

**AWM4**

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

Bases & Depots

**Item number: 33/17/34**

**Title: No 2 Australian Command Depot**

March 1919



AWM4-33/17/34



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

2<sup>nd</sup> Gen Depot

Army Form C. 2118.

March 1919

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	2/3/19		Ships of all Transport Eurpides embarked at Portland Ships of S.W. OR.S & Q.M.S embarked on Nevada for duty.	
	3/3/19	2 <sup>pm</sup>	Details for Embarkation on Eurpides embarked at Weymouth for Portland. 16 Officers 55 sergeants 482 Privates.	
	5/3/19		Details for Embarkation on Transport Nevada proceeded to Portland in two parties 1 <sup>st</sup> 266 Privates from B to 204 Privates from 'H' by 1300 Special train from Upwey Junction Callingham Melcombe Regis Station & retraining at Coal River Portland 2 <sup>nd</sup> Party 418 Privates from B Sub Depot by Special train from Melcombe Regis at 1300 detrained at Coal River Portland. Quota from B Sub Depot (316 Privates) marched direct to boat.	



WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

2 Com Depot

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Weymouth	8/3/19		Football band from B Subdepot proceeded to Yovil to Parkgate in a Carnival	
"	11/3/19		Ship staff Transport "Isantya" proceeded to Port of Embarkation (Glasgow) total 3 officers 32 ranks.	
	13/3/19		100 A+Bia Class personnel transferred from A to C Subdepot to avoid overcrowding in A Subdepot. Congestion caused by an accumulation of treatment cases at 'H' subdepot owing to lack of transports suitable as orthopaedic carriers. Ship staff Blunty Castle & byon left depot for Port of Embarkation	



WAR DIARY

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2<sup>nd</sup> Cont Bn

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	23/3/19	0200	Details for embarkation on transport to leave left depot for Port of Embarkation (Liverpool) 45 Officers 88 Sgts 589 Privates. Total 624 ranks.	
	24/3/19	0520	Details for Embarkation on Transport to leave left depot for Port of Embarkation (Liverpool) 13 Officers 34 Sgts 558 Privates.	
	27/3/19		Brig General <sup>5</sup> Heane, C.B., C.M.G., F.S.O. C.O.C. No 1 Group visited depot	
	28/3/19	0230	Details for Embarkation on transport to leave left depot for Port of Embarkation (Liverpool) 18 Officers 103 Sgts 482 Privates.	
	29/3/19		Brig General <sup>10</sup> Turner (C.M.G., C.B.E., F.S.O.) No 1 Group visited depot. Inspected Wyke Camp in morning. Verne Citadel in afternoon.	

D. D. & L., London E.C. (1934) Wk W5300/P713 750,000 3/18 E 688 Forms/C2118/16



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

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2600 Depot

March 1919 470

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Total arrivals for month of March 159 Officers 2619 ranks total 2778.	
			Total Departures 188 Officers 4789 ranks total 4938	I
			Total for Australia <del>153</del> 153 Officers 4298 ranks total 4451	
			Daily average strength 171 Officers 58200 ranks.	2
			Medical Officers Report	3
			Missing Officers Reports	
			Daily Classification states (original only)	



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W.T.K.	<u>No.2. AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT.</u>	2. CD. CR.		
		<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O/Ranks.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
No. in Depot 28.2.19.	...	178	6778	6956
Arrivals for March 1919.	...	<u>159</u>	<u>2619</u>	<u>2778</u>
		<u>337</u>	<u>9397</u>	<u>9734</u>
<u>DEPARTURES :-</u>				
A. H. Q.	...	16	24	40
Australia	...	153	4298	4451
E.S.O., Southampton	...	5	2	7
1st. T.B.	...	2	22	24
Discharge	...	1	35	36
Tidworth	...	1	5	6
Hospital over 1 month	...		118	118
Barkhouse	...		23	23
Non-Mil. Employment	...		43	43
No.4 Command Depot.	...		1	1
Demobilisation Section	...		8	8
A.A.M.C. Fovant.	...		7	7
No.1 Command Depot	...	8	1	9
Napsbury War Hosp.	...		2	2
Overseas Training Brigade	...	1	4	5
1st. A.G.Hospital	...		1	1
Bulford	...	1	2	3
A.M.T.S., Chelsea	...		1	1
Agric.Trng. Depot.	...		5	5
A.F.C., Hurdcott.	...		1	1
Deaths	...		3	3
France	...		2	2
		<u>188</u>	<u>4608</u>	<u>4796</u>
		<u>149</u>	<u>4789</u>	<u>4938</u>

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No. 2 Australian Command Depot.

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JSP.

Date	Officers	Other Ranks	Total	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
March 1	177	6865	7042	166	6119	6285
2	197	6687	6884	186	6050	6236
3	199	6687	6886	188	6015	6203
4	192	6141	6333	181	5542	5723
5	192	6174	6366	185	5584	5769
6	158	5046	5204	151	4446	4597
7	158	5235	5393	149	4620	4769
8	153	5369	5522	144	4699	4843
9	154	5480	5634	145	4801	4946
10	164	5480	5644	155	4802	4957
11	188	5907	6095	179	5282	5461
12	184	6169	6353	174	5557	5731
13	185	6230	6415	174	5590	5764
14	186	6306	6492	175	5711	5886
15	188	6368	6556	175	5709	5884
16	193	6423	6616	178	5773	5951
17	184	5909	6093	174	5271	5445
18	182	6016	6198	172	5403	5575
19	182	6065	6247	172	5503	5675
20	181	6104	6285	172	5601	5773
21	180	6145	6325	171	5582	5753
22	183	6156	6339	171	5609	5780
23	196	6264	6460	184	5729	5913
24	151	5630	5781	139	5099	5238
25	154	5688	5842	142	5179	5321
26	139	5204	5343	127	4692	4819
27	141	5192	5333	130	4721	4851
28	144	5169	5313	133	4734	4867
29	133	4760	4893	121	4274	4395
30	142	4776	4918	130	4311	4441
31	149	4789	4938	139	4308	4447
Total	5309	180434	85743	4982	162316	167298
Daily Average	171.258	5820.451	5991.709	160.709	5236	5396.709

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HEALTH AND SANITATION REPORT for Month of March 1919.

HEALTH. The health of the troops in this Command for the present month has been satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Infectious Disease have occurred during the month:-

Cerebro Spinal Fever.....	Nil.
Diphtheria.....	Nil.
Mumps.....	Nil.
Measles.....	Nil.
German Measles.....	2.
Scabies.....	81.
Influenza.....	31.
Chicken Pox.....	1.

VENEREAL.

x Syphilis.....	10.
x Gonorrhoea.....	26.
x Venereal Sores.....	6.
x Chancre.....	11.
x Urethritis.....	79.
x Contracted in London 59, Weymouth 13, France 6, Elsewhere 54.	

DEATHS.

There were 3 deaths during the month, 2 of which occurred at Monte Video Hospital and one at No. 10 East Street, Weymouth. Cause of Death (1) Pulmonary T.B. (2) Cerebral Thrombosis (3) Accidental.

SANITATION.

The sanitation of the camps at Monte Video, Westham, Verne and Littlemoor has been satisfactory.

VENTILATION.

The Regulations dealing with Ventilation have been complied with, surprise visits having been made to sleeping quarters, Institutes Cinemas etc. and all were found satisfactory.

ACCOMMODATION.

Satisfactory.

EXERCISES.

2619 other ranks marched in during the month.

MARCHES.

4608 other ranks marched out during the month as follows:-

A.H.Q.....	24.
Australia.....	4298.
E.S.O. Southampton.....	2.
1st T.B.....	22.
Discharge.....	35.
Tidworth.....	5.
Outside Hospitals.....	118.
Parkhouse.....	23.
Non Military Employment.....	43.
4th C.D.....	1.
Demob. Section.....	8.
A.M.C. Fovant.....	7.
1st C.D.....	1.
Napsbury War Hospital.....	2.
O.T.B.....	4.
1st A.G.H.....	1.
Bulford.....	2.
A.M.T.S. Chelsea.....	1.
Agri. T.D.....	5.
A.F.C. Hurdrott.....	1.
Deaths.....	3.
France.....	2.

MASSAGE.

The total number of patients for Massage was 476, a daily average of 214.

REMEDIAL GYMNASTIC.

The total number of patients for Remedial Gymnastics was 416, a daily average of 246.

DRESSINGS.

The total number of patients for Dressings was 1054, a daily average of 201.

SICK PARADE.

The total number of patients on Sick Parade was 1968, a daily average of 63.

*W. H. ...*



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In your reply  
please quote

(GH)

A/176

To:- Headquarters,  
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.

Attached Monthly Report from the Officer i/c Messing  
is forwarded, please.

I fully concur with the remarks of the Messing Officer  
and would respectfully urge that immediate steps be taken to cope with  
the difficulties as stated:-

- (a) Permanent Staff.
- (b) Short notice with regard to numbers of men marching  
in and out of this Depot.

Monte Video Camp,  
Weymouth.  
3rd April, 1919.

*J. M. Allan*

Lieut.-Colonel,  
Commandant "A" Sub-Depot.  
No. 2 Australian Command Depot.



From Officer i/c Messing

To Commandant "A" Sub-Depot, No. 2 A.C.D.

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Report re Messing arrangements for the month of March 1919.

During the month the strength of this camp has been considerably decreased and it was found necessary to close down one cookhouse for general messing, and it is used now by Hospital cooks alone.

Much inconvenience is caused by the short notice which is given regarding the movement of troops.

Indents have to be submitted for rations 48 hours before they are required for consumption, and on two days a week, 72 hours before, but it nearly always happens that definite information concerning the departure of Boat Drafts or the marching-in of Drafts reaches this office less than 24 hours prior to any of the movements. It is essential that these indents be correct as near as possible as I cannot over-draw rations, yet food has to be supplied to outgoing drafts up to the time they move out and to incoming drafts from the time of their arrival. Supplementary indents do not meet the situation. It would be of great assistance if sufficient notice of movement of troops and approximate numbers could be given in the future.

Another matter which is a continual worry to the messing Officer is his Staff. It is difficult at all times to find men willing to work in Cookhouses. Numbers of the men procured take up the work as they are desirous of remaining in England for various reasons. Men detailed for the work are seldom any good for they have too many opportunities to let the Messing Officer down if they so desire. The men who wish to remain here on the Permanent Cadre submit applications to the effect that they desire to be kept off all Boat Rolls, yet rarely does a boat go without taking some of this type of man. The result is that a very dissatisfied feeling exists among cooks and such like people and also a great amount of the Messing Officer's time is taken up in keeping his Staff up to its correct complement. This is no easy matter in a Camp such as this which is full of convalescents and low category men. Very seldom does one meet a trained cook who wishes to stay here so it means that a man has to be trained in his work and this is no sooner achieved than he is placed on a Boat Roll and marches out. The situation is most unsatisfactory. There are numbers of men who desire to remain in England and who are willing to remain on the Permanent Staff so long as they are required. Cannot some movement be made whereby these men can be kept off Boat Rolls and retained in the Camp for duty as that would facilitate matters considerably.

By-Products proceeds have all been expended in the interests of the troops and no complaints have been received regarding the quantity or quality of the food. Potatoes at present are not too good and bad parts have to be removed so that the nett weight of potatoes consumed is not so high as a fair margin for wastage should permit. Otherwise complete satisfaction has been given by the N.A.C.B., also the A.S.C. which renders every assistance towards the attainment of a high standard of Messing.



Monte Video Camp,  
Weymouth  
31st March, 1919.

Lieut.  
Officer i/c Messing.  
"A" Sub-Depot, No. 2 Australian Command Depo



To:-  
 Adjutant,  
 "B" Sub-Depot,  
 No. 2 A. C. D.,  
Westham.

Messing Report - "B" Sub-Depot, Westham Camp.

I have to report that Messing has been conducted from the 29.3.19 to the closing of the Depot on 14.4.19, on lines similar to that outlined in my report of last month. The number of rations issued was 25,744 and the allowance for this number was £595-14-9.

The above figures are accounted for as follows:-

General Messing	21,338 @ 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d	488-19-11
Officers' Mess	376 @ 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d	20- 1- 6
Sergeants' Mess	2,085 @ 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d	47-15- 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
"A" Class	1,445 @ 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d	<u>38-17- 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub></u>
		£595-14- 9

Total receipts for this period are not yet available.

Westham Camp,  
 Weymouth,  
 17.4.1919

*J. Murrell* Lieut.  
 Officer i/c. of Messing,  
 "B" Sub-Depot, No. 2 Aust. Command Depot.



To/ 470.

Headquarters  
No.5 Group  
WESTHAM.

(COPY)

MONTHLY REPORT ON MESSING.

RATIONS A.S.C. Rations are drawn daily from Westham, and at all times arrive in a satisfactory condition.

CASH ALLOWANCE Foodstuffs are purchased from the local branch of the N.A.C.B. I have not experienced any difficulty in obtaining these goods required with the exception of fresh vegetables the supply of which is limited.

KITCHENS The Camp is fitted with three Kitchens, two of which are fitted with "Deane" ovens and "Richmond" Steam cookers. The latter have proved very unsatisfactory and at no time reliable. In addition they are very extravagant in the consumption of fuel.

MEAT Meat is all boned and trimmed before being issued to kitchens bones are used as stock for soup.

VEGETABLES Vegetables are washed and trimmed before being issued to the Kitchens, Owing to the quality of the potatoes they are peeled.

BREAD Bread is cut into slices before being issued.

STAFF I am experiencing great difficulty in obtaining Cooks and on several occasions food has been spoilt owing to the in-experience of the men, and unless competent Cooks are forthcoming it will be impossible to obtain satisfactory results.

BY-PRODUCTS Bones are thoroughly cleaned and bagged, and then sold to Contractor. Fat is clarified and graded and surplus sold to Army Contractor. Swillm is sold to Local Contractor.

*W. H. ...* Lieut.  
Officer i/c Messing.

Forwarded.

*W. H. ...* Major.  
Commandant.  
"C" Sub Depot No 5 Group.

Dated  
1-4-19.



470

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D Sub Depot No. 2 A.C.D.



# MESSING REPORT

For Period Ending March 28<sup>th</sup> 1919.

(1) A.S.C. Rations	
Entitlement	38625
Drawn	38599
Underdrawn	26
(2) Commuted Allowance	Dr Feb £21. 6. 9
Entitlement	£ 888. 13. 1/2
Expenditure	£ 909. 19. 10 1/2
General Mess	£ 802. 11. 4
Sergeants Mess	56. 11. 7 1/2
Officers Mess	41. 18. 3 1/2
Dr Balance	£ 12. 8. 1 1/2

Actual Cr Balance. 28/3/19 £ 8. 14. 7 1/2

Potatoes were purchased from Amesbury and local Farmers being of better quality than those supplied by N.A.C.B. Sweets were also locally purchased on account of their quality. Potatoes now being received from N.A.C.B. are very good.



*Campbell Lt*  
*Off Messing*

LIEUT.  
 MESSING OFFICER, No. 4 GROUP, No. 2 A.C.D.