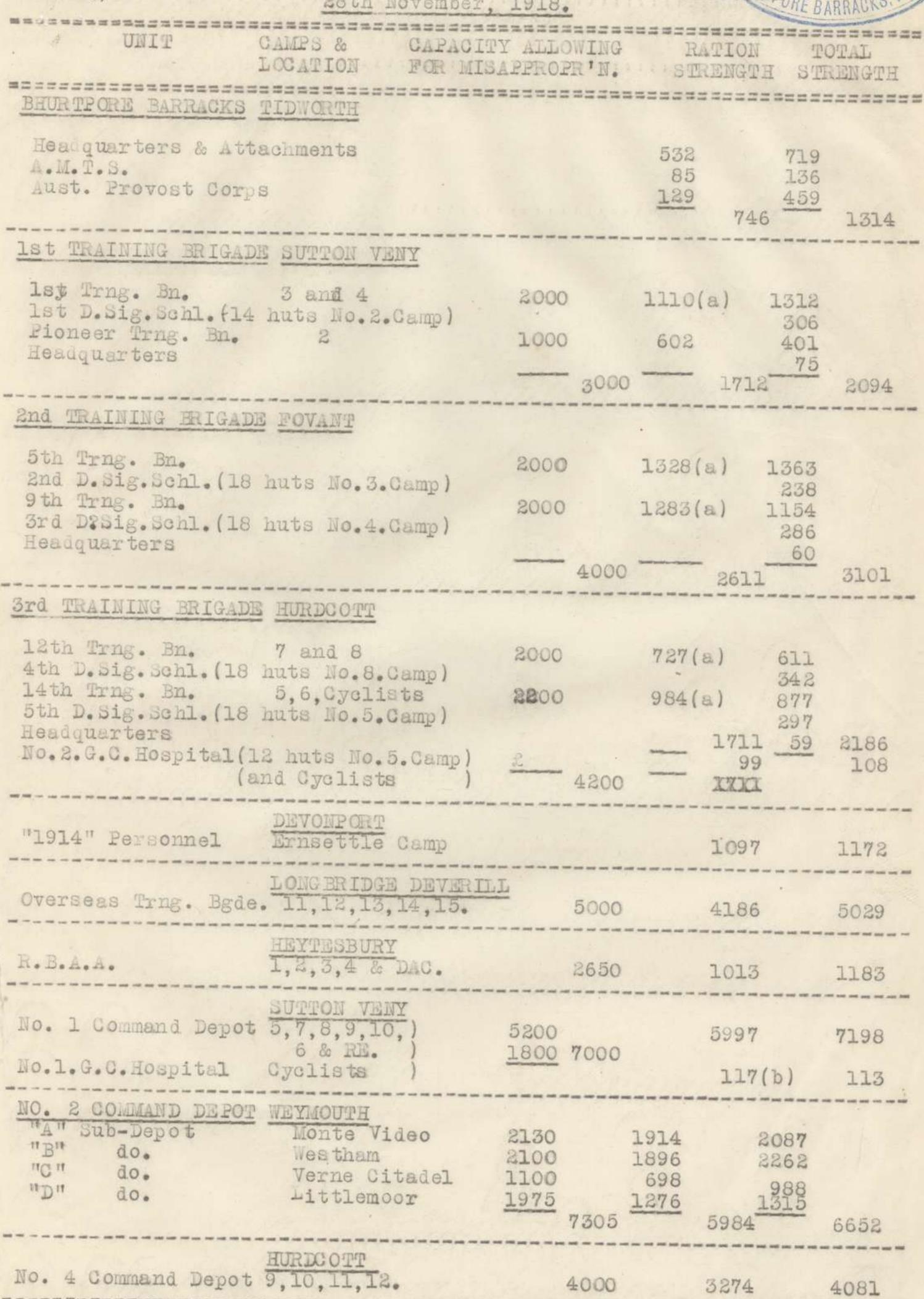


AWM4-1/68/20



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do. Guard attached.

Imperial Men attached.

30th Nov. 1918.

WAR DIARY.

For the Month of November 1918.

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

PERSONNEL.

During the month the following changes took place in the Clerical Staff:-

Marched Out.

W/O. Leifermann N.A.

to France.

Cpl. Trevor

75 days leave in U.K. (1914).

Cpl. Thompson R.

to Parkhouse.

Marched In.

21 Men marched in to relieve "C" Class men under instructions to report to No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth, for return to Australia in connection with the Demobilization Scheme.

1. INSPECTION 1st LINE TRANSPORT "L" SCHEME.

On the 20th inst. 1st Line Transport in connection with "L" Scheme, also Pack Transport Schools, were inspected:-

Nos. 1 & 2 Composite Battalions & Brigade Headquarters at Overseas Training Brigade, Longbridge Deverill;

No. 3 Composite Battalion at 3rd Training Brigade, Hurdcott; No. 4 Composite Battalion at 2nd Training Brigade, Fovant; Vehicles of the Pioneers at 1st Training Brigade, Sutton Veny.

All were found in good order with equipment complete. The harness, especially that at Fovant and Warminster were in excellent order. The Pack Transport Schools are doing good work, and the men seem very keen.

2. BARRACK SERVICES.

Barrack Services - Water.

This Service was very satisfactory in all A.I.F. Depots throughout the month. All orders were strictly complied with, and consump-

tion was kept down to a minimum. The following comparison of consumption in the districts where the majority of A.I.F. Camps are situated is appended for information: -

Average consumption. October 1918. November 1918. District.

Sutton Veny, Warminster, Longbridge Deverill. Heytesbury.

11.7 gallons. 12.0 gallons.

Electric Lighting.

The Lighting Service is in a very good state of control, and all existing orders regarding this service are being strictly complied with.

The following comparison of consumption between November 1917 & 1918 will show the excellent results obtained since this service has been systematically controlled:-

20

camp.	Novr. 17.	Novr. 118.	Saving F	ffected.
Monte Video Westham Littlemoor Verne Citadel	3968 " 3121 "	2751 Units. 75 2792 " 1176 2516 " £516 1836 " 167	605 m m	£17. 4. 2d. 26.19. 0d. 13.17. 3d. 3.13. 1d.
All Camps in Sutton Veny District & Heytesbury.	12102 0. 08	£345.18. 3d. Sa per meter. la ca	me No. of mps in each }	147. 1. 9d.

Total saving for month of November 1918 as compared with the same month of 1917. £208.15. 3d.

The reduction in Units at Camps occupied by No. 2 Command Depot alone, as shown above, was 2699 Units. The above comparison of amount incurred for consumption of current in Camps at Sutton Veny and Heytesbury emphasises the result of having meters installed at A.I.F. expense, and further proves that under the candle power lamp basis of charge the A.I.F. was being debited with more current than was actually being consumed, and removed any doubt that this method of charge was a most unfair one.

In view of vacation of Camps owing to demobilization, A.I.F. Electricians are busily employed attending to necessary repairs of the Lighting circuit in order to reduce Engineer damages in this regard to a minimum.

Sanitary Services.

At A.I.F. Camps, Weymouth, this service is carried out by private contract. Strict supervision is exercised over the contractor, who is accompanied round the Camps by a Unit Representative, in order to keep an accurate tally of the number of latrine buckets emptied daily, as the contractor is only entitled to payment for the actual number of buckets emptied.

Personnel.

Owing to the return to Australia of Categoried personnel, all the Barrack Service subordinate Staff are under orders to proceed to No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth. This will necessitate a complete new Staff for Barrack Service Duties.

Every effort is being made to obtain suitable men who are capable of controlling these services, the importance of which from an A.I.F. standpoint, is fully realised.

3. SUPPLIES.

Devonport A.I.F. Rest Camp, Ernsettle Fort. Arrangements were made with Commandant to bring details into account with this Office. The system previously adopted was that the Imperial were rationing them, and no daily Records of supplies issued were being kept.

N.C.O. b/c. Supplies A.H.A. T.D., St.Budeaux, was instructed to take over the Issues; also arrange with Officer i/c. Supplies, Granby Depot, Devonport, to cease drawing supplies through British Commandant, as heretofore.

Fresh Meat.

The issue of fresh Meat was cancelled during November, as from 1st December, and all Units instructed to this effect. Authority: War Office Telegram No. 4803 (Q.M.G.b.a.) CR. 3.C. No. 266254 (T).

Hay.

In accordance with instructions from "Q", the Hay held by No. 1 Cormand was taken by A.A.S.C., Warminster, and will be issued to Units in Warminster area. At the completion of taking over, this Unit will receive a certificate stating quantities which will be credited to their Regimental account.

Economy.

1st Training Battalion, Sutton Veny, killed live stock during the month totalling 950 lbs Meat fit for consumption, for which 1900 rations were underdrawn.

Engr. Trng. Depot, Brightlingsea, also underdrew 184 rations of meat on utilising 92 lbs of Depot killed Meat.

Supplies.

The only alteration in prices has been an increase in the following:-

Frozen Meat $\frac{1}{3}$ d lb. Straw £2/10/- ton. Salt $\frac{1}{2}$ d ton. Petrol No. 1 $\frac{1}{-}$ gall. Chaff £3/-/- $\frac{1}{-}$ do. No. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. $\frac{1}{2}$

Comparative Weights of Supplies.

Rations	865558	901573	1085918.	
	Sept	Qct*	Novrell8	
Biscuit Bread Flour Meat Tea Salt Sugar Bacon	tons. 285 285 34 1922 9 6 28 48	tons. 299 33 241 92 62 29 49	#0 265 11 8 35 61	
Totals.	609	676	791	
Oats Hay Chaff Bedding Coal	137 73 60 56 12	133 77 63 62 6	146 96 79 86	
Motals.	338	341	407	

4. MECHANICAL TRANSPORT SERVICES.

Workshop. The following vehicles are in workshop awaiting parts and overhaul:-

> Lorries Touring Cars -Ambulances Motor-cycles, sidecar Combinations.

The Dempster-Moore lathe mentioned in my last month's report has not yet come to hand, and Hdgrs., Chelsea, advise that they are unable to obtain any definite promise of delivery from Ministry of Munitions, although all possible has been done to hasten same.

The work of cementing the workshop floor is proceeding very slowly.

Accidents.

The following Vehicles have met with accidents during the month:-

532 A. Minerva Sunbeam 537 A. 607 A. Buick 712 A. Overland 533 A. Napier

63

With the exception of the Minerva, all happenings were of a minor nature.

Roads.

Little alteration can be reported in the condition of the roads.

Mileage.

The mileage for the month (4 weeks) is higher than usual as the following return will show:-

Tyres - 48
Tubes - 5
Petrol - 5354
Mileage - 93551

Personnel.

Considerable changes have taken place during the month on account of 1914 personnel taking advantage of the furlough scheme either by returning to Australia or having 75 days leave in England.

Lieut. K.O. Forrer is away on 75 days leave; Sgt. Brown has reported to D.M.T.S., A.I.F., France; Cpl. Anderson transferred from Weymouth to Chelsea; Sgt. Francis transferred from Chelsea to Weymouth.

Changes in Location of Vehicles.

501 A. Benz to Hurdcott for duty with G.O.C., Fovant. Depots.

Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth. 21.12.18.

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL