

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/77/20

Title: 4th Australian Divisional Ammunition
Column

January 1918



AWM4-13/77/20

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th Aust. D.A.C.

FOR

January 1918

Signature of Officer compiling H.V. Vernon LTC

Signature of Officer Commanding H.V. Vernon LTC DSO

WAR DIARY

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.

| 4th AUST. D. A. C | | | | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| Page 1 of January 1918. | | | | |
| Jany 1st FLEURE and METEREN. | Summary of Events and Information | | | |
| | | | | |
| Jany 2nd. FLEURE | Hour | Date | Place | |
| | | | | |

The DAC and Div. ARTY are en route from BAPAUME to BAILLEUL, leaving II Army and rejoining the 1st Anzac Corps, from today termed The Australian Corps and at present under the IV Army.

Yesterday No. 1 and No. 3 Sections finished arriving at BAILLEUL, and No. 2 Section is still en route in the five trains to which reference was made in Diary two or three days ago. The billeting party from PERONNE Railway Stn. was Lt. H. S. Davy and six other ranks. I find No. 1 and No. 3 Sections and HQRS in the village of METEREN, and billets empty and awaiting No. 2 Section. Instructions were received this morning however that the village of METEREN was required for 3rd Aust. Div. Troops, who were to arrive tomorrow, and that we must move today. As pointed out in the past, this being placed in the wrong area has happened a great deal in the last six months, and means a great deal of unnecessary loading and unloading such as stores, QM, farriers, office, etc. *(to move)*

I issue To order No. 3 DAC from present billets into GODEWAERSVELDE area, farms having been allotted from NE of FLEURE to N of METEREN: and preventing No. 2 from unloading at billets allotted.

Head of column left METEREN at 2 p.m.; At 2.30 p.m. as No. 3 was leaving, the capacity of the farms had been ascertained and fresh farms had to be found before they could be billeted.

Weather fine but the snow covered roads becoming very slippery.

By dark No. 3 Section was housed.

Received instructions in the afternoon, DA No. 110, to take over camps at LOCRE from 37th Div: also that the Div. TM BTYS were to be reformed.

I issue Order No. 4 stating position and movements of the artillery supply instructions, location statement and arrangements for a C.O.'s party to view the camps.

Capt. C. A. Sherwood and Lt. P. R. Barron leave the DAC for Div. TM's. The former handing over the command of No. 3 Section to Lt. W. L. Sanderson.

In the various farms here the horses are out in the open and the men are closed up in barns.

Mr. Dodds, YMCA representative, erects a marquee as soon as the column arrives.

Capt. Heatley and staff of No. 11 Dental Unit march and remain with the DAC.

HVV

At 9.30 a.m. I leave the cross-roads in the area with an officer and two OR from each Section, and riding through ST. JAN'S CAPPEL and CROIX DE POPERINGHE and examine several roads and find the best route free from traffic and hills for the march of the column on the 4th; and visit the three camps of the 37th DAC to the E of LOCRE at 11 a.m. I find a remarkably good camp and consequently the 37th DAC with good harness and an air of good order. I consider this will be a good chance to get our harness, wagons, mules, and organisation in order again, as the 4th DAC has not been in a good camp with stables for more than 3 or 4 days at a time since July 10th 1917; and stables and harness rooms mean every facility for units with a large amount of harness; during a very long portion of last six months the harness has mostly been stacked on the wagons and wagon poles, and much of it not cleaned by reason of work for several weeks at a time.

Capt. A. V. Richardson reports from base for duty. Transferred ten trained men to TM BTYS.

HVV

4th AUST. D. A. C.

Page 2 of January 1918.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Jany. 3rd
FLÈTRE

Therm. 30 deg. at 7. a.m. Thaw during the day but snow still on ground.
Issued order No.5, being march orders to LOCRE.
Lt. J.S.V.Mein with 5 O/R leave camp at 6.30 a.m. and move by bus for York House Dump, between KEMMEL and VIERSTRAAT, to take over the guard from 37th DIV Inf at 4. p.m. and duties and responsibilities at 9.a.m. 4th inst. Working parties there are supplied by Labour Coy.
Issued DA march orders 111.

(HVV)

Jany. 4th
FLÈTRE

Therm. 30 deg. at 7.a.m.
I leave FLÈTRE at 7.30 a.m; with small party, arriving at this camp at 9 a.m. Had to walk most of the way as the roads were too slippery to ride on. HQRS and No.2 Sectn. are at Alma Lines, No.3 at Sebastopol Lines and No.1 at Redan Lines: these camps are left in good order.

DAC marches from FLÈTRE, the head leaving billets at 8.25 a.m.: but owing to the leading four wagons, loaded, skidding across the road and lodging in the ditch and blocking the road, the head did not arrive at METEREN and pass through until 11 a.m. although a distance of 2 or 3 kilometres. Capt. McNaught M.C. in command of column.

(HVV)

Jany. 5th
SCHEDE

Therm. 37 deg. all day.

With the Adjutant I inspected York House Dump; light railways, buildings, sign-boards etc. in good order, but both the water and sand in the fire buckets are frozen, and I give orders for the working party daily to empty the ice and substitute water.

Y.M.C.A. tonight established in the lines.

4th D.A.HQ. moves to ST. JAN'S CAPPEL from THIESHOUK.

(HVV)

Jany. 6th

Therm. 20 deg. at 7.30 a.m.

I issued programme of daily instructions in connection with camp standing orders etc.

The following O/R have been mentioned in Despatches of Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig Kt. 1/1/18 :

8364 BSM Warren, G.A.

329 BSM Quailey, T.F.

Also The C.O.

(HVV)

Jany. 7th.

Therm. 33 deg. and thaw.

Inspections during day.

Issued order ~~xxxx~~ no. 7 making preliminary arrangement for taking over divisional SAA dump from 37th DIV at VOORMSEZELLE.

(HVV)

Hour

Date

Place

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4th AUST. D. A. C.

Page 3 of January 1918.

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Remarks and references to Appendices | Summary of Events and Information | Hour | Date | Place |
|--------------------------------------|---|------|------|-------|
| Jany. 8. LOCRE | Therm 30 deg. at 7.30 a.m. Heavy Snow. 24 deg. at 8.p.m. Issued order No 8 showing personnel and arrangements for VOORMEZEELE SAA Dump (these orders are attached to original Diary); This dump to have one officer and 9 O/R, including telephonist; cook, and messenger. Under the officer is a quantity of stock at York House Dump: both to be taken over on the 11th inst. by Lieut.C.R.Cramp. Veterinary Officer finds ring-worm breaking out on mules in all Sectns.; having been caught, it is thought, in the railway trucks recently: I issue stringent orders re isolation treatment and disinfecting. In the last two days 10 O/R from hospital arrive from Base, and 18 O/R in hospital are struck off strength. Thirteen GS wagons to road work, 37th DIV | | | |
| Jany. 9th | Therm. 24 deg. at 8.a.m. Snow during day. CRA inspects Camp. This is now working with good regularity and the methods following equipment in huts, display of harness etc; are assimilated in each Section. | | | |
| Jany. 10th | Therm. 40 deg. at midday. Thaw. Lieut.C.R.Cramp takes over The Grenade Dumps at VERMOZELE & YORK HOUSE with batman, 3 NCOs telephonist, messenger, cook, & 4 gunners. | | | |
| Jany. 11th | Therm. 40 deg. in a.m. with thaw. Camp and roads becoming muddy. Capt. A.V.Richardson to VOORMEZEELE Dump for instruction. O.C.Dump reports that working party at this dump will be found by the DIV Infy. when they take over the line from 37th DIV. Commence preparation of rolls in connection with Service Chevrons. Arrived from Base thirteen signallers and eight O/R; majority of these are new reinforcements. | | | |
| Jany. 12th | Therm. 37 deg. at 7.a.m. Thaw continues. Lieuts. J. Gleeson and W. L. Sanderson promoted to Capt. on 10th inst. Infy. guard relieves DAC guard at York House SAA Dump. A Belgian Interpreter, M. de Monie reports. Thaw precautions put in hand i.e. motor transport generally withdrawn from the roads, wagon teams reduced to two animals and loads reduced to half. 4th AUST.D.H.Q. and D.A.H.Q. open at SCHERPENBERG; at 10 a.m.; and 12th.Inf.Bde. completes in the front line tonight. Fifteen GS wagons to DADOS 4th DIV. C.O. awarded D.S.O. Jan 1 st . | | | |

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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| Summary of Events and Information | | | | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| Jan'y 13. | LOORE | | | Therm. 41 deg. Eight D.A.C. men relieved from VOORMEZEELE Dump by Infy and return to camp. Lieut. Peel to Gas School. CRA and Engr; Major inspected Camp re bomb-proof revetments to stables, huts, etc: the latter are nearly all completely bomb-proofed by revetments consisting of wood or iron pickets and a double line 15" apart driven into the ground all around, 12" away from hut and lined with XPM or wire netting to the height of 2'6" or 3', all well wired together and filled in with earth. Measurements are taken for running down outside the stables in the same manner. Approximately 26 runs 135' long; not including ends: it is arranged to send Infy. to erect these while I provide the soil filling and complete the huts with DAC personnel. Two Lewis M-G Sectns. report for protection of Camp from enemy air-craft, and I place them approximately at each end of the Camp. Two new reinforcements arrived from Base, the No. of one being 35617. Snow tonight. |
| Jan'y 4 | | | | Therm. 31 deg. to 33 deg. 3" Snow on ground. Held Summary of Evidence re Dvr. Groves, recently captured in PARIS. His offences include original escape from custody in March 1917, further escapes from time to time, and a charge of robbery with violence in PARIS: although in Camp on previous occasions, being awaiting trial, there have always been great delays in obtaining necessary witnesses: at present he is confined handcuffed to a stake in the guard room. The daily allotment of ammunition for normal expenditure is at present twenty rounds per 18pr. gun per day, and sixteen rounds per 4.5 howr. per day; one-third of each by day, and two-thirds by night. Ringworm in the mules has spread slowly, but the figures show that the methods adopted are proving effective. Many improvements are being made to the camps such as taking up corduroy roads and relaying them, digging of ditches, completing duckboard walks, relaying and patching brick and concrete floors to stables, and completing bomb-proofing around the huts. |
| Jan'y 16th | | | | Therm; 40 deg. at 8.a.m. and heavy rain-storm. Harness today shows nearly all sets are burnished and only spare and salvaged items yet to be done. The canteens in this DAC are run by each Sectn. Cmdr. with a committee drawn from the banks ; and buyers and wagon are out from each practically every day and the men's wants - practically everything s are met. I hold a meeting of sub-committee from each Sectn. with the idea of assimilating the procedure in each with regard to credit between pay days, daily checking of accounts, posting of monthly balances and a set of rules beside the one ruling, Kings Regs., B.E.F. Orders, A.I.F. Orders, A.I.F. Auditor's requirements, and E.F.C. Rules. |

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Jan. 16th
LOCRE

Remarks and references to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place Date Hour

4th AUST. D. A. C.

Page 5 of January 1918.

Therm. 50 deg. at 9.a.m. with rain and thaw, but snow at midday.

Sick parades have fallen considerably this month, on one date one man reporting, but the average being from ten to twenty out of the establishment of six hundred: colds however are on the increase due to wet feet from the thaw. The Regtl; Rest Hut is capable of holding up to twenty without crowding, with coal fire, meals cooked separately and two orderlies. It contains mostly men with temperature from colds, and early cases of chilled feet all the latter are supervised in rubbing feet for twenty minutes commencing at each clock hour. No cases are kept here that should be evacuated, and the M.O. visits at least twice a day.

The arrangements for soaks at present are, one pair on, one spare pair in the kit, and one at the DIV baths or DADOS: Many men are without the pair in the kit, due to their wearing out in December when apparently, being in the CAMBRAI sector we were off our Base, but this is practically rectified now and the Comforts Funds have enabled many to have two pair in their kits

(#VV)

Jan. 17th

Therm. 35 deg. at 8.a.m. Snow and rain.

One officer and 40 O/R of the 13th Btn arrived at 9.a.m. to work on the bombproofing of the stables. This was to be done by pickets and XPM and wire as described for huts but notification received ~~xxxxxx~~ that none available and a sketch is prepared for banking the earth against allcorrugated iron walls with a spoil ditch five to eight feet away. The scheme for pooling all the horse transport in the Corps has now started. A list of all available wagons being sent to the O.C. Train in each DIV. and the allotment made according to requirements and locality. Practically every wagon in the DAC out today carrying coal and RE material.

(#VV)

Jan. 18th

Therm. 40 deg to 50 deg.: it would appear that the weather is mild for January: last January during three weeks the thermometer was never higher than 32 deg. and generally from 6 deg to 25 deg. as will be seen from last January's Diary.

Capt. A. V. Richardson takes over responsibilities of the SAA Dump at VOORMEZELE from Lt;C/. R. Cramp who returns to camp: and Lt. F. Dickenson reports for duty at the dump.

GOC DIV inspects lines in detail, and orders all animals' tails to be docked two hand-breadths above the hocks.

Working party from the Infy. will arrive daily from now on, Sunday excepted,

Forty-two GS wagons and thirteen Lim. G.S. wagons are allotted to the pooled transport.

Examination for qualification and competition for more acg. bombardiers commenced today, seven subjects: good material is forthcoming: this system I have adopted for last six months and found it satisfactory as showing out the best men after selection by the G.C. and it is in favour with the senr. NCOs, while the fact of qualification having been reached puts a certain safe standard on the jnr. NCOs: subjects include knowledge of map reference and simple measurements, dump procedure, and ammunition counting

Strength 616 Establishment 618

(#VV)

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

| Summary of Events and Information | | | | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|--|--|
| | | | | 4th. Aust. D. A. C. Page 6 of January 1918. |
| | | | | 19th; 680CRE. Therm. 45 deg. Corps ask for a report on cutting down of oats, which is proposed for all units; I reported that I did not think it advisable as there is at present a good deal of road work, and the mules though improving daily, are not in good condition. Since last spring, about ten months ago, 21bs of the oats issue has been held from the animals of the D.A.C., and divided among the horses of the Bdes. On two or three occasions I have asked for the cancellation of this, and am of the opinion that, had the animals had their proper scale, in December they would have stood that month better, and there would have been less wastage in horse-rugs, saddle-blankets, nose-bags etc; which they could not be prevented from tearing and chewing in the horse-lines in the snow. Issued précis of Divisional Defence Scheme; as far as affecting D.A.C; it includes finding guides, nominally 2 officers and two N.C.Os, for about 20 Bty positions, which are to be marked by boards; these guides are to know roads and approaches for Btys reinforcing from the rear; see Order 13, app. 11. 11 Reinforcements from Base. 38 Wagons out on Transport pool. (HVV) |
| | | | | 20th. Therm. 48 deg. 8 am; Being Sunday, no Inftry Party arrived for bomb-proofing work round stables. Issued to each Section revised and up-to-date Rules and Procedure for Canteens. (HVV) |
| | | | | 21st. Therm. 50 deg. Usual inspections, routine, and road work. Fire in house opposite S.A.A. Section Lines; whose men went over to put it out. I recommended for bravery in entering a room of the burning building to save a child thought to be there, 33440 Dr Hitchins W.E.; and for removing several blazing petroleum barrels 24081 Dr Battams F.A.R. Mmes Titeca's statement in Flemish attached recognizes their acts. (See app; 1) I asked that at least the notice of the Belgian Authorities be drawn. (app. I) Lieut. H.H. McKeown goes on leave to Paris. (HVV) |
| | | | | 22nd. Therm. 51 deg. Inspected VOORMEZEELE Grenade Dump, and discussed with the 2 officers the question of guides for Defence Scheme. The average daily number of "men detached from Section Lines on other duties, leave, Fld Amb. etc." is 55, which is comparatively low. (HVV) |
| | | | | 23rd. Therm. 45 deg. 8 am. to 52 deg. Recommended to C.R.A. for Course at Cadet School, St. John's Wees, B.Q.M.S. Meran, Sgt. Miles, A/Br Blacket and Stuckey, and Dr Croft papers also lie with him for Cpl Wells and A/Br Hutchison. Lieut. Crocker goes on leave to Paris. 46th. Ba working on bomb-proofing on lines. (HVV) |
| | | | | 24th. Therm. 59 at 10 am. to Commenced to clear Grenade Stock from VOORMEZEELE from YORK HOUSE Dump. "Corps Line" Battery Boards erected An A/Sgt. is sent to D.A.D.O.S. for course of instruction, and it is intended that all Q.M.Ss follow in rotation for the advantage of all concerned. An E.A. over Camp drops a message giving a list of R.F.C casualties and prisoners, and this was sent at once to DA (HVV) |
| Place | Date | Hour | | |

WAR DIARY

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|-----------------------------------|------|------|---|
| | | | 4th. Aust. D.A.C. Page 7 of January 1918. |
| | | | 25th. LOCRE. Therm. 45 deg. a sunny. Lt. C.R. Cramp goes to England on leave. Recommended Gr Lorimer V. for Cadet School Course. Lt. Florance to VOORMEZEELE Dump, relieving Lt. Dickins-son. 314 S.M. W.O. 1 Schmidt F.A. transferred to 10th. A.F.A. Bde. (HVV) |
| | | | 26th. Therm. 47 deg. 9 am. 34 Wagons carrying coal in Transport Pool. Further examinations for A/Brs. 2/Lt. Williams reports back from Gas School. (HVV) |
| | | | 27th. Therm. 45 deg. foggy. As Capt. H. Retchford, O.C. No. 2 Section, is to shortly leave for a course at Shrewburyness, I bring back Capt. A.V. Richardson from VOORMEZEELE Dump, after handing over same to Lt. F.F. Florance, and send 2/Lt. V.C. Williams as assistant officer. 2067 Col Sellick leaves for Australia with authority to stay one month on urgent family business. Notice received that the grain ration would be reduced in the Div by 2 lbs per animal per diem; I again urge the full scale allowed be given the D.A.C. animals. Capt. C.P. Heatley, O.C. No. 11 Dental Unit, leaves for temporary duty with A.F.C. (HVV) |
| | | | 28th. Therm. 40 deg. 9 am.; sunny. Received from Aust. Comforts Funds, and distributed equally :- 5 Cases Cocoa & Milk, 538 prs socks, and 20 cases of DEAD Pest Parcels; 5 cases of literature, 6 gramophone xxxxxx and 200 needles. E.A. active over-records Head. Completed moving S.A.A. stock from YORK HOUSE to 20th. VOORMEZEELE Dump. 48th. Bn working on bomb-proofing. As the A.A.M.C. Col & 2 O.R. attached for Water Duties are to be withdrawn to their Fld Amb. and 3 added to War Establishment to replace, Establishment now stands at 606 O.R., including attached; owing to 6 O.R. marching in today from Base and Hospital, 606 is completed. (HVV) |
| | | | 29th. Therm. 34 deg. at 9 am, frosty, sunny. 3 surplus S/Smiths from 3rd. D.A.C. taken on strength. (HVV) |
| | | | 30th. Therm. 32 to 34 degs. Capt. H. Retchford transfers command of No. 2 Section to Capt. A.V. Richardson, and leaves for England. (HVV) |
| | | | 31st. Therm. 32 degs.; foggy. Informed that no reduction will be made in the new scale of 10 lbs of oats for animals. Lt. H.H. McKeown returns from Paris. Capt. C.P. Heatley, O.C. No. 11 Dental Unit, returns. The ring-worm in animals is now well in hand, and will shortly be stamped out. Bomb-proofing round Stables practically completed in S.A.A. Section, and nearly so in Nos 1 & 2. The camp is now in a very neat state, nearly all corduroy roads having been made, and drainage attended to. (HVV) |
| Place | Date | Hour | |

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18,000-12/17-8723.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th Aust D.A.C.

FOR

January 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

I A Recommendation for Bravery. } sheet
(not in enemy action) } only.

II list, in sequence of dates, of all
D.A.C. Field orders, a few D.A. HQ
orders, location statement (sample) etc.

189.

9

APPENDIX, /

4TH. AUST. D.A.C.

The C.R.A., 4th. Aust. Division,

Placing before you the actions of two men of this unit. A fire broke out in a room built against the side of a house opposite S.A.A. Section Lines, BRULOOZE: this room I notice is built mostly of timber and rubbered, and had petroleum stored in it.

After the alarm and the arrival of S.A.A. Section men, Mme Titeca, statement attached, cried out a child was in the room. No. 33440 Dvr HITCHINS W.E. climbed in, and had the child been there would no doubt have saved its life.

No. 2408 Dvr BATTAMS F.A.R. ran great risks in taking a leading part in removing blazing petroleum barrels, saving the house.

The evidence of two officers is attached. May I recommend that at least the notice of the Belgian Authorities be drawn to their bravery.

23/1/18.

H.V. Vernon

Lieut. Colonel,

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

Appendix I

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

COPY NO. 11

SECRETORDER NO. 110HEADQUARTERS,
1st January 1918.Reference SHEET 1/40,000 Sheets 27 and 28.

1. The 4th Australian Divisional Artillery will relieve the 37th Divisional Artillery covering the 37th Division holding the front astride the YPRES - COMILES Canal as follows :-

January 3rd 1918 - 1 Section per Battery relieves
1 Section per Battery of 37th
D.A..

January 4th 1918 - Remaining Sections relieve remaining
Sections of 37th D.A..
Relief to be completed by 11 a.m.,
4/1/1918.

The 4th Aus. D.A.C. will relieve 37th D.A.C. on the same dates under arrangements to be made between D.A.C. Commanders concerned. Relief to be completed by 9 a.m., 4/1/1918.

TRENCH MORTARS :-

The 4th Aus. T.M. Batteries will take over the following T.Ms. with stores in position :-

3 6" NEWTON's
1 9.45" long and 5 not in position.
1 8" Mortar.

arrangements to be made between D.T.M.Os. concerned; relief to be complete by 11 a.m., 4th..

2. Command of the Artillery covering the 37th Division will pass to the C.R.A. 4th Aus. Division at 10 a.m. Jan. 5th..

Command of Groups will devolve on Group Commanders 4th Aus. Divisional Artillery at 12 noon January 4th..

3. The 37th Divisional Artillery is organised into two Groups termed "RIGHT" and "LEFT" Groups.
The 10th Aus. P.A. Brigade less 38th Battery will relieve the RIGHT GROUP. The 11th Aus. P.A. Brigade plus 38th Battery will relieve the LEFT GROUP. Batteries will relieve their opposite numbers in the 37th Division, i.e., 37th Battery relieves A/12th R.F.A., etc..
Location statement of 37th D.A. is issued herewith.

4. Advance parties consisting of the following :-

B.Cs., one Subaltern, 1 Batman and 3 telephonists per Battery, Brigade Orderly Officer and Signal Officer, 1 Batman and 3 telephonists per Brigade, D.T.M.O., 1 officer per T.M. Battery, 2 batmen and 5 N.C.Os. from T.Ms.

with kits and rations for 48 hours will be at SHEET 27, Cross Roads W 12 b 8 4 at 7 a.m. on January 2nd and will be taken up in four motor buses to LEFT GROUP H.Q. at LAMKHOE FARM where guides will meet them.

5. WAGON LINES.....

ORDER NO. 110 (Continued)

5. WAGON LINES.

Each Battery and Section D.A.C. will send an Officer and 2 M.C.Os. to reconnoitre Wagon lines on the 2nd January, returning on completion.

6. D.A.C..

In conjunction with above, the O.C. 4th Aus. D.A.C.. will meet the O.C. 37th D.A.C. at his Headquarters at 11 a.m. on 2nd Jan. and arrange details of relief.

7. TRENCH MORTARS :-

All personnel of T.M. Batteries - including Officers - will be concentrated at Sheet 27 Q 30 a 20 by the evening of the 1st Jan. with 48 hours' rations. Brigades and D.A.C. must arrange to give their share of camp kettles with their parties.

8. Reliefs on January 3rd and 4th will be carried out as follows :-

Personnel will be conveyed in motor lorries or buses - from places and at times to be notified later - to KIM ROAD (K 10 3 Station) via LA CLYTHE Cross Roads at Sheet 28 N 7 Central where guides will meet M.T. and whence they will be conveyed by Decauville Railway (60 c.m.) to SPOIL LARK.

Vacancies in M.T. are allotted as follows :-

| | | Jan. 3rd | Jan 4th |
|---------------|-----|----------|---------|
| Larch Brigade | ... | 70 | 140 |
| D.A.C., | ... | 70 | 80 |
| Engine. | ... | 40 | 40. |

9. Guns of 37th D.A. will be taken over stripped but with breech and muzzle covers, sight clinometers, aiming posts and dial sight carriers.

10. WAGON LINES. :-

Teams of Batteries and D.A.C. will move forward on the 4th January. Larch orders will be issued later.

11. Guns and howitzers of the 4th Aus. Divisional Artillery will be handed over to the 30th Divisional Artillery at 10 a.m. 3rd January at COULVAERDSVELDE - exact spot to be notified later - and will be handed over as follows :-

| | | |
|------------------------|----|------------------------|
| 10th Aus. F.A. Brigade | to | 148th Brigade, R.F.A.. |
| 11th Aus. F.A. Brigade | to | 149th Brigade, R.F.A.. |

Batteries handing over to their opposite numbers. Guns will be handed over stripped but with sight clinometers, aiming posts, breech and muzzle covers and dial sight carriers. Dial sights will NOT be handed over.

12. SUPPLIES.....

12. SUPPLIES.

14th Coy. A.A.S.C. will be at Sheet 27, X 8 a 9 0.
 1 day's rations will be dumped on January 1st at Sheet 27
 X 1- b 1 8 for consumption on 2nd and thereafter until Jan.
 4th when refilling point will be notified later.
 All parties going to the front will take 48 hours' rations
 with them.

13. 10th Aus. F.A. Brigade and 4th Aus. D.A.C. will move
 on January 1st to billets in CODEWAERSVELDE Area, which will
 be designated to them.
 Batteries and Sections D.A.C. must move as a whole.
 Other than the above Brigade and D.A.C. Commanders will make
 the necessary arrangements for the move.

14. 4th Aus. Divisional Artillery Headquarters will be at
 THIEUSHOUK, Sheet 27 Q 25 b until 8 a.m. January 5th 1918,
 then it will move to SCHERPENBURG Sheet 28, E 17 b,
 re-opening at 10 a.m..

15. The Divisions on the Right and Left of the 37th are
 as follows :-

| | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|--------------------|
| RIGHT | ... | ... | 1st Aus. Division. |
| LEFT | ... | ... | 30th Division. |

The 37th Division holds the line with one Infantry Brigade
 with 4 Battalions in the line forming the following Sectors :-

| | | |
|--------------|-----|-----------------|
| RIGHT SECTOR | ... | Two Battalions. |
| LEFT SECTOR | ... | Two Battalions. |

All liaison arrangements in vogue with 37th Division will be
 continued.

16. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

*Major, R.A.,
 Brigade-Major,
 4th Australian Divisional Artillery.*

DISTRIBUTION.

| | | | |
|----|---|----|----------------------|
| 1 | - | 5 | 10th Aus. F.A. Bde.. |
| 6 | - | 10 | 11th " " " |
| 11 | - | 11 | 4th Aus. D.A.C.. |
| 15 | - | 18 | 4th Aus. D.T.M.O.. |
| | | 19 | 14th Coy. A.A.S.C.. |

for inf.

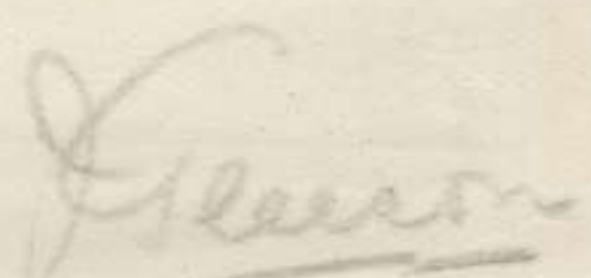
| | | | |
|----|---|----|-------------------|
| | | 20 | 4th Aus. Div.. |
| | | 21 | R.A., IXth Corps. |
| | | 22 | 37th D.A.. |
| | | 23 | 30th D.A.. |
| | | 24 | 1st Aus. D.A.. |
| 25 | - | 27 | War Diary. |
| | | 28 | C.R.A.. |
| | | 29 | S.C.. |
| | | 30 | R.C.. |
| | | 31 | File. |

SECRET.

Issued to _____

4th. A.D.A.C. Order No. 3 - 1/1/18.
-----Map Reference - Sheet No. 27.

1. D.A.C. Will move from present billets and proceed to billets in COMSTERSVELDE area in squares X 1 & 2.
2. No. 1 Section will leave camp at 2 pm. No. 2 at 2-5 pm. 3.A.A. section at 2-10 pm. K.H.Q. at 2-14 pm.
3. Route :- Via Road METEREN - La BESACE Mue.
4. Starting point:- Road Junction X 9 & 7 6. Hour of passing 2-20 pm.
5. Distance between Sections 100 yards.
6. An orderly, mounted, to report to C.O. at head of column at 2-20 pm at starting point.
7. C.O. will ride at head of column.
8. List of Billets, showing owners name, commune, and numbers billeted at present Billets to be handed in at once.
9. All Billets to be left thoroughly clean;

Lieut.

Adjutant 4th. A.D.A.C.

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Records Copy

4TH. AUS. D.A.C

SECRET ORDER NO. 4. of 1st. January 1918.

1. Extracts from 4th. A.D.A Order No. 110. :-
Dated 31/12/17.

- (a) 4th. Aus. Div. Arty will relieve 37th. Div. Arty.; covering 37th. Division, astride YPRES - COMINES Canal.
- (b) One Section per Bty moves into relief on 3rd inst.; remainder remainder on 4th. inst., completing by 11 am. D.A.C relieves 37th. D.A.C. by 9 am on the 4th. inst.
- (c) C.R.A 4th. Aus. Div. Arty assumes command at 10 am on the 5th. inst.; Group Commanders at 12 noon on the 4th. inst.
- (d) Right Group - 37th., 39th. & 110th. Btys.
Left Group - 38th., 41st., 42nd, 43rd, & 111th. Btys.
Left Group Hdqtrs LANKHOF Farm.
- (e) D.T.M. Personnel concentrates at 27Q, 30 a 60 by evening of 1st. inst. D.A.C. will return to T.M. Btys any camp kettles etc; belonging to them.
- (f) 14th. A.A.S. Coy is at 27 X 8 a 90. One day's rations will be dumped on the 1st. inst. at 27 X 14 b 18 for consumption on the 2nd., and thereafter until 4th. Jan. when a new refilling point will be notified.
All parties going to the front will take 48 hours' rations.
- (g) 4th. A.D.A. Hqs THIEUSHOEK, 27 Q 35 b, till 8 am. 5th. inst. when it will move to SCHERPENBURG, 28 M 17 b, re-opening at 10 am.
- (h) 1st. Aus. Division is on right of 37th., and 30th. Div. on left. 37th. Divn holds with a Right Sector of 2 Btys, and Left of 2 Btys.

2. The C.O. will ride to meet O.C. 37th. D.A.C. at Hdqts on 2nd inst. at 11 am. to arrange details of relief. He will leave X roads 27 X 3 c 04 at 9.30 am., and will be accompanied by 1 Officer and 2 W.C.Os per Section, who will inspect new Wagon Lines, returning on completion. Horse-feed and meal to be carried and horses to be well coggd.

3. 37 D.A.C. Hdqts ~~will be~~ ANNA LINES 28 M 23 d 59.
No. 1 Section REDAN " 28 M 24 d 27.
" 2 " ALMA 28 M 23 b 80.
S.A.A. " SEBASTOPOL " 28 M 24 a 73.

Ammn. Dump YORK HOUSE 28 N 16 d 25.
" " JELLICOE 28 H 36 b 19.

4. Each Section will relieve corresponding Section in 37th. D.A.C. and take over its duties.

5. March Orders will be issued later, probably for the 4th. inst.

6. Personnel for relief on the 3rd inst. & 4th. as necessary will be sent out as arranged later., but there is a vacancy in motor transport for 30 D.A.C. men on the 3rd. and 30 on the 4th. inst. Motor lorries or 'busses will leave places as notified, and will go to KIE Rd. (KIOC STATION) via LA CLYTTE X Roads, 28 N 7 central; those going to JELLICOE will possibly be conveyed by DECAUVILLE.

Over 7

7. 10th. A.F.A. Bde is allotted 1 G.S.W. per B.Hq & Bty, total 5 from 1K; and 11th. Bde 5 G.S.W. from 2K.; these are for the move on the 4th. inst.

Lieut. Colonel.

1/1/18. : O.C., 4th. Aug. D.A.C.

SECRET.

ORDER NO. 111.

APPENDIX. 2

HEADQUARTERS,
2nd Jan. 1918.

1. The 4th Australian Divisional Artillery - less personnel at gun positions - will march to wagon lines as follows on Jan. 4th :-

10th Aus. F.A. Brigade .. POMPIER CAMP Sheet 28,
W 14 d 3 3.

11th Aus. F.A. Brigade .. DETTINGEN CAMP Sheet 28,
W 14 d 0050.

4th Aus. D.A.C. .. ALMA LINES. Sheet 28,
M 22 d 5 9.

ROUTE .. BAILLEUL - LOCRE - LA CLYFFE Cross Roads (W 7 Central Sheet 28).

STARTING POINTS .. 10th & 11th Aus. F.A. Brigades :-
Cross Roads Sheet 27, W 12 d 8 4,

4th Aus. D.A.C. :-
Cross Roads Sheet 27, X 15 d 4 8.

TIMES .. 11th Aus. F.A. Bde.. .. 9.15 a.m..
10th Aus. F.A. Bde.. .. 9.55 a.m..
4th Aus. D.A.C. .. 11.25 a.m..

2. Distances of 100 yards between Batteries and Sections of Batteries, Sections of D.A.C. and Subsections D.A.C., and 400 yards between Brigades and D.A.C. will be maintained.

3. 10th and 11th Aus. F.A. Brigades will halt for 15 minutes at 10.15 a.m..

D.A.C. will halt at discretion of O.C. provided no part of D.A.C. is halted in BAILLEUL.

Other than the above there will be no halts.

4. Special attention is to be paid to the cleanliness of billets left in this Area and settlement of claims and billeting certificates.

5. 5 empty G.S. wagons per Brigade will be sent by D.A.C. to Battery and Brigade Headquarters on January 3rd under arrangements to be made between D.A.C. and Brigade Commanders concerned to carry surplus kits of Brigades and Batteries. These wagons will march with the Brigades' transport and will be returned to the D.A.C. on Jan. 5th. They will bring rations for 48 hours with them. Surplus kits of D.A.C. will be carried in the remaining 10 empty G.S. wagons of Nos. 1 and 2 Sections.

6. Orders regarding move of 14th Coy. A.A.S.C. will be issued later.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

for Major, R.A.,
Brigade-Major,

1 - 10 10th Bde.. 4th Australian Div. Artillery.
11 - 20 11th Bde..
21 - 28 D.A.C..
29 14th Coy. A.A.S.C.

(30 30th D.A.C. for inf. (31 A.P.L. IXth Corps.
(31 37th D.A.C. (32 A.P.L. Aus. Corps.
for (32 4th Aus. Div. (33 Area Comd. GODAERSVELDE.
inf. (33 R.A. IXth Corps. (37 file.
(38 - 40 Diary. etc..

SECRET.

APPENDIX 2 17
Issued to Records.....

2/1/18.

MAP LOCATION TABLE.

| | | LOCATION. | WAGON LINE. |
|--|-------------------|-------------|--|
| 37 th DA (4th. A.D.A.) Hdqts | SCHERPENBERG CAMP | M 17 b | |
| <u>RIGHT GROUP</u> | | | |
| 10th. Bde Hdqts | LOCK 7 | I 32 b 7030 | POMPIER CAMP KIM RD N 14 a 3030 |
| 37th. Bty | 5 Guns | I 34 b 6560 | |
| " " | 1 Gun | I 28 d 8080 | |
| 39th. " | " | O 3 c 6040 | |
| 110th. " | " | I 33 d 5000 | |
| <u>LEFT GROUP.</u> | | | |
| 11th. Bde Hdqts | LANKOF FARM | I 26 d 0505 | DETTIGEN CAMP N 14 d 9950 |
| 41st. Bty | | I 28 a 6022 | |
| 42nd " | | I 28 d 8080 | |
| 43rd " | | I 28 d 4058 | |
| 111th. " | | I 34 a 8060 | |
| 38th. " | | I 34 b 7285 | N 14 a 3030 |
| 4th. A.D.A.C Hqs | ALMA LINES | M 23 d 5 9 | |
| No. 1 Section | REDAN " | M 24 d 2 7 | |
| No. 2 Section | ALMA " | M 23 b 8005 | |
| S.A.A. Section | SEBASTOPAL LINES | M 24 a 7030 | |
| Ammunition Dump | YORK HOUSE | M 16 d 2555 | |
| " " " | JELLICOE | H 36 b 1090 | |
| 4th. D.T.M.O. | LAITERIE | N 16 d 2040 | |
| H.T.M.B. | | O 5 a 7005 | |
| 2 6" Mortars | | O 5 b 1055 | |
| 1 6" " | | I 36 d 4035 | |
| 1 6" " | | O 6 c 6570 | |
| 2 | | | |

4th. Aust. D. A. C. Order No. 5
of 2. 1. 18

CRA

1. Reference 'addenda' to D.A. Order 110, C.R.A., 37th. Division will continue in command.
2. On 3. 1.18, Lieut Mein; 1 N.C.O. 3 gunners & 1 batman catch 7 a.m. 'Bus for YORK HOUSE, taking over Guard at 4 p.m. and Duties 9 a.m. 4th. inst. Truck loading is done by Labour Company.
3. JELLICOE DUMP remains under 37th. D.A.C. (1X Corps)
4. D.A.C. will march to LOCRE on 4th. inst. Order of march :-
1 K, S.A.A. Section, K H Q, 2 K?
5. ROUTE. via METERIN - BAILLEUL - (west of Asylum) - LOCRE.
6. 1 K will leave Billets at 8.25 a.m., S.A.A. sect. at 8.50 a.m., K H Q at 8.35 a.m. and 2 K at 8.45 a.m.
1 K if early will halt at the entrance to METERIN and see that any Bde. has cleared by 400 yards.
7. O.C. 1 K will ride at head of D.A.C. There will be no halt after starting point.
8. M.O. will ride in rear of Column. Adjutant will join Column when clear of BAILLEUL. Technical Store Wagons will march with their Sections but will be parked at K H Q with storemen by 3 p.m. on 4th. inst.
9. Reference D.A. Order 111, 10 empty G S Wagons will be sent to Bdes. on 3rd. and will be returned to Sections on 5th. inst.
10. Reference G 5/709, C.R.A. desires clean and well packed turns-out on the march, Unit will be passing the ANZAC CORPS and 1X CORPS Hqs. As there may be an inspection en route, the C.O. orders thorough harness cleaning on the 3rd. and unless it is raining on the 4th. clean off of oil from the steel work for the march.
11. All ranks will wear S.B.R.
12. 37th. D.A.C. requires a certificate from each Section Commander that Billets are clean. As C.O. is to take responsibility of D.A.C. at 9 a.m. 4th. inst. he will take over Billets at that hour, and give necessary certificate if the 37th. Div. rear parties cannot wait for Section.
13. All billets and horse-lines at present occupied are to be left thoroughly clean. The Adjutant will inspect all Billets and Horse lines. All Claims must be settled before leaving Billets. List of Billets showing name of owner, Commune, numbers billeted to be handed into K H Q at 4 p.m. 3rd. inst. N D Claim Certificates to be obtained from each Billet owner.

A.V. Venn

Lieut.

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

4TH. AUS. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 6- 5/1/18.

Issued to *Records*

By Lieut. Colonel H.V. Vernon, Commanding.

ALMA LINES.

1. D.A. Order No. 112 :- 4th. Aus. D.A. moves on 5th. inst. to ST. JANS CAPPEL.
2. 37th. D.A. :- Normally supply of Ammn. to Batteries is carried by Light Railway from YORK HOUSE, N 16 d. 2.5. to Stations

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------|------------------------|
| 10th. A.F.A Bde | A Bty | | CALUMET |
| | B " | | " |
| | C " | | VESUVIUS |
| | D " | | MT VIXEN (I 33 d 5.0.) |
| 11th. A.F.A Bde | A Bty | | ESSEX |
| | B " | | CANTON |
| | C " | | VERBRANDEN |
| | D " | | VOILET |
3. Bty guides report to YORK HOUSE A.R.P. and accompany ammn. trains. Btys provide unloading parties at Stations. Whereby Railway is not practicable, ammn. goes up by Pack animals.
4. In case of this, or railway failure, Sections to be prepared to turn out pack animals with ammn. carriers. Os C will send in by 9. 0. am on 6th. inst. a return of 18 pndr Ammn. Crs, and 4.5" Ammn. Crs, in possession. The Carriers to be stacked neatly at Q.M. Stores ready for emergency issue, and to be daily returned there.
5. Ammn. Counting is done at YORK HOUSE. Returns of Wheel Establishment in Camp continue to be submitted at 9.0 am daily G.S. and L.G.S Wagons may be unloaded, but A.L.Ws are to be completely loaded.
6. As A.L.Ws may not be used frequently, 1K & 2K will park them together in different formation to G.S.Ws as may be approved.
7. Ammn. Stack & Wagon Guard to be the same, and Sentry beats to be marked out clearly, on which the Sentry should remain.
8. By to-day the hanging of Map 28 or 28 S.W. 1/20,000 to be complete in each Section office, flagged to show - D.A.C., B.W.Ls; each BtyM YORK HOUSE & D.A.
9. Ten (10) G.S.Ws are detailed daily, commencing 5th. inst. with 37th. Div. for road work.

H.V. Vernon Lieut. Colonel
O.C., 4th. Aus. D.A.C.

189
SECRET.APPENDIX. 2
LT Col.

Issued to

4TH. AUS. D. A. C. ORDER NO. 7.
-----ALMA LINES.7th. January 1918.

1. Lieut. Florance is to join Lieut. Mein at YORK HOUSE from 8.30 am. on 8th. inst.: until 10th. inst., or as ordered later.
2. Lieut. Cramp will interview 37th. Div. Hdqts at 10. 0 am. on 8th. inst., re taking over of S. A. A. Dump. In this he will be joined by Capt. Richardson for instruction in Grenades, and issue etc.
3. No. 1 Section will indent on D.A.D.O.S. for its shortage of 27 18 pndr Ammn. Carriers, and No. 2 Section for its shortage of 17. These to be drawn at earliest.
4. S.A.A. Section will draw from No. 1, 24 4.5" Ammn. Carriers, and from No. 2, 32: these 56 will be kept either in harness rooms of Subsections, or in Q.M. Store.

H. V. Vernon

Lieut. Colonel,

O.C., 4th. Aus. D.A.C.



SECRET.

Issued to.....

4th. AUS. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 8.

ALMA LINES.

8th. January 1918.

1. The 37th. Div. have two S.A.A. or Grenade Dumps: VORMEZELE & YORK HOUSE. 4th. Aus. D.A.C. will take these over. Lieut. Cramp is visiting and reporting re these on 8th. & 9th. insts.
2. On the 9th. inst. No. 1 Section will take over the guard work at YORK HOUSE as follows :- IN.C.O i/c Gas: 1 Cook: 3 men for Artillery Dump: and 2 men for S.A.A Dump: total 7 O/R. He will report with kits and rations to Guard Room at 9.45 am. and mount a sentry on S.A.A Dump as instructed, changing with 37th. Div., at 10.0 am. IK will provide the wagon for kits, bring back the S.A.A. Section ^{personnel} relieved, carry the rations daily as set out by Lieut. Mein: total 10 at YORK HOUSE. Two dixies will be taken over, and at each change of Guard in future. Shelter and water are already provided.
3. On the 10th. inst. Lieut. Cramp & batman, of IK, will proceed to VORMEZELE Dump, accompanied by an S.A.A. Section wagon to carry all kits and rations, calling at IK lines at hour to be given later; and S.A.A. Section Dump personnel of 1 train-ed Sergt, & 8 others, including telephonist, cook, and messeng-er with bicycle, total 9 O/R. Total 11 rations, to be carri-ed daily by S.A.A. Section. Sergt's name to be reported to K.H.Q: this personnel will be changed from time to time, through C.O's orders later. Position of VORMEZELE Dump will be issued before personnel and wagon leave.
4. On the 11th. inst. Capt. A.V. Richardson will accompany S.A.A Section ration wagon and join Lieut. Cramp: he will take a temporary batman found by S.A.A. Section, and kit: total rations ~~12~~ 13 daily. His duties will be the training of S.A.A officers and O/R in S.A.A. Dump work.

H.V. Venn Lieut. Colonel,
O.C., 4th. Aus. D.A.C.

VORMEZELE
28/1.31. C 2.5

SECRET.

Issued to

4TH. AUS. D. A. C ORDER NO. 9.

ALMA LINES.

9th. January 1918.

1. 4th. Aus. Div. (less Arty) will detrain at BAILLEUL on 9th., 10th. & 11th. insts D.H.Q. will open at BERTHEN.
2. At 6.0 am. 13th. inst. 4th. Div., including Arty, will be transferred from IX Corps to AUS. Corps.
3. 12th. Inf. Bde will be in Line: night 11/12 insts.
 4th. " " " " Support on the 12th."
 13th. " " " " Reserve on the 11th."
 D.H.Q. will open at SCHERPENBERG on the 12th. inst.
4. 4th. A.D.A.H.Q will open at SCHERPENBERG on the 12th. inst.
5. The return of Number of Ammn. Carriers in Sections has been incorrect. Sections will show on next Ammn. State, the no. and calibre held on charge.
6. S.A.A. Dump party, less the Sergt, will leave 3K at 8.0 am on 10th. inst., with wagon carrying cooking utensils etc, and after reporting at 1K will proceed to VOORMEZEELE Dump - 2 I 31. e 9.3. The Sergt to report to Lieut. Cramp at 1K at 10.0 am. He will ride, and take a horseholder to return horse to camp.

H. V. Newn Lieut. Colonel,
 O.C., 4th. %Aus. D.A.C.

SECRET.

Issued to

ATTN. AUS B.A.C.

O.C. ... D.V.C.

Plen. Colonel

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Issued to.....

4TH. AUS. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 10.

11/1/18.

1. Front is from HOLLEBEKE 0.11. b. 9.6. to ^J26. b. 3.4.
2. 4th. Aus. Pioneer Btn relieves North Staffords on 12th. inst.
3. Order 9, para. 3, amended :-

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 12th. Inf. Bde | Line |
| 13th. " " | Support Reserve Area. |
| 4th. " " | Reserve Area. |

D.H.Q. : SCHERPENBERG at 10.0 am. 12th. inst.
4. 2K will relieve 1K Guards at YORK HOUSE Dumps on Monday, 14th. inst., with 1 junior N.C.O, 1 cook and 5 men! N.C.O will report to Lieut. Mein by 10.0 am., and he will arrange for Guard changing as early as he can be present. 2K will provide transport and bring back 1K's kits. 2K will transport the 10 daily rations.
5. Personnel on YORK HOUSE Dump may be changed by Os C Sections as they desire.
6. It is probable that two of the men for S.A.A Dump in para. 4 may be relieved by Infantry, and will therefore not be required! 2K to enquire at K.H.Q by night 13/14.
7. The working party at VOORMEZEELE will be Infantry, and shortly the 8 men of S.A.A Section will be returned to Camp. Inf. will supply cook, telephonist, and messenger. Sergt Miles will remain as Dump N.C.O.
8. For instruction, by afternoon of Saturday 12th. inst. 1 N.C.O each from I, J, & K Subsections, (including Sergt Miles) will take up duty at Dump: the 2K ^{NCOs} ~~wagon~~ from camp to take kits and rations: they should be selected from those who have been least on S.A.A Dumps. Total rations 15. to be transported by 3K daily, less 8 when relieved by Infy.
9. The Infnty party will number 22. 3K will requisition on 12th., and daily after, for these rations and send to Dump when obtained. The eventual ration strength will be :. 2 Officers, 2 batmen, 3 D.A.C. N.C.Os, and 22 Infy: total 29., and 1 riding horse of 1K.
10. Stables at VOORMEZEELE Dump are commencing for 8 D.A.C. 3K mules, for L. R. work. This party will include 4 dvrs, 8 mules, lead and centre harness, and 4 swingle-trees. Further particulars later. Forage will be transported by 3K daily.

H.V. Vernon Lieut. Colonel,

O.C., 4th. 4th. Aus. D.A.C.

COPY NO.

FOURTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ARTILLERY.

SECRET.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION.

NO. 20

HEADQUARTERS,
12th Jan. 1918.

AMMUNITION.

DULPS :-

The allotment of ammunition to be kept forward of Railhead is as follows :-

Per 18-pr. ... 450 rounds) which will be kept
Per 4.5" How. ... 550 rounds) at guns,

plus Battery echelons which will be kept full at Wagon Lines, plus equivalent of three days' expenditure which will be kept at A.R.P. (viz. 3000 18-pr. and 750 How. per Divisional Artillery).

SUPPLY :-

The supply of ammunition forward will be ordered from this Office and will be governed by daily ammunition returns. The Staff Captain will wire C.L.R.O. AUSTRALIAN CORPS daily, stating requirements by Batteries in trucks, for following day.

This wire will be repeated to O.C. YORK HOUSE, A.R.P., and O.C. RIGHT and LEFT GROUPS for information. On receipt of these wires Group Commanders will ensure that Guides are despatched immediately to YORK HOUSE, with 24 hours' rations, to bring train along, with definite instructions to remain with their respective trucks until they reach the station to which they are consigned. Ammunition to complete YORK HOUSE A.R.P. will be supplied by Light Railway on indent from Staff Captain 4th Australian Divisional Artillery, through AUSTRALIAN CORPS 'Q'.

SALVAGE :-

Salvage of unserviceable ammunition and empty boxes must be carried on.

Requirements of trucks for following day will be wired to D.A.H.Q. by 5 p.m. daily.

Strict instructions must be issued by Group Commanders to prevent boxes containing cordite or A.C.T. being placed on trucks as this practice is likely to cause fire en route owing to sparks flying from the engines.

ACKNOWLEDGE on form attached.

Arthur C. Roberts

- 1 - 4 RIGHT Group. Staff Captain,
5 - 10 LEFT " 4th Australian Divisional Artillery.
11 - 14 4th Aust. D.A.C..
15 A.R.P. YORK HOUSE
16 C.L.R.O. AUST CORPS.

For Inf. :-

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|---------|
| 17 | R.A. Aust Corps. | 20 | C.R.A.. |
| 18 | AUST Corps 'Q' | 21 | B.I.. |
| 19 | 4th Aust. Div. 'Q' | 22 | S.C.. |
| | | 23 | A.O.. |
| | | 24 | File. |
| | | 25 | Diary. |

SECRET.

13/1/18

4TH. AUS. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 11.

1. The two men at YORK HOUSE S.A.A. Dump are now relieved by 4 Inftry men. On the 14th. inst. 2K will provide these 4 with rations, and daily thereafter. Total rations at YORK HOUSE on 14th. inst. - 12.
2. Os C., 1 & 2K will please re-read Order No. 8, para. 2, and instruct their Q.Ms ¹² ~~that~~ the orders with regard to carriage of rations to YORK HOUSE: this must be done by only one section at a time, and by the section that finds the Guard.
3. The eight gunners on VOORMEZEELE Dump have now returned to camp. (No. 10, para. 7)
4. O.C. S.A.A Section will select one officer & one N.C.O for duty at VOORMEZEELE, withdrawing the Corpl or Bdr, probably on 16th. inst., and submit names to K.H.Q.
5. O.C. VOORMEZEELE will set aside 5529 No. 5 Mills bombs in good condition, not detonated, for turning over of S.A.A Section wheel Establishment: and will report when ready for exchange.
6. A party of Aust. Arty were on the 12th. inst. unloading ammn. at ESSEX Siding, and carrying it up VERBRANDEN Rd. The boxes were placed on the stone heaps at siding, interfering with the work. This must not be done in future.
7. D.A. Administrative Instruction No. 20 issued herewith.

H.V. Vernon Lieut. Col.,
O.C., 4th. Aust. D.A.C.

4TH. AUST, D.A.C. ORDER No. 12. 17/1/18.

1. Daily allotment of amm: 18 pdr 20 rnds p.g. p day:
& R. 4.5" 16 rnds p,h, p. day. Apprex. one third to be exp e
expended by day, and two thirds by night.
2. On the 18th. inst. 1K will relieve 2K at YORK HOUSE Arty
Dump: 1 N.C.O., 1 cook, and 3 men: N.C.O to report to
Lt. Mein by 10.0 am. 1K will provide the transport both
ways, and the 8 daily rations.
3. On the 18th. inst. Capt. A.V. Richardson will take over the
responsibility of the S.A.A. Dump at VOORMEZEELE; Lt. Dick-
-insen, S.A.A. Section with batman will report during morn-
-ing for duty. Lt. Cramp, of No. 1 Section and batman will
return to camp after his arrival.
4. O.C. S.A.A. Section may relieve the 2 junior N.C.Os at
VOORMEZEELE not oftener than 1 every 2 days, and no longer
than 6 days for either. Other procedure; request to change
the Sergt. will be placed before C.O.
5. On C.O's File may be seen regulations governing use of L.R.
in case of working parties required for front line: includ-
-es hours & sidings; 30 men to 1 truck.
6. Location Statement to date attached.

H.V. Vernon Lieut. Col.,
O.C. 4th. Aust. D.A.C.

S E C R E T.

Issued to.....

4TH. AUST. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 13. 19/1/18.

Being 4th. Aust. Div. Artillery Defence Scheme. (Provisional.)

Each officer must retain ready for instant use his copy of this Order, and hand same to O.C. Section if leaving D.A.C.

I.

4th. A.D.A S/173 of 17/1/18 : Extracts :-
 "The Provision of Guides by D.A.C. for "Reinforcing" and "Defence of Corps Line" positions, will be 2 officers & 2 N.C.Os thoroughly acquainted with the positions, marking, and best tracks of approach."

II.

Defence Scheme (Provisional) : Extracts etc.:-
 (N.B. - All officers may read the whole at C.O's office on application.)

- Para. 1. (1) Shows Div. Boundaries, and Outpost Line.
 Para. 2. (2) Shows :-
 (a) Distribution of Artillery and Arcs of Fire. (Append. I.)
 (b) O.Ps of Units. (Appendix II.)
 (c) Reinforcing positions for 8 Btys. (Appendix III.)
 (d) Positions for Defence of "Corps Line". (Append. IV)

Para. 2. (1) Shows Area :- "The full Echelon Establishment for all guns and hows. will be kept on wheels at Wagen Lines." Railhead is FUZEVILLE RAILHEAD 28 S. 27 b. (A.R.P. & Sidings already promulgated.)

III.

1. Reinforcing Positions Table: -

| Bty. | Marked Beards | Position. | Reinforcing Position. | Marked Beards. | Ref. |
|------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|------|
| 39 | K 1 | 0 3. e 6-4. | 0 3. a 1-1- | K 9 | 39 |
| 110 | K 2 | I 33. d 5.0. | 0 3. b 2.9. | K 10 | 110 |
| 37 | K 3 | I 34. b 6-4. | I 34. b 1560. | K 11 | 37 |
| 38 | K 4 | I 34. b 7.6. | I 34. b 2565 | K 12 | 38 |
| 111 | K 5 | I 34. a 8.6. | I 28. e 6.5. | K 13 | 111 |
| 43 | K 6 | I 28. d 4.4. | I 28. d 6015 | K 14 | 43 |
| 42 | K 7 | I 28. d 8.8. | I 28. b 3045 | K 15 | 42 |
| 41 | K 8 | I 28. a 6.2. | I 28. b 1.6. | K 16 | 41 |

(a) Each Bty upkeeps its Reinf. Position, and if Reinforcing Bty moves in will act as "parent", for O.Ps, wires, etc.

(b) Note that Reinforcing Btys may move ^{1/2} from Rear, or either flank, and that D.A.C. provides the guides.

(c) Each officer stationed from time to time at VOORMEZEELE Dump will go out to these marked beards - K 9 to K 16 inclusive, become thoroughly acquainted with their position, marking, tracks of approach from rear and rear flanks, and condition of surface. He will invariably take one of the N.C.Os at the Dump.
 DAC

(d) VOORMEZEELE DUMP Map, and 1 Map at each Section will be marked with positions of K 1 - K 16 inclusive, kept folded at office, and marked on outside "R. F."

SECRET.

4TH. AUST. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 13 Continued :-

2

III. IV

1. (e) Capt. Richardson and Lt. Dickinson will comply with para. (d) by evening of the 23rd. inst., going out on separate occasions. Relieving Officers will visit Beards on the day after arrival at VOORMEZEELE, with a Dump N.C.O.

2. (a) The following Positions for the Defence of "CORPS LINE" have already been selected :-

The Grouping and Position numbers will be issued when the remaining positions have been selected :-

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|------|
| Headquarters, | { 0 1. a 2355 | |
| SNIPER'S BARN, | { 0 1. c 2594 | |
| 0 7. c 3045. | { 0 1. c 2630 | |
| | { 0 1. b 2028 | How. |

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|------|
| Headquarters, | { I 26. c 2993 | { I 31. b 0036 | How. |
| BEDFORD HOUSE, | { I 26. c 7272 | { I 31. b 2580 | |
| I 26. a. | { I 26. b 2716 | { I 25. d 5450 | |
| | { I 26. a 3125 | { I 25. d 6886 | How. |

- (b) Officers, and all Dump N.C.Os at present, at VOORMEZEELE will read paras. III (b), (c), & (d) as applying to Positions for D. of "C.L.", as well as Reinforcing Positions.

- (c) Capt. Richardson will comply with para. re visiting etc. by evening of the 24th. inst.

3. Further visiting parties by officers from camp, and N.C.Os of 1K & 2K will be ordered later.

4. As A, AX., & BX. are available at A.R.P. it will be announced in Orders. Sections will then fill at once.

H.V. Vernon

Lieut. Col.

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

Iss. 19.1.18.

| | | | |
|------------------|----|----|---------------|
| Capt Richardson. | | | 3K |
| Lt Dickinson. | | | 3K |
| Capt Saunders. | | | 3K |
| Lt Davey | | 2K | 2K |
| 2/Lt Hely | | | 3K |
| 2/Lt Williams. | | 2K | |
| Capt McHargh | 1K | | |
| Lt McKenna | 1K | | |
| Peel | 1K | | |
| Cramps | 1K | | |
| Capt Ricketts | | 2K | |
| Crocker | | 2K | |
| Adj. Co | K | | |
| | K | | |

4TH. AUST. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 14.

20/1/18.

1. Nos 1 & 2 Sections will indent on YORK HOUSE for and draw to wagen parks' fullest establishment of boxed rounds of boxed 18 pdr & 4.5" : less 1 wagen load of 18 pdr reserved for AX, not available at present. 4.5" charges to be brought complete in boxes of 10, and same number of shells as charges to be kept in A.L.Ws and boxed stack.
2. All ranks are to be warned that the removal or destruction of screen or camouflage in forward and main zones is absolutely prohibited, except under the orders of a responsible officer! and it is their duty to report to their Hdqts any such damage.
3. Order No. 13 deals with Divisional Defence Scheme, and should be retained by Os C, separate from this file of Field Orders with prepared Map, ready for use, if required. Each Officer is to have his copy of locations ready, and hand over to O.C same if leaving D.A.C. for school or on transfer.
4. After night 20/21 4th. Inf. Bde will hold Right & Right Centre of Divisional Front with 2 Btns. (Right Forward Zone.)
The 13th. Inf. Bde will hold Left with 1 Btn with B.H.Q. at HOSPITAL LOCK 7. (Left Forward Zone.)

The 12th. Inf. Bde, on relief, will have 1 Btn in the Support Area, and 3 Btns in the Reserve Area.
5. Headqts of the 4th. & 13th. Aust. Bdes will be temporarily located together at the present 12th. Aust. ~~Inf.~~ Inf. Bde
Headqts at LOCK 8.

H.V. Vernon Lieut. Col.
O.C., 4th. Aust. D.A.C.

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SECRET.Issued to Reconas...

4TH. AUST. D. A. C. ORDER NO. 15.

23rd. January 1918

1. On morning of the 24th. inst. Lt. FLORANCE & batman of 1K will proceed to VOORMEZEELE DUMP, for instruction in duties and to assist Dump officer with responsibilities. By the evening of the 27th. inst. he will have visited Beards K 11 to K 16, and the general 'Corps Line.' (Defence Scheme.) 3K to arrange daily rations.
2. On afternoon of the 24th. inst. Lt. Dickinson and batman will return to S.A.A. Section.
3. Beards are prepared and will shortly be erected on 'Corps Line.'
4. On 25th. inst. 2K will relieve 1K on guard at YORK HOUSE Dump: 1 N.C.O., 1 cook, 3 men: N.C.O. to report to Lt. MEIN by 10.0. am. Rations and transport on and after the 25th. by 2K.
5. Part II, para. 2 (1) of Defence Scheme (Extracts) requires attention by O.C., S.A.A. Section! a portion may be collected daily by return wagon.
6. A report in accordance with D.A.C. Order No. 11 para. 5 will be furnished by 24/1/18.
7. 4th. A.R.O. 1648 - LIGHT RAILWAYS - "Off-loading."
Serious damage is caused to light railways if trucks are off-loaded less than 10 feet away from the line.

H. W. W. W. Lieut. Colonel,
4th. Aust. D.A.C.

Issued to

4TH. AUST. D.A.C. ORDER NO. 15

Page 2

Defense of "Corps Line"

The following are selected and are being marked by beards,
(incompleted yet) :-

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|------|
| B.H.Q., | { 0 . a 2355 | |
| SNIPER'S BARN, | { 0 . a 2594 | |
| 0 7. a 3045 | { 0 . e 2630 | |
| | { 0 . b 2028 | Hew. |

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|------|
| B.H.Q., | { I 26. a 2993 | |
| BEDFORD HOUSE, | { I 26. a 7272 | |
| I 26 a | { I 26. b 2716 | |
| | { I 26. a xxxx 3125 | Hew. |
| | { I 31. b 0936 | Hew. |
| | { I 31. b 2580 | |
| | { I 25. a 5450 | |
| | { I 25. a 6886 | |

(a) All officers and N.C.Os stationed from time to time
at VOORHEEZELE Dune to know these positions, and the "R.F."
map to be marked with them.

N.B. . None of the positions above are changed since Order
No. 13.

H.V. Veun Lieut. Colonel,
O.C., 4th. Aust. D.A.C.

S E C R E T.

Issued to.....

4TH. AUST. D. A. C. ORDER NO. 16.

(last issued during Jan'y 10.)

24th. Jan. 1918.

1. D.A. G1/254 Extracts :-
All chemical shell will in future be stamped with 5-16th" letters corresponding to the coloured bands which will still be painted on the shell, indicating the nature of the chemical filling employed; thus :-
 (1) W.R.W. Shell with white, red, & white bands.
 R. Shell with red band.
 Etc.
 (2) N.B.- No band! i.e. shell filled K.S.K., or S.K., which have no distinctive colour bands.
2. It is again notified that D.A.C. work on Dumps includes supply, issue, receipt, salving, transporting, examining & reconditioning, counting, etc., but not detonating, except on special orders; and no demonstrating or experimenting.
3. VOORMEZELE now contains 2 Officers, 2 batmen, 3 N.C.Os, 4 drivers, 2 riding horse, & 6 tramway mules: 1 LGS + 2 mules.
4. 4th. Army R.O. 1660 - Extracts :-
The following instructions will be carried out before salvaged or defective ammunition and explosives are returned to Railhead :-
Fixed and 4.5 inch amm.
Time fuzes will be set at safety.
Fuzes which cannot be set at safety will be removed and replaced by a plug.
Plugs for this purpose are available at ammunition railheads.
Safety clips will be fitted to the base of the cartridge case in the case of fixed amm.
Rounds will be sacked in amm. boxes.
Grenades.
 Detonaters will be removed and will be packed in their original packages, when possible. If the original packages are not available they will be packed in boxes filled with saw-dust. A label, giving the designation of the detonaters, will be attached. Grenades will be returned in their respective boxes, when possible.
Trench Mortar Amm.
 Detonaters and exploders will be removed.
 9.45 inch, 6 inch Newton and 2 inch will be returned plugged.
 Pistol heads will be removed from 3 inch Stokes bombs and the cartridges will be removed from their containers.
 Detonaters will be dealt with as detailed under "Grenades" above.
Rockets, Very Lights, Flares and Smoke Candles.
 Any of these that become unserviceable through exposure to wet will be buried locally.
General Instructions.
 Shells that have been so badly damaged by hostile fire as to expose the explosive this includes fuzed shell with damaged fuzes) will be buried locally.
 Ammunition and explosives returned to railheads will be accompanied by a note showing :-
 (1) Why they are being returned.
 (2) Name of unit or formation by which returned.

27/L/18

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5. Capt; Richardson hands over VOORMEZELE Dump to-day to Lieut. Florence, and returns with batman to Camp.
6. 2nd. Williams and batman report for duty ar VOORMEZELE for du ty.

H.V. Venin

Lieut. Colonel

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

Shell with white, red, & white bands.
Shell with red band.

(2) W.R.W. - No band; i.e. shell filled with explosive which have no distinctive colour bands.

It is again notified that D.A.C. work on Dumps includes usually, issue, receipt, delivery, transference, examination, reconditioning, etc., but not detonating, except on special orders; and no detonating or experimental.

VOORMEZELE now contains 2 officers, 2 batmen, 2 M.O.s, 2 drivers, 2 riding horses, & 6 transport mules, 1 light horse.

4th. Aust. D.A.C. Extracts :-
The following instructions will be carried out before self-valued or defective ammunition and explosives are returned to Railhead :-

Fixed and 4.5 inch guns.
These guns will be set at safety.
Guns which cannot be set at safety will be removed and replaced by a safe.
Pipes for this purpose are available at ammunition railheads.
Safety clips will be fitted to the ends of the cartridges in the case of fixed guns.
Guns will be packed in gun boxes.

Grenades.
Detonators will be removed and will be packed in their original boxes, when possible. If the original boxes are not available they will be packed in boxes filled with saw-dust. A label, giving the designation of the detonators, will be attached. Grenades will be retained in their original boxes, when possible.

Trench Mortar Ammo.
Detonators and explosives will be removed.
2.5 inch, 3 inch Newton and 3 inch will be returned fixed.
Pistol boxes will be removed from 3 inch Stokes bombs and the cartridges will be removed from their containers.
Detonators will be dealt with as detailed under "Grenades" above.

Rockets, Very Lights, Flares and Smoke Canisters.
Any of these that become unserviceable through exposure to wet will be buried locally.

General Instructions.
Shells that have been so badly damaged by hostile fire as to expose the explosive this includes fixed shell with damaged fuses) will be buried locally.

Ammunition and explosives returned to railheads will be examined by a note showing :-
(1) Why they are being returned.
(2) Name of unit or formation by which returned.