

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

Ordnance

**Item number:** 2/2/12

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

July 1917



AWM4-2/2/12

# WAR DIARY

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1/7/17.		Corps Routine.	
	2/7/17.		Corps Routine.	
	3/7/17.		Received orders from 2nd Army to remove No.15 (L) & No.4 (M) Workshops to Sheet 36 A.29.b.8.8. At present site, work is being interfered with by enemy shell fire. Move completed.	
	4/7/17.		Visit of His Majesty King George V of England - everything went off all right.	
	5/7/17.		Corps Routine.	
	6/7/17.		Corps Routine.	
	7/7/17.		Corps Routine.	
	8/7/17.		Corps Routine.	
	9/7/17.		Lieut: Colonel H.W.Man D.S.O., A.O.D., returned from leave of absence.	
	10/7/17.		1. Enquired at Hazebrouck, Wizernes, & Arques for empty building suitable for a Corps Laundry. Found nothing.	
	11/7/17.		1. Visited dumps of D.A.Ds.O.S., 3rd Australian Division & 4th Australian Division. No serious deficiencies except for clothing. 2. Visited Nos. 4, 15, & 23 Ord. Workshops. Work very light now. There is confusion over outstanding guns & carriages for 18-pdrs. etc. from No. 23 Workshops. I.O.M. would have a carriage from one unit awaiting a gun from Base & a gun from another unit awaiting a carriage. He made one complete 'S' piece without waiting for receipt from Base. This happened many times & matter is difficult to unravel.	
	12/7/17.		1. Conference of D.A.Ds.O.S., Checked 18-pdr. & 4.5" Hows. still due. 2. Made out position as regards Trench Mortars, for the Army. 3. Visited Wizernes & St. Omer searching for a Corps Laundry. No success.	
	13/7/17.		1. Took Lt.Colonel Roddam & C.S.O. round Corps Salvage dumps. Lt.Colonel Roddam will take over the duties of C.S.O. from tomorrow. 2. Selected a new site for Main Corps dump, along side Salvage dump of Right Divisional Sector dump. 3. Visited all D.A.Ds.O.S. & drew up answer to D.D.O.S. on short comings of Lewis Gun magazines.	
	14/7/17.		1. Moved office to Fletre last night. Spent today settling in. We have been shelled & bombed out of Bailleul.	
	15/7/17.		1. Corps Routine.	
	16/7/17.		1. Visited Gun Ammunition refilling point Left Division, near Wulverghem. Stacks of ammunition in open. No skidding or traverses, insufficient tarpaulins, no fire buckets. Dump frequently shelled. Reported to 'Q'. 2. Visited Divisional Grenade store at Neuve Eglise Kennel's Road. Insufficient water appliances. Reported 'Q'.	
	17/7/17.		1. I inspected Left Sector Gun Ammunition dump at Dranoutre. Shelters require walls. Reported to 'Q'.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	17/7/17.		Continued.	
			2. Inspected Souvenir Grenade dump. (Left sector). Very well looked after.	
			3. Visited Corps Bomb store at Dranoutre. Found signs of exudation in 2" T.M. bombs. Informed I.O.O.	
	18/7/17.		1. Visited Romarin Ammunition refilling dump. Too much ammunition there. (70 to 80,000 rounds) Reported to 'Q'.	
			2. Visited Campar (Ploegsteert) & Nieppe. Former nearly empty now - latter quite empty. All at Douleur.	
	19/7/17.		1. Visited Palmer Baths with A.Q.M.G., - A large stock of dirty clothing is there, and there appears to be no likelihood of coping with same. Directed Officer i/c Baths to disinfect the clothes, sack them and return to Base.	
	20/7/17.		1. Visited Right Sector Grenade dump, near Douleur. There is a large quantity of stuff there. More buckets & pumps required. Smoke munitions, rockets etc. should be separate from other explosives. Reported to 'Q'.	
	21/7/17.		2. Very busy trying to adjust discrepancies in claims for Captured Trophies. 1. Visited Corps School & inspected bomb store. 1 Small iron shed completed. Another is being erected. I suggested a traverse between them & a separate store for detonators.	
	22/7/17.		1. Very busy squaring up claims for trophies. Finished all except 3.	
	23/7/17.		1. Corps Routine.	
	24/7/17.		1. D.D.O.S., held conference of A.Ds.O.S.,	
	25/7/17.		1. D.A. & Q.M.G. wishes A.Q.M.G. & myself to standardise bathing arrangements in the Corps. 2. Visited (a) Nieppe (N.Z.). (b) Palmers & (c) Dranoutre Baths & Laundry, with A.Q.M.G. (a) The bathing arrangements are not satisfactory. Many dress & undress in the same room & handle their clean clothing before they have had a bath. (b) will be very satisfactory when receiving properly running properly. (rebuilding not complete yet.) (c) Not in our Corps Area, but organization does not seem good.	
	26/7/17.		1. Conference of D.A.Ds.O.S. suggested issue of all new S.D. clothing through Divisional Baths D.A.D.O.S., 4th Australian Division will try experiment of issuing all S.D. clothing from his dump to individuals. 2. Col. Gardiner authorized issue of the 6 Prismatic Compasses held for Infantry Intelligence O.Ps. to meet demands as they are now used for O.Ps. 3. Visited (a) Outtersteen, (b) Steenwerck, & (c) Bailleul Baths.	
			A6945 Wt. W11422/M1160 350,000 12/16 D.D. & I. Forms/C/2118/14.	(Continued)

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	26/7/17.		3. (Continued). <i>at</i> (a) - Men undress and dress in same room. This is wrong, but a rearrangement without structural alteration would be simple <del>at both baths.</del> (b) Men pass through dressing room to reach the bathroom. Dressing room should be turned into a bathroom & men should dress in present bathroom.	
	27/7/17.		1. Inspected explosives on charge of 9th Australian Fld Coy. R.E. (3rd Aust. Divn:) All good. Saw one box wet gun-cotton which should be used up first. Still damp but flaking. 2. Staff Officer from Army came to see me about claims from Divisions for trophies.	
	28/7/17.		1. Visited St. Omer & tried to buy card index forms, but failed. 2. Saw Lt. Colonel Fernyhough from G.H.Q. & discussed question of claims for trophies. 3. Saw A.D.O.S., 1st Anzac. They have had no shortage of any sort of Australian pattern clothing.	
	29/7/17.		1. Saw D.O.S., D.D.O.S., North, and Col. Wrigly from W.O. It is the intention to train Colonial Officers for appointments, ultimately as A.D.S.O.S., etc.	
	30/7/17.		1. Inspected explosives on charge of 11th Australian Field Coy. R.E. Condemned a few small lots in open boxes. Balance appears serviceable.	
	31/7/17.		1. Finished inspection of explosives of 3rd Field Coys. R.E. of 3rd Australian Division & also one Coy of 4th Australian Division. Explosives in good order except for one or two remnants which I directed should be used up for instruction.	
<i>AWM</i> was, Lt Colonel $\frac{1}{5}$ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anzac $\frac{1}{17}$ .				