

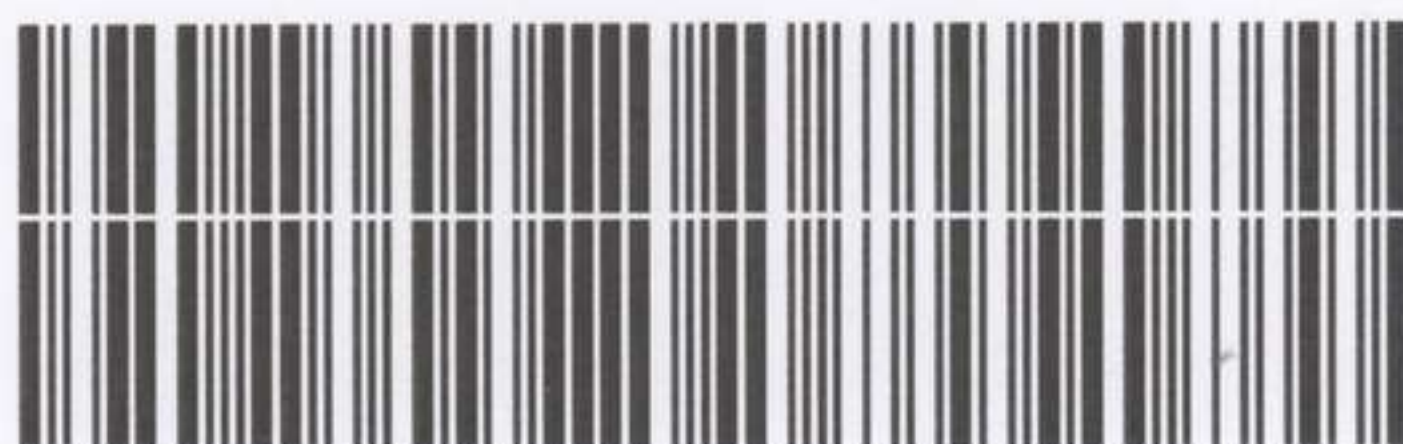
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Bases & Depots

**Item number:** 33/16/1

**Title:** No 1 Australian Command Depot

October 1916



AWM4-33/16/1



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No.1.COMMAND DEPOT A.I.F.

From:- Headquarters,  
Command Depot.

Perham Down.  
16th Nov.1916.

To:- Headquarters,  
A.I.F. Depots in U.K.,  
Tidworth.

REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1916.

77/5/3

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>Other Ranks.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Strength on 30/9/1916.	98.	5213.	5311.
Total arrivals at Depot.	228.	3038	3266.
Total "handled" at Depot.	326.	8251.	8577.

DEPARTURES:

Overseas.	78.	1.	79.
Drafts, Transfers etc., to other Depots and Units.	133.	2093.	2226.
Wool.	14.	1300.	1314.
Wareham.	14.	1456.	1470.
Present strength on 31/10/1916.	111.	3350.	3460.

DEATHS.

There were two deaths during the month from ~~Meningitis~~.

ACCIDENTS.

Nil.

A few cases of men taking fits which were reported, appear to be due to the nearness of the depot to the Trench Mortar Range. The noise, when practice is going on, effects the Shell Shock cases sent here for short convalescence

INSPECTION

The depot is inspected regularly by the Commandant, Adjutant, Senior Medical Officer and all Departmental Officers, and anything found necessary for the comfort of troops receives immediate consideration.

DISCIPLINE.

Attached is a summary of cases disposed of at Orderly Room. The majority being cases of the minor nature, Absent without Leave forms the bulk of offences.



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The general conduct of the Depot is good, considering the numbers passing through and the many indifferent characters. Serious offences are extremely rare.

ADMINISTRATION.

Constant care is exercised and frequent checkings are made to ensure everything is done with the minimum of economy and Departments' Institutes are regularly balanced.

GUARDS.

A permanent Guard has been established composed of "B" Class men. This Guard and all N.C.O's and men employed on regimental police duties are amalgamated, so as to form one company.

It is intended, by having permanent duties for this work, to have a most efficient Guard on hand at all times

TRAINING.

A thorough system of training cannot be undertaken in this depot as the No. 2 Company, comprising Bla and Blb N.C.O's and men are drafted regularly to Wareham, so as to avoid congestion at this end.

A class of selected N.C.O's are being prepared in Physical Training with a view of sending them to Aldershot School to qualify for certificates.

"A" Class men are immediately drafted to Training Units.

Hutments.

Strict attention is paid to cleanliness and hygiene in all huts.

A certain number of Huts had perforce to be set aside for Venereal Cases in the Depot and these are treated temporally as Isolation Huts.

FIRE PICQUETS.

A Fire Picquet is detailed from the Guard Company



3.

and is receiving instruction in the necessary duties.

Filled fire buckets are placed in every hut, to be used in case of emergency.



Lieut. Colonel & Commandant.  
No. 1. Command Depot A.I.F.

WD.



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No.1.COMMAND DEPOT A.I.F.

Perham Down.  
16th Nov.1916.

From:- Provost Officer.  
No.1.Command Depot.

To:- Adjutant.  
No.1.Command Depot.

Undernoted monthly report of work done.

MONTH OF OCTOBER 1916.

Absence without leave.	440.	
Desertion.	2.	
Absent from Parade.	23.	
Falsified Passes.	15.	
Drunk.	19.	
Escaping from Arrest.	8.	
<u>Irregular Conduct.</u>	70.	
Threatening.	3.	
Disobedience.	35.	
Breaking Camp.	35.	
Neglet of duty.	1.	
Improperly Dressed.	3.	
Making false statement.	4.	
Attempting to travel without pass.	7.	
Civil Offences.	2.	
Forgery.	3.	
Assaulting Military Police.	3.	
Resisting Arrest.	11.	
Altered Pay Books.	7.	
Remands for District Court Martial.	45.	<u>Total. 736.</u>



Monthly Return of Men Drafted from No.1 Command Depot.

Month Ending 31.10.16.

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"A" Group Perham.	"B" Group. Rollestone.	"C" Group. Codford .	"D" Group. Codford.	3rd Dvn. Larkhill.	14th Tn. Bn. Fovant.	Weymouth.	Bhurtpore.	R.A.A. Sheerness.	Details.
A. Class 372 Bla. B2b & C. 123 <u>495.</u> ==	A. Class 352. Bla. etc <u>144.</u> <u>496</u> ==	A. Class 229. Bla. etc. <u>122.</u> <u>351.</u> ==	A. Class 258. Bla. etc. <u>21.</u> <u>279.</u> ==	A. Class 30. <u>==</u>	A. Class 12. <u>==</u>	103. <u>==</u>	B2b & C. Class 89. <u>==</u>	2. <u>==</u>	236. <u>==</u>

In addition to the above drafts  
were despatched to Wool and Wareham.

Wool. 13.10.16.  
Wareham. 27.10.16.

Officers  
14.

TOTAL. 2093.

(Signed) J.C. McCaul, Lieut.  
D. O.

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Furlough Department

No 1 Command Depot

Perham Down

Nov 2nd 1916

FROM Officer i/c Furlough  
TO Adjutant

Attached please find summary of work carried out during month ending 31st October 1916.

The figures show a decrease on report furnished last month with the exception of absentees from Furlough & Leave which shows a slight increase; owing to men being granted Furlough from Administrative H.Qrs. London.

Month ending	N.C.Os & men reporting from Hospital	N.C.Os & men reporting from other Depots	N.C.Os & men proceeded on Furlough
Sept 30th 16.	3802	797	3386
31st Oct 16	1517	1521	2239
<u>Decrease</u>	<u>2285</u>	<u>(Increase) 724</u>	<u>1147</u>

Report shows a large increase of men reporting from other Depots, this is on account of men granted Furlough from Administrative H.Qrs London being treated on arrival here as from another Depot.

Although this Department has not issued Furlough to as many men as last month, the number reporting on expiration of same to this Depot is only 853 less than the figures shown in last months report.

During the short period Administrative Headquarters London have been granting Furlough several men have been duplicated the number discovered to date who have received duplication of Furlough is nine.

I would again draw attention to the large number of absentees from Furlough viz. 735 amounting to roughly 30% which is an increase on last months figures.

Apart from the above 867 men were granted leave from this Office. All Railway Warrants & Duty Passes for Drafts



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proceeding to other Depots & N.C.Os & men on escort duty were also  
issued by this Department.

Pay Office Report attached.

*Edward Kinson*

Lieut.  
OFFICER I/c FURLOUGH



REPORT ENDING ..... October 31st 1916

N.C.O. & Men reporting from	N.C.Os & MEN reporting fm. other Depots	N.C.O. & Men proceeded on Furlough	N.C.Os&Men reporting fm Furlough	Absentees from Furlough	Absentees from Leave
1st		142			19
2nd 121	41		117	25	22
3rd 171	46	130	135	22	7
4th 108	45	122	106	17	8
5th 159	70	168	102	34	4
6th 103	52	107	156	23	7
7th 97	31	159	162	24	7
8th		116		55	8
9th 170	40		168	15	5
10th 54	33	94	40	15	4
11th 39	24	166	1		14
12th 26	25	61	123	12	10
13th 36	36	44	127	23	11
14th 21	20	31	139	37	11
15th		44		38	5
16th 17	37	191			12
17th 23	22	239	25	43	2
18th 82	34	20	124	40	9
19th 27	34	22	137	22	2
20th 18	41	72	125	35	5
21st 35	40	34	111	15	5
22nd		28		51	7
23rd 28	84		153		13
24th 43	70	44	108	28	22
25th 49	85	36	140	19	11
26th 16	37	44	68	41	4
27th 21	130	53	40	14	3
28th 22	140	20	45	28	7
29th		26		45	6/14
30th 8	96	52	52		6
31st 23	208	26	37	14	6
Total 1517	1521	2239	2541	735	270

*Edwin King*  
Lieut.  
Officer i/c Furlough



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No 1 Command Depot

Perham Down

2.11.16

TO            Officer i/c Furlough

For your information I have to advise  
that the amount of money paid at this Depot for Month ending Oct.  
31st 1916 was £12.000.

Sgt i/C Pay Office'

*H. Castor*  
*per H*



R.T.Office  
Ludgershall  
1.11.16

To The Adjutant  
No 1 Command Depot

MONTHLY REPORT

The following report for the month ending Oct 31st is  
Submitted for your approval.

Enclosed summary supplies all information concerning  
Drafts dealt with by this Office .

FURLOUGH DRAFTS

Men entrained for Furlough were treated by the  
same method as that outlined in my report for the Month ending  
Sept 30th .

Owing to men reporting from Hospital direct to  
Administrative H Qrs London during the latter part of the month  
these Drafts were considerably reduced.

Men from Hospital were treated in the same way as  
last Month.

OTHER DRAFTS

Drafts of B.C. & D. Group men were entrained for  
Amesbury & Codford until 10.10.16 by the method supplied for Sept,  
escorts varying from 10 to 20 men in charge of the same number of  
prisoners returned from various Stations daily.

Drafts from various Stations were reentrained  
from main line trains to Tidworth at this Station during the month.  
This was carried out by the regulation method, accommodation always  
being provided when required.

*Robert Mackintosh*  
*Lieut.*

— R. T. O. —



Record for Month ending  
31. 10. 16

Date	From Furlough	From Hospital	To Furlough	To Amesbury	To Godford
1. 10. 16	Nil	Nil	140		
2. 10. 16	93	132	Nil	27	
3. 10. 16	131	205	130		
4. 10. 16	99	126	122	9	45
5. 10. 16	96	227	168		
6. 10. 16	140	105	107	15	14
7. 10. 16	162	115	159	14	11
8. 10. 16	Nil	Nil	116		
9. 10. 16	124	181	Nil	48	36
10. 10. 16	36	76	94	8	51
11. 10. 16	95	37	167		
12. 10. 16	126	37	61		
13. 10. 16	117	33	44		
14. 10. 16	129	32	31		
15. 10. 16	25	Nil	43		
16. 10. 16	170	14	Nil		
17. 10. 16	290	26	21		
18. 10. 16	114	43	20		
19. 10. 16	129	48	28		
20. 10. 16	120	36	72		
21. 10. 16	121	59	34		
22. 10. 16	12	1	28		
23. 10. 16	162	64	Nil		
24. 10. 16	134	68	44		
25. 10. 16	165	51	36		
26. 10. 16	80	23	44		
27. 10. 16	147	46	54		
28. 10. 16	150	46	20		
29. 10. 16	4	Nil	26		
30. 10. 16	69	38	Nil		
31. 10. 16	193	40	26		

*Don L.*



QUARTERMASTER'S MONTHLY REPORT FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1916

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Clothing & Necessaries.

The opening of a Furlough Office in London has not simplified our work at this Depot. A letter on this subject has been forwarded to Headquarters, pointing out the difficulty experienced in the matter of accounting for clothing issued to men previous to their arrival at this Depot. We have found it impossible to issue Clothing and necessaries to complete establishment of kits, on account of articles as under not being available from Ordnance.

Breeches M S  
Coats Great M S  
Hats Felt C P

Tunics  
Bags Kit Sea

Accounting

The accounting for clothing has been carried out in accordance with Headquarters Routine Orders.

Housing.

The accommodation temporarily taken over in Nos. 3 and 5 Camps has now been handed over, and all tents have been struck. The number of men accommodated is now in excess of regulation capacity.

Sanitation.

The condition of the latrines remains as previously reported, with the exception that the accommodation is not overtaxed to the same extent. The time of removal of night soil remains the same.

Roads.

The construction of the new tar macadam paths in No. 1 Camp proceeds slowly. The work is now left for the Depot Pioneers to complete.

Regimental Work Shops.

Bootmaker. We have been unable to increase the Staff of the Bootmakers shop beyond two, which includes the Sergeant Bootmaker. The work performed is of a satisfactory nature.



Pioneers. The work of the Pioneers has been increased by the additional work involved in completing the pathways in No. 1 Camp. This work was started by Royal Engineers under the D.O.R.E. but is now for completion by the Depot Pioneers.

Gardeners. The work performed by the Gardeners is still of a most satisfactory nature, and the appearance of the front of the Camps has been considerably improved during the past Month.

*W. S. Pittman*

Perham Down  
6/11/16.

Lieut. & Quartermaster.  
No. 1 Command Depot