

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

Ordnance

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

**Title: Assistant Director Ordnance**  
**Services, 2nd ANZAC Corps**

August 1916



AWM4-2/2/1

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2.

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
	11/8/4		Took up appointment of ADOS, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anzac DA + QMG, approved of my suggestions of a draft order re trench and area stores.	mm
	12/8/16		Visited 2 derelict camps and found over 100 tents, tent bottoms etc, and told 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Division to investigate and report.	
			Visited baths and laundry at Sully with DADOS, 5 <sup>th</sup> A. Divn. Suggested heavy repairs should be undertaken to DADOS of Division, who is taking matter in hand	mm
			Visited DADOS, 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust Division + went with him to visit baths and laundry at Erquingham. The whole method + execution is most efficient. I saw some condemned garments + could find nothing that could possibly be repaired.	
	13/8/16		Visited H.Q. N.Z. Division + enquired into complaint re new pattern smasher hat, the shape is wrong - brim too wide - material too wide. Reported the matter to the Army	mm

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	13/8/16		Bought material at Merville for 100 flags, for marking out ground + arranged for 100 poles for same from Forest Control Office.	AM
	14/8/16		Visited 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust Division - their Salvage Scheme not yet completed	
	14/8/16		Visited Ordnance Officer, looks Troops, his work seems to be running smoothly + efficiently	
	14/8/16		Went to Merville + Hazebrouck to buy brass hinges, unable to obtain sizes required.	
	15/8/16		Visited railhead at Bac St Maur - a Sergeant is in charge + everything is working smoothly, apparently.	
	15/8/16		I looked for sites for looks Salvage Dump in case of an advance. There is about an acre of land close to Bac St Maur station, which suggests be used, but no roofed accommodation is available there. I could find no suitable place at Estaires Station.	AM

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	16/8/16		<p>Visited NZ Division, saw Dump there - Division leaving Armentieres 18/8.</p> <p>Saw DADOS, 51<sup>st</sup> Division - gave him instructions re taking over of stores from N.Z. Division.</p>	from
	14/8/16		<p>Visited DADOS + HQ 18<sup>th</sup> Division - they have no Salvage Scheme - (in case of an advance) too late for them to prepare one.</p> <p>Sailly Laundry - (a) Ground Sheets 'U' for use as aprons - I arranged for their issue from DADOS, 51<sup>st</sup> Division.</p> <p>(b) Thigh Gum Boots - I instructed DADOS to try &amp; buy <sup>locally</sup> - first letting me know price.</p> <p>(c) There is still some congestion of underclothing. I arranged for 1 lorry load to be taken to Erquinghem laundry.</p>	from
	18/8/16		<p>Visited Ammunition Railhead.</p> <p>Visited Supply Railhead for Armentieres, (Division) everything seems to be working smoothly.</p>	

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	18/8/16		Visited Salvage Coy, 18 <sup>th</sup> Division - Croix du Bac - They carry out regular visits to farms & such places - so as to collect any derelict stores.	HAM
	19/8/16		Visited laundry 51 <sup>st</sup> Division - Armentieres - They have just taken over from NZ Division - place is well run but number of employees seems excessive. The S.S.O of Division who is in charge is going onto this.	
	19/8/16		Visited H.Q. 51 <sup>st</sup> Divn - They run their Ordnance Services on the same principle as if the Division was on the Move, i.e. Ordnance delivered to refilling points, where units draw.	
	19/8/16		Visited SADO, 51 <sup>st</sup> Divn - he is settling down in his new dump. There seems to be a consensus of opinion, that, it would be a sound thing, if a small stock of Officers Clothing, could be kept at a central place where all Officers, could come & purchase it.	HAM

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	20 8 16		<p>Visited 5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Division - examined captured German, restorator. Met: Brig. Gen. Howel-Jones, Works H.A; he informs me that his 6" Howitzers are in a shabby state.</p>	
	21 8 16		<p>Visited DADOS, 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 34<sup>th</sup> Divns - latter's name Mansdale - 34<sup>th</sup> Divns just settling in. Visited Works Workshops - they require roads there - I.O.M will give me quantity of timber required &amp; I will arrange to get it from Forest Control, Officers. Later saw C.R.C. who prefers to build Corduroy roads himself for the shops but for the 00 Corps Troop he will widen the high road &amp; build a platform in lieu.</p>	etc
	22 8 16		<p>Visited Craunghem laundry with D.D.M.S. - I pointed out necessity for economy in staff - The place seems very efficiently run as regards the work done, but I fancy reduction in staff - can be made. I arranged for provision of brushes scrubbing, sabots &amp; ground sheets. Lieut Deniston joined as Works Salvage Officer, yesterday evening I explained position of scheme to him. Took him to see the running of</p>	
			<p>5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Salvage Dump - to-day.</p>	

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# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	23/8/16.		1) Arranged for I.O.M. to inspect guns of the 34 <sup>th</sup> Division - to-morrow.	
	23/8/14		2) Visited 5 <sup>th</sup> Aust Divn & listed differentials of extraction of culam SAA (RL & KN) in a Lewis gun, no differentials discovered - altho' rims of ammunition complained of appeared too thick to the eye	
	23/8/14		3) Saw C.O. of a m.g. Coy re necessity for muzzles in front firing he reported that they were not essential <sup>in addition to</sup> <del>to</del> cleats traversing & elevating; however Major Charters states they are & is sending me in a written report	JMM
	24/8/16.		1) Held conference of DAD'S 05.00. to 7.00. - discussed several points - more especially Salvage.	
	24/8/16.		2) Visited Sailly Baths & laundry - they have no wringers, centrifugal or washing machines - 88 women employed - no sewing machines for repairs.	
	24/8/16.		3) Visited Estaines baths & laundry - they are not open yet - 2 Engineers required.	JMM

P.T.O.

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	25 8 16		<p>1. Spokes SA, QMG &amp; DDMs, re baths &amp; laundries. SA &amp; QMG will bring up at Army Conference on 28<sup>th</sup> the necessity of a competent laundry engineer being obtained to advise on machinery etc &amp; economical working.</p> <p>2. Visited Ammun Dumps of all natures of DAC, 5<sup>th</sup> Aust Division - nothing very noteworthy there.</p> <p>3. Visited Bomb Store, 5<sup>th</sup> Aust Divn - struck me as being <del>unnecessary</del> unnecessarily large stores - reported to SA &amp; QMG.</p>	
	26 8 16		<p>Went round Corks Area looking for best sites for Corks Dumps in case of an advance - At first sight Divisional Baths are the places - but the question of excessive rent comes in. - One wants plenty of floor space, for sorting, a sound roof, plenty of outside space for vehicles - a good road &amp; proximity to railway.</p>	
	27 8 16		<p>1. Visited DADOS - 34<sup>th</sup> &amp; 51<sup>st</sup> Divisions - both are on the move.</p> <p>2. Selected best site for 1 Corks Dump in event of an advance - "Blus" Factory Skt 36 - B. 30. c. y. 10 - Has a siding &amp; a large bottom storey for stores - &amp; parking ground for vehicles outside.</p>	



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~~INSTRUCTIONS~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	28/6/16		<p>1. Visited Cooks Workshops - roads nearly completed - work well in hand. - C.O. will provide huts for 45 men - if he can obtain them. Instructed S.O.M. to draw up Fire Orders - provide more packs - also to get fire extinguishers.</p> <p>2. Visited CO. Cooks Troop - his sanitation arrangements seem excellent.</p> <p>3. Present at Bombing Practice etc at Wisques - 2 noteworthy points.</p> <p>(1). 2" T.M. bombs with Newton Fuse is perfect for destruction of <sup>works.</sup></p> <p>(2). To obtain a direct hit on a hostile trench with any form of bomb apparently extremely difficult.</p>	
	29/8/16		<p>1. Visited 36" Dye Baths &amp; Laundry at Neuve Eglise with S.O.M.s &amp; noted following points:</p> <p>a. all the accommodation is tents huts</p> <p>b. The men undress &amp; dress in same room every chance therefore of picking up lice on their clean clothing</p>	

8353 Wt. W2544/1454 700,000 5/1/16 J.B. & L. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

Salvage

Jan

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	29	8.16	<p>(c) Coal consumption is very small due to plant having been provided actually for laundry &amp; bath purposes &amp; not adopted from originally intended for other work.</p> <p>(d) Womens wages only 3 francs a day, with us it is 4</p> <p>2 Understood from SA &amp; QMG that is was decided at Army Conference to issue 4000 hrs of Gum Boots per Division for Winter &amp; that each man was to get daily a clean pair of socks &amp; also saw dust for drying his boots.</p> <p>The additional washing of 49000 hrs of socks per week will be extremely difficult</p>	
	30	8.16	<p>1 Sent by SA &amp; QMG with DDMs to get facts re necessity of machinery etc in laundries in Lorkos Area.</p> <p><u>Recommended</u></p> <p>(a) 1 Washing machine at each laundry will save wages of 15 to 25 women.</p>	

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	30 8 16		(6) 1 centrifugal wringing machine at Sully + 4 sewing machines. Drying there at present unsatisfactory owing to mangles leaving too much water in the garments.	Am
	31 8 16		1 Visited Army Workshops - Hazebrouck - saw experimental 6" T.M. 2 Conference of D.A.S.O.S. 3 Wired Army to ask whether Gum Boots, + Socks for Winter issues could now be demanded. - Army replied notification will be given when demands are to be forwarded. 4 Gave D.A. & Army memorandum on Boots Laundries, strongly recommending provision of a centrifugal machine at Sully.	Am