

**AWM4**

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

Supplies & Transport

**Item number:** 25/24/15

**Title:** 1st ANZAC Corps Troops Supply  
Column

September 1917



AWM4-25/24/15



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

1<sup>st</sup> Anzac Corps Troops Sup Col  
A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Morbecque	1/9/17		<p>Heavy rain storm</p> <p>Received instructions to despatch Sgt V. Bonney to A.S.C. School Base Harve. authority A.A.G. A.I.F.</p> <p>Ration strength 2,300 men 434 horses.</p> <p>Received instructions from Q, 1<sup>st</sup> Anzac Corps to be ready to move to new area.</p>	
	2/9/17		<p>wretched weather very wet &amp; stormy</p> <p>22 1/2 tons coal cleared P.H. Ebbingham</p>	
	3/9/17		<p>with ofc II Corps Troops Sup Col inspected his dumps &amp; made necessary arrangements to take over same &amp; units for rationing</p>	
	4/9/17		<p>visited units in back area &amp; made arrangements for rationing them for new move. weather still unsettled</p>	

Charles J. Gourman Maj



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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
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1<sup>st</sup> Amzac Corps Troops Sup Col  
A.I.F. Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Barbecque	4/9/17		Issued movement orders for column move to new area. Fine weather light wind, but enemy aircraft very active during night many bombs dropped.	
Hillehoek	5/9/17		Arrive new area take over from Opc II Corps Troop Sup Col 11 am received 21 lorries & 2 water tanks attached for supply duty. 17 <sup>th</sup> Depot Unit of Supply at Whiteford Opc attached for duty, working at issue dump Hoograaf. The large rationing strength in this area necessitates two dumps for issue. One dump Hoograaf is used for issuing supplies to Heavy & Siege Art'y apart from other Corps Troops. The lorries from Siege & heavy artillery are used for drawing supplies from railhead & delivering to dumps, where it is issued in detail to the various batteries & refilling points. The dump for main Corps Troops is situated	Monday 5/9/17

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1<sup>st</sup> Anzac Corps Troops Sup  
Col AIF.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Killehook	5/17		<p>on the Popertinghe - Penninghelst rd at G. 15. C. 19. Sheet 28  on inspecting dumps they were found to be unsuitable for  issue dumps on a large scale without extensive additions  on discussing the matter with Maj Gibbs of G. 1<sup>st</sup> Anzac he  suggested I should take action &amp; apply to C.R.E. 1<sup>st</sup>  Anzac for material &amp; labour. submitted necessary require  ments &amp; the C.R.E. gave authority for work to be done.  with instructions to start immediately  Ration strength 27,000 Horses 2000  Heavy Thunderstorm during forenoon</p>	<p>May  <i>[Vertical signature]</i></p>
do	6/9/17		<p>worked new Railhead &amp; dumps first time. everything satisfactory  Despatch 5 lorries under S.M.T.O. instructions B.R. Sup Col.  Light rains sky overcast wind west. Enemy aircraft active  over night Railhead Whippenhoe  Ration strength increased to 32,000</p>	<p><i>[Vertical signature]</i></p>



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1<sup>st</sup> Muzac Corps Troops Sup Coal  
A.V.I.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillchook	7/9/17		Cleared 80 tons coal from R. H. 5 lorries of the 113 <sup>th</sup> Bde Art'y for general duty report. receive extra personnel for fatigues & loading, effective strength now 113 all ranks. Dull day no rain wind S.W.W. roads good little dust	
	8/9/17		5 lorries sent to No. 5. W.S.C. by order S.M.T.O. visit S.M.T.O. & arrange with him for the lorries detailed to this unit for duty clearing surplus from R.H. Should be as far as possible the same vehicles every day, as new personnel every day means extra detailing & involves constant supervision. The number of non commissioned officers in a Corps Troops Sup Coal is inadequate when ration strength increases to such enormous figures, to meet the situation a number of acting ranks are made, this is not very satisfactory as no pay is authorised for acting ranks and privates are doing responsible work at privates pay	Charley. [Signature]

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WAR DIARY

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1st Anzac Corps Troops Sup Bde  
A.I.F.  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillcreek	9/9/17		3 <sup>rd</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Army A.F.A. Bdes (Aust) rationed for first time from dump. received 5 lorries from 8 <sup>th</sup> A.F.A. Bde to park with column & draw supplies 5 lorries 113 <sup>th</sup> Bde returned to their Bde 14.9. Fine warm weather enemy aircraft over bombing during night	
	10/9/17		6 lorries 6 <sup>th</sup> (Aust) A.F.A. Bde report for duty Rationing 35,000. horses 5,000	
	11/9/17		Receive notification from 1st Anzac of the arrival of various units in Corps area to be rationed make necessary arrangements Enemy aircraft active during day fragments of anti-aircraft shells fall on Camp receive 20 M.T. reinforcements for distribution Fair warm weather light wind	Charles J. Leonard Maj



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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

12<sup>th</sup> Army Corps Troop Sup bul  
A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillhoek	12 9 17		12 <sup>th</sup> Army Field Artz (anst) come on ration strength dumps working satisfactory Hoograaf dump cleaned up, drained, roads filled in, stagings & cover erected visited back area to purchase vegetables price high	forwarded by
	13 9 17		Supply train 4 hours late which affects issue time at dump & causes transport to be hung up on roads congesting traffic cleared 133 tons coal	
	14 9 17		Rail Head changed from Whippenhoek to Reninghelst time of drawing supplies 5. am received instruction from A.A.G. to despatch C.S. 1 <sup>st</sup> . Duncan to school of instruction St Omer Light mist early morning, warm fine during day	
	15 9 17		C.M.S. Duncan forwarded to school of instruction St Omer	



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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10<sup>th</sup> Anzac Corps Troops Sup Coal  
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A.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillbrook	16 9 17		warm weather light wind west enemy aircraft very busy. Squadron pass over camp during morning turned off by anti-aircraft guns Pack train cleared 6.30 am, 30 tons coal cleared R.H. 15 M.T. details arrive from base for distribution (Imperial) Ration strength 39,000 horses 6,400	May
"	17 9 17		31 tons coal cleared R.H. 30 tons Hay received light rain, wind sou west light	
"	18 9 17		distributed 47 M.T. drivers to various units under SMTD instructions, received 5 M.T. base details (Imperial) Heavy rain during day	
"	19 9 17		cleared 4,000 gals petrol from P.H. in addition to usual pack fine day light wind	Charles J. Leonard

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

1<sup>st</sup> Amzac Corps Troops Sup Bde  
A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillehook	20 9 17		<p>Sgt. V. Bonney returned from school of instruction. Received sad news of Major S. Gibbs D.A. &amp; Q.M.G., 1<sup>st</sup> Amzac death by shell fire, his death is a heavy loss to all members of this unit, at all times he was ever ready with suggestions &amp; assistance to help over difficulties, &amp; through his untiring energy &amp; experience, a standard of supply &amp; transport is now operating with great success through the Corps, under his guidance this unit received many instructions in supply work, transport, dumps, refilling points, issue etc. The excellent results of which are now in operation, Major Gibbs system of handling supplies allows of a small unit dealing with large numbers of troops drawing supplies to be successfully carried out, which statement is borne out by the ration figures this unit is now operating with, via Summary No 55-318. 1<sup>st</sup> Amzac Corps Troops Sup Bde issues rations to approximately</p>	<p>Major Gibbs' system</p>



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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY, *Dumae Corps Troops Sup Cal A.I.F.*  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>Hillebaek</i>	<i>20/9/17</i>		<p><i>Continuation</i></p> <p><i>42,000 men &amp; 6,200 horses daily, also the following commodities are handled. petrol 9,488 gals Hay 27 tons out 36 tons, coal, Linned, cake, etc. in dealing with these quantities with a small personnel the system &amp; instruction received from Major Gibbs has been most valuable, his death, to this unit has been a sad blow to all ranks.</i></p>	
	<i>21/9/17</i>		<p><i>visited back area &amp; purchased 3,100 kilos of potatoes @ 20fr a kilo. 3,000 kilos of Smiths coal purchased for workshops</i></p> <p><i>Strength of unit with labour details now 215 all ranks</i></p> <p><i>Ration strength now 41,000 men 5,000 horses.</i></p> <p><i>enemy aircraft over dumps &amp; camp during day</i></p> <p><i>few enemy shells fall near Poperinghe dump.</i></p>	
	<i>22/9/17</i>		<p><i>Gas equipment parade all ranks, enemy aircraft active</i></p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

1st Ammag Corps Groups Dep  
Col A.I.F.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillpact	23 9 17		Cleared 30 ton coal R.H. 21 tons straw received Receives 2 butchers to complete establishment misty early morning fine weather. wind west	
"	24 9 17		Copy of Routine orders by Lt Gen Sir W. R. Bidwood K.C.B. Commanding 1st Ammag Corps A.396 Congratulatory The Army commander wishes to convey to all ranks of the A. S. C. (M.T. H.T. & supply) in the Second Army his great appreciation of the excellent work performed by all branches which has materially assisted towards the success of the recent operations ration strength 40,000 men 6000 horses	Charles J. Goodard maj
"	25 9 17		Cleared 21 tons coal R.H. early morning misty	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

1st Anzac Corps Troops Army Form C 2118.  
A.I.I.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillhook	26 9 17		Enemy aircraft over railhead & dump dropping bombs no hits, dump camp sandbagged where possible ration strength 42,000 men 6,200 horses moonlight night	Blundell, Dorrance M.A.
"	27 9 17		Cleared 22 tons coal R.H. fine weather misty morning	
"	28 9 17		Cleared heavy consignment petrol from R.H. 11,000 gals in addition to usual facts. enemy aircraft very active dropping many bombs ground mist at night	
"	29 9 17		Cleared 20 tons coal R.H. fine day warm enemy aircraft take advantage of moon & drop enormous quantity of bombs. noisy night bombs fall round camp radius of 100 yds	



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1<sup>st</sup> Amzac Corps Troops Sup Bde  
A. I. F.  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hillcock	30 9 17		<p>Cleared 30 tons Coal R.H. fine day bright night enemy aircraft busy many bombs dropped round dumps &amp; camp. no hits</p> <p>Dumps now nearing completion. improvements great assistance for quick despatch of units drawing supplies roads filled in with stone where needed. coal dump extended, drainage laid out. ditches cleaned out &amp; other improvements needed attended to.</p> <p>On the 26<sup>th</sup> inst I forwarded a list of names worthy of mention for New Year honors in accordance with instructions from Opc 1<sup>st</sup> Corps Supply Bde. The selection was very difficult as all ranks have done excellent work both on the Somme Field &amp; in Flanders in selecting the non commissioned officers I took into consideration the possibility of some receiving</p>	<p>Charles Foxman</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Continuation Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices						
Hillbrook	30 9 17		<p>receiving promotion, I submitted the names of those who have merited reward for good service &amp; devotion to duty in the field, especially long service men who have been on active service since July 10<sup>th</sup> 1915 in the zone of operations, so far no awards have been awarded to the rank &amp; file of this unit, which is rather restricted on account of only one award suitable for recommending Non Comm Officers &amp; men, i.e. The Meritorious Service Medal. The following Non Commissioned Officers &amp; men I have had strongly recommended for their services</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1910 act/cpt. Corp. J. C. Ross</td> <td>570 Corp S. L. Simpson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1978 act/cpt. Corp. E. B. Milburn</td> <td>44 act/corp C. E. Turner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2035 act/cpt Lt/corp W. H. Clb Namara</td> <td>2145 Pt W. Down.</td> </tr> </table>	1910 act/cpt. Corp. J. C. Ross	570 Corp S. L. Simpson	1978 act/cpt. Corp. E. B. Milburn	44 act/corp C. E. Turner	2035 act/cpt Lt/corp W. H. Clb Namara	2145 Pt W. Down.	<p>Handwritten signature: <i>Philip J. Downey</i></p>
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