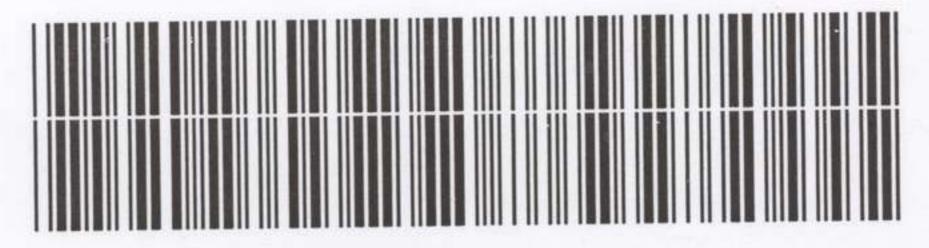
# AWM4 Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

## Artillery

Item number: 13/77/31

Title: 4th Australian Divisional Ammunition Column

December 1918



AWM4-13/77/31

ORIGINAL

189

Australian. Imperial. Force

War. Diary

4th.AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL AMMUNITION COLUMN.

for.

DECEMBER 1918

Signature of Officer Compiling

Alfan Major

C.O.,

4th.AUSERALIAN DIVISIONAL AMMUNITION COLUMN

Affail Major,

Signature of Commanding Officer

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#### WAR DIARY.

9

of

# FOTRTH AUST. DIV. AMMN. COLUMNN.

for

#### DECEMBER 1918.

#### List of APPENDICES.

Ap	pendix	No.	1	Minutes of 1st. Meeting of D. A. C. Sports Committee.
	11	tt	2(a)	Salvage SEMERIES Area.
£	11	ri.	3	Warning Order No. 1 to March Order No. 3.
	11	12	4	Instruction No. 1 to March Order No. 3
	11	. 11	5	March Order No. 3.
	11	11	6	. Instruction No. 2 to March Order No. 3
	tt	13-	7	Instruction No. 3 to March Order No. 3
	17	11	8	Programme of Training, Recreation and Education.
	11	H.	9	Minutes of D. A. C. Sports Committee
	11	11	10	Ammunition at LIESSIES.
	11	11	11	Salvage of Enemy stores and Ammunition in BIESMEREE and STAVE Area.
	n	11	12	Movement in Strength during the month.
	11	11	13	R. M. O's. Report.
	11	11	14	Monthly Review of General Conditions of 4th Aust. R. Div. Ammn. Column.

MINUTES of the Ist. MRETING of D. A. C. SPORTS COMMITTEE held at D.A.C. Hq. 2nd. December 1918.

A Committee selected from Brigades and D. A. C. - each one representative - met on the 1st. instant and decided to carry out

(a) A Rugby Competition.

(b) An Australian Rules Competition.

(c) A Rifle Competition.

Section representative held a meeting on the 2nd. instant and

decided on the following :-

It has been decided khak to run a Rugby and an Australian Rules Competition between Sections and Hq. with a view to selecting a D. A. C. team for each of the above competitions for the Div. Arty. Competition. Each Section will have two teams viz. :-

(a) A Rugby team

and (b) An Australian Rules team.

It was proposed that Hq. play with the S.A.A. Section in Rugby. It was also proposed that theh Section appoint one Representative to constitute a Seclection Committee for the D. A. C. for Rugby. For Australian Rules a Committee of five is to be selected :- Two from Hq. and one from each Section.

It was decided that one round be played and then a "possible" and

"probable" match.

No. work

Australian Rules to be played on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Rugby to be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Competitions to commence on Wednesday the 4th. instant with Rugby. Nos. 1 and 2 Sections to play on Wednesday (Rugby) S.A.A. Section referee.

No. 2 Section to play Hq. on Friday (Rugby) No, 1 Section referee. HQ. and No. 1 Section on Monday (Rugby) No. 2 Section referee.

#### AUSERALIAN RULES

Commencing on Thursday 5th. instant.

No. 1 Section and No. 2 Section -Thursday 5th. Hq. to referee.

No. 2 Section and Hq. Saturday 7th. instant. No. 1 Section to refe

No. 1 Section and Hq. Tuesday 10th. No. 2 Section to referee.

REFEREES.

Each Section and Hq. will appoint one referee for Rugby and one for Australian Rules. The Section or Hq. not playing will refere appoint the referee for the match between the other Sections.

HOUR OF STARTING.

All matches will commence at 1330.

DURATION OF MATCHES.

Rugby :- 30 minutes each half.

5 minutes interval.

Australian Rules :- 20 minutes each quarter. 5 minutes interval. Change over each quarter.

RIFLE COMPETITION.

Div Arty. Committee are arranging for a rifle Shooting Competition; but D. A. C. Committee considered it advisable to defer the matter until more information is available concerning S.A.A.

CONDITIONS.

The following conditions regarding the Rifle Competition are to be complied with :-

(a) Teams to consist of 8 men.

(b) Each man to fire 8 shots per minute at Atarget (6" bull) at 300 yds.

NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting of the D. A. C. Sports Committee will be held at D.A.C.Hq. on Wednesday, 4th. instant, as soon as the match is over.

4th.Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.

1000

Headquarters,

3rd. December 1918.

O.C.

No. 1 Section No. 2 Section

#### SALVAGE.

The 4th. Aust. D. A. C. id responsible for salving the SEMERIES Area. Work will commence immediately, as many troops as possible being used.

The area will be sub-divided amongst Sections as shown on attached tracing. Boundaries are shown in RED.

The work will be carried out systematically and all classes of Salvage will be collected and stacked in as few heaps as poppossible which must be on main roads.

The location of dumps and contents will be forwarded to these Hqrs. by 1800 daily.

All dead horses and mules will be buried.

Report on completion to be made to these Hqrs.

Senselve Sanschulovid Seems Cabrain, Adjt., 4th. Aust. D.A.C.

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4th. Aust. D.A.H.Q.

Reference your G. 5/1049/1. of the 7th instant.

Herewith list of material salved by this unit.

2500 Picks

1500 Shovels

50 Rolls plain wire

2 Trench Mortars

1 Steam Engine, portable 700 Rds. 4.2" ammn. 300 Rds. 5.9" ammn

900 E.C.C.

Location :- SEMERIES RAILWAY STATION.

Captain,

Adjt. 4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.

Headquirters,

8th December 1918

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1017735 4th. Aust. Div. A mmn. Column

Warning OrderNo. 1 to March Order No. 3.

By. Maj or A.S. Ford. FRANCE.

Commanding, 5th. December 1918.

2.

3.

0

REFERENCE SHEET. NAMUR 1/100,000.

The 4th. Australian Division plus the 104th. Army Brigade R.F.A. is to move to the MEUSE Area at an early date.

For the purpose of the move to the 4th. Aust. Division Artillery Group will remain as at present constituted.

The move will be carried out in accordance with the provisional MOVE TABLE of hereunder.

4. Detailed orders will be issued later.

#### 5. MOVE TABLE. (PROVISIONAL)

Date. : From	To : Remarks.
'A" DAY: RAMOUSIES Sub-	FRANCE, : Via SIVRY.
"B" DAY! FROIDCHAPELLE	PHILTPPEVILLE:
	ROSEE FLAVION MORVILLE ETC.:

Captain. Adjt., 4th. Aust. D.A.C.

app. 3.

#### Warning Order No.1. to 4th. Aust. D.A.C. March Order No.3.

By Major A.S. Ford FRANCE

Commanding, 11th.December 1918.

Billeting parties will report to the Staff Captain, 4th. Aust. Div. Arty. ask follows: -

(a) The CHURCH, RANCE

at 1300, 12th.

(b) CENTRAL PLACE, PHILIPPEVILLE at 1200, 13th.

(c) The CHURCH, ROSEE

at 1200, 14th,

The billeting party will consist of Lieut. Jenour, 3 other ranks from No 1 Section and 1 N.C.O. and three other ranks from No 2 Section. Capt. Calvert will accompany the party to select billets for Headquarters.

The party will assemble at D.A.C. Headquarters at 0845 on 12th instant. 72 hours rations will be carried.

Adjutant,

4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column

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March Order No.3.

By Major A.S. Ford,

Commanding, 12th.December 1918

INCE

REFERENCE MAP.

No 8 NAMUR 1/100,000

MOVE.

The 4th.Aust.Divisional Artillery (plus 104th.Army Brigade R.F.A.) moves to the Meuse Area between between 13th.and 17th.December both dates inclusive.

Transport.

Nos 1 and 2 Sections will each send for use of Brigades on March 5 G.S. Wagons to 10th& 11th. Brigades respectively. Wagons to report to B Brigade Headquarters by 4.P.M. on 12th inst. and return to D.A.C. on afternoon of 15th inst.

SYNCHRONISATION.

An officer from each Section will visit these Headquarters at 4.P.M. tonight for the purpose of synchronisation.

MARCH TABLE.

The D.A.C. (less S.A.A.Section) will march in accordance with accompanying March Table.

.LOCATION.

The 4th.Aust.D.A.H.Q. closes at LIESSIES at 0900 on 14th.instant and reopens same day on arrival at CHATEAU situated at 4 J 1878

MARCH DISCIPLINE.

Attention is directed to "Notes on March Discipline" Fourth Army No G.S. 128 dated 15th. November 1918.

Car

Adjutant,

4th.Aust.Div.Ammn.Column.

app. 5

#### MARCH TABLE ( To accompany March Order No 3 )

Date	Unit	Starting Point		Leave Billets		Destination	Remarks
Decr.	Headquarters No 1Section No 2 Section		09 <b>30</b>	0928 0933 0940	TOUVENT- EPPE SAUVAGE- MONTBLIART	RANCE FROIDCHAPELLE	
Doer.	Headquarters No 1Section No 2 Section	: later			CERFONTAINE- SENZEILLE- VILLERS DEUX EGLISES	PHILIPPEVILLE, VILLER-LE- CAMBON	Column must no enter PHILIPPEVILLE before 12.15
Decr.	Headquarters No 1 Section No 2 Section		To be notified:		ROSEE	STAVE	Column is not to enter ROSEE before 12.15  Column must be clear of PHILIPPEVILLE by 11.15

Hews Cape

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4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.

Instruction No. 2 to. March Order No. 3.

FRANCE: 13.December 1918. By Major A.S. Ford, Commanding.

1. ORDER OF MARCH.

The order of March on the 14th instant will be as follows :- Headquarters; No. 2 Section; No. 1 Section.

2. MARCH TABLE.

Unit.	D A C Starting Point.		
Headquarters.:	5 D 40 73	1030	:DAC will not move
No. 2 Section:		1033	on to main roadRANCE
No. 1 Section:		1040	until 104th. Bde R.F.A.
			is clear.

Пор. 6.

Adjt, 4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1017735

4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.

Instruction No. 3 to March Order No. 3.

FRANCE, 14th. December 1918. By Major A.S. Ford, Commanding.

1. ORDER OF MARCH.

The order of march for the 15th. instant will be as follows :- Headquarters; No. 1 Section; No. 2 Section.

2. MARCH TABLE.

Unit	DAC Starting Point.		
Headquarters	Cross Roads	: 0956	: :Sections will not
No. 1 Section	4 G 60 40	: 0959	: move on to main road
No. 2 Section		1006	: PHILIPPEVILLE until
			: 104th. Bde R.F.A.
			: is clear.

app. 7.

Adjt., 4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.

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101	MING:	AFTERNOON	EVENING
0700 to 6800	: 0930 to 1230 :	1400 to 1630 :	1900 to 2100
Morning Stables -	: Inspection of personnel:	From 16th. to 23rd. instant.:	Educational Training -
Grooming etc.	: Foot Parade - : : Gleaning of Harness and: : Vehicles - :	Cleaning of Harmess and Vehicles - Afternoon Stables:  From 24th. to 29th. instant.:  1200 to 1530.  Recreational Training Pro- gramme to be drawn up by Sports Committee. (Sports Committee. (Sports to include Rugby, Australian and British Association Football matches:	Programme of work to be arranged by Education Officer.

Major,

C.O., 4th. Aust. Div. Ameren. Golumn.

4th. Aust. D.A.C.

16th. December 1918.

app 8.

H.G.

MINUTES of the 3rd. MEETING of the 4th. AUST. D. A. C. SPORTS COMMITTEE held at D.A.C. Hq. on the 21.12.18.

MAMME.

It was proposed by Lt. Primrode that a programme of football, Australian Rules and Rugby to be played on alternate days, be drawn up to commence from Monday, 23rd. December 1918 Seconded by Cpl. Jenkins. Carried.

The following is the programme decided upon. Monday 23rd. Australian Rules S.A.A. v. No. 2. Tuesday24th. Rugby

Wednesday 25th. Australian Rules Hq. v. No. 1. Thursday 26th. Rugby No. 1 v. No. 2.

Friday 27th. Australian Rules S.A.A. v. No.1. Saturday 28th. Rugby No. 2. v. Hq. & S.A.A.

Monday 30th. Australian Rules No. 2 v. Hg.

Hq. & S.A.A. v. No. 1

ROUND.

It was proposed by Lt. Raper that the field by the Monument on the road to STAVE be selected as a D. A. C. Regimentad Ground for all matches, Rugby or Australian Rules, unless the teams concerned agree to play on another ground but the committee must b€ notified. Carried. Seconded by Dvr. Green A.R.

UMPIRES.

Australian Rules. Hq. Dvr Green A.R. No. 1. Cpl. Laver J. No. 2. Cpl. Brown S.A.A. Dvr. Gemmill A.

Rugby. Dvr Schofield Hq. No. 1. Lt. Primrose. No. 2. Gnr. Hughes F. S.A.A. It. Turner C.J.

TIME.

All football matches commence at 13.30.

SPORTS%

It was agreed that a Sports Meeting be held on New Year's Day, Wednesday, 1st. January 1919. Commencing at 1300, the programme will be carried out as follows :-

Event No. 1. 100 yds. Handicap Running Hop, Step and Jump.

120 yds. Hurdle Race (5 Hurdles-3 ft. " 2 fr. Musical Chairs on Mules Post Entry.

Fancy Dress Parade. Prize - Best

sustained Character. Entrance fee 2 fr D. A. C. 100 yds Championship. Entrance-Post Entr 11 7. Obstacle Race Entrance fee 1 fr. Tug-of- war on Mules ( 5 Mules) per team " 5 fr.

75 yds. Handicap for Officers

" 9. 440 yds. Handicap " 10. Potato Race, dismounted 11 11. Siamese Race per pair "

Entrance fee 2 fr.

Entrance fee 2 fr.

ENTRIES.

Entries close on midday 30th. December 1918. Entries to be handed to Committee men in Sections

OFFICIALS.

Starter. :- Capt. J. Gleeson.

11 12.

Judges :- Major A.S. Ford, and Os. C. Sections

Handicappers :- Capt. J. Gleeson, Cpl. Laver, Cpl. Jenkins and Cpl. Deegan.

Captain. Adjt., 4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Volumn.

Headquarters, 28th December 1918.

O.C. No. 1 Section.

No. 2 Section.

Commencing on the 27th. instant a Motor Lorry will ply between LIESSIES and BIESMEREE for the purpose of conveying ammunition from the former to the latter place. The first load will arrive on the 28th and thereafter every other day No. 2 Section will arrange to ration one driver on the 28th Dec. and lst. Jan. and No. 1 Section on the 30th. Dec.

app. 10.

Captain,

Adjt., 4th. Aust. D. A. C.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Page 1

4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.

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Headquarters, 28th. December 1918.

No. 1 Section No. 2 Section S.A.A.Section.

#### SALVAGE.

In accordance with D.A.Memo. G. 10 299, the area as per attached tracing is allotted to the 4th Aust. D. A. C. for salving purposes. Areas allotted to Sections will be thoroughly inspected by an Officer of the Section who will also supervise the work of salving in his area. All available personnel are to be put on to the work of salving.

The Dump of the Unit is located at STAVE Rly. Station, NAMUR Map 1/100,000 3 H 35 87. where all material salved will be dumped, various classes to be put in separate heaps.

Returns of material salved will be forwarded to reach this office by 4.p.m. on each Monday.Motor Lorries, Guns etc.that cannot be moved will be shown on this return the exact Map location given. Any G.S. Wagons salved will be shown on this return, and may be used for salvage work.

A copy of instructions with regard to material captured,

ceded & abandoned will be forwarded later.

app. 11.

Captain,

Adjutant, 4th.Aust.Div.Ammn.Column Definition. Material is classified under three headings, namely :-

(a) "Captured" Material - All enemy material of whatever nature lying

to the West of the Armistice Line of November 11th. 1918.

(b) "Ceded" Material - Enemy material handed over in due ENNEX form under the terms of the Armistice Convention by German personnel or t throught he medium of authorised civil Officers (Maires, Prefects etc.) (c) "Abandoned" Material - All enemy material East of the Armistice Line not coming under the heading of 'Ceded' Material.

2. Information required by wire giving location, nature and estimated quantity of martrial taken over, stating whether taken over from German personnel or Belgian Authorities, or whether it has been captured or abandoned.

3. Guns, Machine Guns, etc. - Guards will be posted and an Infantery inventory made and forwarded with full information as to location and condition. Copies of any receipts given and originals of any relative documents handed over by the German Personnel to accompany report.

4. E.T. Stores, lorries and workshop machinery, Wagons and similar material of value will be treated as stores captured or abandoned. Inventories will be taken showing condition of the material to a degree of detail varying with its value.

5. Directorates concerned will on receipt of these reports arrange for the ins inspection of the abandoned material, and either :-(a) Classify as pure salvage - when it will be dealt with under para. 1

(b) .

(b) Instruct that it be collected into Corps Dumps - See para 10. 6. Guards should be provided with cleaning marterial, and be instructed to protect Guns, Machine Guns, etc., from Whather by cleahing and thoroughly greasing all parts liable to rust.

7. Corps will be responsible for guarding and care of all captured, ceded and abandoned material in their Areas, both before and after tollection into Corps Dumps.

8. In order to prevent duplication, each guard should be in possession of a signed statement showing :-

(a) the nature, number and quantity of stores being guarded.

(b) information as to whether these details have been reported, if so, to whom and when.

9. A.H.Q. will forward information to Corps showing location and quantity of all captured, ceded and abandoned material reported in their Areas. 10. Corps will arrange for all material, other than ammunition and material on

trucks and barges to be concentrated at Corps Dumps.

11. Sites for Corps Dump s - Must be near Railway and loading facilities for guns . Cower must be available for Machine Gums and stores liable to deteriorate.

12. (a) Captured, ceded and abandoned stores will be parked separately.

(b) Material considered only fit for salvage will be treated as such and dealt with through mormal salvage channels,

13. Corps will report whem all material in their Areas has been brought into the Corps Dumps, and will at the same time forward lists in duplicate of all material classified according to types showing captured, ceded a and abandoned material.

14. Instructions as to the disposal of material at Corps Dump will be issued later.

1.5. The location and estimated quantities of catured, etc, material only valuable as salvage will be reported through normal channels to Army Salvage Officer.

16. Returns are required as per attached list.

-7. Where material is collected into Dumps, bi-weekly returns must show new and old location, otherwise difficulty will be experienced in tracing material later om.

18. Captured Supply Dumps.

19. D.G.T.is responsible for disposal of and accounting for all Rolling Stock & contents, of trucks under load, Formations must provide necessary guards, and Guns, Machine Guns & T.M's. must be included in weekly reports.

20. Any looted material recovered must be reported.

21. Barge will be dealt with separately, & all returns in connexion with them will be rendered by Admin. Services & Depts. who unload the barges.

#### MOVEMENTTINSTRENGTH DURING THE MONTH.

#### Establishment - 15 Officers and 570 Other Ranks.

Day of : Month:	Offrs.: O'Ranks	Movement	Doing duty Offrs.	with unit. : O'Ranks.
Tak s	14 : 498	: 1 O'Rank taken on strength; Lt. Heathorne struck off strength	: 9	: 322
lst.:		: 1 0'Rank struck off strength	: 9	: 319
2nd.:		: 11 O'Ranks struck off strength to Australia	: 9	: 306
	100	:2/Lt. W.R.Raper taken on strength.	: 9	: 313
4th.:	T 40.55	7 O'Ranks taken on strength.	: 10	: 316
5th.:		1 O'Rank taken on strength from Hospital.	: 10	: 308
6th.:		: 3 0 Ranks struck off strength	: 10	: 308
7th. :		: 3 0 Ranks struck off strength	: 10	: 304
8th.:		: 52 O'Rank s taken on strength from Base	: 10	: 343
9th. :		: 15 0'Ranks taken on strength from the Base.	: 10	: 356
loth.		: 4 0'R. taken on strength from Base. 20 0'R struck off strength to	: 10	: 320
llth.	15 : 519	: 10th.Bde; 19 0'R. struck off strength to 11th Bde. 1 0'R S.O.S.	:	
2012		: 4 0 Ranks taken on strength, 13 0 Ranks stuck off strength to Bdes	9	: 318
			: 9	: 319
13th. :	The state of the s	: Nil: : 10 0 Ranks struck off strength, in Field Ambulance over 7 days.	: 9	: 315
14th. :		: 1 O'Rank struck off strength, in Field Ambulance struck off strengt	h 9	: 315
16th. :			: 9	: 310
17th. :		: Nil.	: 11	: 384
19th.		: 1 O'Rank taken on strength	: 11	: 427
20th.		: Nil.	: 12	: 426
21st.		: 20'Ranks struck off strength	: 12	: 433
24th.		: 2 O'Ranks taken on strength from Hospital	: 12	: 435
25th.		: 20'Ranks taken on strength from Hospital	: 11	: 435
26th.		: Nil.	: 11	: 433
27th.		: Nil.	: 11	: 433
28th.		: 4 0 Ranks struck off strength in Field Ambulance over 7 days.	: 11	: 423
29th.		: 7 O'Ranks struck off strength; retd. to Australia.	: 12	: 424
30th.		: 1 0 Rank taken on strength	. 12	: 426
31st.	: 15 : 492	: Nila	. 12	. 200

Average Daily Strength approx. 15 Offrs 501 O'Ranks.

Average Daily Strength with Unit 10 Offrs 352 O'Ranks.

Present Deficiecy 78 O'Ranks.

app. 12.

C.O. 4th. Aust. D. A. C.

183

#### For your information.

#### Number of Sick Parades during the Month of December 1-

No. 1 Section 46 No. 2 Section 114 S.A.A.Section 33

Total 193

Daily average 6.2 .7% of daily average strength.

Number of Evacuations :-

3 = 1.5% Sick Parade = .4% of average strength

Details.

Sore Throat 1
Bomb Wound, leg 1
Orchitis 1

The above figures only apply to men on Sick Parade. The total passing through R. A. P. inclusive of Sick Parade is 293; daily average 9.4

General health of the men is good.

app. 13.

Captain,

R. M. O. 4th. Aust. D. A. C.

### MONTHLY REVIEW of GENERAL CONDITIONS of 4th Aust. D. A. C.

- 1. HEALTH. Good. Monthly report of R. M. O. attached to appendices.
- 2. MORAL Good
  - 3. DISCIPLINE. Good. During the month, 4 cases came before me to be dealt with; 1 came A.W.L. for 6 days (overstayed U.K. Leave) was awarded 28 days F.P. No. 2.; 1 case of A.W.L. for 2 days was awarded 14 days F.P. No. 2.; 1 case "Neglecting to obey an order" was awarded 7days F.P. No. 2: 1 case A.W.L. for 50 days was remanded for F.G.C.M.
    - 4. ANIMALS. Desfiient at the end of November 7 Rides 15 Mules No rembunts were received during the month- The present deficiencies are 9 Rides and 18 Mules . and in addition 22 animals are in the Mobile Veterinary Section
  - 5. CLOTHING. Good supplies were drawn during the month and all ranks are well equipped.
  - 6.EQUIPMENT. Complete No difficulty experienced in obtaining supplies.
  - 7. ORDNANCE. Wagons up to Strength.
  - 8. REINFORCEMENTS. 1 Officer and 72 other ranks were taken on strength from Base and 14 rejoined from Hospital. Of the above 52 other ranks marched out of Brigades.
  - 9. LEAVE.

    33 leave passes were granted during the month including 3 officers (and 8 other ranks to Paris) lother rank was admitted to Hospital and has not yet returned.

10. AMMUNITION. No issues during the month.

848 rds AX) were dumped at LIESSIES before moving to

BIESMEREE area.

app. 14

Major,

1.1.19

4th. Aust. Div. Ammn. Column.