

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

Supplies & Transport

Item number: 25/18/24

Title: 5th Australian Divisional Train

March 1919



AWM4-25/18/24

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TRIPLICATE.



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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

5th Aust Div Train

FOR

March 1919

Signature of Officer compiling.....

Signature of Officer Commanding..... *H. A. Davis*

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.



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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	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LEUGNIES (Belgium)	1/3/19		Col FRANCIS, arrived back from 75 days long service leave in UK + France -	
"	3/3/19		29 th aasc handed in equipment to DADOS, less Carpaullins + Divers -	
"	4/3/19		1. JOHNSON, back from 75 days long service leave -	
"	5/3/19		Reconnoitred round new areas. Selected T.H.Q. at SILENRIEUX, + DAUSSOIS for 18 th + 10 th aasc.	see T.O. No 30
"	6/3/19		Quota No 114 to Australia. Capt GRAHAM + 63 ORs.	
"	7/3/19		Issued orders for move of Train to new areas -	
"	8/3/19		Interpreter DUBOSCO, Neuvi, of French Mission, with Train since landing in France, left finally for demobilization	see T.O. No 31
"	10/3/19		Issued orders for amalgamation with other Companies of 5 th Div Train, of 29 th aasc, to effect on 12 th inst.	
SILENRIEUX	11/3/19		J.H.Q. to SILENRIEUX - 10 th + 18 th aasc to DAUSSOIS - Dump for 8 th Bde + Div Troops same place.	
"	12/3/19		29 th aasc reduced to Cadre B.	
"	17/3/19		Worked out & submitted scheme for reorganizing Supply + Transport of Division. See appendix attached + rough legend on same. The principle was to amalgamate units as each decreased, to cut out transport + excess number of small details being dealt with by supply officers - scheme adopted by D.H.Q. + put into force on 21 st inst.	Appendix
"	19/3/19		Asked by D.H.Q. to take over 2 nd Div Train, with 5 th in amalgamation of 2 nd + 5 th Aust Divs - Yes -	
"	20/3/19		Arrived of quota No 31 = 40 of all ranks.	
"	21/3/19		New scheme of Transport + supply system commences. Works perfectly well.	
"	24/3/19		Saw 2 nd Div Train re-proposed amalgamation of the 2 Divs - Found their area very restricted.	
"	26/3/19		Asked verbally by D.H.Q. to submit proposals for amalgamation of the 2 nd + 5 th Div Trains - My reply, memo 26/3/19 attached.	
"	27/3/19		Major BRAZENOR J.A. 2 nd in command left for England on Permanent Ships Staff job	see Order No 1
"	29/3/19		Took over 2 nd Aust Div Train. Issued first order (No 1) of Combined Train now called B Div Train -	
"	30/3/19		Railheads now BEAUMONT (5 th aasc) THUILLES + MARCHIENNE + MONT (2 nd aasc Div) - Dumps now at SIVRY (14 th Bde), DAUSSOIS (8 th Bde + Div Troops) BOSSU les Walcourt (15 th Bde) - 2 nd Div Dumps now at MALADRIE (for Div Troops) + MONT-SW-MARCHIENNE for Infantry units of 2 nd Div - Will readjust these many Railheads + Dumps when given a free hand by B Div as to disbanding the	
"	31/3/19		The 2 Divs are further concentrated on CHARLEROI - Given a free hand by B Div as to disbanding the two Trains + feeding the troops, now + as I saw fit -	
"			Issued orders for disbanding to Cadre B of 18 th aasc, to effect as from 31/3/19 -	see Order No 2
"			18 th aasc reduced to Cadre B. Personnel absorbed in 10 th + 28 th Coy. Capt CURTIS to Command 10 th aasc.	
"			Strength of 5 th Div Train 31/2/19 - 15 offrs 312 ORs 195 animals	
"			Back vaccinated = 4	
"			Personnel to Aust = 1 offr 65 ORs	
"			Notes on 1/3/19 - 136	

Bruise - Nil -
 Health men + animals = excellent.
 Weather - wet generally, + cold -
 Fuel - good -
 Horse Stealing, by civilians, is becoming a decided nuisance

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WAR DIARY

OF

5th Aust. Div^l Train

FOR

March 1919

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
30	Train orders - move
31	Demobilization
—	Memo. received by 5 th Div at investigation of A.C. Train rearrangement of supplies transport with diagram attached
—	Memo. to D.H.Q. on Train Demobilization
B 1	B Div Train orders No 1
B 2	B Div Train orders No 2

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5TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL TRAIN ORDER No. 30.



Ref. Map. NAMUR 8. I/100.000
Copy No. 2

Consequent on the move of 5th Australian Division to new areas, Units of the Train will move as under

10th Coy. A.A.S.C. on 11th inst to DAUSSOIS less details detached to 28th A.A.S.C. for units of Divisional Artillery attached to 14th Bgde Group, for feeding.

18th Coy. A.A.S.C. on 10th inst to DAUSSOIS.

29th Coy. A.A.S.C. on 11th inst to LEUGNIES; Supply Section on 12th inst to BARBENCON.

T.H.Q. on 10th inst to SILENRIEUX.

Dumps will be established as under:-

	D.A.	8th Bgde.	14th Bde.	15th Bde.
9th	Ramousies.	SOLRE le CHATEAU.	Sivry Station.	Dourlers.
10th	"	Sivry.	"	"
11th	Eppe Sauvage.	Solre St Gery.	"	Beugnies.
12th	Froidchapelle.	Daussois.	"	Sivry Station
13th	Daussois	Daussois	"	Barbencon.
	(except 14th F.A.) (Bde. which will be) (Sivry Station.)			

Transport from Railhead will be as under

	D.A.	8th Bde.	14th Bde	15th Bde.
9th	Mech. Transport.	Mech. Transport.	Horse Transport.	Mech. Transport
10th	"	"	"	"
11th	"	"	"	"
12th	"	"	"	"
13th	"	"	"	"
14th	"	"	"	"

Billeting Officer's will proceed to new area at least 24 hours in advance and arrange billets.

All billets in old area to be left scrupulously clean, and the usual certificate rendered to T.H.Q. Precautions against fire in new billets will be adopted immediately on entering same. List of billets in new area will be rendered to T.H.Q. 24 hours after arrival, giving number of men and animals in each.

O.C.'s Coys. will take steps to obtain claims against their units, if any, before departure from old billets.

P. T. O.

Continued:-

5. Baggage Wagons will report to Units as under:-

- Pioneers on 7th inst. move complete on 8th inst.
- 8th Bde Group on 8th inst. move complete on 12th inst.
- 15th Bde Group on 9th inst. move complete on 14th inst.
- Machine Gun Batt. on 10th inst. move complete on 14th inst.
- Div. Artillery on 9th inst. move complete on 12th inst.

Steps will be taken to ensure their immediate return to Companies on completion of move.

6. Railhead time (at BEAUMONT) will probably change on and after 8th inst to 1030 daily.

7. Report on completion of moves to T.H.Q. SILENRIEUX.

Copies to:-

- 1. File
- 2. War Diary. ✓
- 3. 10th A.A.S.C.
- 4. 18th A.A.S.C.
- 5. 28th A.A.S.C.
- 6. 29th A.A.S.C.

Francis
 Lieutenant-Colonel
 Commanding
 5th Aust. Div. Train.

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Copy No. /

DEMobilisation.

Under Instructions from Division 29th Coy A.A.S.C. will be amalgamated with remaining Companies of 5th Aust.Div.Train.

Personnel, Horses etc; will be absorbed as follows:-

Lieut. L. BULL transferred to 18th Coy A.A.S.C.

Lieut. R.D. HOLLINS transferred to 10th Coy A.A.S.C.

Lieut. A.H. ELLIS to remain with Supply Section as at present and to transfer to 28th Coy. A.A.S.C.

I Warrant Officer, I Sergeant and 25 Other Ranks and I Supply Detail to 10th Coy A.A.S.C.

G.Q.M.S. and 10 Other Ranks. to 18th Coy. A.A.S.C.

10 Other Ranks to 28th Coy.A.A.S.C.

3 Other Ranks to Train H.Q. (for duty as Batmen.)

The Supply Section (less one G.R. transferred to 10th Coy.) will be transferred to 28th Coy. They will proceed to BARBENCOON on the 12th inst. and continue to administer Supplies to the 15th Brigade.

Officers will retain their Chargers, the remainder of horses to be transferred to 10th Coy.A.A.S.C.

All Records to be transferred to Train H.Q.

Regimental and other Funds will be dealt with in accordance with Section "C" General Instructions No.14 dated 3-2-19

All remaining Stores and Equipment(except Supply equipment) will be returned to B.A.D.O.S. and receipt obtained.

The above transfers will take place from the 12th inst. from which date the 29th Coy. will cease to exist.

A report will be furnished by C.O. 29th Coy to this Office on the 13th inst; stating that the above instructions have been carried out.

Instructions contained in Order No. 30, reference to move of 29th A.A.S.C. are cancelled and above dispersal orders substituted as applicable.

Copies to:-

- 1. File
- 2. 10th A.A.S.C.
- 3. 18th A.A.S.C.
- 4. 28th A.A.S.C.
- 5. 29th A.A.S.C.
- 6. H.Q. 5th Aust. Division.

Lieut-Colonel.
Commanding.
5th Aust.Div.Train.

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REARRANGEMENT OF TRANSPORT AND SUPPLY SYSTEM.

Consequent on the reduction of transport animals in the Division the following transport and supply arrangements will come into force on 2



I. SUPPLIES.

Supply Railhead BEAUMONT.

Divisional Supply Dumps No.1 SIVRY Station. No.2 DAUSSOIS.

Transport from Railhead to No.1 Dump will be Horse Transport of Div. Train.

Transport from Railhead to No.2 Dump will be Mechanical Transport.

"A" or 14th Brigade Group.

Combined Q.M. Stores will be formed in 14th Brigade areas as follows: Transport from No.1 Dump to these Stores will be undertaken by Divisional Train.

G.O.C. 14th Brigade to nominate Officers as Q.M.'s to supervise these stores, except where otherwise stated.

<u>UNITS</u>	<u>LOCATION OF STORE.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
I4th Brigade H.Q.) (a) 56th Battalion.) I4th Field Amb.) <i>Salvage</i>	SIVRY	
(b) 5th Pioneers) 5th M.G. Batt)	RENLIÉS	
(c) I4th A.F.A. Brigade.	PROIDCAPELLE.	Q.M. to be nominated by P.A. Bde. Commander.
(d) 53/55 Battalion.	RANCE.	

"B" or 8th Brigade Group.

Combined Q.M. Stores will be formed in 8th Brigade areas as follows:- Transport from No.2 Dump to these Stores will be undertaken by Div. Train.

G.O.C. 8th Brigade will nominate Officers as Q.M.'s to supervise these stores except where otherwise stated.

<u>UNITS.</u>	<u>LOCATION OF STORE.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
(a) 8th Brigade H.Q.) 30/31/32 Batt's)	YVES GOMEZEE.	
(b) 13th A.F.A. Brigade.) 5th D.A.C.)	CERFONTAINE.	Q.M. to be nominated by 13th P.A. Bde. Commander.
(c) D.H.Q. SIGNALS. C.R.E.) M.M.P. SALVAGE . BATHS.) 8/15th FIELD AMB.) All FIELD Coys includ-) -ing 1st A.T. Coy. <i>D.A.D.S.</i>	WALCOURT,	Q.M. to be nominated by <i>ADDS</i> .
(d) 15th Brigade H.Q.) 57/58/59 Batt's) <i>Canteen.</i>	BOUSSU lez WALCOURT.	Q.M. to be nominated by G.O.C. 15th Brigade.

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Headquarters
5th Australian Division.

Headquarters
5th Aust. Div. Train.
26-3-19.



Reference G.S. Memo 247. para 5 Sub para b
Amalgamation of 2nd and 5th Aust. Div. Trains.

- I. Until the superimposing of the 5th Division on the 2nd Divisional area is completed, the amalgamation of the two Trains, is, except in theory, impossible.

I have gone carefully into facts and figures and find that-

(a) The 2nd Division area is very extended, and as certain Units of 5th Division will be left behind for some time difficulties of Supply and Transport will be accentuated instead of decreased.

(b) Railhead, at present THUILLES (2nd Division) and BEAUMONT (5th Division) must first be altered to some central place for the combined Divisions like MARCHIENNE au PONT or MONT sur MARCHIENNE.

2. Until all 5th Division Troops have moved up into new area, I submit for immediate action the complete disbanding of the following Companies:-

15th Company A.A.S.C. of 2nd Aust. Div. Train. *disbanded 29/5/19 -*
18th Company A.A.S.C. of 5th Aust. Div. Train. *disbanded 31/3/19*

Personnel and Animals of these two Companies to be drafted into the respective Headquarters Coys of the two Trains, the former to await Repatriation in turn, and the latter to make up deficiencies of horse sold or otherwise disposed of.

3. When all moves are completed, I propose to disband the following:-

17th Company A.A.S.C. 2nd Aust. Div. Train.
28th Company A.A.S.C. 5th Aust. Div. Train.

Thus leaving only the two Headquarters Companies of each Train in existence.

4. As time goes on, drafts go away, and feeding groups can be re-arranged I propose to disband the Headquarters Coy (10th A.A.S.C.) of 5th Aust. Div. Train, personnel to be ^{attached} drafted into remaining Company (20th A.A.S.C.) of 2nd Aust. Div. Train.

Extra personnel to await demobilization and animals to make up deficiencies occurring through sale or otherwise.

5. Technical personnel of the two Trains, both Officers and O.R.'s will be welded for work as occasion requires, without effecting such men's chances of being repatriated in their turn.

6. Summed up, my proposal is not to weld Companies of one Train into Companies of the other Train, except only as regards technical men and Officers, and only as regards the two last remaining Companies, but rather to disband complete, each of 4 Brigade Companies as a separate Unit, and as set forth above.

J. A. Francis
Coy 5th Aust. Div. Train

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No. 2 TRANSPORT.

The following 1st Line Transport is all that will be necessary for Supplies from Q.M's Stores to Units:-

"A" 14th Brigade Group.	"A"(a)	WAGONS G.S.	DRAWN FROM.
"A"(a)	3		56th Batt. 2. 14th Fld. Amb. I.
"A"(b)	4		Pioneers.I. 5th M.G. Batt. 3.
"A"(c)	1		5th D.A.C.
"A"(d)	1		53/55 Battalions.
"B" 8th Brigade Group.	"B"(a)		
"B"(a)	1		32nd Battalion.
"B"(b)	3		5th D.A.C.
"B"(c)	4		D.H.Q. 2. C.R.E. 2.
"B"(d)	2		59th Battalion.I. 57/58 Batt. I.

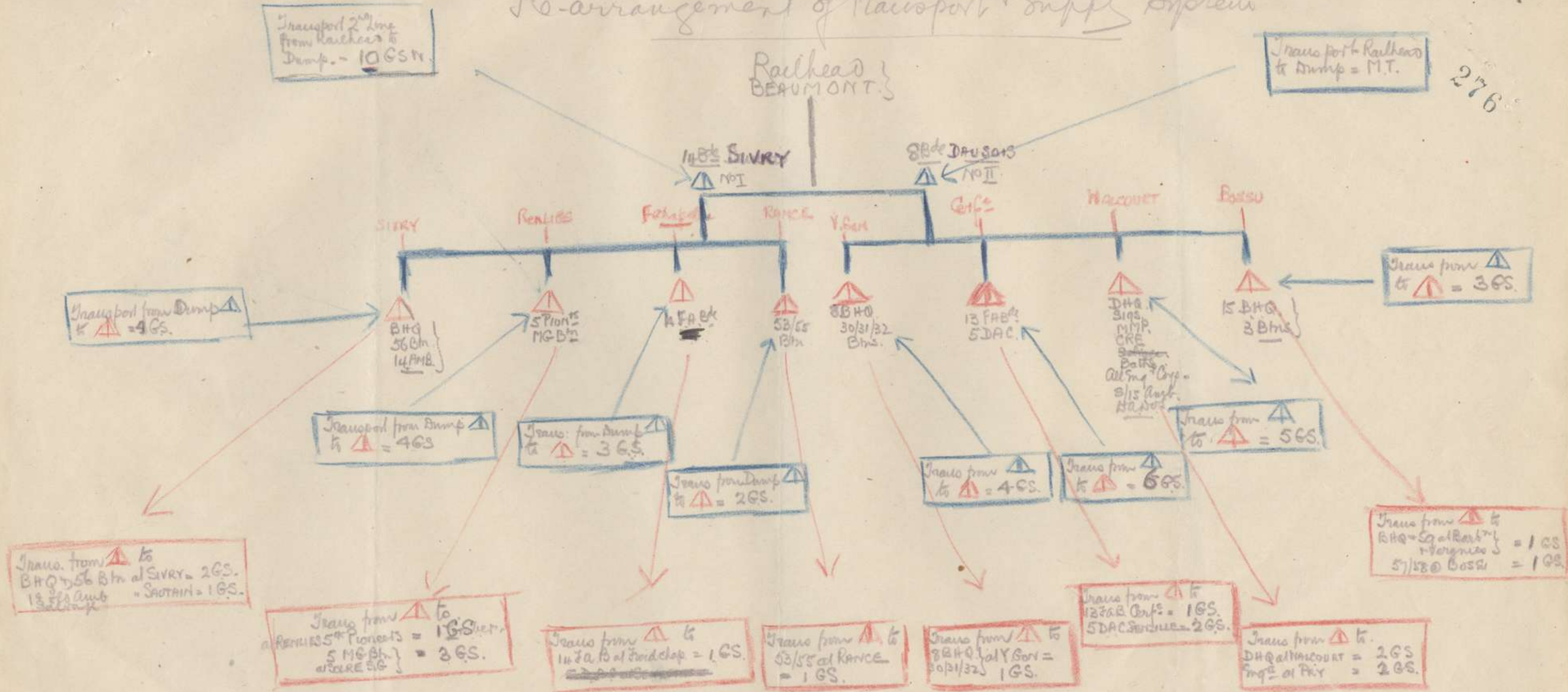
Reduction in Transport will be made as necessary as drafts of men and animals leave the Division, and no more Transport is to be used than is absolutely necessary at any time.

17/3/19



5th Australian Division Re-arrangement of Transport & Supply System

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LEGEND

- = 5th line transport
- = 1st line transport
- ▲ = 1st line transport
- ▲ = 5th line transport
- ▲ = 1st line transport
- ▲ = 5th line transport

Total 41 GS 5th line train
 " 19 " 1st line trains
 60 Comments



J. H. Dawson
 Crg 5th Div

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2ND & 5TH (Combined) AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL TRAIN

ORDER NO. I

by

Lieut-Colonel F.H. FRANCIS D.S.O.

COMMANDING 2/5TH COMBINED DIVISIONAL TRAINS



Reference Map NAMUR 1/100,000.
Staff Memo 247

Headquarters

29th March 1919

1. (a) Under Staff Instructions, the 2nd and 5th Aust. Divisional Trains will be combined as from today's date, under the command of Lieut-Colonel F.H. Francis D.S.O.
- (b) The 2nd and 5th Aust Divisions are being amalgamated, and will be known respectively as B 2 and B 5 Groups of the combined Division, similarly the 2 Groups of the Combined Trains will be known as B 2 (2nd Div Train) and B 5 (5th Div Train)
2. Pursuant to these instructions, Train Headquarters of 2nd Aust. Div. Train will cease to function as from this date, except and only as regards events and matters which occurred anterior to the issue of these orders, such matters continuing to be dealt with by the late Headquarters as occasion occurs.
3. (a) Executive Officers of the Combined 2/5 Aust. Div. Train Headquarters are as follows:-
 Commander Lieut-Colonel F.H. FRANCIS D.S.O.
 A/S.S.O. Captain H.P. CHAMBERLAIN M.C.
 Assistant/S.S.O. Lieut. H.M. HARRISON
 A/Adjutant. Captain H. JOHNSON
- (b) Company Commanders are as follows:-

B 2 Group (2nd Aust. Div. Train.)	B 5 Group. (5th Div. Train.)
20th A.A.S.C. Capt. McIntosh C.D.	16th A.A.S.C. Capt. Curtis A.
17th A.A.S.C. Capt. Rutherford W.A.E.	18th A.A.S.C. Lieut Varrlott R.
	28th A.A.S.C. Lieut. Miller H.
4. There will be no change in the routine work throughout the Combined Train and Company Commanders will continue to function in every respect as heretofore, except when otherwise ordered from T.H.O.
 All returns of B2 Group will be sent into late 2nd Aust. Div. Train Headquarters CHARLEROI as formerly, where they will be dealt with as directed by Lieut. Harrison. Orders given by that Officer to components of B2 Group, will be taken by all concerned as emanating from Train Headquarters.
 Daily Train Routine Orders will not in future be issued.
5. There will be no interchange, mixing or alteration in existing precedence lists for Repatriation of either Group, the two being kept quite separate. Personnel surplus to Establishment whilst waiting Repatriation may however be transferred to any Train Unit of its own Group, or in certain circumstances be attached for duty to any Unit of either Group without in any way affecting precedence for Repatriation.

P. T. O.

Continued:-

- 6. Owing to the fact that the Combined Train's sphere of operations covers a very wide area, thus precluding for the moment close personal supervision, the G.O. confidently hopes that all ranks will use their best endeavours to carry out their duties as satisfactorily as hitherto. The interests of both Groups will receive every ^{just} consideration from the executive of the new regime.
- 7. Train Headquarters will be at SILENRIEUX, with sub-office for B2 Group at Rue de Charleroi MARCINELLE.

H. G. ...
 Lieut-Colonel ^{Adj} Aust. Div. Train
 Commanding.
 2/5th Aust. Div. Train.

Copies to:-

- 2/5th Australian Division. ✓
- 10th A.A.S.C. ✓
- 18th A.A.S.C. ✓
- 28th A.A.S.C. ✓
- 20th A.A.S.C. ✓
- 17th A.A.S.C. ✓
- 2nd Aust. Div. Train. ✓
- File.
- War Diary. ✓

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2nd & 5th (Combined) AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL TRAIN.

ORDER No.2

By

Lieut-Colonel F.H. FRANCIS D.S.O.
Commanding 2/5th Aust.Div.Train's.



DEMobilisation.

F. H. O.
30-3-19.

1. The 18th A.A.S.C. will be disbanded as from 31st March 1919. and on that date will cease to exist.
All stores, and equipment Regimental Funds and Records will be dealt with as instructed in A.I.F. Memo, Department of Repatriation and Demobilisation General Instructions No.14.
2. Personnel and animals will be disposed of as follows:-
 Captain CURTIS to Transfer to 10th A.A.S.C. and to Command.
 Lieut. HALL to Transfer to 10th A.A.S.C.
 C.Q.M.S. to 10th A.A.S.C.
 1 Sgt. each to 10th and 28th A.A.S.C.
 2 Wheelers to 10th A.A.S.C.
 2 Farriers to 10th A.A.S.C.
 2 Saddlers to 10th A.A.S.C.
 All Supply Details to 10th A.A.S.C.
 Rank and File 40 to 10th A.A.S.C. 16 to 28th A.A.S.C.
 HORSES:- All animals to 10th A.A.S.C. except 1 Ride to 28th A.A.S.C.
 Personnel on draft Quota 31 of 18th A.A.S.C. will be attached temporarily to 10th A.A.S.C.
3. A Certificate that provisions of para.1 herein have been carried out in their entirety, will, as soon as practicable, be handed to Train H.Grs. by Captain Curtis. Nominal Rolls of all Ranks transferred to be submitted same time.

F. H. O.
Lieut-Colonel
Commanding.
2/5th Aust.Div.Train's.

- Copies to:-
- 5th Australian Division.
 - 10th A.A.S.C.
 - 18th A.A.S.C.
 - 28th A.A.S.C.
 - War Diary.
 - File. ✓