

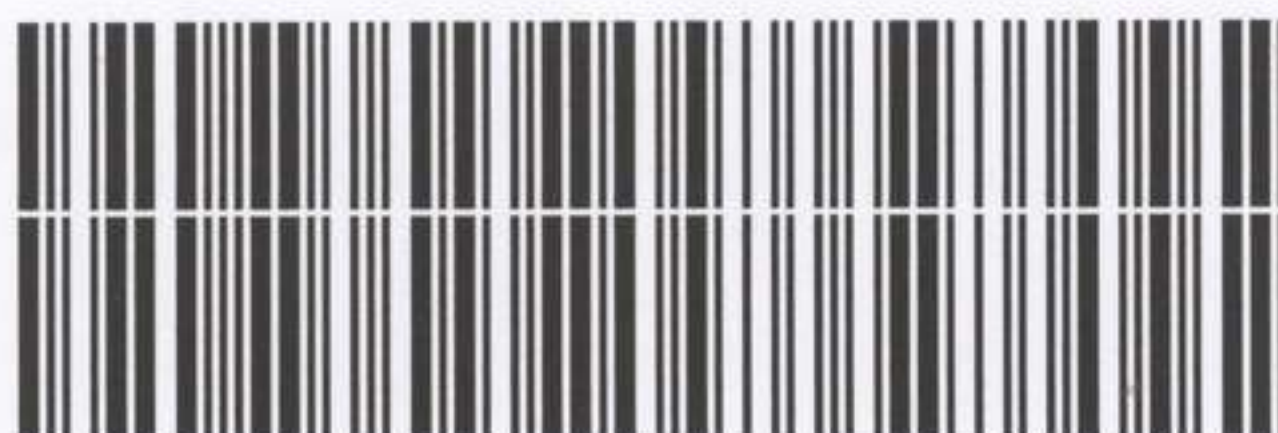
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Ordnance

**Item number:** 2/7/20

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

February 1919



AWM4-2/7/20



CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.

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TRIPLICATE.

WAR DIARY.

of

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDNANCE.

FEBRUARY

1919.

Lieut.

Signature of Compiling Officer.

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

Lieut.

Signature of Commanding Officer.

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

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## 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDNANCE.

WAR DIARY

FEBRUARY 1919.

- 1st Location of Office and Dump and Bootmakers Shop at Onhaye.  
Armourers Shop at Gerin.  
104th Army Brigade R.F.A. with B.A.C. and Park Section moved to D.A.D.O.S., 32nd Division for administration.  
The Divisional Railhead still located at Florennes.
- 2nd Advice received that Condr. C.S. Newman had been promoted 2nd Lieut. and that he has been posted to this Division for duty.  
Wire received that all trains for returning stores to the Base are cancelled for the present owing to the railway strike.
- 3rd Attended conference of D.A.D.S.O.S. at Corps Headquarters at Ham.  
Condemnation wire received for an 18-pdr carriage for the 41st Battery. No new carriage was demanded from the Base as it was not considered necessary in view of reductions of Batteries R.F.A. to four gun Batteries.
- 4th Office Routine.
- 5th Called on D.A.Q.M.G. also 13th Brigade Headquarters and was informed by the D.A.Q.M.G. that the first train allotted to this Division for return of demobilisation stores to the Base was now arranged for the 10th instant. and that Mr. Newman was to go to Chatelineau to superintend the loading on the 7th instant.
- 6th D.A.Q.M.G. now advises that our train will not now leave until the 11th instant.  
A shortage in Australian Pattern Boots is now being experienced. My last two bulk demands for Boots having been met by the supply of English Pattern Boots. Wrote to Division asking that representation be made to hasten the supply of Australian Boots as many of the Units refused to accept English boots.
- 7th 500 sacks being consigned from Calais without indent for use of Units of the Division when returning stores to the Base.  
Owing to the continued frost large demands are being received for Frost Cogs.  
Half a ton of mineral jelly wired for for use in packing guns and machine Guns before return to Base.
- 8th 2nd Lieut Newman proceeded to Chatelineau to superintend loading of train of Artillery Stores.
- 9th Owing ~~to~~ to the fact that no trucks have been available for some considerable time for the despatch of stores to Calais. on account of the railway strike, a very large quantity of salvage has accumulated, some of which is at railhead at Florennes and the remainder at my store at Onhaye. This is being continually being pilfered and application has been made to obtain from 4th Army authority to send two truck loads to Havre, but so far without success.  
Advice received that Major Tuckett will probably be returning to the Division in the course of a few days.
- 10th Complaints have recently been made by several Units that Horse and Mule Shoes have been issued without taps for frost cogs. All Units have therefore been asked to report on this matter and also to give particulars of any marks that may be on the shoe itself or on the boxes they are packed in, so that the matter may be reported. as it is most essential during a period of continued frost such as

B.P.

*John R. R.*



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- 10th is at present prevailing that shoes should all be tapped.
- 11th A.D.O.S. advises that an additional 500 sacks are being consigned from Calais without indent for use of Units in packing up small stores for return to Base.
- 12th 4 tons General Stores advised as despatched from Base today. Units are urgently in need of Frost Cogs as owing to the continued frost very large quantities are being used. Ample supplies have been demanded by me from the Base, but stores are now taking ten to fourteen days from date of indent to arrive and, although, the full authorised reserve was held by me it was not found to be adequate.
- 13th Information received to the effect that Major J.H. TUCKETT has now been appointed A.D.O.S., Australian Corps.
- 14th Office Routine.
- 15th Office Routine.
- 16th Mr Walker visited Chatelineau to make arrangements regarding the loading of the first demobilisation train. Thaw precautions adopted. On arrival at Chatelineau it was found that the demobilisation train had been cancelled.
- 17th Received wire from Base advising 3 tons General Stores placed on rail. also 8 tons clothing.
- 18th 4 tons general stores received from Calais. The truck had been very much tampered with and quite a number of articles stolen. This pilfering has been greatly on the increase lately and causes a large amount of extra clerical work. Lieut. Walker proceeded to Chatelineau for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for the store when it is moved from Onhaye. A place was chosen close to the Railhead.
- 19th Office Routine.
- 20th Thaw precautions lifted. Units of 4th Australian Divisional Artillery and the 14th and 48th Australian Infantry Battalions returned their Mobilisation equipment to the demobilisation store at Chatelineau. Advice received that 7 tons general ~~xxxx~~ stores despatched from Base today.
- 21st Mobilisation stores of the 4th and 12th Australian Light Trench Mortar Batteries, also the 50th Infantry Battalion returned to Chatelineau. Advice received from Australian Corps that the first demobilisation train for the Base will leave on the 24th instant. In order to get an idea as to the method of receiving stores at the Base it was decided to send one of our own N.C.Os. down to Calais with the first train.
- 22nd 3 tons general stores and 8 tons clothing received from Base. This consignment was very much pilfered as was the case in the previous lot received on the 18th inst. 4th Aust. Field Company Engineers and Cable Section, 4th Australian Divisional Signal Company returned their equipment to Chatelineau.
- 23rd Mobilisations stores of the 10th and 11th A.F.A. Brigade Signal Sub. Sections, also 7th and 8th Medium Trench Mortar Batteries were today handed in to demobilisation depot at Chatelineau. Three ~~dasks~~ of mineral jelly and three bales of flannelette sent to

*J. Shack*





- 23rd Chatelineau from the store at Onhaye for use in preservation of Guns and Machine Guns prior to their return to Base.
- 24th The first demobilisation train, comprising 16 flat tank trucks for vehicles and six covered trucks, five for stores and one for the use of the gaurd, was loaded and despatched to Base today. 13th Australian Light Trench Mortar Battery and 16th Infantry Battalion handed in their stores today.
- 25th Owing to the progress of demobilisation and the proposed amalgamation of the 1st and 4th Australian Divisions, it has been decided to move the 4th Division into close proximity with the 1st Division at Chatelet. With this in view it will be no longer necessary to maintain a store at Onhaye, and consequently two lorry loads of stores were despatched to the new store at Chatelineau, where we shall be in close touch ~~in~~ with Divisional Units when they move to the new area.
- 26th 12th Aust. Field Company Engineers today handed in their equipment at Chatelineau. Two more loads of stores despatched from Onhaye.
- 27th Sub.Conductor R. McDermid who had been in charge of the Artillery Group promoted to Conductor to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Condr. Newman to 2nd Lieut. Owing to the shortage of sacks for packing up stores, 11,000 German sand bags were handed over to us by the 10th Australian Field Artillery Brigade.
- 28th 4 tons clothing and boots received from Base. Here again, although the truck showed no signs of having been tampered with, on checking the stores with the Vouchers it was found that about 40 pairs of Australian Pattern Boots were missing. 46th Infantry Battalion, 4th Machine Gun Battalion and No.5 Section Divisional Signal Company all handed in their equipment to demobilisation ~~at~~ depot today. One lorry load of stores sent from Onhaye to Chatelineau.

28/2/1919.

*Shack*  
Lieut.  
D.A.D.O.S.  
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.