

**AWM4**

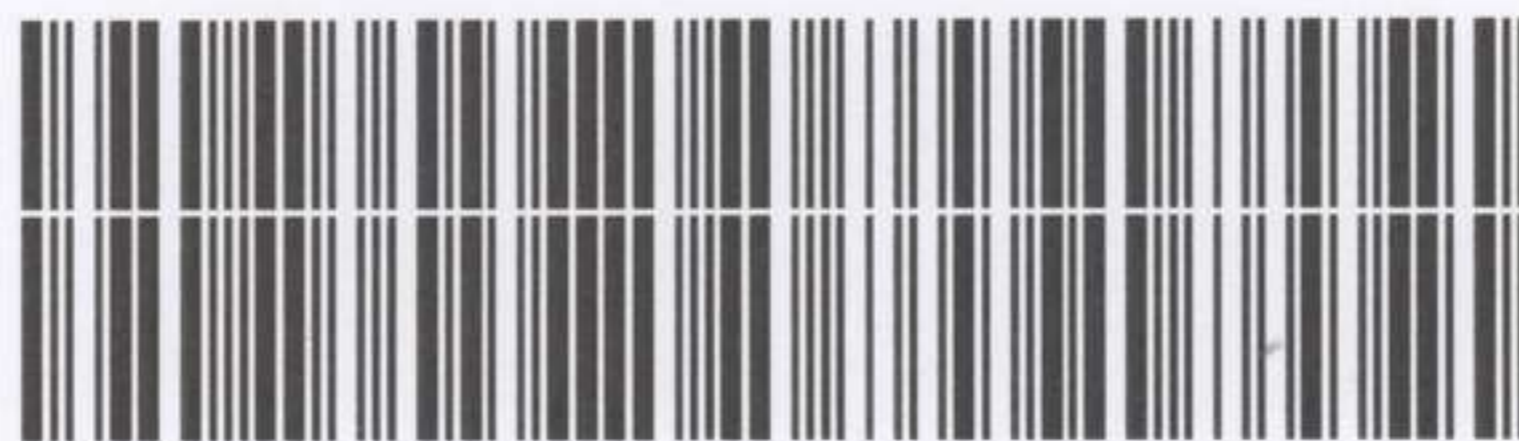
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Bases & Depots

**Item number:** 33/16/15

**Title:** No 1 Australian Command Depot

May 1918



AWM4-33/16/15

(11) 1

NO 469. AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT.

- Strength. 1. The Strength of the Depot on the 31st May was 117 Officers and 2565 Other Ranks. The Number actually in Camp being 113 Officers and 2147 Other Ranks; the difference being made up by those on Leave of Absence, and those in Hospital. The Number Marching-In for the period was 906 and those Marching Out 1411. ( Analysis of the Figures attached.)
- Health. 2. The general health of the Troops was good.
- Oversea Re-quirements. 3. The "Speeding-up" Process, and altered Methods of Training have proved beneficial; despite the depleted number of men, the number of "A" Class evacuated to the Overseas Training Brigade was 1073.
- Visits. 4. On the 2nd instant the G.O.C. in Chief, Southern Command, *Lieut-* General Sir H. Slater, G.C.B. inspected the Training carried on at the Depot, and visited the Cook-houses and saw the men at their mid-day meal, (where the benefit of the Self-Help System was demonstrated,) and the *S.M.O.'s* Department. Afterwards the General and his Staff remained for Lunch with the Commandant.
- On the 7th instant the G.O.C., A.I.F. Depots in the U.K. Major-General the Hon. Sir J.W. McCay, K.C.M.G., C.B., V.D. visited the Depot, and inspected the Mens' Cook-houses, Huts, Bootmaker's and Tailor's Shops, and on the 20th instant the Detention Compound was inspected.
- On the 23rd instant His Grace the Duke of Somerset, accompanied by the Duchess, and their Suite, visited the Depot being shown the various Messing Departments, and afterwards taking lunch at the Depot Headquarters Mess.
- On the 29th instant the G.O.C. A.I.F. Depots in the U.K. Maj-Gen. The Hon. Sir J.W. McCay, K.C.M.G. etc., together with Major-General Featherstone, A.A.M.C. and Surgeon-General N.R. Howse, V.C. A.A.M.C. and Mr Manifold, M.H.R. visited the Depot and made an inspection of the Detention Compound, Mens' Dining Hall, Messing Officer's Department and Group Clearing Hospital.
- Administration. 5. Major A.N. Aitken, 13th Light Horse, A.I.F. reported from Weymouth for Duty, and has taken over the Command of the Right Wing.
- The Commandant, Lieut-Col. W.O. Mansbridge, D.S.O. was detailed as President of a General Court Martial at Salisbury on the 24th instant, A.I.F. Order No. 4886.
- Re-organisation. 6. On the 29th instant the re-organisation of the Depot was put into force. The present system provides that no matter what the man's Medical or Dental Category he still remains in the same Company and under the same Commander until he marches out of the Depot. Previously a man was transferred from one Platoon, or Company, as he was raised or *lowered* in Medical or Dental Category. It is hoped that under the new scheme the working staff of the Depot will be reduced.

(Continued.)

N O L . A U S T R A L I A N C O M M A N D D E P O T .

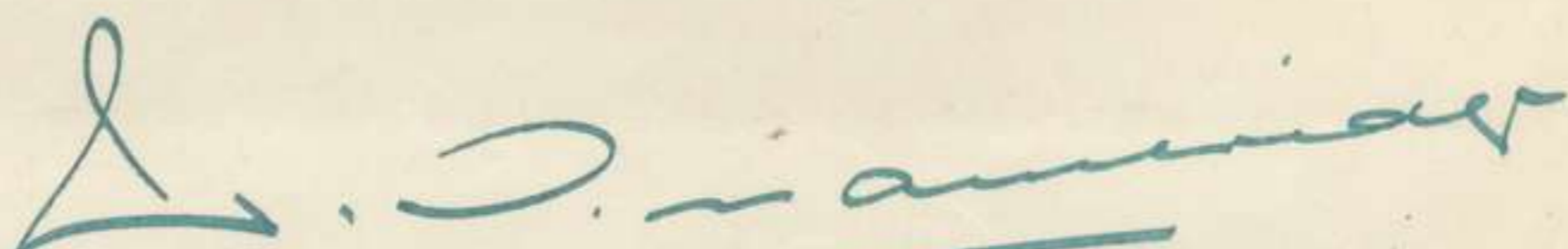
- Messing. 7. / During the Month 204381 Meals were served to 66238 Men. The daily meat ration which had previously been reduced from 12 to 10 ounces per man was further reduced to 8 ounces on the 1st May. Nevertheless this reduction was compensated to a degree by an increase in the cash allowance from Five-pence-half-penny to Six-pence-half-penny. The first Kill of the Seven Pigs raised in the Depot took place. A total of 1400 Meals of Fresh Pork was served to the Men thus relieving the Commissariat Department from supplying that number of rations. A further experiment is being conducted in the breeding of Rabbits for consumption.
- Concert Parties. 8. " The Aussies ", the Depot Concert Party, visited Weston super-Mare and Newport giving performances in aid of the G.O.C's Fund, raising £70 approximately by this means.
- Band. 9. The Depot Band proceeded to London to perform at the Australian Battle Picture and Photographic Display at the Grafton Galleries. During the month on Saturday afternoons and Sundays, they have given selections at Warminster at the various Y.M.C.A's in the district for the benefit of the men.
- Red Cross Society. 10. This Society has established a Bulk Store in No. 9 Camp with one of their Officers in Charge. This will greatly facilitate the distribution of comforts to the Hospitals in the area.
- Recreation. 11. From Regimental Funds 6 Concert Parties were engaged, and their efforts greatly appreciated by the men. Four Evenings were set aside for Boxing Contests. These entertainments do not include the Concerts and Lectures arranged by the Y.M.C.A. A keen interest is taken in the Boxing as the competitors are drawn from the Australian Training Units and the Imperial Troops in the area.
- Cultivation. 12. A Motor Tractor was engaged to complete the ploughing of land for Potato Planting.

Receiving &  
Distributing  
Department.

Report appended herewith.

S.M.O's Dep-  
artment.

Report appended herewith.



Sutton Veny, Wilts.  
4th June. 1918.

Lieutenant-Colonel & Commandant.  
NO. I. AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT.

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RECEIVING & DISTRIBUTING OFFICE,  
NO. 1 COMMAND DEPOT, A.I.F.,  
SUTTON VENNY, JUNE 3rd, 1918.

To :-- ADJUTANT.

Herewith please find summary of work carried out by these Departments during month ending May 31st, 1918. The total figures for marching in and out show an increase of 86 in the Marching In for April, 1918, and a decrease of 335 in the Marching Out for the same period, viz., 1610 and 1746 respectively for April, and 1696 and 1411 for May, 1918.

Approximately 415 full fare railway warrants were issued for the month, against 330 for April, 1918, 1130 leave passes, 1675 road passes, and 60 duty passes, against 1350, 1720, and 60 for previous month.

Month ending	N.C.O's & Men from other Depots	N.C.O's & Tng Units	N.C.O's & men from furlough	N.C.O's & N.C.O's & men from proceed- ed on furlo	N.C.O's & men marched out
April 30th	1300	126	184	8	1746
May 31st	906	116	657	17	1411
Dec.	394	Dec. 10	Inc. 473	Inc. 9	Dec. 335

*W. Rouse*

-----Lieut.  
O/C Receiving & Distributing Departments.

*W. Rouse*  
No. 1 COMMAND DEPOT, A.I.F.,  
SUTTON VENNY, JUNE 3rd, 1918.  
LIEUT.-COL.

469

*45*

MARCHING OUT FOR MONTH ENDING MAY 31st, 1918.

DESTINATION	1st to 4th	6th to 11th	13th to 18th	20th to 25th	27th to 31st	TOTALS
O. T. B.	169	278	254	221	151	1073
R. B. A. A.	5	2	-	-	-	7
Brightlingsea	2	1	-	-	-	3
Tidworth	1	4	5	15	19	44
London	1	2	1	5	1	10
Lewes	2	-	7	3	5	17
Codford	7	6	-	7	-	20
Park House	2	2	1	-	-	5
Fovant	6	2	5	1	-	14
No. 2 C. D.	5	59	12	4	50	130
Bulford	2	1	1	1	1	6
S. V. Hospital	1	1	-	-	-	2
No. 1 Group	7	8	11	8	4	38
Dartford	1	-	-	-	-	1
Devonport	-	1	-	1	-	2
No. 3 C. D.	-	13	22	-	-	35
Wendover	-	1	1	-	-	2
Grantham	-	2	-	-	-	2
Longmoor	-	1	-	-	-	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>1411</b>

*A. Row*  
-----Lieut.  
O/C Receiving & Distributing Departments.

*L. O. W.*  
-----  
LIEUT.-COL. & COMMANDANT  
No. 1 COMMAND DEPOT, A.I.F.

469

MARCHING IN.

MONTH ENDING MAY 31st, 1918.

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DATE	FROM OTHER DEPOTS	FROM TRAINING UNITS	FROM FURLO	PROCEEDED ON FURLOUGH	A.W.L.
MAY 1st	26	2	27	--	--
2nd	14	2	14	3	2
3rd	53	6	22	--	6
4th	24	3	10	--	2
5th	--	--	--	--	10
6th	28	2	36	--	9
7th	55	8	18	1	21
8th	24	9	23	5	1
9th	15	--	10	X	2
10th	45	6	5	1	8
11th	21	1	17	--	4
12th	--	--	--	--	4
13th	30	8	29	Y	--
14th	56	3	28	1	16
15th	24	2	32	--	3
16th	25	4	15	1	2
17th	50	3	26	1	13
18th	17	3	12	--	--
19th	--	--	--	--	4
20th	29	2	23	--	2
21st	65	2	20	1	21
22nd	27	1	32	Y	2
23rd	17	3	30	--	--
24th	49	1	39	3	7
25th	20	--	16	--	3
26th	--	--	--	--	3
27th	69	4	43	--	--
28th	42	4	6	--	18
29th	23	3	21	--	3
30th	14	1	51	--	1
31st	44	33	52	--	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>906</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>170</b>

*W. R. Power*  
 -----Lieut.  
 O/C Receiving & Distributing Departments.

LIEUT.-COL. & COMMANDANT  
 No. 1 COMMAND DEPOT, A.I.F.

906  
 116  
 657  
 170  
 1866

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REF SMO/1831/2. NO. I AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT.

Cyclists Camp,  
Sutton Veny,  
31st May, 1918.

From S.M.O.,  
No. 1 Command Depot.

To Commandant,  
No. 1 Command Depot.

Monthly Report.



The general health of the Depot during the past month has been good and production has equalled the number of men marching in. The total number of men raised to A3 class and marched out to Overseas Training Brigade being 1030.

The number of men evacuated to Hospital has been 200 with general diseases, mostly of minor character. There was a slight increase in the number of Influenza cases being admitted to Group Clearing Hospital at the onset of the hot weather but they have again sunk to normal, and nothing else of an epidemic nature has occurred.

The number of men sent to Bulford with Gonorrhoea after early treatment has shown a decided diminution.

The Group Clearing Hospital has maintained a daily average of 135 and on one occasion rose to 178 for one day. The increase has been effected by obtaining more accommodation for patients by putting the personnel under canvas.

The Carrier Centre has now been entirely cleared of C.S.M. cases at present there being only one Diphtheria carrier in the compound. On account of these huts being released I have turned the Centre into an isolation Centre for contacts of Mumps and Measles cases occurring in the lines, thus effecting a much more complete and effective isolation than when it was carried out in the lines themselves. One Hut in the Carrier Centre has been fitted up as a Ward for Detention cases of a mild nature occurring in the Area, the Guard, when required, being obtained from No. 1 Command Depot.

The sanitation of the Camp has been on the whole satisfactory, and the daily inspection of the Guard Hut by a Medical Officer has been properly carried out with the result that it is now in a clean condition.

Please find attached return showing detail of Daily Sick Parades for the Depot for May.

*L. O. M.*  
LIEUT.-COL. & COMMANDANT  
No. 1 COMMAND DEPOT, A.I.F.

*P. M. A. P. L. U. S.* MAJOR.  
S.M.O. NO. I COMMAND DEPOT.

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## NO. I AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT.



Summary of Daily Sick Parades for the whole Depot for May 1918.

Date	On Sick Parade	Marked off Duty	Marked L. Duty	Marked M. & Duty	Cases to Hosp.	V.D. to Hosp. & E.T. Dep. to Hosp.	Infec. Scabies cases	
1st May	45	10	9	13	7	4	-	3
2nd "	52	11	8	11	10	6	-	2
3rd "	72	17	16	24	6	8	1	2
4th "	36	8	8	6	9	4	-	1
5th "	64	8	14	29	5	2	-	6
6th "	24	3	8	7	3	2	-	1
7th "	45	6	8	9	5	11	-	5
8th "	45	3	14	7	6	10	1	8
9th "	56	11	19	13	5	5	-	3
10th "	59	10	12	19	10	1	-	7
11th "	45	7	17	7	7	3	1	2
12th "	79	6	15	41	12	2	-	3
13th "	34	7	8	7	5	6 <sup>x</sup>	-	2
14th "	55	6	17	17	9	8	-	-
15th "	50	4	11	26	2	4	-	2
16th "	63	2	22	23	9	4	-	2
17th "	62	9	11	16	11	10	-	4
18th "	42	4	17	11	4	4	-	2
19th "	61	7	21	26	2	2	-	3
20th "	50	7	12	21	4	2	-	4
21st "	67	13	11	27	9	2	-	4
22nd "	57	10	15	18	7	5	-	2
23rd "	56	7	10	23	9	2	-	4
24th "	56	7	11	18	4	12	-	4
25th "	49	6	11	24	4	2	-	3
26th "	42	7	7	21	3	1	1	2
27th "	58	10	15	28	1	3	-	1
28th "	55	11	14	13	11	2	-	3
29th "	62	4	11	31	9	4	-	3
30th "	43	4	18	14	9	1	-	1
31st "	53	6	18	18	5	3	-	3
	1637	232	408	568	200	135	4	92

*L. O. M.*  
 LIEUT.-COL. & COMMANDANT  
 No. 1 AUSTRALIAN COMMAND DEPOT, A.I.F.

*R. M. Appleton* MAJOR.  
 S.M.O. NO. I COMMAND DEPOT.



3/9/17  
11/0  
The AUSSIES' LAST TOUR before leaving for France.

# GRAND PIER PAVILION

## WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

# WHIT-MONDAY & WEEK

NIGHTLY AT 7.30 P.M.

Commencing May 20th. Matinees: Whit-Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday at 3 p.m.

SPECIAL RETURN VISIT OF  
The Famous Military Costume Comedy Company, The

# AUSSIES

By kind permission of Lieut.-Col. MANSBRIDGE, D.S.O.  
(Commandant, No. 1 Command Depot).

**13 ARTISTES** INCLUDING  
**LIEUT. ARTHUR G. BOORMAN**  
THE IRRESISTIBLE COMEDIAN.

New Songs, Dances, and the Screamingly Funny Revue:

# SHURR-UP

BY LIEUT. BOORMAN.

## FUNDS IN AID OF MILITARY CHARITIES

PRICES: 3/3 (Reserved), 2/2 & 1/1.

Manager and Producer, Lieut. BOORMAN.

::

Advance Manager, E. A. NICHOLLS.

::

Stage Manager, Cpl. BAILEY.