

AWM4

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

Supplies & Transport

Item number: 25/14/51

Title: 1st Australian Divisional Train

January 1919



AWM4-25/14/51

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

44

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

1st Australian Divisional Train

FOR

January 1919

Signature of Officer compiling

*G. H. ... Lieut Col.
1st Aust. Div. Train*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*G. H. ... Lieut Col.
1st Aust. Div. Train*

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol IV Page 14.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CHATELET CHARLEROI	1st Jan 15th Jan 19th		<p>No change has taken place during this period - the division remains still in this area. Owing to a week's irregularity in arrival of pack train No's 1 and 2 companies did not draw by H.T. but by M.T. This enabled these two companies to give their men and horses a spell and to overhaul all vehicles and harness etc. - which are now in a very creditable condition. No 3-4 Coy. being close to railhead naturally do not have so much transportation and their harness vehicles etc. are also in good condition. All companies are comfortably billeted and the men's comfort has been studied by company commanders as far as possible.</p>	
	15th Jan 25th Jan 1919		<p>Everything continues normal during this period - supplies are being worked smoothly. All ranks are being granted leave freely. Each company obtaining an allotment for leave to NAMUR and BRUSSELS from their respective Brigade H.Q. This has been greatly appreciated by all ranks. On 17th a draft of 1915 men numbering 26 were despatched to England for return to Australia for demobilisation.</p> <p>During this period all horses of this unit has been classified and branded by the Veterinary Board and Remount Board for purpose of facilitating early demobilisation. On 17th 96 O.R.'s were attached to the train from the 3 Brigades to fill existing vacancies as drivers these men have proved very satisfactory.</p>	

D. D. & L., London, E.C. (10340. Wt W53. P 213. 750,000. 3/18. E 2688 Form C/2118/16)

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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VOL IV Page 15

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<p>CHATELET</p> <p>9.11.</p>	<p>Janey</p> <p>27th</p> <p>-</p> <p>31st</p> <p>1919</p>		<p>The Return from leave on 27th inst. Lieut. Col. J. T. MARSH CMG resumed command of the Divisional Train - Although the Divisional Train is short of 8 Officers and $\frac{3}{4}$ of the men are new to ASG work, the efficiency of the train under the circumstances is considered satisfactory. The condition of the Horses is distinctly good, harness, vehicles and all equipment is satisfactory. The men are contented working well and discipline is good. The demobilization scheme is proceeding satisfactorily so far as the Train is concerned - On 29th Janey 60 O.R. (1915-) proceeded to England for demobilization and a further 100 personnel from other units of the Division were attached for duty to the Train to complete establishment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">J. T. Marsh Lt Col. of 1st Am. Div Train</p> <p style="text-align: center;">31.1.19</p>	

WAR DIARY

OF

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL TRAIN.

FOR

JANUARY 1919

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Statement of Unit's Strength, Casualties etc. by days of period |
| 2. | Summary for month by "Australian Comforts Fund" Representative |
| 3. | Summary for month by Senior Supply Officer |
| 4. | " " " " O.C. No. 1. Company |
| 5. | " " " " O.C. No. 2. Company |
| 6. | " " " " O.C. No. 3. Company |
| 7. | " " " " O.C. No. 4. Company |

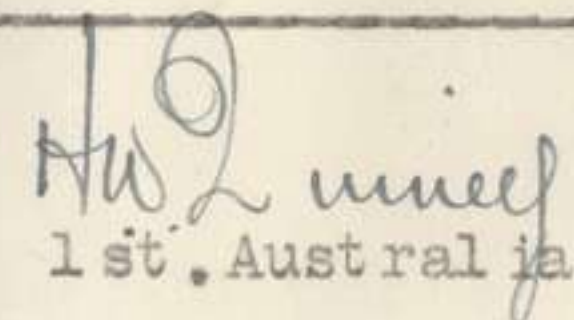
Lieut Colonel.
~~Captain & A/Adjutant~~

~~For~~ C.O. First Australian Divisional Train.

DAILY STRENGTH - 1st. AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL TRAIN.

Date.	Off. O.R.		Attached	Horses	Reinforcements		Remounts		Evacuations		Remarks		
	Off.	O.R.	Off.O.R.		Off.	O.R.	H.D.	L.D.	Off.	O.R.		H.D.	L.D.
1.1.19 to	18	373	2 118	357	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
6.1.19													
7.1.19	18	372	2 137	357	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
8.1.19	18	374	2 151	356	-	2	-	-	-	-	1		
9.1.19	18	376	2 150	356	-	2	-	-	-	-	-		
10.1.19	18	375	2 138	356	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
11.1.19	17@	374	2 136	356	-	-	-	-	1@	-	-	@To Australia on leave	
12.1.19	17	373	2 139	356	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
13.1.19 to	17	373	2 140	355	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
14.1.19													
15.1.19 to	16	375	2 152	355	-	2	-	-	1@	-	-		
19.1.19	15	340	4 164	355	-	-	-	-	1@	35@	-		
20.1.19 to	15	339	4 194	355	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
21.1.19													
22.1.19 to	13	339	2 201	354	-	-	-	-	2@	-	-	1	
23.1.19													
24.1.19 to	13	337	3 220	358	-	-	1	3	-	2@	-	1 to Australia on leave	
25.1.19													
26.1.19	13	336	3 221	357	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	
27.1.19	13	337	3 221	357	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
28.1.19	13	336	4 220	356	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
29.1.19	13	335	4 217	356	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	
30.1.19	13	277	5 226	356	-	-	-	-	-	58@	-	1 to Australia on leave	
31.1.19	13	277	7 227	355	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
<u>TOTALS.</u>					-	10	1	3	5	103	3	3	

DATE. 1/2/1919.


 Captain & A/Adjutant
 1st. Australian Divisional Train.

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REPORT ON SUPPLY SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1919.

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RATION STRENGTH. 127395 men, 5815 heavy draughts, 38931 light draughts
530 Pack Mules were rationed during the month of
January.

The following Units were attached to the
Division for supplies during January.
2nd Sanitary Section 4th Army S eige Park.
3rd A.F.A.Bde. (Army) 103rd Labour Coy.
1st A.M.T.Coy. 137th " "
1st Aust. Tunnelling Coy.

QUALITY.

Supplies received from Base have been up to the usual
good standard.

SUPPLY

During the month the division has not moved, and
railhead still remains at COUILLET-MONTIGNIES, which
is a very satisfactory railhead.

SITUATION.

SUPPLIES.

All forage for month has been drawn from pack Train
and has been of excellent quality. Bran has been
difficult to obtain this month owing to shortage at B-
Base. Weights of fresh meat still leaves room for
improvement although the weights during the month
are better than during month of November of last year.
Methylated Spirits has been obtained in good quantity
during month but Wood Preserving Oil has continued
to be unobtainable. Fresh Vegetables have
been arriving very short and for the last week none
at all have arrived on pack Train owing to shortage
of stocks - the shortage would be gravely felt
but luckily it has been possible to purchase green
vegetables in this area.

FUEL.

Coal has been arriving very erratically of late
none for 5 days and then a large consignment. this
complicates the situation slightly.

DRIPPING.

580 lbs Dripping representing 203 Francs were
returned by the Division to railhead for the month of
January.

PURCHASES.

1736 Kilos Cabbages and 12350 kilos Carrots were
purchased locally at BOULET, during the month, the
condition of these fresh vegetables was excellent.

REQUISITIONS.

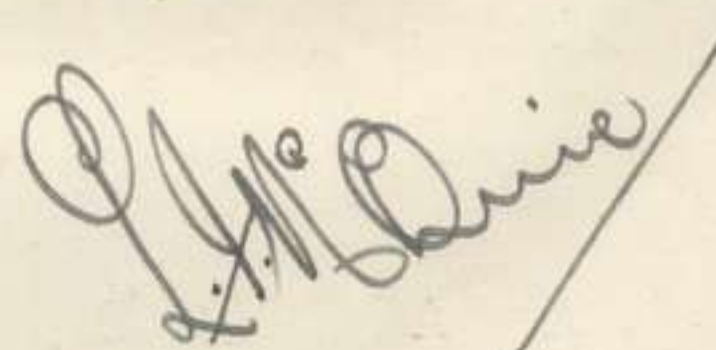
Nil during period.

ECONOMY

During the month of January the division has
voluntarily underdrawn.

UNDERDRAWALS.

<u>Biscuits</u>	<u>Rice.</u>	<u>P. Meat.</u>
1764 lbs.	138 lbs.	34 lbs.


Major.

S.S.O. 1st Australian Division.

War Diary Month
January 1919.

No. 1 Coy 1st Aust. Div Train

Establishment. 62 Wagons G.
7 " Lumbered
1 Water Cart

70

Hy mée Belgium The only Transport carried out by this Company during the period was that of drawing supplies from Railhead to refilling point for a period of six days during the month supplies were delivered to refilling point by M.T. owing to late arrival of pack trains All ~~the~~ the N.C.O.s and men are comfortably quartered in billets and all horses are under cover.

During the last month 47 N.C.O.s & men have had leave to Brussels also 7 N.C.O.s and men to H&MUR.

All ranks seem to be very contented. It has been impossible to indulge in sports of any kind owing to the state of the weather.

Casualties for Month:-

NCO's & Men: 22 to Australia
51 Infantry men attached for duty

Horses:- 1 light draft evacuated to 1st A.A.R.S.
W.P. Stokes sent
off for Coy, A.S.C.

Summary.

Kosloy A. A. L. C.

The month has been practically uneventful. Two more batches of 1915 personnel have left the Coy during the month for return to Australia. The strength being much reduced thereby, from 20 to 30 men of different battalions of the 1st Infantry Brigade have been attached as drivers. Three officers have also been attached for duty. The usual transport duties have been carried ^{out} in drawing supplies from railhead to dumps. The last few days of the month this work became rather severe on the horses owing to the slippery condition of the frozen roads. However the delivery of rations has been by no means retarded. All horses of the Coy have been classified and branded according to the different classes they will come under when demobilization of animals takes place. Several parties of men have visited the cities of Brussels and Namur during the month, the former city created a favourable impression on all those who visited there. The health of the men throughout the month has been very good. Very little sickness of any kind having been reported. Two men were evacuated, one with bronchitis, and the other, who was on detachment, with measles.

31-1-1919

Jordan Capt.
Kosloy A. A. L. C.

44
WAR DIARY for month of JANUARY 1919

No. 3 Company.

1st Australian Div. Train.

Total Establishment of company	WAGONS, G.S. 23.
	LIMBERS, G.S. 2.

The company is still located at COUILLET and as supplies are being drawn from railhead in close vicinity to the dump, transport has consequently remained light. Ten wagons daily, averaging two miles per wagon have been required for the transport of supplies for 2nd Australian Infantry Brigade and occasional trips to CHATELET, 2½ miles distant, and CHARLEROI, 2 miles distant, has constituted the whole of the transport for the month. One wagon still remains detached with 2nd Australian Machine Gun Company. On the 8th. inst. one complete turn out proceeded for duty with 1st Australian Divisional Leave Club, NAMUR, but returned on 30th. inst. owing to the closing of the Club. The general condition of both horses & wagons is good.

Throughout the month the company has experienced considerable difficulty owing to the shortage of drivers, occasioned by 1914/5 men returning to Australia, but it is hoped before long to have these vacancies filled by transfers from infantry & the arrival of reinforcements.

The following changes in strength have taken place: On the 25th. inst. Capt. J. Thomson returned from leave to United Kingdom and again took command. On 17/1/19. 7 other ranks & one attached man proceeded to No. 4 Command Depot, Bourdcoff, England for return to

Australia and again on 29th. inst. a further draft of 18 other ranks was despatched. Lieut Stewart, who was on leave to United Kingdom, was instructed to report to O.T.B. Longbridge Deverill for return to Australia and was struck off strength as from 10/1/19. One other rank received orders to proceed to England for Early Repatriation & one man was transferred to No. 2 Company.

Generally speaking the health of the company has been very good - one man only being evacuated to hospital.

On an average 4 other ranks per week have proceeded on leave to United Kingdom and Paris, while 13 other ranks have visited BRUSSELS on two days leave.

We have again received a very liberal issue of comforts from the Australian Comforts Fund and an issue of cigarettes from the Australian Y.M.C.A., both of which were much appreciated by all ranks.

Six football matches have been played, the Company joining forces with A.A.M.C., Brigade Headquarters and Light Trench Mortar Battery & we have been successful in all but two matches.

H. Thomson CAPTAIN.
O.C., No. 3 Coy, 1st Aust. Div'l Train.

44 War Diary. Month of January 1919 10
No. 4 Coy 1st Australian Division Train.

On the first of the month the Company was situated at Chatelet where it still remains occupying portion of the buildings and yards of the Abbatois and Gendarmene. During the whole period supplies were drawn from Couillet Montignies Railhead by this unit to refilling point - this requiring on an average eighteen wagons daily the approximate distance covered during the period was 650 Kilos.

At first considerable difficulties were encountered at the Railhead Insufficient space causing much delay.

The men are billeted in particularly good and comfortable billets and are experiencing a fairly comfortable time. The health of the men is very good and no sickness prevails. During the month we have had 2 O'Ranks evacuated sick - one with influenza and one with venereal disease.

We have had 17 men transferred and remustered as drivers from Infantry Battalions and 16 men attached from the 3rd Brigade for general duties - pending transfer. One Officer has proceeded to Australia 2 O'Ranks proceeded to Australia on special Repatriation also 19 other 1915 personnel. 3 Officers from 3rd Brigade have been attached for instructional purposes.

A considerable amount of money has been spent during the month on vegetables and comforts which were very much appreciated by all ranks.

The horses have been stabled under ¹¹
close cover and no open lines have
been required. No sickness prevails in
the horse lines and all animals
are in good condition. All horses have
been classified by a veterinary board
during the month.

M. R. Rigby

Captain
OC How Coy AASE