

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

Salvage

Item number: 19/4/4

Title: 2nd Australian Division Salvage
Company

October 1917



AWM4-19/4/4

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.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Confidential Original
2nd Div Salvage

October 1917
VOLUME 4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
H 220.59	1st		Camped at H. 2. Dump, 19 men at Ramparts, 20 men from 4th Division. Details for work same as 25th Sept. Transport reported as follows. 1 lorry & 6 G. S. Wagons reported. No trucks available.	
	2nd.		Camped at H. 2. Dump, 19 men at Ramparts. Details of work same as yesterday. Transport reported as follows. 4 lorries & 6 G. S. Wagons reported.	
	3rd.		Camped at H. 2. Dump, 19 men at Ramparts. Details for work & transport as usual. 4 lorries & 6 G. S. Wagons reported.	
	4th		Camped at H. 2. Dump, 19 men at Ramparts. Details for work as usual & transport. 6 G. S. Wagons reported. Instructed by Salvage officer 12 trucks would report at Brisbane, the same reported were despatched to Pacific.	
	5th		Camped at H. 2. Dump, 19 men at Ramparts, men detailed as usual. Transport 6 G. S. Wagons reported. Received instructions from Corp Salvage Officer that Brisbane Dump would be cleared & closed for Salvage ammunition that 15 trucks would be in position at 5 am & probably during the day additional trucks would be.	

R. J. Parker Esq.
C/O 2nd A.D. Sal Coy

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	5th contd.		available to clear all salvage to Pacific Siding & Zealand Dump. Special parties be arranged in relays, advices to be given to 485th Division Salvage officers that a Conference would be held here at 4 pm, but no horses would be available. In accordance with above message, duly advised. 485th Division Officers made arrangements as to parties instructed that work of clearance be carried out forthwith.	
	6th.		Camped at H. 2 Dump, 6 horses & 6 G. S. Wagons reported, 11 men 1st Signal Coy reported back to Unit, having 13 men at Ramparts. It is proposed that these men remain at Ramparts until such a time the remainder of the Coy. shall move there from H. 2 Dump. Considerable difficulty was found in dumping Salvage Stores at Bridge 18 Dump, owing to lack of road, Bridge 18 Dump being used temporarily as Brisbane Dump in accordance with instructions was closed down. All returns completed & sent in.	

Frank S.
Co 2 AD & Coy

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	7th.		Camped at H. I. Dump, 14 men at Ramparts. Transport 6 lorries & 6 G. S. Wagons reported. Despatch received from Corp. Salvage officer, 8 lorries to report 7.30 am; no trucks for certain at Brisbane, 30 men sufficient to stand by at Brisbane etc avoid if possible delivery of Salvage to new office dump until road is constructed, if necessary deliver to Yale siding temporarily. Orders issued in accordance with above message.	
	8th.		Camped at H. I. Dump, 14 men at Ramparts. Transport 4 lorries & 6 G. S. Wagons reported. Major Marsted called to see Mr. Grant & left a note for Mr. Grant . Received message from Corp. Salvage officer to carry out shortages of P. B. men, same duly carried out.	
	9th.		Camped at H. I. Dump, 14 men at Ramparts. Transport 3 lorries & 4 Wagons reported.	
	10th.		Camped at H. I. Dump, 14 men at Ramparts, transport 3 lorries & 4 G. S. Wagons reported. Raiding party sent forward according to instructions received as follows. Three parties consisting of one O.C.	

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	10th		410. other ranks went over area from I 15 Central to about 800 yards beyond Sandown with Roules Railway as left & the sleeper track from Birch Road to Westhoke as right boundary collected 350 to 400 Boxes S A A & 250 to 300 rifles. the former were well placed in dumps along duck boards to (B track) to Zoonbeke. Ob. went forward to right & left Brigade H 2. & advised them accordingly in order that they might pick up S A A as required.	
	11th		Camped at H 2 Dump, 14 men at Ramparts, transport 3. Lories reported were passed on to Captain Adams for his employment. Parties sent forward messages received from Corp Salvage Officer for location of trucks & numbers at Youngster siding approximate location I 9.60 I 15 Central. Ob. owing to sickness unable to proceed to forward parties instructed Cpl. Dawson to proceed to obtain these locations. Cpl. Dawson on returning reported that these trucks had been removed such report being forwarded to Corp Salvage officer. Great H. J. H. S Coy To 2nd H 2	

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	Conty 11th		difficulty was found by parties operating in transporting Salvage owing to the constant use of duck track by fatigues parties stoops to & from the front line and owing to general softness of ground by the same . Off the duck track.	
	Conty 12th		Camped at H. 2 Dump, 14 men at Ramparts Transport 3 G. S. Wagons reported. Message received from Corp Salvage officer that 9 trucks would report at 8 am today swack continuously throughout the day to clear Dump etc put on strong loading party. 5th Division will assist with 20 men no lorries reporting. 2 G. S. Wagons. Cpl. Mc Kay & two men took the crosses up to erect over graves of those killed while on service.	
	13th		Camped at H. 2 Dump, 14 men at Ramparts. Party from Capt. Viner of 20 men to be detailed from Brustans as part loading party for 14 Trucks, 20 men from Coy detailed	

H. 2 WADS Coy

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	Contd 13th		the same as past loading party. Remainder of Coy detailed to report yale siding same time 1pm. to load 6 trucks. All parties first thing to go forward collecting	
	14th		Camped H. 2 Dump 13men at Ramparts. Orders received to pull down dump here at H. 2 and transport material to New Dump at ypres. Message received from C. S. O. that 12 trucks would report, same reported, 5 trucks also was sent away from yale siding	
	15th		Camped at H. 2 Dump. 13men at Ramparts. Brisbane Dump was finally cleared & closed down. Transport 2 horses & 2 g. s. wagons reported	
	16th		Camped at H. 2 Dump. 13men at Ramparts. New Dump at Ypres getting into working order recovering Salvage	
	17th		Camped at H. 2 Dump. 13men at Ramparts. 6 horses & 2 g. s.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	17th		Wagons reported. To day another Salvage raid was carried out in accordance with plans already arranged, parties consisting as in former raid of this Division only. 350,000 rounds of S.A.A. & about 150 rifles, the rifles being brought back to the new Dump at Ypres. O.B. reported that under the conditions the raid was fairly successful, during the progress of the same no great extent of shell fire was experienced excepting that the Germans were shelling the next Sector. O.B. ^{also} reports when on going forward to the front line he was temporarily caught in a moderate barrage. that ^{that} he reported to forward Brigade H.L. ^{H.L.} that 700,000 rds. S.A.A. was stacked along the track by ^{that 700,000 rds. S.A.A. was stacked along the track by} being left ^{also to forward to Divisional H.Q. & stacked in dump along} the front boards 400,000 rounds of S.A.A. which could be ^{the front boards 400,000 rounds of S.A.A. which could be} taken to the line as required: and that he made the same report to 4th Div H.Q.	
18			Camped at H.L. Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 7 G.S. Wagons reported. One wagon while on duty at Hell Fire Corner was caught by a bomb from an enemy aeroplane. ^{was caught by a bomb from an enemy aeroplane.} Two horses were wounded. One G.S. Wagon being	

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	contd 18		Whilst two wagons were being unloaded at the dump a shell burst in immediate vicinity causing both teams to bolt, one driver in attempting to stop his team was knocked down injured in the leg. The other wagon collided & smashed the pole. Later the shell pre coming too severe it was found necessary to knock the men off for the day.	
	19th		Camped at H. I. Dump. 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 2 Wagons 2 horses reported. Special party was sent up to forward area & brought back 4 Lewis Machine Guns. Captain Bear called inspected the War trophies.	
	20th		Camped at H. I. Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 2 Wagons 2 horses reported. All returns completed & sent in.	
	21st		Camped at H. I. Dump 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 4 Wagons 4 horses reported.	

W. Parker Lt Col
G. I. A. D. S. Coy

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	22nd		Camped at H. I. Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 2 Wagons 3 Lorries reported. Heavy shelling in immediate neighbourhood of New Dump ypres causing many casualties	
	23rd		Camped at H. I. Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 4 Lorries 2 G. S. Wagons reported	
	24th		Camped at H. I. Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 3 Lorries 2 G. S. Wagons reported. Party went forward & brought back German Armour for Aust. War Museum	
	25th		Camped at H. I. Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 3 Lorries 2 G. S. Wagons reported.	
	26th		Camped at H. I. Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 2 Wagons reported. A bomb fell within ten yards of O. G. billet.	

H. J. Pantor Lt
Ad 2 AD S. Coy

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	27th		Camped at H. 2 Dump, 13 men at Ramparts. Transport 5 Wagons reported. To day enemy shelling ypres heavily, in course of bombardment placed two shells into the middle of the dump destroying 300 Boxes SAA & quantity equipment, memo to this effect was sent to Corp Salvage Officer, no casualties to report.	
	28th		Camped at H. 2 Dump, 17 men at Ramparts. Transport 3 Lorries 5 Wagons reported. During the night enemy again placed two shells on the Dump at ypres. Message forwarded to Corp Salvage Officer as follows. "Enemy shelling Dump." "Decauville blown up 18 pounders destroyed. Direct hit into sorting room, no casualties, sending all Salvage to Cape Belg"	
	29th		Camped at H. 2 Dump, 17 men at Ramparts. Transport 3 Lorries & 5 G. S. Wagons reported.	
	30th		Camped at H. 2 Dump, 17 men at Ramparts. Transport 3 Lorries 5 Wagons reported.	

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	Oct 31		Camped at H. 2. Dump, 17 men at Ramparts 3 hours 5 lbs. Wagons reported. At 8 am to day in charge of three P. C. O's & 24 other ranks. O. C. went forward from Hell Fire Corner over Divisional Area to Sans Souci. S. A. A. has been stacked and all rifles brought back to day. Owing to heavy shell fire and large quantities of gas put over by enemy in which party worked for two hours wearing Bobc Respirators, party was brought back to a safer working area. O. C. established a dump and erected Pottee Board at ^{east} Garter, 11/2 miles beyond Arzac and arranged with Staff Captain 7th A. Brigade to have all Salvage brought back to that point from which where it can be brought back by Decauville. <i>[Signature]</i> 102 AD 5 Coy	

