

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

Supplies & Transport

Item number: 25/18/12

Title: 5th Australian Divisional Train

March 1918



AWM4-25/18/12

WAR DIARY for March 1918

Army Form C. 2118. 276

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.)



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DRANOUTRE	7/3/18	-	Recommendations for Birthday Honors gazette submitted. Called for by D.H.Q.	
-	16/3/18		Lt LYONS T. reported from Training Depot ENGLAND vice Johnson. Posted to 29th a.s.C. Recommended tele sent to a DUS refused.	
-	18/3/18		Took measures at request D.H.Q. to get Pack Transport re-organised & ready for eventualities, so that they could be incorporated at any hours notice. Mass inspection of them. Capt Curtis (10th a.s.C.) & Lt Bourgeois told off as O.C. & 2nd in command respectively. Very few discrepancies discovered, & all in good order.	
-	19/23/18		Heavy Boche shelling in & around Dranoutre. No casualties to Train.	
-	29/3/18		Recd more orders for Division to SOMME district. Bde Corps pass to control of respective Brigadiers, & move with their groups. Div Art remaining with 10th a.s.C. in this district.	
-	26/3/18		Left DRANOUTRE with Capt HAWKER & Capt LANGAN by car. Carried despatches for 7 Corps from our G staff. Delivered same & took receipt. Arrived DOULLENS. No accommodation. Town full of refugees from invaded areas & English soldiers retreating. Eventually got accommodation at BOUQUE MAISON. The cable confusion on roads, & evidences abundantly manifest of much panic both among troops & civilians. While at 7 Corps, was told D.H.Q. was to be at ACHEUX, "if Boche is not there", railhead at SAULTY "if not changed". Corps seemed have wind up & were in process of moving from FREVENT to HAUTCLOCHES. Was interrogated as to our route down, asked if we had been attacked by German armored cars. Replied, saw none.	
BOUQUEMAISON	27/3/18		Went ACHEUX to try & find D.H.Q. advance party (DAAG). Impossible to do so. Roads & villages crisscrossed with troops of all sorts going all ways & all mixed up. While there Boche plane, flying British colors, dropped bombs on traffic. Went III Army H.Q. at BEAUQUESNE. Found railhead would be WARLINCOURT from 29th inst.	
- do -	28/3/18		18th a.s.C. de-trained DOULLENS. marched to BUS. 28th a.s.C. de-trained MUNDICOURT, marched to VAUCHELLES. 29th a.s.C. de-trained MUNDICOURT. marched to VAUCHELLES. Traced D.H.Q. to VAUCHELLES & moved D.H.Q. to that place. Dumps for supplies established - 8th Bde AUTHIE. 14th Bde at VAUCHELLES. 15th Bde at VAUCHELLES. All entrainments & de-trainments carried out well, without hitch of casualties to personnel.	
VAUCHELLES	29/3/18		Railhead WARLINCOURT. 18th a.s.C. moved to AUTHIE. 28th a.s.C. to LOUVENCOURT. 14th Bde dump shifted to LOUVENCOURT. 15th Dump to LEALVILLERS.	
- do -	30/3/18		18th a.s.C. to VAUCHELLES. 10th a.s.C. under orders CRA, arrived from DRANOUTRE at ORVILLE. Div Troops Dump (red) for Art. group established at ORVILLE. 8th Bde Dump to LOUVENCOURT. 14th Bde Dump to LEALVILLERS. Established Dump for remainder Div troops (102) at VAUCHELLES. 15th Bde Dump, with 29th a.s.C. to FRANVILLERS & BEHENCOURT respectively.	

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VAUCHELLES	31/3/18		<p>Railhead changed to BELLE EGLISE. Movement of dumps + companies necessitated by constant readjustment in Brigade areas consequent on frequent arrival of formations of Bk troops passing through. During all the time since leaving BELGIUM, both baggage + supply wagons have been detached to their units. Notwithstanding so much movement fortnightly inspections of Div. line transport were still carried out, + proved line in good order + condition.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Strength on 31/3/18</td> <td>Offrs 23</td> <td>O.R. 424</td> <td>Horses 358</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinforcements rec'd during march</td> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Evacuations.</td> <td>Wounded</td> <td>nil</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Sick</td> <td>9</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Honors + rewards granted</td> <td>nil</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Weather during period under review. Generally fine + dry. Roads good, latterly dusty.</p>	Strength on 31/3/18	Offrs 23	O.R. 424	Horses 358	Reinforcements rec'd during march		10		Evacuations.	Wounded	nil			Sick	9		Honors + rewards granted	nil			
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			<p>General Remarks. During period of movement since leaving North, supplies have been drawn from Railhead by M.T. + delivered to Dumps. From thence, delivered to units by H.T. of Train. Onwards by units on line transport.</p>																					