

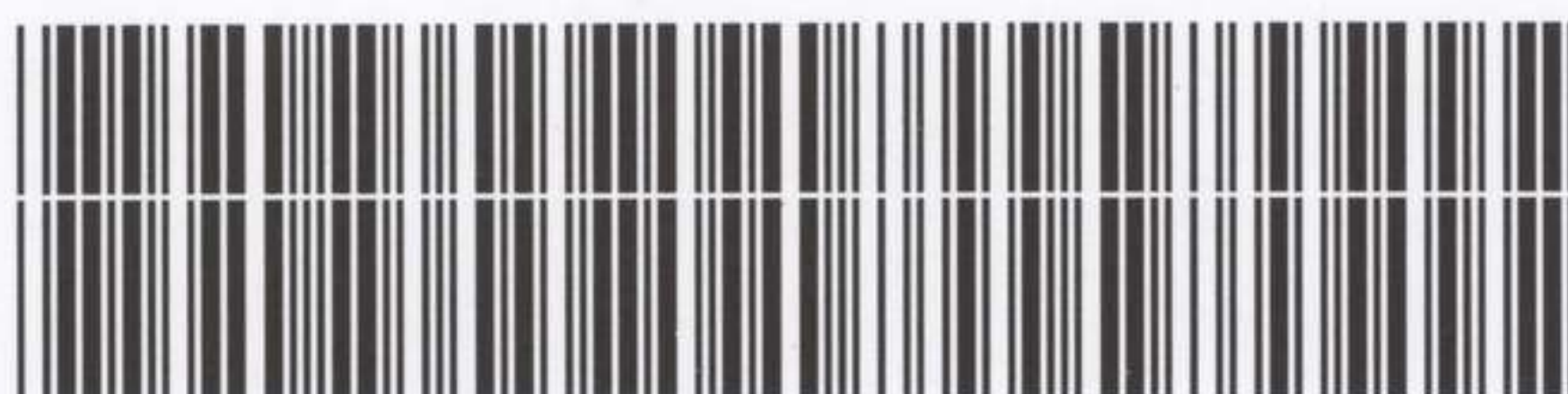
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/80/19

Title: 5th Australian Sanitary Section

January 1919



AWM4-26/80/19

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

280

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

5th. Australian Sanitary Section.

FOR

JANUARY

1919



Signature of Officer compiling

Arthur Howard Captain,

Signature of Officer Commanding

Arthur Howard Captain.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date 1919.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Solre-le-Chateau.	1/1/1919		New Years Day. The day was observed as far as possible as a holiday. Orders received from D.D.M.S., Australian Corps to take over from 2nd. Sanitary Section, supervision of sanitation of Maubeuge.	Atb
2/1/1919	2/1/1919.		Routine work. A.I.F. Form 534, Demobilisation papers for members of Unit, dispatched to London.	Atb
"	3/1/1919.		L/Sgt. Rilstone M.W.J. and two men proceeded to MAUBEUGE and took over work there from N.C.O. and two men of 2nd. Sanitary Section. 1 other R. proceeded on leave to Paris	Atb
"	4/1/1919.		Weather mild. Dvr. Johnston reported from 5th. M.T.Coy. to replace Dvr. Jones - on leave to Paris.	Atb
"	5/1/1919.		Raining as usual.	Atb
6/1/1919	6/1/1919.		Several changes in postings made. Pte. Watts from St.Remy to assist Pte. Southwell at Avesnes. Cpl. Fleming to Doullers and to take charge of 15th. Bde. Area.	Atb
"	7/1/1919.		D.D.M.S. interviewed re sundry matters, especially in reference to Demobilisation & Repatriation. G.S.waggon belonging to the 8th. Field Ambulance today struck dud shell at the station at Solre-le-Chateau, both horses killed. As a result, sudden increase in meat diet of inhabitants, and decrease in popularity of station as a health resort.	Atb
"	8/1/1919.		French band of Algerians Tirailleurs played on square. Col. M.H.Downey, D.S.O., A.D.M.S. left Division en route for Australia. Col. Fry D.S.O., appointed A.D.M.S. Question of reinforcing the Section and filling vacancies which it was expected that demobilisation would create, was discussed with the A.D.M.S. who was to communicate with Field Ambulances on the matter.	Atb
"	9/1/1919.		Raining again. Timber drawn from Dump. Ptes. Southwell and Clancy promoted to L/Cpls.	Atb
"	10/1/1919.		Notification received re approval of 1914/5 Star. During the past few days, there has been quite an epidemic of tonsillitis, with members of the Unit.	Atb
"	11/1/1919.		Raining again.	Atb
"	12/1/1919.		Case of chicken-pox reported from the 5th. Machine Gun Battn., necessary action taken.	Atb
"	13/1/1919.		Dull. Unit paid. Area Commandant, Solre-le-Chateau again written to regarding unsatisfactory state of sanitation in Solre-le-Chateau. The chief amusement for the troops lately has been the	Atb

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Solre-le-Chateau.	1919. 13/1.		Cinema, where for the sum of half a franc and the expence of breathing an atmosphere consisting of C.O2 and tobacco smoke, one can see a really excellent variety of pictures. One O/R proceeded on 2 days leave to Brussels.	
"	14/1		Pte, Hunter replaced Pte. Aylemore at Ramousies. Public Latrine on square completed.	
"	15/1		Pte. Aylemore proceeded to U.K. on special leave.	
"	16/1		Some Several mistakes made in the weather; we were issued with an Australian Pattern day, instead of a French pattern. Notification received from 5th. Division re Drafts No. 6&7, to which 8 & 9 vacancies respectively, from this Unit were allotted. Dvr. Jones returned from Paris leave.	
"	17/1		Dvr. Johnston returned to 5th. M.T. Coy.	
"	18/1		The O/C proceeded on leave to Brussels, Staff/Sgt. Melville on leave to Nice, Pte. Riley on special leave to U.K. It being found impossible for the Ambulances of the Division to supply reinforcements for this Section, it was arranged for these men to be drawn from Infantry Batts. 5 O/R's. from both 14th. and 8th. Bdes. reported for duty and training in special work of the Section.	
"	19/1		Wire received from D.D.M.S. Aust. Corps to take over Sanitary Administration of "E" Area, and inspect 3rd. Div. Artillery.	
"	20/1		New men given some instructions regarding their duties. O/C returned from leave to Brussels.	
"	21/1		Fine. Some of the more promising of men attached from Infantry Batts. were sent out to Sub-Sections, for training under the supervision of the more experienced inspectors. 1 to Sivry, 1 to Sains, 2 to Maubeuge, 2 to Avesnes. One man was detailed to assist in Office work, and to get experience in Office Routine. One man was detailed to work with L/Cpl. Clancy for special training in water-testing.	
"	22/1		O/C proceeded to Corps to see D.D.M.S. This Unit's allotment on Drafts No. 6 & 7 cancelled.	
"	23/1)		Routine Work.	
"	24/1)			
"	25/1		5 O.R. reported from 15th. A.I.Bde. One of theses, Pte. Firth was sent to Maubeuge.	
"	26/1		The O/R proceeded on leave to U.K.	

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
SANITARY DETT

No.
Date

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Solre-le-Chateau.	1919. 27/1.		After receiving some preliminary instruction regarding the nature of their duties, three of the men detailed from 15th. Bde. were allotted to detachments. 1 Avesnes, 1 Sains, 1 Sivvy. An interesting ceremony took place on Grand Place, Solre-le-Chateau. Several Officers and men of the 6th. Battn., Chasseurs Alpine being invested with various decorations. One O.R. proceeded to Brussels on 2 days leave.	280
"	29/1		Leave train temporally suspended.	
"	30/1		Maubeuge was en fete on account of the visit of President Poincaire to the town.	
"	31/1		Unit paid. Report on inspection of 3rd. Div. Artillery Area was forwarded to D.D.M.S., Aust. Corps. (Appendix No.4)	
1/2/1919.			<p style="text-align: right;"><u>Arthur Howard Lapp</u> Captain,</p> <p>O.C., 5th. Australian Sanitary Section.</p>	

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
SANITARY SECTION.

280

WAR DIARY

OF

5th. Aust. Sanitary Section.

FOR

JANUARY

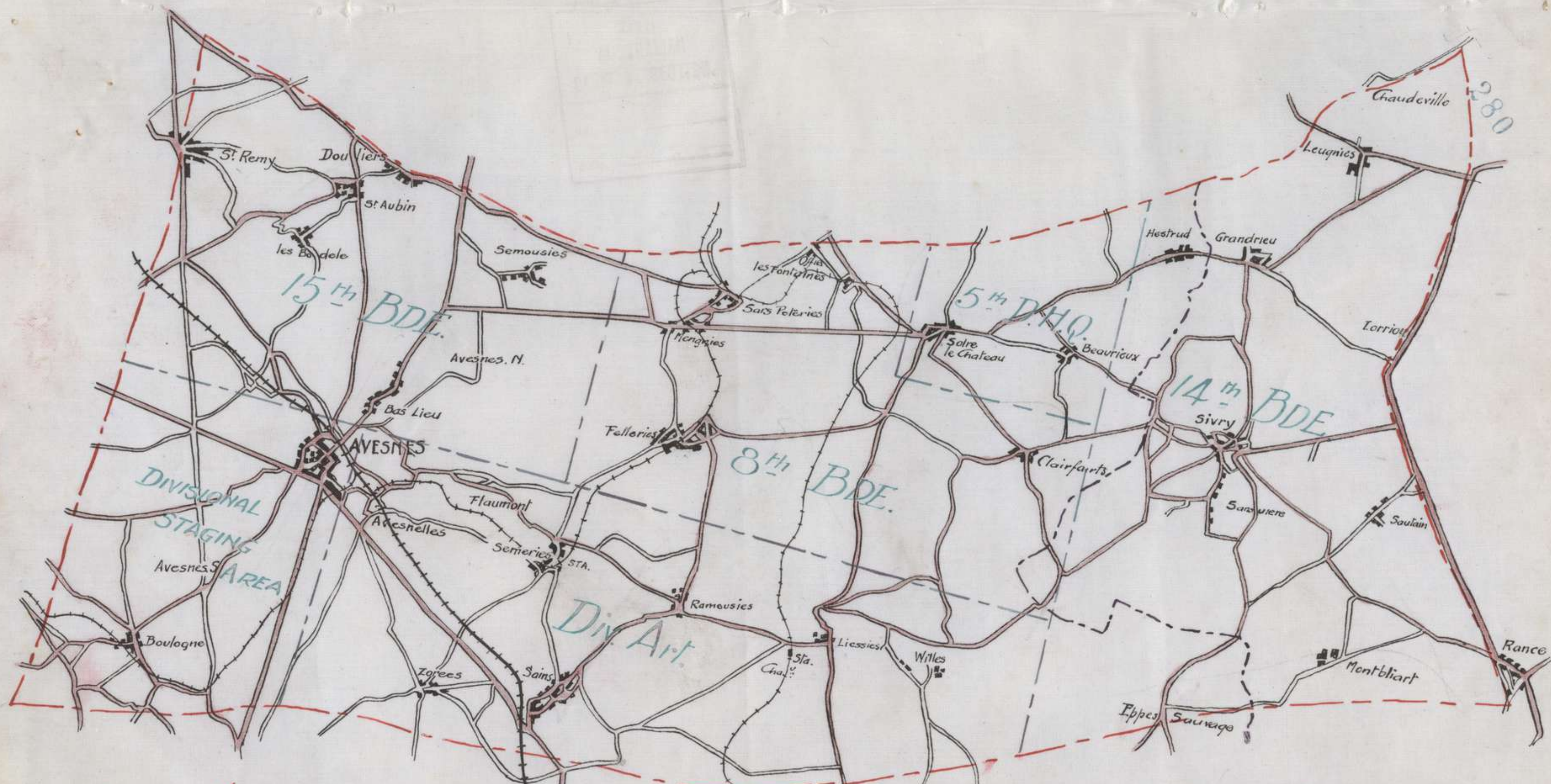
1919

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Divisional Area Map. (Original Only)
2.	Monthly Sanitary Report, January 1919.
3.	Report on Education.
4.	Copy report re 3rd. Div. Artillery Area.
5.	Unit Orders.

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





SCALE: 1/100,000

PARTS OF VALENCIENNES
AND NAMUR SHEETS

"F" DIV. AREA, 5th AUST. DIV.

5th Aust. San. Sec.

0
—
0

General. During the month the Section has been at Solre-le-Chateau, and has had Sanitary Administration of "F" Divisional Area. In addition, since 3/1/1919, a sub-section of 1 M.C.O. and 20 O/Ranks has been stationed at Naubeuge and has been superintending the sanitation of that Town and surrounding district, including part of the area occupied by 3rd. Australian Divisional Artillery. On 19/1/1919 instructions were received from D.D.M.S. to take over Sanitary Administration of "E" Divisional Area, and inspect 3rd. Aust. Divisional Artillery. Arrangements were made to effect this and will be made the subject of a special report.

Sanitation

General. The Area on arrival was in a very dirty state. This state of affairs has now been largely remedied, and all parts now in occupation by troops are in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

The question of labour has caused some difficulty in the Artillery Area. At SAINS for instance, a large amount of work was required to put the Town in a satisfactory condition. The parts actually in occupation by troops have been cleaned, but there are still some empty houses etc. which require cleaning out. It is expected that within a few days German prisoners will be available for this work.

Much work has been done in most of the Villages in the matter of removal of old refuse, and the whole area is now in a satisfactorily clean state.

Most of the Villages have public incinerators, situated at convenient spots, and rubbish is collected daily and burned.

Latrines.

The Units of the Division are all provided with adequate latrine accommodation. Box seats are practically universal. In all the larger villages and in most of the smaller ones, there are also suitable public latrines and notices. Three excellent public latrines have recently been erected in Solre-le-Chateau.

Manure.

In some cases satisfactory arrangements have been made with Civilian inhabitants for the removal of manure to fields. Where this is not possible, manure is being carted to public dumps, and stacked.

Water.

The water in the Area has been tested and notices have been erected. The more or less temporary linen notices at first erected are being replaced by notices painted on wood or tin. Unit water-carts are being examined from time to time and appropriate action taken when these are found un-chlorinated. In most cases, however, chlorination is carried out. The incidence of water-borne disease in the Division is, I understand, small.

Billets.

Billets are universally good. 14th. Inf. Brigade billets have been greatly improved, owing to moving of two Batts. to other villages, and to improvements carried out. As Units are becoming depleted owing to demobilisation, accommodation is undergoing corresponding improvement.

Infectious

Disease. Several cases of Diphtheria and of Typhoid Fever have occurred amongst civilian inhabitants. Appropriate action has been taken in each case.

Delousers.

Two Delousers are being constructed in the Area, under the supervision of one of this Section's Inspectors. It is hoped to induce more Units to undertake construction of Russian Pit Disinfestors, but in most localities it is difficult to find a suitable site.

Personnel.

In anticipation of impending changes due to Demobilisation of 1915 men, of whom this Section contains quite a large proportion, 15 men were attached to the Section from Infantry Battalions for training in Sanitation. After some preliminary training a number were sent to various parts of the Area for further training under the more experienced inspectors. It is expected that some of these men will be quite capable of carrying out inspectional duties, should the Section's strength be so depleted as to render such assistance necessary. One man is being trained in water-testing duties, and is showing considerable interest in this work.

Section

D.D.M.S.,
Australian Corps.

I have to submit the following report re the 3rd.Div. Artillery Area:

Previous to receipt of instructions on 19th. inst, detachment from this Section, stationed at MAUBEUGE had been inspecting part of area occupied by 3rd. Divisional Artillery. On receipt of these instructions the area of inspection was extended to include whole of 3rd Div. Artillery. This Section is now supervising sanitation of MAUBEUGE, HAUTMONT, LOUVROIL, SOUS-LA-BOIS, PONT ALLONT, FERRIERE-LE-GRAND.

The area is occupied by 3rd. Div. Artillery - 7th. & 8th. Edes., 3rd. D.A.C. 22nd. A.A.S.C., a number of British Troops and Units of the R.A.F., and some French Troops.

Accommodation is good, especially that of 3rd. Div. Artillery, all Units of which are situated in large Towns.

LATRINES.

In most cases civilian latrines are being used. In all the Towns a water-carriage system exists draining into large cess-pits. Arrangements for the periodically emptying of these by French Authorities have been made. Several public latrines are needed in HAUTMONT, and Town-Major has this matter in hand and has indented for the necessary material.

REFUSE AND MANURE.

Both refuse and Manure are being disposed of on Public Dumps, to which it is carted daily, under Town Major's arrangements.

WATER.

Water is obtained from public reservoir. Water has been tested and requires 1 scoop B.P. per 110 galls. Instructions have been issued by R.M.O.'s. regarding chlorination of water, and I have arranged for water-carts to be examined from time to time so as to ensure that this is carried out.

GENERAL.

The sanitary condition of Units is, on the whole, good, and general state of Area is satisfactory.

Arthur Howard

Captain,

O.C., 5th. Australian Sanitary Section.



Several factors make the organisation of Educational matters of a Unit such as this, peculiarly difficult. The cessation of hostilities has made little or no difference to the amount of work required of this Unit. In fact the work has been increased, rather than otherwise. Members of the Unit are also scattered over the whole Divisional Area, and Unit classes are therefore impossible.

At the same time, an effort has been made to cater for the needs of those men who desire instruction. One man has applied for a course at the Corps School in telephony and telegraphy. Meanwhile he is doing an I.C.S. Course on this subject.

In several cases men are attending classes of other Units near which they are billeted, and attending the Divisional School.

By arrangement with the Divisional Education Officer, Lieut. Clark, E.O. with the 5th. Divisional Engineers has undertaken to watch the interest of this Unit, and he keeps us informed on all Educational matters.

A start has been made in the matter of the establishment of a Unit Library. A number of books have been ordered from London, and are expected to arrive any day. Meanwhile, books are being obtained when possible, from the Division H.Q. library. Daily papers and periodicals have also been ordered through Division for the use of members of the Unit.

5TH AUSTRALIAN SANITARY SECTION.
1/2/1919.
Date.....

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

280

ROUTINE

ORDERS.

by

Captain A. H. 56866

10/1/1919.

C.O., 5th. Australian Sanitary Section

5th
AUSTRALIAN
SANITARY SECTION.

155. FIRES - PRECAUTIONS AGAINST.

The attention of all ranks is directed to the necessity of exercising every care in the prevention of Fire, particularly regarding lights in billets, etc.
5th. Div. R.O. No. 467-27/12/1918.

156. GERMAN BOMBS.

The practice of exploding German Bombs in streams and elsewhere is strictly against orders, and must cease forthwith.
Aust. C. R.O. No. 300, 29/12/18.

157. POSTAL CENSORSHIP.

Regimental Censorship of letters will be discontinued forthwith. Correspondence will still be liable to examination at the Base, and all ranks are reminded that the censorship Orders are still in force, except as regards those orders cancelled by G.R.O. 5682. If the examination at the Base shows that breaches of Censorship Orders are common in any Unit, it will be necessary to reimpose Regimental Censorship on those Units.
All letters and Post Cards must bear a censor stamp, except those posted in accordance with the latter portion of Censorship Orders, Para. 30. All letters and post cards will bear in the left hand bottom corner of the address side, the name and rank, if any, of the writer. They will be handed closed, to the Officer in Charge of the Censor Stamp, and will not be opened by him except for the purpose of identifying the writers who have failed to comply with this Order.
The issue of green envelopes will be discontinued forthwith.
Regimental Censorship of parcels and telegrams will be maintained as heretofore.
For the purpose of interpreting "Censorship Orders for Troops in the Field" the term "Franking" will be taken to mean the endorsement of the name and rank of the writer ~~and~~ as indicated above, except as regards parcels.
G.R.O. 5941, 29/12/1918.

158. PHOTOGRAPHY.

With reference to G.R.O. 5585, the publication of any photographs taken in the zone occupied by the British Armies (except those taken by the recognised Official Photographers) is forbidden.
G.R.O. 5940, 29/12/1918.

158. CURRENCY.

~~Attention is drawn to G.R.O. 582. 17~~

All ranks are cautioned against

a. Chambre de Commerce notes or petites Coupures issued by Towns which have been in enemy occupation.

b. Silver coins of the following denominations - 2 francs, 1 franc, 50 cts. and 20 cts., bearing on the obverse the effigy of Napoleon 3rd. with laurel wreaths. These coins are no longer legal tender. ~~in France.~~

IN FRANCE. The currency situation remains as before the armistice. Enemy coin and notes will not be introduced into France.

IN BELGIUM. French notes and coins, notes of the Bank National de Belgique, and notes of the Societe Generale de Belgique, are legal tender. Enemy coin and notes will not be introduced into Belgium.

G.R.O. 5955, 31/12/1918.

159. BELGIAN CURRENCY NOTES.

All ranks en route to Australia are notified that this currency is not negotiable outside Belgium, and all such money should be exchanged before proceeding abroad. Exchange of these notes can be made at the E.F.C's.

280
 Charleroi, or Paymaster 5th. Australian Division.

NOTICES.

Chaplain the Rev. Father J.J. Kennedy, D.S.O. formerly with the 14th. Aust. Infantry Brigade, is publishing a book entitled "The whale oil Guards", being a history of the 53rd. Battn. in particular, but incidentally dealing with other Batts. and the Division as a whole. The price of the book will be 5/4, which includes cost of postage. Units desirous of obtaining copies should forward orders for the book to Chaplain Kennedy, Kilquano House, County Kerry, Ireland, accompanied by the necessary amount, and the address to which it is desired that copies of the book should be sent.

A number of men with clerical experience are required for attachment to ~~XXXX~~ D.A.D.O.S. If suitable, these men will be transferred to A.A.O.C. to fill vacancies as they occur. Applicants should be single men without dependants, and whose length of service does not warrant an early return. Applications stating qualifications should be forwarded direct to D.A.D.O.S. as early as possible.

PART 2 ORDERS.

Evacuated to Hospital, Sick.

No. 1684, Pte. Campbell C.R. Evacuated 16/12/1918. Struck off.

Leave. Proceeded: No. 6911 Pte. Watts O.M. To Paris. 12/12/18.
 "16439 Dvr. Jones B.H. To Paris. 4/1/1918.

Returned
from..... No. 921 Pte. Riley F. from U.K. 27/12/18.
 "6911 " Watts O.M. " Paris. 26/12/18.

PROMOTIONS.

No. 13939, Pte. Clancy E.R. is appointed Lance Corporal 9/1/1919.
 " 9082, Pte. Southwell R. is appointed Lance Corporal 9/1/1919.



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

ROUTINE

ORDERS.

by

Captain A. Howard, A.A.M.C.13/1/1919.O.C., 5th. Aust. Sanitary Section160. OVER-DRAWN PAY ACCOUNTS.

The attention of all ranks is drawn to A.I.F. Order No.723 which is republished herein.

1. Except as provided in A.I.F. Orders Nos.492 and 696, Imprest Holders and other Paying Officers will not make advances to any member of the Australian Imperial Force that will cause the overdrawing of the latter's "Active" Pay account, without obtaining through the usual channels the special sanction of the G.O.C., A.I.F. This special sanction may, in the case of A.I.F. troops in Egypt, be given by the General Officer administering the A.I.F. in Egypt.
2. Where such sanction has been given, or in any cases in which the active pay account is already overdrawn, the Commanding Officer of the Unit must notify, and forward the paybook concerned to, the Chief Paymaster, A.I.F., or his representative, the Corps or Divisional Paymaster, who will make an entry in the member's paybook placing him on a restricted drawing rate to re-establish credit at the earliest possible date.
3. All Imprest Holders and Paying Officers will be held responsible that restrictions of the drawing rates of members, as shown in the paybooks, are strictly adhered to and not exceeded.
4. Men in France and Egypt, if their accounts are already overdrawn, are not entitled to avail themselves of the privilege of A.I.F. Order No.696.
5. Excepting in those cases provided for in Paragraph 1, no member of the A.I.F. will -

(a) make any payment,

(b) accept any payment,

if such payment would cause to be overdrawn or further overdraw the active pay of the person named in the paybook, according to the account which appears in the paybook.

Any contravention of these orders will result in the Imprest Holder or Paying Officer being held personally responsible to make good the unauthorised advances and amounts incorrectly paid, and also in disciplinary action being taken.

161. "1914-1915 STAR"

All Ranks who are eligible may now wear the insigna of the 1914-1915 Star, providing they satisfy the O.C. that they are entitled to do so. The ribbon is red, white and blue, in running colors. A.I.F. Order No.1495 of 31/12/18, defining service entitling all ranks to this distinction, may be seen on application at the Orderly Room.

162. MEAL-HOURS.

There has been too much irregularity in the meal-hours lately, this must cease. In future, the hours shown hereunder will be strictly adhered to. The Cook will make special provision for M.T. Drivers or others who may be delayed on duty.

Breakfast.	.....	0800.	15	0820.
Lunch.	.....	1230.	15	1250.
Dinner.	.....	1630.	15	1650.

5TH
AUSTRALIAN
SANITARY SECTION.

13/1/1919.

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