

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

Ordnance

Item number: 2/4/25

Title: Deputy Assistant Director Ordnance
Services, 1st Australian Division

August 1917



AWM4-2/4/25

Original

D.A.D.O.S.
1st AUSTRALIAN
DIVISION.
No.
Date

SHEET 1 Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

ORDNANCE
1st Aust. Division.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., I and II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date 1917	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	VOLUME 14	Remarks and references to Appendices
Wallon-Bappel	Aug 1 st	-	Forwarded to A.D.O.S. - 1 st Anzac a complete list showing in detail all local purchases made since arriving in France - April 1916.		
"			After 3 months out of the line units continue to demand equipment lost in action, this plainly shows that sufficient pains are not taken when units come out of the line to go thoroughly through their equipment and demand early all stores required to complete establishment.		
"	Aug 2 nd	-	3 rd Inf. Bde. have now moved into a training area 20 miles from our dumps, this will necessitate sending all urgent stores down to them per Lorry.		
"	Aug 3 rd	-	Sent lorries to 2 nd and 3 rd Inf. Bdes. with clothing, boots etc, for distribution to their units.		
"	Aug 4 th	-	Large demands for boots ankle being received, fortunately we had 1100 pps. in stocks Base having duplicated our last week's demand, can so are able to satisfy units' indents at once.		
"	Aug 5 th	-	4 men from 6 th Inf. Battalion reported here for duty in connection with laundry scheme which entails disinfecting all dirty underclothing here and sending it to Dunkirk per Lorry to be washed. Received from Calais Base 19 boxes Stoves and 6 Tons General Stores.		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Wallon - Cappel	Aug. 6 th	-	Horse Gas Respirators recalled from all Inf. units and sent forward to our Divisional Artillery, who are in the forward area. 1500 P.H. Helmets, 500 Box Respirators and 3 Tons clothing received from Base.	
"	Aug. 7 th	-	Collected 12 Tons gravel from Payelleville Pit's Arques for maintenance of road leading into Dump. Received Movement Orders, Division moving into Berquin area.	
"	" 8 th	-	W.I. Walker, groups' storemen with stores leave on 2 lorries to take over Ordnance Dump and Bille's being vacated by Ordnance - 4 th Aust. Div. Railhead closes at Ebblinghem to-day and opens at Caestre to-morrow.	
Pieux Berquin	" 9 th	-	Head Office and balance of Ordnance Dump, and Div. Clothing Officer's stores moved to Pieux-Berquin. - 6 Tons General Stores received from new Railhead. The dump and groups offices are located in the school in the main square, the Head Office being about 150 yards down the main street, the space allotted in the school will rather cramp the groups and unless units draw their stores frequently will is crowd the place out, this will necessitate sending the stores out to units per lorry	
"	" 10 th		Truck 33437 with R.E. Body for 3 rd Field Coy. despatched from Calain Base - 6 th inst. not yet to hand, am making enquiries through R.O.O. to Caestre. Railhead changed from Caestre to Steenwerck.	

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SHEET 3.

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Pietermaritzburg	Aug. 11 th	-	11 Tons S.D. clothing, oils, grease and 26 wheels received from Base. Clothing principally Imperial Pattern, Australian Pattern not being available.	
"	" 12 th	-	Div. Headquarters calling for reports regarding poor quality of Aust. Pattern boots ankle; much difference of opinion, caused probably by there being so many different makers. Have commenced a trial by 2 nd Inf. Bde. to find out if any particular brand or make of boots is at fault. All boots Aust. Patt. issued to these units will in future be marked and the date of issue and maker's name noted, they will be inspected periodically and reported on.	
"	" 13 th	-	6 Tons Horseshoes and Detail Stores received from Base. 3 rd Aust. L.T.M. BTY. submit indent for 5-3" Stokes mortar Barrels Mx2, and Stands, all demanded to replace unserviceable. Before indent can be passed for supply these mortars will have to be condemned by I.O.M.	
"	" 14 th	-	Stokes mortar Barrels and Stands collected from 3 rd Aust. L.T.M. BTY and taken to I.O.M. Received Wagon R.E. Body for 3 rd Field Coy from Base of which despatch was advised 8 days ago. A quantity of Paint - Stone colour - urgently required by Division for painting steel helmets.	

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Puez. Berquin	Aug 14 th	(contd)	Have notified all Battalions to submit indents at once to complete to 4 Rifles Telescopic sighted, each, also to build up to 1000 Dummy cast-ridges and 8 each of Nos. 10 and 25 Dummy Grenades.	
" "	Aug. 15 th	-	1 st Aust. Divnl. Artillery move from 18 th Division to 14 th Division consequent on 18 th moving back. Demanded an additional 26 Lamps signalling Lucas Pattern to be distributed on a scale of 2 per Battalion. This issue will complete all Battalions to 4 each.	
" "	Aug. 16 th	-	Purchased 100 lbs. Paint for Steel Helmets.	
" "	Aug 17 th	-	7 Tons of General stores including Horseshoes, Oils, Grease, and technical stores received from Base. Div. Salvage Coy sent 3 men for duty on our Salvage Dump to sort and prepare all old stores for direct return to Base.	
" "	" 18 th	-	1600 Water Tins received from Base to be issued to replace petrol tins now in possession of Battalions. Demanded Lewis Gun for 7 th Inf. Bn. to replace one condemned for wear by A.I.A. - 1 st Anzac.	
" "	" 19 th	-	6 Tons Clothing, Boots and Gundry received from Base, only 30% of the jackets S.D. demanded have been sent.	

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5th SHEET.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Penzance	Aug. 20 th		Sent clothing, boots etc per lorry to Pioneer Bn, who are at present located at Lumbres.	
"	" 21 st		Demanded 1 book's cart for Field boys to be issued to replace Wagons Limb, A.S. now in possession. Sent Pte. Fraser to Reninghelst as additional storeman at our Divnl. Artillery Dump.	
"	" 22 nd		Distributed Water Tins on the scale of 100 per Bn and 50 per M.G. Coy. Demanded 52 Aim correctors for use of Battalions. Large demands being received from units for Anti-Gas Appliances due to more thorough inspections by Gas N.C.Os. Units called upon to return all surplus underclothing held over and above the scale of 2 pps. Socks, 1 shirt and 1 pr. Drawers per man.	
"	" 23 rd		Div. Headquarters have instructed all units to certify that all indents have been submitted to complete to establishment not later than 25 th inst. Forwarded Battalions indents for Telescopic sighted Rifles to 2 nd Army School of Sniping, in all 28 are required to complete to a scale of 4 per Bn.	
"	" 24 th		8 Tons General Stores received from Base including Stable Equipment, Picketing gear, Oils Grease and Lubbers, also 12 Anti-Aircraft lights for Lewis Guns.	

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6TH SHEET. Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Pine-Point	Aug 25 th	-	Commencing to-morrow all Brigade Units' indents must be endorsed by Staff Captain, Bde. Headquarters, this is a temporary arrangement to enable the various Bde staffs to see for themselves to what extent their units demand actual requirements.	
"	" 26 th	-	Travelling kitchen for 7 th Inf. Battalion received from Base. Received from Base 12 tons service Dress clothing, Boots Ankle, Grinders and a large quantity of miscellaneous detail stores including a Lewis Gun for 7 th Inf. Bn.	
"	" 27 th	-	Received from Base 342 stretchers Amb to be distributed equally between the 3 Field Ambulances of this Division. These have been specially authorised by D.O.B. 1 - 2 nd Army, and are in excess of Mobilisation Store Table requirements. Also received 33 Bicycles of which 17 are to be issued to replace horses now in possession of A.S.C. and M.M. Police, the remainder are to replace unserviceable. In addition received 5 tons of underclothing and necessaries.	
"	" 28 th	-	Received from Base 2 R.E. Limbers and 1 R.E. Body for 3 rd Field Coy and 1 R.E. Limbered Wagon complete for Div. Signal Coy. 1 st Aust Divnl. Artillery moved for Ordnance Services from 14 th Div. to 23 rd Division.	

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7TH SHEET

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Pine-Perquin	Aug 28 th		Demanded 2 Marquee Tents under G.H.Q. Authority for storage of stores when in forward area.	
"	" 29 th		Received from Base a Pontoon Wagon for 2 nd Field Coy collected from 2 nd Army School of Sniping 28 Rifles fitted with telescopic sights, these to be issued to Battalions to complete deficiencies.	
"	" 30 th		5 tons of accoutrements, Oils, Grease and Lubricants received from Base, also 52 Air Bortectors for use of infantry.	
"			Several units urgently requiring Service Dress clothing, especially Breeches D. S. This is due in the first place to Base having recently issued a large quantity of Part Worn clothing which has become totally unserviceable within a very short period and secondly that Base for the past month have not been able to meet my demands in full.	
"	" 31 st		Consequent on the return of surplus underclothing over and above the scale of 2 prs. Socks, 1 shirt and 1 pr. drawers per man, the division have now 24,000 prs of socks 20,000 shirts and 14,000 prs of Drawers in circulation either at Laundry to be washed, with units changing their underclothing or in store awaiting issue.	

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Ordnance
1st Aust. Div.

M. J. M. Major
D. A. D. O. S.

Place Date Hour
 Rome, Republic of Italy

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Summaries of Events and Information
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ORIGINAL

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ORIGINAL

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
 OR
 WAR DIARY

MISSION
 INSTRUCTIONS
 14-24-42

14 SHEET