

**AWM4**

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

Bases & Depots

**Item number: 33/18/2**

**Title: No 3 Australian Command Depot**

January 1918



AWM4-33/18/2

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.

or  
**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.**

(Erase heading not required.)

*No 3 Command Depot  
January 1918.*

471

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HURDCOTT	1.1.18		New Year's Day, holiday observed: Wind; strong from N.E., very cold, slight fall of snow.	
"		11.30 am.	Visit from Major Gen. Thetton, <sup>Dir</sup> J.W. McLay C.B., V.D., K.C.M.G., G.O.C. A.I.F. Depôts in UK. General McLay made a very thorough inspection of the Depot, visiting many of the men's quarters, some of the Regimental Institutes, and watched the serving of the mid-day meal. He expressed his satisfaction at the state of the Depot, particularly with the warmth and comfort of the living and sleeping quarters.	MS
"	2.1.18		Work resumed: Wind slight + variable, N.W. to N.E. Bright and sunny. Usual training carried out	Appendix 1. MS
"	3.1.18		Wind fresh from N.E.. Weather bright. Usual training syllabus carried out	MS
"	4.1.18		Wind very light, N. Heavy ground frost in morning. Very fine day. Usual training.	MS
"	5.1.18		" " " E. Frost breaking. Saturday: Usual training in morning. Games in afternoon. 3rd Com. Depot beat 6th. Trg. Brigade at Aus. Rules Football by 13-8 to 7-4	MS
"	6.1.18		Wind light S.E. Light rain all day. Observed as special Sunday of prayer + Intercession in all Church Parades.	MS
"	7.1.18		Wind light S.E., slight frost, fine day. Usual training.	MS
"	8.1.18		Wind fresh NE. Hard frost. Very bright and cold.	
"		10.30 am.	Visit from Lt. Col. Wall (A.Q.M.G.), C.M.G., to enquire into working of Depot Quartermaster's Branch.	
"		1. pm	The Depot was honoured with a visit by Lt. Gen. Sir H.C. Selater G.C.B., G.O.C. in C., Southern Command and Major Gen. Thetton. J.W. McLay C.B., V.D., K.C.M.G., G.O.C., A.I.F. Depôts in UK. The Generals + Staff lunched at Officers' mess and afterwards made an exhaustive tour of the	MS

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.)

*Boonland*  
*July 1918*

471

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hurdcott	8.1.18	contd.	Depôt, visiting all the four camps in turn and giving to each very thorough inspection. The Hospital, massage rooms, Cook-Houses and Concert Halls earned special Commendation, whilst the system of physical training - which was in full swing when the Generals reached the camps containing the higher category men - received approval.	MD.
"	9.1.18		Wind strong N.W.; Bitterly cold in forenoon, but change of wind to W. after midday caused sudden thaw. Training was not interfered with.	MD.
"	10.1.18		Wind fresh W. Sky overcast, rain in afternoon. Training as usual.	MD.
"	11.1.18		" light W., fine mild day. usual training	MD.
"	12.1.18		" " W. " (Saturday)	MD.
"	"	9.30am	Visit from Col. D. McWhae, A.D.M.S. for special Classm. work, view to weeding out unfit men for return to Australia	MD.
"	13.1.18		Wind light W. Fine mild day. Sunday - usual Church Parades	MD.
"	14.1.18		" very light W. Heavy fall of snow in early hours - nearly a foot in depth. All training carried on indoors. Transport interfered with and all despatches late.	MD.
"	15.1.18		Wind light S.W.. Steady rain all day. All training carried on under cover. 77 of ranks evacuated to Weymouth for return to Australia as first consignment.	MD. Diary for 12th.
"	16.1.18		Wind light S.W.. Fine; training as usual.	MD.
"	17.1.18		" " " Heavy fall of snow, early in day, followed by intermittent rain, causing suspension of all outdoor operations. Further 86 of ranks evacuated for return to Australia (cf. Diary for 12th.)	MD.
"	"	10 am	Visit from Col. Murdoch (Australian Red Cross). The day was intended to be made the	MD.

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.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

3 Command

Army Form C. 2118.

Jan 1918

471

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hudcote	17.1.18	continued	occasion of a great open-air parade & review to distribute the Red Cross Xmas gifts to all ranks and the G.O.C had promised to attend. The inclement weather and bad state of the roads prevented him doing so and the out-door programme had to be abandoned. The distribution took place in the Concert Halls and Cinematograph photos were taken	
	18.1.18		Wind strong W. Rain all day. All training indoors. Further 66 <del>men</del> <sup>franks</sup> sent to <sup>Weymouth</sup> en route for Australia	MS.
	19.1.18		Wind strong S. Heavy rain prevented all outdoor operations during morning.	MS.
	20.1.18		" " S.W. Rain. Usual Sunday Services held.	MS.
	21.1.18		" " " Very fine, warm day. Training as usual.	MS.
	22.1.18		" " " Fine: training as usual	MS.
	23.1.18		" " W. " " "	MS.
	24.1.18		" " W. " " " " excepting for 1 hour in morning, when	
	25.1.18		Maj Gen. Hon. Sir J.W. McCay, CB. VD. KCMG., G.O.C. A.I.F. Depôts in U.K. paid a visit to the Depot to present the D.C.M. to 5181 Sgt. G.H. Prendergast, 59th. Bn. for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty in action at Polygon Wood on 26th. Sept. 1917, when he led a small party of his platoon against a German "Pill-Box", killing seven, and capturing two officers & 6 men and 2 Machine Guns.	MS.
	26.1.18		Wind light W. Dull, training as usual. Depot Football Team (Aus. Rules) beaten in semi-final of <sup>District Competition</sup> Forant & Hudcote by 10th. T.B.	MS.
			Depot Cinema Show opened. Machine & fittings gift of <sup>Y.M.C.A.</sup> <del>Aus. Red Cross Society</del>	MS.

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.)

*3 Command  
Jan'y 1918*

471

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hudcote	27.1.18		Sunday: fine day. Usual Church Parades	
"	"		Major D. Bennett, Senior Med. Officer marched out to No 2 Com. Depot, Weymouth, for Duty there. Major Bennett had been S.M.O. of the Depot for seven months, including the period during which the size of the Depot was doubled and in which it became a combined high & low category establishment. He brought the Medical Branch of the Depot to a high state of excellence, and was succeeded by Major J.B.F. McKenzie.	
"	28.1.18		Wind light S.W. Fine. Outdoor training as usual. Visit from Brig. Gen. C.H. Tooth, C.M.G. to interview 4389 Gun. Gleadall L.R., 3rd Batty. A.I.F. with reference to two inventions which the latter is completing - an Automatic Cartridge Filler for machine-gun belts and a grenade. The General ordered that Gun. Gleadall be transferred to Tidworth to develop his work.	
"	29.1.18		Wind light S.W. Fine. Training as usual	ms
"	30.1.18		" " " " " "	ms
"	31.1.18		" " " " " "	ms
"	6.1.18		Addendum: Capt. A.S. Sutton, S.D.O. of Depot from May 1917, marched out and was succeeded by Major J.W. Hayley. Capt. Sutton maintained the Dental Branch of the Depot in a high state of efficiency, and in the New Year's Honours list was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire.	ms

*J. Huttoff* ..... Lt. Col.  
Commandant,  
No 3 Command Depot, A.I.F.

471  
125No. 3 Command Depot A.I.F. Hurdcott. 5 1Summary of Physical Training January 1918.

	Trained Soldiers. Daily Totals				
	Week ending Jan 5/18	Week ending Jan 12/18	Week ending Jan 19/18	Week ending Jan 26/18	Week ending Feb 2/18
Monday	Dec 31/17	344	326	659	759
Tuesday	General Holiday New Year's Day	709	292	762	638
Wednesday	267	300	188	749	632
Thursday	232	237	Distribution Red X Sifts 12	519	611
Friday	333	303	144	710	Feb 1 <sup>st</sup>
Saturday (Morning Parade only)	122	No Parade	156	310	Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>
<u>Approximate Strength of Units</u>					
Staff and Unclassified	380	368	386	379	389
A3 + A4	163	163	176	145	144
B1 A4	372	439	442	470	522
B1 A3	390	360	322	374	365
B1 A2	524	445	444	442	413
B1 A1 + Lower Categories	1708	1732	1630	1749	1746
Total	3537	3507	3400	3559	3579

# WEEKLY COMMAND DEPÔT RETURN. 6

Week ending, Saturday m/n 5/1/18

No. 3. COMMAND DEPÔT		
Accommodation ...	...	3500
No. in Depôt, Saturday, midnight	...	3537
ADMISSIONS.		
Number reporting from Administrative Headquarters after Furlough	...	12
Number reporting direct from Australian Auxiliary Hospitals	...	216
Number of Permanent Base men reporting direct from France	...	
Number of men reporting from Training Battalions	...	
Number of men reporting from Other Sources	...	2
Number of men reporting from other Command Depôts...	...	12
DISCHARGES.		
Number of returned Expeditionary Force discharged for General Service to Overseas T.B. and elsewhere...	...	125
Number of men discharged to Training Units	...	
Number of men discharged for Home Service	...	
Discharged as Invalids—to Australia	...	
in England	...	
Discharged elsewhere—Hospitals, A.W.L., etc.	...	16
Number of men discharged to other Command Depôts	...	64

## CLASSES IN DEPÔT.

Class	No. in Depôt at W/E	No. Evacuated during the Week	Numbers on Staff	Remarks
A 3	162	132	178	
A 4	1		26	
Bia 4	372		8	
Bia 3	390	3	15	
Bia 2	524	2	17	
Bia 1	483		6	
Bib	979		15	
Bia			2	
Home Service Personnel } B 2a	30		13	
} C i	103	4	18	
Invalid Cases for return to Australia } B 2b	100	39		
} C 2	1	1		
} C 3	11	20		
Training Battalions				
Unclassified	20	4		
Staff	360			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3537</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>360</b>	

## AVAILABLE FOR RETURN TO AUSTRALIA FROM No. 2 COMMAND DEPÔT.

	Hammock	Berth	Cot	T.B.	Mental	Totals
Revised						
Unrevised						
<b>TOTALS</b>						

I certify that all men in the Depôt have been paraded for Medical Reclassification as required by R.O. No. 2774 of 3/4/17

Lieut Colonel  
Commandant.

Major 3  
S.M.O. No. 3 C.D.

Hindcott 6/1/18

**WEEKLY COMMAND DEPÔT RETURN.**

Week ending, Saturday m/n 12/1/18.

No. <u>3</u> COMMAND DEPÔT	
Accommodation ... ..	3500
No. in Depôt, Saturday, midnight	3508
<b>ADMISSIONS.</b>	
Number reporting from Administrative Headquarters after Furlough	3
Number reporting direct from Australian Auxiliary Hospitals	212
Number of Permanent Base men reporting direct from France	
Number of men reporting from Training Battalions	
Number of men reporting from Other Sources	16
Number of men reporting from other Command Depôts...	63
<b>DISCHARGES.</b>	
Number of returned Expeditionary Force discharged for General Service to Overseas T.B. and elsewhere...	177
Number of men discharged to Training Units	14
Number of men discharged for Home Service	6
Number discharged as Invalids—to Australia	
Number discharged as Invalids—in England	
Number discharged elsewhere—Hospitals, A.W.L., etc.	50
Number of men discharged to other Command Depôts	133

**CLASSES IN DEPÔT.**

Class	No. in Depôt at W/E	No. Evacuated during the Week	Numbers on Staff	Remarks
A 3	164	192	178	
A 4		1	26	
Bia 4	439		7	
Bia 3	360	1	16	
Bia 2	445		21	
Bia 1	577	1	6	
Bib	1009		23	
Home Service Personnel	B 2a	32	14	
	C i	100	75	
Cases for return to Australia	B 2b	7		
	C 2	1		
	C 3	6		
Training Battalions				
Classified	1	47		
...	367			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3508</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>367</b>	

**AVAILABLE FOR RETURN TO AUSTRALIA FROM No. 2 COMMAND DEPÔT.**

	Hammock	Berth	Cot	T.B.	Mental	Totals
Unfit						
Unfit						
<b>TOTALS</b>						

I certify that all men in the Depôt have been paraded for Medical Reclassification as required by R.O. No. 2774 of 3/4/17

*Leut Colonel*  
Commandant.

*Major*  
S.M.O. No. 3 C.D.

*ndcott 13-1-18*  
Sale & Polden, Ltd., Printers, Aldershot. 199-y.



471

# WEEKLY COMMAND DEPÔT RETURN.

Week ending, Saturday m/n 19/1/18

No. 3		COMMAND DEPÔT	
Accommodation ... ..	...	...	3500
No. in Depôt, Saturday, midnight	...	...	3400
ADMISSIONS.			
Number reporting from Administrative Headquarters after Furlough	...	...	50
Number reporting direct from Australian Auxiliary Hospitals	...	...	220
Number of Permanent Base men reporting direct from France	...	...	
Number of men reporting from Training Battalions	...	...	1
Number of men reporting from Other Sources	...	...	9
Number of men reporting from other Command Depôts...	...	...	
DISCHARGES.			
Number of returned Expeditionary Force discharged for General Service to Overseas T.B. and elsewhere...	...	...	152
Number of men discharged to Training Units	...	...	
Number of men discharged for Home Service	...	...	
Discharged as Invalids—to Australia	...	...	
in England	...	...	
Discharged elsewhere—Hospitals, A.W.L., etc.	...	...	47
Number of men discharged to other Command Depôts ...	...	...	232

### CLASSES IN DEPÔT.

Class	No. in Depôt at W/E	No. Evacuated during the Week	Numbers on Staff	Remarks
A 3	176	155	183	
A 4			26	
Bia 4	442	1	10	
Bia 3	322		17	
Bia 2	444	1	23	
Bia 1	570		11	
Bib	869		5	
Home Service Personnel	B 2a	43	14	
	C i	109	72	
Invalid Cases for return to Australia	B 2b	33	1	
	C 2	1	14	
	C 3	5	46	1
Training Battalions ...				
Unclassified ...	6	43	17	
Staff ...	380			
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>3400</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>380</b>	

### AVAILABLE FOR RETURN TO AUSTRALIA FROM No. 2 COMMAND DEPÔT.

	Hammock	Berth	Cot	T.B.	Mental	Totals
Revised ...						
Unrevised ...						
<b>TOTALS ...</b>						

I certify that all men in the Depôt have been paraded for Medical Reclassification as required by R.O. No. 2774 of 3/4/17

*Lieut Colonel*  
Commandant.

*Hurdcoff*

*Major*  
S.M.O. No. 3 C.D.

# WEEKLY COMMAND DEPÔT RETURN.

Week ending, Saturday m/n 26 / 1 / 18

No. 3 COMMAND DEPÔT

Accommodation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3500
Depôt, Saturday, midnight	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3559 + 102 and
ADMISSIONS.								
Number reporting from Administrative Headquarters after Furlough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Number reporting direct from Australian Auxiliary Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	239
Number of Permanent Base men reporting direct from France	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number of men reporting from Training Battalions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of men reporting from Other Sources	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of men reporting from other Command Depôts...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
DISCHARGES.								
Number of returned Expeditionary Force discharged for General Service to Overseas T.B. and elsewhere...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	419
Number of men discharged to Training Units	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	207
Number of men discharged for Home Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Discharged as Invalids—to Australia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
in England	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Discharged elsewhere—Hospitals, A.W.L., etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of men discharged to other Command Depôts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

CLASSES IN DEPÔT.

247

Class	No. in Depôt at W/E	No. Evacuated during the Week	Numbers on Staff	Remarks
A 3	143	213	174	
A 4	2		25	
Bia 4	470		14	
Bia 3	374	4	21	
Bia 2	442	7	16	
Bia 1	441	3	7	
Bib	1066		25	
Home Service personnel				
B 2a	43	2	13	
C i	120	2	78	
Invalid cases for return to Australia				
B 2b	61		1	
C 2	2		1	
C 3	16		1	
Training Battalions				
classified	3	16		
staff	376			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3559</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>376</b>	

AVAILABLE FOR RETURN TO AUSTRALIA FROM No. 2 COMMAND DEPÔT.

	Hammock	Berth	Cot	T.B.	Mental	Totals
Revised						
Unrevised						
<b>TOTALS</b>						

I certify that all men in the Depôt have been paraded for Medical Reclassification as required by R.O. No. 2774 of 3/4/17

*Lieut Colonel*  
Commandant.

*Major*  
S.M.O. No. 3 C.D.

*Hurdscott*

## WEEKLY COMMAND DEPÔT RETURN.

10

Week ending, Saturday m/n ...2../...2../.....18.

No. 3. COMMAND DEPÔT							
Accommodation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3500
No. in Depôt, Saturday, midnight	...	...	...	...	...	...	3579 & 100 Att.
ADMISSIONS.							
Number reporting from Administrative Headquarters after Furlough	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Number reporting direct from Australian Auxiliary Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	166
Number of Permanent Base men reporting direct from France	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Number of men reporting from Training Battalions	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of men reporting from Other Sources	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Number of men reporting from other Command Depôts...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
DISCHARGES.							
Number of returned Expeditionary Force discharged for General Service to Overseas T.B. and elsewhere...	...	...	...	...	...	...	196
Number of men discharged to Training Units	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of men discharged for Home Service	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Discharged as Invalids—to Australia	...	...	...	...	...	...	
in England	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Discharged elsewhere—Hospitals, A.W.L., etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Number of men discharged to other Command Depôts	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

## CLASSES IN DEPÔT.

Class	No. in Depôt at W/E	No. Evacuated during the Week	Numbers on Staff	Remarks
A 3	142	210	181	
A 4	3		23	
Bia 4	522	3	21	
Bia 3	365		19	
Bia 2	413	10	16	
Bia 1	377	6	10	
Bib	1095	3	24	
Home Service Personnel } B 2a	51		13	
} C i	123	2	78	
Invalid Cases for return to Australia } B 2b	73		1	
} C 2	1		1	
} C 3	26		1	
Training Battalions ...				
Unclassified ...	1	11		
Staff ...	388			
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>3579</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>388</b>	

## AVAILABLE FOR RETURN TO AUSTRALIA FROM No. 2 COMMAND DEPÔT.

	Hammock	Berth	Cot	T.B.	Mental	Totals
Revised ...						
Unrevised ...						
<b>TOTALS ...</b>						

I certify that all men in the Depôt have been paraded for Medical Reclassification as required by R.O. No. 2774 of 3/4/17

Lieut Colonel  
Commandant.

Hurdcott 3-2-1918.

Major. 3 C.D.  
S.M.O. No.

471

11

## No. 3 Command Depot

January 1918<sup>3</sup>

Number of men reported at Depot	No. of men discharged A.S. to Overseas Trg. Bde.	No. of invalids sent to No. 2 Com. Depot for return to Australia	Total discharges for month.
1354	696	326	1611

M. Scales  
9/1/18

Reply please quote:-

12/4

Adjutant.  
No.3 Command Depot. A.I.F.  
HURDCOTT.

The following are statistics of Medical Work of the Depot and Group Clearing Hospital for the month of January 1918:-

MALTY. Admissions, Discharges and Transfers of men from other units and Depot.(Group Hospital.)

Admissions:-

<u>General.</u>	<u>Depot.</u>	<u>Other Units.</u>	
	280.	81.	
<u>Mumps.</u>	3.	12.	
<u>Measles.</u>	Nil.	4.	
	<u>283.</u>	<u>97.</u>	Total 380.

Discharges:-

<u>General.</u>	<u>Depot.</u>	<u>Other Units.</u>	
	125.	39.	
<u>Mumps.</u>	1.	5.	
<u>Measles.</u>	Nil.	1.	
	<u>126.</u>	<u>45.</u>	Total 171.

Transfers.

<u>General.</u>	<u>Depot.</u>	<u>Other Units.</u>	
	145.	24.	
<u>Mumps.</u>	Nil.	Nil.	
<u>Measles.</u>	"	1.	
	<u>145.</u>	<u>25.</u>	Total. 170.

SCABIES.

Admissions from Depot during period from 1-1-1918 to 31-1-1918 :- 41.

Discharged to lines(Depot) during period from 1-1-1918 to 31-1-1918 :- 45.

The average period of treatment for these cases was, 5 days.

M.T. HUT. Numbers received treatment for the month of January 1918 are as follows:-

<u>Washed out.</u>	<u>Sealed up.</u>	
705.	30.	<u>Total 735.</u>

VENERAL DISEASE.

Number of V.D. cases transferred to ~~the~~ Lst A.D.H. Bulford for the month of January is as follows:- 70. which gives an average of 1. case in every 1465. on Daily Ration Strength of Depot for period from 1-1-1918 to 31-1-1918.

Of the 70 cases transferred to Bulford, the localities in which Disease is stated to have been contracted are as follows:-

<u>LONDON.</u>	<u>ELSWHERE IN U/K.</u>	<u>OUTSIDE U/K.</u>	
50.	18.	2.	<u>Total. 70.</u>

CONTINUED.

DRESSING DEPARTMENT.

During the period from 1-1-1918 to 31-1-1918. 591 cases received dressings, 273 were healed and transferred to "B" Group.

MASSAGE DEPARTMENT.

From 1-1-1918 to 31-1-1918, 295 men received Massage Treatment. 165 were classified to a higher category, 78 were boarded and 52 transferred for Remedial Gymnastics.



*McKenzie*  
.....Major.  
S.M.O., No.3 Command Depot., A.I.F.

471  
Record of Dental Work of 14-5  
N<sup>o</sup>. 3 Command Depot:  
for month of January 1918

Completions	983
Fillings	1845
Extractions	617
Dentures	558
Repaired Plates	155
Gingivitis	189.

N<sup>o</sup>. of dental units working  
for the period 7.

Work was well up to standard.  
Gingivitis cases responding well to  
treatment

W. Hayley Major S.D.O.  
A.A.W.C.