

AWM4

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/80/18

Title: 5th Australian Sanitary Section

March 1919



AWM4-26/80/18

R.20000 5/18 ___11069.

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ORIGINAL

CONFIDENTIAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPPLICATE.~~

AUSTRALIAN

IMPERIAL

FORCE

WAR

DIARY

for

5th. Australian Sanitary Section.

for

MARCH

1919.

Signature of Officer compiling. Arthur Howard Captain,
O.C. 5th. Aust. Sanitary Section.

Signature of Officer Commanding. Arthur Howard

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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Solre-le-Chateau. France.	March.			
	1		Summer time commences to-day. An appropriate day for the change. Orders received for the	
			Despatch of Quota No. 14. Pte Gilchrist returns from leave to U.K.	
	2		A Unit Dinner was held to Celebrate the 3rd. Anniversary of the formation of this Unit; and also to say farewell to members of the Unit leaving with Quota No. 14. Several members of the Divisional Concert Party attended and provided a programme for the evening. Altogether it was a very enjoyable, but nevertheless decorous occasion.	
	3		Heavy rain. Pte Gilchrist detached with 8th. Brigade.	
	4		Latrine in Square shifted to new site. German prisoners engaged on this and other sanitary work in the town.	
	5		Cpl. Leirsch, L/Cpl. Lay, Ptes. Hooker and Moreland leave to join Quota No. 14. for Australia.	
	6		Pte. Hollyer leaves detached with 14th. Brigade at Sivry.	
	7		Sgt. Thomas leaves to report to le Havre en route for A.A.M.C. Depot, Fovant, for Early Repatriation. French Band plays in the Square. O/C pays a visit to Corps Headquarters, where information is obtained re move to new area.	
	8		Routine work.	
	9		D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps - Sanitary Instructions No. 10 received.	Append
	10		Detachment recalled from Maubeuge in accordance with instructions from D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps.	
	11		Preparations for the move.	
	12		Pte Mason detached with 14th. Brigade at Sivry. O/C visits new area to make final arrangements for the move. Detachment recalled from Avesnes.	
	13		Routine work.	

D.O. 841, London, E.C.
(A7883) Wt. Wto/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/2118/14

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(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information																																					
Marbaix-la-Tour. Belgium.	14		Fine. Section moves to Marbaix, stores and the majority of the personnel being conveyed by motor lorry obtained through D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps. Message was received from A.D.M.S. 5th. Aust. Division to inspect Corps R.E. Workshops, Jeumont And report on occurrence of cases of Measles there. It was found that 2 cases of measles had occurred. Necessary action re isolation of contacts had been taken and arrangements for isolation were adequate. Sanitary arrangements of camp generally were satisfactory and there was no overcrowding in billets. R These facts were reported to A.D.M.S. 5th. Division and to D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps.																																					
	15		/3 O/Ranks attached from infantry battalions were returned to their Units. 15 O/Ranks of 1st. Aust. Sanitary Section were taken on attached strength of this Unit. As per Sanitary Instructions No. 10 this Sections area now consists of Sivry, Barbencon, Renlies, Walcourt, Nalines, Thuin, Marcinelle Areas plus R.A.F. Areas in Ragnies Area. It was decided to locate Sub-Sections as follows - <table><tr><td>Sivry</td><td>3 men</td><td>Pte Hollyer in charge. (already posted.)</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Beaumont</td><td>2 "</td><td>Pte Fishleigh</td><td>"</td><td>"</td></tr><tr><td>Walcourt</td><td>3 "</td><td>Cpl Southwell</td><td>"</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Erpion</td><td>3 "</td><td>Pte Banner</td><td>"</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daussois</td><td>3 "</td><td>L/Cpl Fleming</td><td>"</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Thuin</td><td>3 "</td><td>L/Cpl Duncan</td><td>"</td><td>(already posted.)</td></tr><tr><td>Marcinelle</td><td>6 "</td><td>L/CPL Cole</td><td>"</td><td>"</td></tr></table>			Sivry	3 men	Pte Hollyer in charge. (already posted.)			Beaumont	2 "	Pte Fishleigh	"	"	Walcourt	3 "	Cpl Southwell	"		Erpion	3 "	Pte Banner	"		Daussois	3 "	L/Cpl Fleming	"		Thuin	3 "	L/Cpl Duncan	"	(already posted.)	Marcinelle	6 "	L/CPL Cole	"	"
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Marcinelle	6 "	L/CPL Cole	"	"																																				
	16		L/Cpl Fleming reports back from leave to U.K. Work of posting men to Sub-sections proceeded with.																																					
	17		Sub-sections posted.																																					
	18		Ditto.																																					
	19		Routine work.																																					
	20		Motor Bicycle and side car, and Ford Box Car of 1st. Sanitary Section Handed in to 2nd. M.T. Coy. It is hoped to exchange this Sections Ford Car for that of 1st. Sanitary Section.																																					
	21		Motor Bicycle sent to Workshops for repairs. Pte Payne reports back from leave to U.K. Office of 1st Sanitary Section organised by this Unit. Previous to this Office has been																																					
D. D. & L., London, E.C. (A7883) Wt. W803/M1672 350,000 4/17 Sch. 52a Forms/C/21/8/14																																								

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mabbaix-la-Tour.	21		located in temporary premises with Q.M. Store pending departure of 1st. Sanitary Section.	Ab
	22		Very cold. Routine work.	
	23		Fine but cold. L/Cpl Clancy reports back from Hospital and is taken on strength. By arrangement with some of the civilians 2 small messes were formed for the members of the Unit at Headquarters. The 1st. Sanitary Section had this arrangement and found that it worked very well.	Ab
	24		L/Sgt. Rilstone and Pte. Graves left Unit to join Quota No. 20.	
	25		Heavy fall of snow during the night. Ford Box car No. 45378 received in exchange for No. 19875 from 2nd. M.T. Coy.	Ab
	26		Snowing and very cold. Received issue from Comforts Fund. Monthly Report forwarded to D.D.M.S.	Ab
	27		Still cold and snowing. See Routine work.	
	28		Routine work.	Ab
	29		Allotment for Embarkation Quota No. 31 received:- 1Sgt. 8 O/Ranks.	
	30		Fine. Routine work.	
	31		" " "	
<p style="text-align: right;">Arthur Howard Captain.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">O. C. 5th. Australian Sanitary Section.</p>				

WAR DIARY.

of

5th. Australian Sanitary Section.

for

MARCH.

1919.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Monthly Report, March 1919.
2	Map of Area.
3	Regimental Funds Statement.
4	Sanitary Instructions No.10. Australian Corps.
5	Routine Orders 9/3/19.
6	Trust Account.

1/4/1919.

Arthur Howard Captain,
O.C. 5th. Australian Sanitary Section.

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5th. Australian Sanitary Section.

Month ending 27/3/19.

MONTHLY REPORT.

General.

From 27/2/19 to 14/3/19 Section was stationed at Solre-le-Chateau and supervising the sanitation of "E" and "F" Divisional Areas. On 9/3/19 Sanitary Instructions No. 10 were received from D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps., allotting to this Section SIVRY, BARBENCON, RENLIES, WALCOURT, NALINES, THUIN, MARCINELLE Areas.

The substance of these instructions I had already learned in an interview on the 7th. inst. on which date I also visited O.C. 1st. Aust. San. Section re the take over.

On 12th. inst. new area was visited and final arrangements made for move. Sub-Section was withdrawn from Maubeuge on 10th. inst. in accordance with instructions from D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps.

Section moved on 14th. inst. to Marbaix la Tour, where billets had been arranged pending handing in of stores etc. by the 1st. Aust. Sanitary Section.

Office of the 1st Aust. Sanitary Section was taken over on 18th. inst.

On 15th. inst. 15 O/Ranks of 1st. Aust. San. Section were taken on attached strength of this Unit, and on 18/3/19 on reduction of Cadre "A" 1st. Aust. San. Section to Cadre "B", 3 O/Ranks were taken on attached strength.

3 infantry attached men returned to their units on 15/3/19.

Total Strength of Unit now is:-

5th. Aust. Sanitary Section.	1 Officer	15 O/Ranks
		(including 2 M.T. drivers)
1st. Aust. Sanitary Section.		18 O/Ranks.

Total. 1 Officer. 42 O/Ranks

Sanitation. Work in "E" and "F" areas was of a routine nature. There is nothing special to report.

New areas taken over on the 15th inst. had been previously occupied by troops of Australian Corps and other Australian Sanitary Sections had been supervising these areas.

2nd. Aust. Division occupies a small and densely populated area, round Marcinelle. Here the majority of the troops are occupying private billets and civilian Sanitary arrangements are used.

In 5th. Divisional Area troops are rather scattered and many villages in the area are unoccupied.

Latrines.

In many cases civilian latrines are used by individual men. This arrangement is satisfactory. A sufficient number of Public Latrines exist. Units of 5th. Div. were advised to take latrine seats with them when they moved, and in many cases this was done and box seat latrines are in use. In some cases open pits are used temporarily.

Water.

Water in area has been tested. All towns in area have good communal supplies, except in 14th. Brigade area, where water is drawn from tested wells and basins.

P.O.W. Cages. These have received special attention during month.

No. 375 Company, re which an unfavourable report was submitted last month, moved to Solre-le-Chateau, where conditions were improved. This camp has been inspected on several occasions and recommendations re its sanitation made to O.C.

An inspector of the Section was sent to Jeumont and assisted in an advisory capacity in making Russian Pit Disinfector for No. 374 P.O.W. Jeumont, which is now working well. Both No 374 and No. 371 P.O.W. Companies at Jeumont are in a satisfactory and sanitary condition.

Infectious diseases

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A number of cases of Measles and Mumps have been reported among 5th. Divisional troops. In each case measures for disinfection of billets with formalin have been taken, and it has been ascertained that necessary precautions had been taken.

On 14/3/1919 investigated outbreak of Measles at Jeumont Workshops. It was ascertained that necessary precautions had been taken. A McKenzie Spray has been loaned to Workshops and a supply of formalin obtained for them.

Personal report on this matter was made to D.A.D.M.S. Aust. Corps. on 14/3/19.

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
SANITARY SECTION.

No.
27/3/19.
Date

Arthur Stoward Captain.
O.C. 5th. Aust. Sanitary Section.

To D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps.....	3 Copies.
" A.D.M.S. 5th. Aust. Div.....	1 Copy.
War Diary	3 Copies.
File.	1 Copy.

REGIMENTAL FUNDS

CASH ACCOUNT

5TH. AUST. SANITARY SECTION.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR PERIOD 1/1/19 to 28/2/19.

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RECEIPTS				AMOUNT			EXPENDITURE				AMOUNT		
Date.	FROM WHOM	ON WHAT ACCOUNT	Fcs.	£	S	D	Date.	ON WHAT ACCOUNT	Fcs.	£	S	D	
1/1/19.	brought forward	Petty Cash in hand	211.60	8	2	3	11/1/19	Books. Unit Library					
		Div. Paymaster						Receipts. £5.1.6	132.10	5	1	6	
		No. 16998	300.00	11	10	0	22/1/19	Goods (Certificate)	45.60	1	15	0	
		No. 16999	300.00	11	10	0		Vegetables. (R)	52.00	1	19	9	
								Vegetables (K)	22.50		17	3	
								Vegetables (R)	15.00		11	6	
							23/1/19	Anzac Bulletin (R)	14.10		10	10	
							10/2/19.	Aussie a/c (R)	6.50		5	0	
							11/2/19.	Lamp for Office. (R)	42.25	1	12	3	
							18/2/19.	Vegetables (R)	75.50	2	17	11	
								Vegetables (Certificate)	12.00		9	2	
							19/2/19.	Papers. (R)	21.00		16	1	
							27/2/19.	Beer. (R)	12.00		9	2	
								Cash in hand.	361.05	13	16	10	
		Fcs.	811.60	£	31.2.3								
									Fcs.	811.60	£	31.2.3	

I certify that all monies in connection with the Regimental Funds of the 5th. Australian Sanitary Section have been correctly brought to Account for the period 1/1/19 to 28/2/19, that the above statement is a true copy of the Cash Book, and that the amount shown in hand is actually in my possession.

Arthur Howard

Officer Commanding,

5th. Australian Sanitary Section.

The Auditor,

Administrative Headquarters,

130 Horseferry Road. S.W.1

280 ~~Copy~~
AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Sanitary Instructions No. 10.

In accordance with Australian Corps 5/995 d. 21-2-19.

1. From 15th. March 1919, the Corps Area will be shown on map attached.
2. Areas are allotted as follows from 15th. March, and will be taken over by mutual arrangement between O's C. concerned:-

5th. Aust. San. Section.

SIVRY- BARBENCON - RENLIES - WALCOURT - NALINES - THUIN -
MARCINELLE - R.A.F. Areas in RAGNIES Area.

2nd. Aust. San. Section.

COUILLET - CHATELET - PRESLES - GOUGNIES - MORIALME - FLORENNES-
ROSEE.

3. 5th. Aust. San. Section will be located at and will take over existing accommodation from 1st. Aust. San. Section, MARBAIX.
4. 1st. and 4th. Aust. San. Sections will be reduced to Cadre "A" on 15th. March, and personnel not due for Demobilisation or Repatriation attached for duty to 5th and 2nd Aust. San. Sections respectively.
5. Sanitary Sections will continue to be attached for Demobilisation and Repatriation to their respective Divisions. Personnel attached to 5th. And 2nd. Aust. San. Sections will be demobilised in order of precedence with members of those Units
6. On Demobilisation Cadre "A" will dispose of stores and equipment as follows:-
 - R.E. Stores to nearest R.E. Dump.
 - Ordnance Stores to Ordnance.
 - Medical Equipment to No.18 A.D. Med. Stores.

Indents for Medical Equipment deficient will be submitted and disposed of in accordance with D.M.S. ? A.I.F. 4D.5/1., d, 7-2-19, para, "A".

Headquarters
7-3-19

(Signed) G.W. BARBER
COLONEL
D.D.M.S. Australian Corps.

Distribution;- O's C. San Sections (Map attached)
A.D's M.S. Aust. Divisions.
'AQ' Aust. Corps. (Copies for Divisions, Area Commandants
and Town Majors).
D.M.S. 4th. Army.
D.M.S. A.I.F.
War Diary (3)
File
O.C. No.18 Adv. Depot Med. Stores.

Att

TRUST ACCOUNT

REGIMENTAL FUNDS

5TH. AUST. SANITARY SECTION

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STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for PERIOD 1/1/19 to 28/2/19.

RECEIPTS			AMOUNT			EXPENDITURE			AMOUNT				
DATE	FROM WHOM	ON WHAT ACCOUNT	Pcs.	E	S	D	DATE	TO WHOM	ON WHAT ACCOUNT	Pcs.	E	S	D
1/1/19	Balance from last return.	In Trust with C.P.M.		80	17	0	21/1/19	Cash a/c	Reg.16998	300.00	11	10	0
								Cash a/c	Reg.16999	300.00	11	10	0
							28/2/19	Carried forward	In Trust with C.P.M.		57	17	0
				£80.17.0							£80.17.0		

I certify that all monies in connection with Regimental Funds of 5th. Aust. Sanitary Section have been correctly brought to Account for the period 1/1/19 to 28/2/19., that the above statement is a true copy of the Cash Book, and that the amount shown in hand is actually in my possession.

Arthur Stoward. Officer Commanding,
5th. Australian Sanitary Section.

The Auditor,
Administrative Headquarters,
130 Horseferry Road, S.W.1

ROUTINE ORDERS.

Captain A.J. Howard. A.A.M.C.

by

9/3/1919.

O.C. 5th Aust. Sanitary Section

167. DRAWING AGAINST CREDIT.

5th. Aust. Div. Routine Order No. 18 of 4/2/19:-
" It is notified that on and after publication of this Order, no N.C.O. or man can draw against Credit Advices or amounts paid to their credit of their Pay Books, from the office of the Divisional Paymaster, without being in possession of an order signed by the C.O. and bearing the Orderly Room Stamp and date."

168. TAKING BLANKETS ON LEAVE.

5th. Aust. Div. Q 103/3447.
All men proceeding on leave will until further notice, take with them two blankets which will be handed in on arrival at Calais.
Commencing from the 9/2/1919, all returning leave personnel will be provided with two blankets which they will be ordered to hand in to their units on return.

169. FISHING IN PRIVATE WATERS.

5th. Aust. Div. Routine Orders No. 2883 of 6/3/1919 and 5th. Aust. Div. No.39 of 8/3/1919.
Cases have recently occurred of fishing in private waters without permission of the owners and of using explosives to kill fish. This will cease at once. Severe disciplinary action will be taken against any officers or other ranks found guilty of the use of explosives for this purpose.

170. SUMMARY OF GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS RE DEMOBILISATION AND REPATRIATION.

Attention is directed to Summary of General Instructions re Demobilisation and Repatriation, Additions and Amendments.
Copy of which may be seen in Orderly Room.

PART 2.

PROCEEDED ON LEAVE TO U.K. FOR NON-MILITARY EMPLOYMENT AND NOW STRUCK OFF STRENGTH,

17338 Pte. Elsworth A.E. 5th. Aust. San. Section. from 6/2/1919.
(Authority. Demobaust Wire 45939 of 1/2/1919. and 5th. Aust. Div. A 57/2565 of 2/2/1919.)

ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL WHILE ON LEAVE IN U.K. AND STRUCK OFF STRENGTH.

15532 Pte. Hearne C.R. 5th. Aust. San. Section. from 19/2/1919.
13939 Lc/Corp. Clancy R. " " " " 22/2/1919.

PROCEEDED ON EMBARKATION QUOTA 14 AND NOW STRUCK OFF STRENGTH FROM 5/3/1919.

No. 375. Cpl. Liersch W.A. 5th. Aust. San. Section.
No. 218. Lc/Cpl Lay R.T. " " " "
No. 368. Pte. Hooker W.H. " " " "
No. 634. Pte. Moreland R. " " " "

PROCEEDED ON EARLY REPATRIATION AND NOW STRUCK OFF STRENGTH FROM 7/3/1919.

No. 2453. Sergt. Thomas R.W. 5th. Aust. San. Section.

PROMOTIONS.

(continued).

PROMOTIONS.

No. 1763 Lc/Sergt. Rilstone W.M.J. to be Temporary Sergt. from 7/3/1919.
vice No. 2453 Sergt. Thomas R.

No. 9082. Lc/Corp. Southwell R. to be Temporary Corporal from 5/3/1919.
vice No. 375. Cpl. Liersch W.A.

Armin Howard Captain,
O.C. 5th. Australian Sanitary Sect.

Scale. 1:100,000

First Div Area

Green.

Second "

Brown.

Fourth

Blue

Little

Pink

Reservations

Yellow.

