

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

Ordnance

Item number: 2/7/19

Title: Deputy Assistant Director Ordnance
Services, 4th Australian Division

January 1919



AWM4-2/7/19

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

WAR DIARY.

of

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDNANCE.

FOR THE MONTH OF

JANUARY

1919.

Sheehy
.....
(Signature of Compiling Officer)

D.A.D.O.S.
No.
Date.....
4th. Aust. Div.

Sheehy
.....
(Signature of Commanding Officer)

D.A.D.O.S.
No.
Date.....
4th. Aust. Div.

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4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDNANCE.

WAR DIARY.

JANUARY 1919.

1. Location of Office, Dump and Bootmakers Shop ONHAYE.
Armourers Shop ANSEREMME.
2. Officers Clothing Depot opened at 67 Rue Repin, NAMUR.
A quantity of Clothing viz - Breeches M.S. and Hats sent to D.A.D.O.S. Australian Corps Troops for delivery to 5th Australian Division. These had accumulated as the result of a duplication of our demands by the Base and as the 5th Division were urgently in need of them they were sent to Corps Troops for transmission.
Enquiry received from Divisional Headquarters asking if we have any proposals to submit with regard to the present organisation of R.A.O.C. personnel within a Division; a reply was sent to the effect that the present establishment was considered satisfactory with the addition of 1 Sergeant Bootmaker, 6 Private Bootmakers and 1 extra Private to act as Cook for the Armourers and Bootmakers Shops.
3. 150 Small Union Jack Flags received from the Base, without indent, for distribution amongst the Units of the Division to be used for decorating the windows of Billets etc.
4. Eight ~~xxxx~~ Clerks reported from the Brigades for trial with a view to filling vacancies caused in the Staff owing to men returning to Australia.
A new location for the Armourers Shop was selected at GERIN. The Armourers were left at ANSEREMME at the time when the Dump was moved to ~~ONHAYE~~ ONHAYE AS THIS is only a small village and there was no suitable accomodation to be found for them.
5. Memo received from A.D.O.S. stating that a quantity of Paint, Oil, Grease etc. is available with D.A.D.O.S. Australian Corps Troops and asking if we are requiring any of these items; a wire was immediately sent stating our requirements to which a reply was received stating that we could draw them in full.
6. Armourers Workshops moved to GERIN.
Lorry sent to D.A.D.O.S., Australian Corps Troops to collect Paint etc
7. Complaint received from Calais through 4th Army that our Bulk indents are arriving at the Base several days late and instructing us for the future to despatch them by Express Letter Service instead of through the D.R.L.S.
All Stores of 12th and 13th Australian Field Ambulances rendered surplus owing to the demobilisation of 'C' Section of Field Ambulances, returned to Railhead for despatch to the Base.
Wrote to A.D.O.S. asking if the supply of Horse Clipping Machines Horse Rugs etc., which have been on demand since the beginning of December can be hastened
8. 11 Flags Union Silk collected from D.A.D.O.S. Australian Corps Troops for issue, 1 each, to Infantry and Pioneer Battalions

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- 9. A.D.O.S. advises that Corps Armourers Workshop is to be disbanded forthwith and one Armourer Sergeant is to report to me for duty in the Divisional Shop. The engine and dynamo is to be handed over to me for the use of the 4th Australian Divisional Concert Party. An allotment received for the return of 2 Other Ranks to Australia.
- 10. Stores of 'C' Section 4th Australian Field Ambulance returned to the Demobilisation Depot at the Base together with Carriers Ammunition Emergency withdrawn from the Divisional Artillery.
- 11. Instructions received from A.D.O.S. to collect 2 cwts Mineral Jelly 4 Quires of Emery Paper, 45 lbs Axle Grease, 2 cwts Paint and 10 Gallons Oil, lubricating G.S. from D.A.D.O.S. Australian Corps Troops; these stores are for the use of the Divisional Artillery for cleaning all captured German Guns in the Area.
- 12. Authority was recently given for the return of 2 of the 4 Lewis Guns authorised to be held by Batteries R.F.A. ; these were overhauled in the Divisional Armourers Shop before return to the Base and were found to be in a very bad condition and in some cases unfit for service, the matter was reported to Divisional Headquarters.
- 13. Office Routine.
- 14. Condemnation wire for an 18 pdr. piece received from 2nd. Australian Mobile Workshop. A new Piece was demanded from Calais, who were advised that it was not considered necessary for them to consign it to us as it was thought that the condemnation certificate could be produced when the time came for the Guns to be handed over.
- 15. Office Routine
- 16. Office Routine
- 17. Instructions received from the D.A.Q.M.G. to ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ look for a suitable place to park vehicles, guns etc. on the demobilisation of the Division, at FLORENNES, visited FLORENNES but was unable to find sufficient vacant accomodation, informed D.A.Q.M.G. who said he would visit FLORENNES with me in a day or so.
- 18. A.D.O.S. advised that there are a number of German Chaffcutters available for distribution and asked whether any of them are required by this Division. On enquiry it was found that none were required. A.D.O.S. also advised that a further similar supply of Stores as advised on the 11th inst. are available and a reply was sent that a similar quantity would again be required.
- 19. Enquiry received from A.D.O.S. asking if the demands for Soap are on the increase as it has been rumoured that the Troops are selling Soap to the Civilians; on enquiry it was found that our demands for Soap were not increasing.
- 20. Office Routine.
- 21. 500 Sacks, Needles and Twine advised as being consigned from Calais, without indent, for the use of Units packing up Demobilisation Stores for return to Base.
- 22. Office Routine.

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23. Office Routine.
24. A.D.O.S advises that any demands for Soap which cannot be met from the Base can be met by the issue of German Soap Powder if we will advise him of the quantity that we require. As we have about 4000 lbs of Soap outstanding on the Base a requisition for 2000 lbs of this Powder was submitted.
25. As Am/S/Sgt. H. Upjohn was due to report back to his Unit from 75 days U.K. 1914 Leave at about the end of December and nothing had so far been heard of him an enquiry was sent to Australian Records Section, London and a reply was received that he was now doing duty with the R.B.A.A. at Heytesbury, England.
26. Office Routine.
27. Again visited FLORENNES in search of a suitable Store and vehicle park for demobilisation. Wrote to 4th 12th and 13th Australian Infantry Brigades asking them to instruct Battalions to return all Rifles fitted with telescopic sights and all 1914 pattern Snipers Rifles in their possession, these stores to be accompanied by a statement showing the numbers actually returned and giving satisfactory reasons for all deficiencies (if any).
28. The 104th Army Brigade R.F.A., who have been attached to me for administration of Ordnance Services for the past 6 weeks, have now been moved from the Australian Corps Area, I therefore wrote to A.D.O.S. ^{know to} whom I am to move them, and he advises that they are to be moved to D.A.D.O.S., 32nd British Division. Called on D.A.Q.M.G. Attended a conference at 'Q' Office Australian Corps where it was learned that the Railhead to be used for the return of demobilisation Stores was now to be CHATELNEAU.
29. Visited CHATELNEAU to select a Dump and vehicle Park. A fine big Store was secured also a large open space for the vehicles both close to the Railhead.
30. Advice received that the first train for the return of demobilisation Stores of this Division to the Base will be available on the 5th prox.
31. L/Sgt. A. J. HENNET who has been in charge of the Bulk Store since the formation of the Division proceeded to England for repatriation

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