

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/66/4

Title: General Officer Commanding AIF
Depots in UK

March 1919



AWM4-1/66/4

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1919.
(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TIDWORTH.	10th		Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., took over officially from Major-General the Hon. Sir J.W. McCay, K.C.M.G., C.B., V.D., as G.O.C., A.I.F. Depots in U.K. In Office in the morning. In the afternoon visited Lieut.General Sir H.C. Sclater, G.C.B., G.B.E., G.O.C., Southern Command, and explained to him the proposal for re-organising the Depots into five Groups, each under a Brigadier-General, corresponding to the five Divisions in France. General Sclater approved of the idea. Mileage, Car:- 32 Miles.	
	11th		G.O.C. visited No. 1 A.G.H., Sutton Veny in the morning, also the R.B.A.A. at Heytesbury In Office after lunch. General and Lady BIRDWOOD arrived at 6 p.m. and dined with G.O.C. at his house. Question of re-organisation discussed with General BIRDWOOD and approved. Services of 5 Brigadiers and 5 Colonels asked for. Mileage, Car:- 56 Miles.	
	12th		General and Lady BIRDWOOD left for LONDON at 0930. G.O.C., Brigadier-General McGLINN and Captain O'HARA-WOOD left for LONDON at 1000. G.O.C. discussed various matters at Horseferry Road with Generals WHITE, HOWSE and GRIFFITHS. Attended a Conference with General MONASH. Particulars of Mont St. QUENTIN MEMORIAL were given to War Records Section. General MONASH agreed to re-organisation scheme. G.O.C. returned to Tidworth at 2000. Mileage, Car:- 21 Miles, Train:- 123 Miles.	
	13th		G.O.C. visited Camps at Longbridge-Deverell, Sutton Veny and Heytesbury and addressed the men, explaining to them the reason for re-organisation. Mileage, Car:- 60 Miles.	
	14th		G.O.C. visited Quotas at Hurdcott. S.S. "PLASSY" sailed from LIVERPOOL with 62 Officers, 10 Nurses, 80 W.Os. and Sergeants, and 1033 Other Ranks. Mileage, Car:-60 Miles.	
	15th		G.O.C. visited No. 1 A.G.H., SUTTON VENY and R.B.A.A., HEYTESBURY. Visited Southern Command, SALISBURY, leaving at 1700 for DEVONPORT by train. Mileage, Car:- 74 Miles, Train:- 144 Miles.	
	16th		In the afternoon, the G.O.C. thoroughly inspected the "CZARITZA", conversing with Staff Nurses and Patients. The boat was very clean and well fitted up and carried 93 Officers, 11 Nurses, 69 W.Os and Sergeants, and 609 Other Ranks. O.C. Troops, Major H.O.A.D. BURROWS, DSO, 39th Battalion. G.O.C. dined on board. Left DEVONPORT at midnight for LONDON. Mileage, Train:- 227 Miles.	

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TIDWORTH.	17th		G.O.C. and A.D.C. left LONDON 0915 for LIVERPOOL, arriving at 1415. G.O.C. inspected the S.S. "PLASSY" (Major J. COGHLAN, 14th F.C.E., O.C. Troops) carrying 62 Officers, 10 Nurses, 80 W.Os. and Sergeants, and 1033 Other Ranks. The Ship was well fitted out and all Ranks were well satisfied with the arrangements. G.O.C. and A.D.C. left for BIRMINGHAM at 1900 arriving at 2215. Mileage, Train:- 200 $\frac{3}{4}$ Miles.	
	18th		Left BIRMINGHAM 0815, arriving at SWINDON 1215, arrived TIDWORTH 1315. G.O.C. in his Office in the afternoon. Brigadier-General C.H. JESS, C.M.G., D.S.O., visited the G.O.C. and went to CODFORD to take Command of No. 3 Group. Mileage, Train:- 150, Car:- 29 Miles.	
	19th		G.O.C. and A.D.C. left at 0915 for SOUTHAMPTON to meet Senator PEARCE, Minister for Defence, arriving on S.S. "MARATHON". Returned TIDWORTH 1815. Mileage, Car:- 32, Train 288 Mls	
	20th		G.O.C. in his Office.	
	21st		G.O.C. visited DEVONPORT to inspect the S.S. "KILDONAN CASTLE" (O.C. Troops, Lieut.Colonel W. BRAZENOR, D.S.O., 23rd Bn.). Ship well fitted out and arrangements good. Mileage, Car:- 32, Train;- 288 Miles.	
	22nd		G.O.C. in his Office in the morning. G.O.C. and A.D.C. left for ANDOVER 1615, arriving WATERLOO 1835. Left EUSTON 2345 for LIVERPOOL. Mileage, Car:- 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles, Train:- 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles.	
	23rd		Arrived 0615 at LIVERPOOL. After lunch, G.O.C. visited S.S. "CZAR" (O.C. Troops, Lieut.Colonel A.P. DMLAY, D.S.O., General List), carrying 56 Officers, 10 Nurses, 53 W.Os. and Sergeants and 684 Other Ranks. Ship in good condition and clean; all on board satisfied. Left 2200 for LONDON. Mileage, Car:- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles, Train;- 200 $\frac{3}{4}$ Miles.	
	24th		Arrived EUSTON 0405. Left WATERLOO 0615, arriving ANDOVER 0900 and TIDWORTH 0930. G.O.C. in his Office during the morning. In the afternoon he addressed Nos. 14 and 15 Quotas at HEYTESBURY and visited No. 15 Camp, CODFORD re Ordnance. Left ANDOVER 1703 for WATERLOO, arriving 1835. Left EUSTON 2345 for LIVERPOOL. Mileage, Car:- 71 Miles, Train, 323 $\frac{3}{4}$ Miles.	

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TIDWORTH.	25th		Arrived LIVERPOOL 0600. G.O.C. left Hotel 1200 for Wharf. Inspected the S.S. "PORT DENISON" (O.C. Troops, Lieut.Colonel B.O.C. DUGGAN, D.S.O., 21st Bn.), carrying 25 Officers, 79 W.Os. and Sergeants, and 941 Other Ranks. The Troop quarters were very good. The G.O.C. lunched on Board and talked to the Troops on the wharf. The boat pulled out at 1730. Left LIVERPOOL at 1145 for EUSTON. Mileage, Car:- 1½ Miles, Train:- 200¾ Miles.	
	26th		Arrived EUSTON 0550. Caught the 0840 train from WATERLOO, arriving at TIDWORTH 1145. G.O.C. in his Office till lunch. In the afternoon, the G.O.C. addressed a deputation of No. 1 Quota at CODFORD re the "WYREEMA". Went on to WARMINSTER, returning to TIDWORTH at 1700. In the evening he attended Dances at the Regimental Institute and Assaye Cottage. Mileage, Car:- 59½ Miles, Train:- 267¼ Miles.	
	27th		G.O.C. and the D.P.M. (Lieut.Colonel WILLIAMS) left TIDWORTH at 0700 for PORTSMOUTH, visited LEWES Detention Barracks. Addressed the Staff and Inmates and interviewed several N.C.Os. and Men. Returned to TIDWORTH at 2115. G.O.C. in his Office from 2145. Mileage, Car:- 250 Miles.	
	28th		G.O.C. left TIDWORTH 0915 for SWINDON. Left SWINDON 1102 for CARDIFF, arriving at 1240. G.O.C. inspected the S.S. "POET MACQUARIE" (O.C. Troops, Lieut.Colonel J.A. ROBINSON, D.S.O., 26th Battalion), and lunched on Board, talking to the Troops afterwards. The accommodation was satisfactory and Messing arrangements good. The Ship carried 24 Officers, 76 W.Os. and Sergeants, 783 Other Ranks. The G.O.C. left CARDIFF at 1707 arriving at SWINDON 1850 and TIDWORTH 2015. Mileage, Train:- 151½ Miles, Car:- 58 Miles.	
	29th		G.O.C. left at 0900 for CODFORD, where he addressed No. 18 Quota on the question of Shipping, Leave, Conduct and Pay, and answered individual questions by the men. At 1230, he called on the G.O.C., Southern Command, returning to TIDWORTH at 1330. After Lunch, the G.O.C. was in his Office till 1830. Mileage, Car:- 70 Miles.	

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TIDWORTH.	30th		Left 0845 by Car for LONDON. G.O.C. had an interview with General GRIFFITHS. Afterwards met General FOOTT and went with him to call on General MONASH. Left by 2345 for LIVERPOOL. Mileage, Car:- 88 Miles.	
	31st		Arrived LIVERPOOL 0630. G.O.C. left 0700 for Wharf and inspected the S.S. "KHYBER" (O.C. Troops, Major W.S. HOSKING, D.S.O., M.C., 27th Battalion); the ship was clean, and accommodation and Messing arrangements good. The G.O.C. spoke to the N.C.OS. and Men as they came aboard. Left LIVERPOOL 1410 for BRISTOL, arriving at 2055 and spending a night there. Mileage, Car:- $1\frac{1}{2}$ Miles, Train:- $401\frac{3}{4}$ Miles.	
			Total Mileage from 10th March to 31st March, 1919, inclusive.	
			By Car : 1012 $\frac{1}{2}$ Miles.	
			By Train : 3013 Miles.	
			Total. <u>4025$\frac{1}{2}$</u> Miles.	

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AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

REPATRIATION AND DEMOBILISATION.**BULLETIN No. 9.**

Issued by Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom.

BHURTPHORE BARRACKS, TIDWORTH,
12th April, 1919.

During the period 25th November, 1918 (the date on which Demobilisation Instructions were received by this Command), to 31st March, 1919, troops were returned to Australia as shown in the following schedule:—

Date.	Transport.	Port of Embarkation.	PERSONNEL.			
			Officers.	Nurses.	W.O.'s and Sergts.	Other Ranks.
1918.						
Dec. 3	PORT HACKING	Devonport	16	—	153	504
4	SOMERSET	Devonport	18	4	72	637
9	LEICESTERSHIRE	Liverpool	69	8	154	823
9	ARGYLLSHIRE	Liverpool	45	3	50	1112
10	SOMALI	Devonport	30	3	76	963
11	SAXON	Liverpool	37	4	107	1076
12	BURMA	Devonport	40	3	107	690
12	NESTOR	Liverpool	59	8	70	1403
18	ÆNEAS	Liverpool	32	3	54	764
20	ORONTES	Liverpool	30	7	76	872
21	MAMARI	Liverpool	21	—	62	773
22	BAKARA	Devonport	13	—	48	544
24	TAKADA	Devonport	43	6	73	1024
Total for December			453	49	1102	11,185
1919.						
Jan. 2	KARMALA	Avonmouth	33	5	63	918
2	BERRIMA	Devonport	45	6	80	1035
4	MORVADA	Cardiff	26	8	95	780
8	ORSOVA	Liverpool	54	10	113	1260
15	CITY OF YORK	Liverpool	29	9	55	938
16	CITY OF EXETER	Liverpool	35	9	54	890
17	DEMOSTHENES	Devonport	49	10	51	952
18	ULYSSES	Devonport	55	10	121	1221
18	MARGHA	Devonport	28	10	56	453
24	DELTA	Devonport	35	24	52	1142
25	CERAMIC	Devonport	67	10	121	1932
Total for January			456	111	861	11,521
Feb. 8	LANCASHIRE	Plymouth	93	28	48	1051
9	ASCANIUS	Devonport	47	10	70	1041
19	ORCA	Liverpool	53	—	80	1361
28	ANCHISES	Devonport	131	12	103	1012
Total for February			324	50	301	4465
Mar. 2	DERBYSHIRE	Devonport	36	14	64	916
3	EURIPIDES	Portland	42	10	98	937
5	NEVASA	Portland	51	10	72	1326
9	KASHMIR	Southampton	61	10	109	1334
14	PLASSY	Liverpool	62	10	80	1033
16	CZARITZA	Devonport	93	11	69	609
21	KILDONAN CASTLE	Devonport	53	10	147	1273
23	CZAR	Liverpool	56	10	53	684
23	CLUNY CASTLE	Devonport	26	—	39	482
25	PORT DENISON	Liverpool	25	—	79	941
28	PORT MACQUARIE	Cardiff	24	—	76	783
28	CITY OF POONA	Southampton	61	10	90	897
28	KAROA	Liverpool	45	10	130	592
31	KHYBER	Liverpool	40	4	185	1410
Total for March			675	109	1291	13,217

Total for period 25-11-18 to 31-3-19:

Officers.	Nurses.	W.O.'s & Sergts.	Other Ranks.	Total All Ranks.
1908	319	3555	40,388	46,170

J. P. McGLINN, *Brigadier-General.*
D.A. & Q.M.G.,
A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom,
(Repatriation and Demobilisation Liaison).