

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

Ordnance

Item number: 2/2/10

Title: Assistant Director Ordnance
Services, 2nd ANZAC Corps

May 1917



AWM4-2/2/10

WAR DIARY

Army Form O. 2118.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1/5/1917.		1. Visited Dranoutre dump, Buckets of water & sand now sufficient, - sorting is complete there. 2. Romarin, - more buckets still required. Informed Rabot. 3. Le Don, The Stokes Mortar, grenades hand & rifle, also S.A.A. still kept & issued from here. 4. Visited Pont d'Ashelles, The Light Workshop is running there now.	Jm
	2/5/1917.		1. Visited D.A.D.O.S. 57th Division. 2. Visited Salvage Dump, 3rd Australian Division, Very well run.	Jm
	3/5/1917.		1. Conference of D.A.D.O.S. 2. Visited Hazebrouck workshops about extractors for Lewis M.Guns.	Jm
	4/5/1917.		1. General Routine.	Jm
	5/5/1917.		1. General Routine.	Jm
	6/5/1917.		1. Visited N.Z. Divl. Ammunition Refill point & Bomb Store. No harm done by last nights shelling. I arranged for more fire buckets to be supplied by Rabot. 2. Visited 23rd Ordnance Light Workshop, 5 or 6 shells within 800 yards last night, No harm done.	Jm
	7/5/1917.		1. Visited D.A.D.O.S. 3rd Australian Division. Went through outstanding indents, Machine gun parts, soap, soda & Australian Breeches, only real shortages.	Jm
	8/5/1917.		1. Went to D.D.O.S. Conference. (a) Instructed to hasten return to Base of all Winter Clothing. (b) Make out a circular to be sent to Divisions when under orders to move, warning them to leave Trench Stores behind them. (c) A gun park (Army) will be formed at Sheet 37.R.7.a.O.S. (d) Yukon packs can be indented for at once.	Jm
	9/5/1917.		1. Visited Brigade Bomb Stores in Ploegstreet Wood. Well cared for, kept and arranged. 2. The 3rd Australian Division have not started their Salvage dumps in Ploegstreet yet. 3. Visited New Zealand Bomb Stores at "The Shrine", also T.7.d.3.4, & St Quintine Cabaret. At last named place, large quantity of cooking is done, with men sleeping in the same room, with the bombs, No closed lanterns. Reported to "Q". 4. Visited Salvage dumps of New Zealand Division at "The Shrine", also the 8 near Wulverghem. They are all already in use.	Jm
	10/5/1917.		1. Held Conference of D.A.D.O.S. Routine work only dealt with.	Jm
	11/5/1917.		1. Visited sites of Salvage dumps at Kennebik. Not yet formed. 2. Inspected advanced Divisional Bomb Store of 25th Division. It is situated in good dug-outs, well sorted, & cared for.	Jm
	12/5/1917.		1. Visited La Greche. Arranged for 30, 30' X 30' tarpaulins to be handed over to G.E. 2. Discussed question of Gun Park & method of issue with D.A.D.O.S. Came to the conclusion that best method is to hold small stocks at workshops which will be issued for repairing guns brought in. All other parts to be demanded by D.A.D.O.S. from Park.	Jm

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	12/5/17		<i>Leah's Routine</i>	
	13/5/1917.	14	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visited D.A.D.O.S. 3rd Australian Division. He agrees best method for issue of gun parts from gun park is to give I.O.M. a small stock of common spare parts. All others to be obtained by D.A.D.O.S., from gun park. One lorry per Division to be fitted for gun haulage (Field Gun) & to be stationed at Park, to make a daily journey to the Division with parts demanded. 2. Informed C.E. 14. 30' x 30' tarpaulins available at La Creche. Balance on Friday. 	
	15/5/1917.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conference - D.D.O.S. Subject. Army Gun Park. - Method of issue etc. 	
	16/5/1917.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visited Ammunition Refill point, 25th Division. 2" T.M. bombs there, as well as gun ammunition. Reported to "Q". 	
	17/5/1917.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Held Conference of D.A.Ds.O.S. & Salvage Officers. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Explained method of issues from gun park. (b) Went through Corps Salvage Scheme. Salvage Officers to arrange for accommodation for all dumps & dug-outs at advanced dumps. Personnel to be placed at dumps at once. 2. Corps Salvage Scheme distributed to all concerned. 3. Very busy with tentage arrangements. 	
	18/5/1917		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visited Ammunition Refilling Point, 3rd Australian Division at Trois Tilleuls. It is in progress of moving. Very little ammunition there. Large quantity of fired cases, awaiting removal. 2. Visited bomb stores at Nieppe. Good cellars. A little damp. Suggest moving smoke bombs, flares, etc. into a separate cellar. Reported to "Q". 	
	19/5/1917		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General Routine. 	
	20/5/1917.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visited 23rd Ord. L. Workshops. Work is well in hand. Am trying to get dug-out built. 2. Visited Rabot. Only heavy shell left there now. 	
	21/5/1917.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suggested to 'Q' that Camp Kettles, & butchers implements will be required at Reinforcement Camp. 'Q' decided not. They must be found by Divisions. 2. Saw suggested site for new Light Workshop & reported requirements to 'Q'. 3. Informed Army that petrol tins will do better than canvas bags. 	
	22/5/1917.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visited La Creche. No. 106 fuzes yet being sent up with 4.5" or any other nature of shell. 2. The only A.S.P. that has ammunition now, is 25th & this is being sent up to the guns. 3. Visited R.O.O. at Steenwerck. N.Z. & 3rd Aust. Divns. have cleared nearly all winter clothing except capes, gum boots, braziers & stoves. 25th Divn: still behind with blankets etc. from transport difficulties. 4. Saw D.A.D.O.S., N.Z. Divn. Trouble with rifle mechanisms again (2" T.M.) due to using 3rd charge. 20 gone in one week. Hastened from Base. 5. D.D.O.S., L. of C. called. Discussed Salvage. 	

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	23/5/17.		1. Extremely busy arranging excess issues of all kinds.	
	24/5/17.		2. Visited Gun Park. Stores not yet arrived. 1. Visited Army Sniping School. Saw Capt. Dunswater re Yukon Pack pattern being supplied is quite useful but modifications desirable if possible. Wrote Army asking for alteration in design of future consignments, & to Divisions suggesting they should alter packs if they think it desirable.	
	25/5/17.		1. Visited 25th Divisional Refilling point Salvage Dump. The dump is now being used. 2. Visited Duke of Connaught siding. The O.O. there is under the Army & the Corps is not responsible for the Ammunition until O.O. issues it from the train to tram trucks etc. I pointed out to O.O. that he should make fire appliances at once. 3. The N.Z. Laundry at Nieppe is running but shell have been falling near it & the women are rather scared. 4. 3rd Aust. Division Refilling point Salvge Dump is not yet running. Division state will be running in a few days. 5. A Medium Workshop is being sent to join 15th Light Workshop at Trois Arbres. The Reserve Salvage Dump of Reserve Division will also be there. 6. I found O.O. Corps Troops. had made an overissue of tents to R.A. I instructed Staff Captain R.A. to return 115 tents by Monday.	
	26/5/17.		1. Spoke to 'G' re 8½" (the long rod) for No.23 Grenade. Major Pope after phoning to 'G' of the Army, informed me that I was to take no action as the Army do not much approve of the long rod. 2. Visited R.E. Workshops, Hazebrouck & suggested that they should continue with the manufacture of the 8½" (long) rod for No.23 Grenade, in case demand came later. 3. Visited Reinforcement Camp. Commandant thinks 100 latrine buckets should be sufficient. He can improvise rest from biscuit tins, oil drums, etc.	
	27/5/17.		1. Visited Dranoutre dump. It is gradually being emptied. Nothing more being sent there. 2. Saw 15" Howr. Ammunition. It is well protected. 3. D.D.O.S., stated in repponse to wire for 150 tents that he would give us 200.	
	28/5/17.		1. Visited all three Workshop sites. No.15 L. states not sufficient room. He has about 2½ times as much as No.30 Workshop. 2. Sent Yukon Pack, 3 bars, to Capt. Dunwater to show Army. 3. Fetched Sgt. Donald A.O.C. from 38th Division. He is to help O.O. Corps Troops.	
	29/5/17.		1. General Routine.	
	30/5/17.		1. Conference at Army. (a) D.O.Os. should not go to Calais without D.D.O.S.' permission.	

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	30/5/17 Contd.		<p>1. (b) Special fire precautions. Ammunition in forward positions due to dry weather. Ditto O.Os. dumps.</p> <p>(c) D.D.O.S., wishes A.D.O.S.' to report any Labour Coys. arriving without tentage.</p> <p>(d) Water tins will shortly be supplied from Base. 4,000 coming to each Corps to start with.</p> <p>(e) Impress on D.O.Os. necessity of not building up reserves of gun parts.</p>	<i>tu</i>
	31/5/17.		<p>1. Held Conference of D.A.D.O.S.,</p> <p>(a) Warned them about fire precautions.</p> <p>(b) Outstanding spare parts for M. & Lewis Guns. Position has improved.</p> <p>(c) Gun Park now making issues.</p>	<i>tu</i>

[Signature]
 Lt Colonel
 A.D.O.S. 2nd. A.N.Z.A. CORPS
 1-6-17