

AWM4

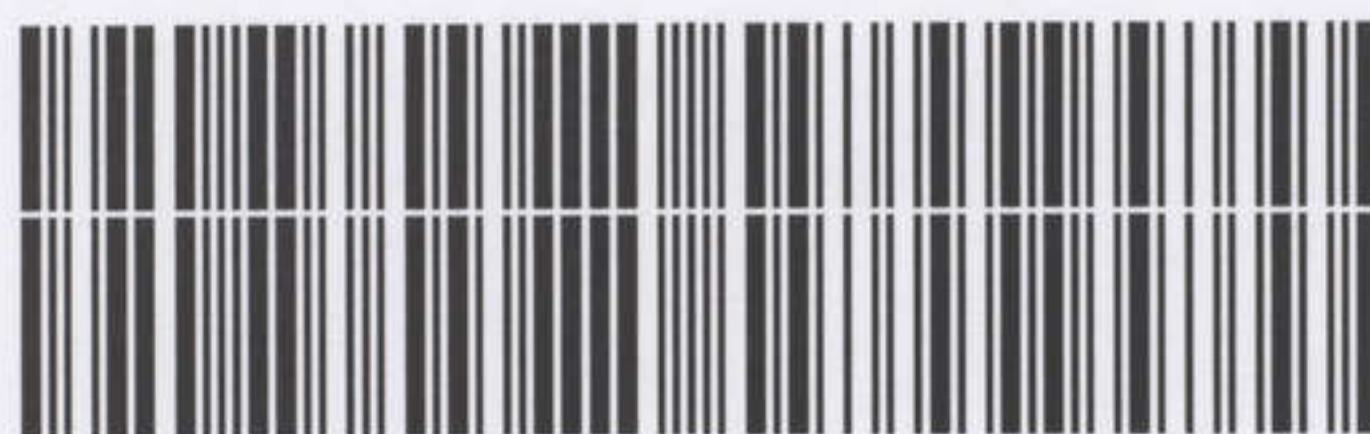
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Miscellaneous (North Russia, Hobart, and groups
returning in 1919)

Item number: 34/8A/1

Title: B Australian Divisional Group

April 1919



AWM4-34/8A/1

CONFIDENTIAL.

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File
2/11

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

"B" AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR

A P R I L 1919

Signature of Officer compiling

E. Raepf G.

Signature of Officer Commanding

E. Raepf G.

Major General
Commanding 5th Australian Division

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARCIN- elle	April			
	1st		<p>"B" Divisional Headquarters (consisting of 2nd and 5th Divisional Headquarters) situated at No. 34, Rue de Charleroi, MARCINELLE, Belgium.</p> <p>Strength return of 5th Australian Division compiled - Strength 589 Officers 7240 O.R.</p> <p>Instructed re Embarkation Quota No. 28 - drawn from 2nd Australian Division due to en-train on 7.4.19 at CHARLEROI issued to 2nd Aust. Div. Group Units.</p> <p>Amalgamation Instructions No. 1 issued.</p>	
	2nd		<p>Amalgamation Instructions No. 2 issued.</p> <p>Amalgamation Instructions No. 3 issued.</p> <p>Allotment for Quota No. 28 (drawn from 2nd Australian Division) leaving Charleroi on 7.4.1919 issued to 2nd Aust. Div. Units.</p> <p>Brig-General A.J. Bessell-Browne, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., 5th Australian Division, left for United Kingdom.</p>	
	3rd		<p>Allotment for Quota No. 35 (drawn from 2nd Australian Division) leaving Charleroi on 10.4.19 issued to 2nd Aust. Div. Units.</p> <p>Quota No. 26, consisting of 1000 all ranks drawn from 5th Australian Division entrained at Charleroi this morning.</p> <p>Brig-General J.C. Robertson, C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C. 2nd Aust. Division left for United Kingdom.</p>	

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WAR DIARY
or

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARCIN-ELLE	April			
	4th		Forwarding instructions to Units (2nd Australian Division) giving procedure to be adopted in preparation of Quotas for demobilisation after departure of Quota 33. B 2 Division is divided into two groups, "W" and "X", "W" Group being controlled by Brig-General E.F. Martin, C.M.G., D.S.O., "X" Group under Brig-General O.F. Phillips, D.S.O. This is done to bring "B" 2 and "B" 5 Divisions into line.	
			To Units (2nd Australian Division) advising that Quota No. 33 will entrain at Charleroi on 14.4.19.	
	5th		Lieut.-Colonel J.H. Hurst, D.A.A.G., "B" Australian Division, left for U.K. D. R. O. 10 to 13 issued to Units.	
			To Units forwarding instructions relative to Cadres of Units. When proposed to send Cadre B of any Unit with Quota, D.H.Q. to be given 3 days' notice.	
			5th Australian Division rear Headquarters moved from Walcourt to Marcinelle.	
	6th		To all Units forwarding copy of letter from Auditor, A.I.F. H.Q. LONDON to the effect that statements of all accounts of Units amalgamated during course of demobilisation be submitted to him as promptly as possible and thus facilitate the clearance of the accounts and officers concerned.	
			Capt. C. H. Harrison, M.C., D.A.A.G., "B" Australian Division left for U. K.	
	7th		To all Units advising that from April 4th, leave will not be granted to men in France when they are within a month of their turn to proceed to England for repatriation.	
			Quota 28 drawn from Units of 2nd Australian Division left for Havre at 10.05.	
			A conference was held at Corps Headquarters at which the following attended. - G.O.C., G. 1. and A.A. & Q.M.G. The matters for discussion were demobilisation and memorials.	

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Place	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARCINELLE	8th	<p>To Units (2nd Australian Division) forwarding instructions for Quota No. 33 due to leave Charleroi on 14-4-19, also allotment of same.</p> <p>A census return was taken of all personnel attached to "B" Australian Division for Demobilisation. Result of census -</p> <p>Officers 1091 W.Os. and Sgts. 1019 Other Ranks 13110.</p>	
	9th	<p>Forwarding to all Units copy of Australian Corps letter re demobilisation of personnel attached to a specific unit belonging to another Unit. Gives instructions.</p> <p>D. R. O. issued to all Units - No. 14 to 15.</p> <p>Brig-General J.C. Stewart, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 14th Australian Infantry Brigade left for United Kingdom to take over command of Weymouth Camp.</p>	
	10th	<p>To Units advising that a meeting of Senior Officers or N.C.O. of Cadre "B" of all Units will be held at the 6th Brigade Cinema Hall, Marcinelle, on Friday 11th April at 2.30 p.m.</p> <p>Quota No. 31 drawn from Units of the 2nd Australian Division entrained at Charleroi this morning en route for Base.</p> <p>Major H. W. Cuming, M.C., D.A.Q.M.G., "B" Australian Division left for Non-Military Employment in United Kingdom.</p> <p>Major J. Bilton assumes duty as D.A.Q.M.G.</p>	
	11th	<p>The A.A. & Q.M.G. (Lieut.-Colonel E.M. Ralph D.S.O.) visited Jeumont workshops and made arrangements for the relief of all personnel attached to rejoin their Units by 15th instant.</p>	
	12th	<p>Strength return as at noon 12th April 1919 ("B" Australian Division) 1031 Officers 11762 Other Ranks</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE-SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARCIN-ELLE	14th		To Units "B" Australian Division issuing instructions to account for differences in Columns 1 and 4 in order to have correct census of A.I.F. in Europe compiled.	
			Divisional Routine Orders 16 to 19 issued to Units.	
			Quota No. 33 drawn from 2nd Australian Div. Group entrained for Havre this morning.	
	15th		Forwarding instructions to Units to have A.I.F. forms 536 (Medical Report) compiled and forwarded to A.D.M.S., "B" Australian Division, in time for correct revision. Gives instructions as to procedure.	
			Forwarding instructions to Units that drivers appointed prior to 11-11-18 may retain such ranks. Drivers appointed after that date to be temporary rank only.	
			Lieut.-Colonel J.L. Whitham, C.M.G., D.S.O. and Lieut.-Col. H.D. Wynter, D.S.O., visited D. H. Q. and discussed plans for the demobilisation of the remainder of the Division.	
	17th		Routine Orders issued to Units.	
			Administrative Instructions No. 1 issued to Units re guards and working parties.	
			Quota No. 36 consisting of 1000 all ranks drawn from 5th Australian Divisional Group entrained at Charleroi for Havre this morning.	
	19th		Strength returns of "B" Australian Division as at noon 19-4-19.	
			803 Officers 9629 Other Ranks.	
	20th		Divisional Routine Orders issued to Units.	
	21st		Quota No. 38 drawn from Units of 2nd Australian Divisional Group entrained for Havre this morning.	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARCIN-ELLE	April			
	22nd		Letter to all Units notifying that Charleroi will be out of bounds to all British Troops from 0900 30-4-19 to 2-5-19 on account of civilian festivals.	
			Lieut.-Colonel. E.M.Ralph, D.S.O., A.A. & Q.M.G. proceeded to Cologne on leave.	
			202 Horses from "B" Australian Division were despatched to Base.	
	23rd		292 Horses from "B" Australian Division were sent to Base.	
	24th		Quota No. 41 drawn from Units of the 5th Australian Divisional Group entrained from Charleroi this morning.	
			The A.A. & Q.M.G. returned from Cologne leave.	
	25th		A conference was held at "B" Divisional Headquarters, Marcinelle, this morning, at which the following attended -	
			Brig-General H. E. ELLIOTT C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M.	
			Brig-General O.F. PHILLIPS D.S.O.	
			Brig-General E.F. MARTIN C.M.G., D.S.O. V.D.	
			Lieut.-Col. C.A. DENNEY D.S.O.	
			Lieut.-Col. C.A. CALLAGHAN D.S.O.	
			Lieut.-Col. N. MARSHALL D.S.O., M.C.	
			D.A.P.M. and Div. Sports Officer.	
			The following matters were discussed	
			(a) Precautionary measures to be taken against possible collisions between Civilian demonstrators and troops of the Division.	
			(b) Amusements, Band Performances etc. to be arranged for May 1st while the town of CHARLEROI is out of bounds to the troops.	
			(c) Final Corps Ceremonial parade, vide Aust. Corps letter 105/34 dated April 22nd, a copy of which is attached hereto.	

WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARGIN- ELLE	27th		<p>Brig-General H. E. Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M. and Brig-General Phillips left for U. K. for demobilisation.</p> <p>Australian Corps ceased to function.</p> <p>Major General E. Tivey, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., took command of "A" and "B" Divisions.</p> <p>Administrative Instructions for closing of "B" Divisional Headquarters issued (copy attached).</p> <p>Instructions in regard to clearing up of detached personnel issued (copy attached).</p>	
	28th		<p>Major General E. Tivey, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., handed over command to Brig-General E. F. Martin, C.M.G., D.S.O., and D.H.Q. ceased to function as such.</p> <p>Part of Division Staff and Clerical Staff were left to do duty under Brig-General E. F. Martin, C.M.G., D.S.O.</p>	
	30th		<p>The Camp Commandant returned all Mobile Stores of D.H.Q. to D.A.D.O.S., Corps Troops.</p>	
			<p>Lieut.-Colonel. A.A. & Q.M.G. <u>"B" Australian Division.</u></p>	

'B' DIVISIONAL GROUP.

AMALGAMATION INSTRUCTIONS No. 1.

1. The 8/15th A.I. Brigade Group consisting of:
 8th/15th Brigade Headquarters
 8th Brigade Battalion
 15th Brigade Battalion
 will move to the 2nd Aust. Divisional area in accordance with the following March Table:

Serial No.	Date	Unit	From	To	
1	Apr. 2nd	8/15 A.I. Bde. H.Q. 8 Bde. Bn.	YVES-GOMEZEE	THY-le-CHATEAU	T-le-C. accommo- dates 25 Offr. 500 O.R.
2	Apr. 3rd	do	THY-le-CHATEAU	MARCINELLE	
3	Apr. 3rd	15th Bde. Bn.	BOUSSU-lez- WALCOURT	THY-le-CHATEAU	
4	Apr. 4th	do	THY-le-CHATEAU	MARCINELLE	

2. A sketch shewing the area in MARCINELLE allotted to the Brigade Group will be forwarded to the 8/15th A.I. Brigade Headquarters on receipt from G.O.C. 2nd Aust. Div. Infantry Group.

3. (a) Billetting parties will be sent to Headquarters 2nd Aust. Div. Infantry Brigade Group MARCINELLE not later than April 1st to take over the accommodation as it is vacated by the 2nd Division troops.
 (b) Billetting parties will also be sent to the staging area.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE.



L. H. H. H.
 Lieut-Colonel,
 General Staff, 'B' Divisional Group.

P.T.O.

Distribution:

8th/15th A.I. Brigade
14th A.I. Brigade
2nd Aust. Div. Infantry Group
2nd Aust. Div. Artillery Group
5th Divisional Artillery
5th Divisional Engineers
5th Machine Gun Bn.
5th Pioneer Battalion
A.D.M.S. 'B' Div. Group
D.A.D.V.S. 'B' Div. Group
D.A.D.O.S. 2nd Aust. Div.
" 5th Aust. Div.
D.A.P.M. 2nd Aust. Div.
No. 2 Aust. M.T. Coy.
No. 3 Aust. M.T. Coy.
Aust. Corps Technical School, JEUMONT
'B' Divl. Train
S.S.O. 'B' Div. Group
'B' Divl. Signal Coy.
Sports Officer 5th Aust. Div.
D.E.O. 5th Aust. Div.
Paymaster 5th Aust. Div.
'B' Div. Reinforcement Line
Belgian Mission
5th A.D.R.E. BEAUMONT
'A' Divisional Group
ord Aust. Div.
Aust. Corps
A.D.C. for G.O.C.
"G"
"A.C."
War Diary
D.A.P.M. 5th Aust. Divn.
Camp Commandant 'B' Div. Group
Town Major MARCINELLE

"B" DIVISIONAL GROUP.

Headquarters,
27th April 1919.

Administrative Instructions.

"B" Divisional Headquarters will cease to function such at 0900 28th April 1919 at which hour the Division passes to the Command of Brig-General E.F. Martin, C.M.G., D.S.O.

2. (a) OFFICERS

The following personnel of "B" Div. Staff will come under the command of Brig-General E.F. Martin, C.M.G., D.S.O. in accordance with Para 1 above.

G. Branch	Major J. BILTON
	" R.V. DIMOND M.C.

A Branch	Capt. R.H. ROBINSON
	Lieut. W.H. ROBERTS

Div. Claims Officers.

B 2 Division	Lieut. S. H. EYLES
B 5 Division	Capt. A. M. COHEN

Courts Martial Officer

Lieut. C. W. MANNING

<u>D.A.P.M.</u>	Lieut. C. J. CROKER
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<u>Paymaster</u>	Lieut. D. McLEOD
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(b) Other Ranks

Clerical Staff

Chief Clerk	S.O.M.S. SKENE M.A.
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"Q" Clerks	Corporal D'ELMAINE
	Private HAWKINS

"A" Clerks	Private LOVETT
	" COUCHMAN

Registry	Corporal CARGILL
	Private INGLIS

Despatch	Private EVANS
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Typists	Private PRETTY
	" MARSHALL

Orderlies	Private AYLING
	" PALMER

3. (a)

The Camp Commandant will despatch all detached Other Ranks excepting the above and officers' batmen to join their units not later than 30th instant.

(b)

D. H. G. personnel will march out with Quota No. 47 on 5th May

P.T.O.

4. All Mobilisation Stores on charge to Camp Commandant will be returned to D.A.D.C.S., Corps Troops, CHATELET not later than 1st May.
5. "B" Divisional Registry will be closed at 0900 28th instant. All correspondence, files &c. will be retained by D.A.A.M.G., "B" Division until May 9th on which date the Camp Commandant, with Corpls. HELMS and SYNNOTT and 2 Other Ranks, will take them to U.K. to hand over to Records Section.
6. Personnel remaining on duty (vide Para 2 above) will be demobilised by Brig-General E.F. Martin, C.M.G., D.S.O.
7. DIVISIONAL FUNDS.

The 5th Divisional Canteen Accounts will be closed forthwith, and all money to credit of same transferred to 5th Divisional Headquarters Trust Account Fund.

The 5th Div. Concert Fund will be dealt with in a similar manner.

The 5th Div. Trust Account and 5th Div. Officers Club Fund will be closed by A.A. & C.M.G. in accordance with General Instructions No. 14, Section "C".

The Camp Commandant will similarly close all accounts operated on by him.

Eric Ralph

Lieut.-Colonel.

A.A. & C.M.G.

"B" Australian Division.

"B" AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

J.A.P.

Divisional Headquarters,
3rd April 1919.

EMBARKATION QUOTA No. 33.

67/120

The following is the provisional allotment for Quota No. 33.
Date of departure will be notified later.

Strict attention will be paid to this office No. 67/55 of
30.3.19.

TABLE "A" - QUOTA No. 33

	Officers	Sergeants and above	Other Ranks	Remarks
Divisional Headquarters	1	1	6	
Divisional Artillery	20	20	225	Including 6 cooks
2nd Div. Sig. Coy.	4	1	11	
4th A. I. Brigade	20	3	55	Including 1 cook
5th A. I. Brigade	5	3	49	Including 1 cook
7th A. I. Brigade	25	10	212	Including 5 cooks
2nd Aust. Pioneers	3	3	42	Including 1 cook
2nd Aust. M. G. Btn.	1	-	9	
A.A.M.C.	1	6	55	Including 2 cooks
D.A.D.V.S.	-	-	3	
Ordnance	-	-	4	
Salvage Coy.	-	-	6	
2nd Aust. Tunnelling Coy.	3	3	23	Including 1 cook
Aust. Vet. Evac. Btn.	-	-	3	
Corps Mtd. Troops	5	7	139	Including 3 cooks
Educational Personnel	1	-	12	
	69	57	854	

P.T.O

Lt. Harrison
Lieut.-Col.
D.A.A.G.
"B" Australian Division.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy	No.		
1	5	C.R.A.	57 - 58 Aust. Vet. Evac. Btn.
6	9	C.R.E. 7th Field Coy. A.E.	59 2nd Aust. Tun. Coy.
10	11	2nd Aust. Div. Sig. Coy.	60 2nd Aust. Div.
12	29	2nd Aust. Inf. Bde. Group (6 Bnch)	Paymaster
30	31	2nd Aust. Pnr. Btn.	O.C. Aust. Comforts
32	36	Aust. M. G. Btn	Camp Cmt. Aust. Corps
37	42	2nd Aust. Div. Train	2nd A.M.T. Coy.
43	46	A.D.M.S.	"G"
47	48	D.A.D.V.S.	Education
49		D.A.D.O.S.	G.O.C.
50		D.A.P.M.	66 War Diary
51		2nd Aust. Div. Salvage Coy.	67 - 69 R.T.O. CHARLEROI
52		Camp Cmt. 2nd A.M.C.	(for information)
53	54	"B" Div. Reinforcement Wing	71 - 74 File
55	56	Aust. Corps Mtd. Troops & Cyclist Btn.	P.T.O

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Units will advise these Headquarters not later than
6 p.m. 5/4/1919, whether they can fill their allotment.

P.T.O.