

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/7/7

Title: Headquarters 1st Australian
Divisional Engineers

July 1916



AWM4-14/7/7

July 1916.

WAR DIARY

DIV. ENGRS H.Q.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SHILLY	1 st		Ordinary Office Routine. Visited by CRS 5 th Div. & showed him over the office & billets & Yard of 3 rd F. Co.	
	2 nd		CRS. went some front line trenches with CRS. 5 th Aust. Div. One Field Coy ordered to be in readiness to move at 12 hrs notice.	
	3 rd		Squaring up office work preparatory to handing over.	
	4 th		CRS. 4 th Aust. Div. arrived in morning & preliminary arrangements were made for handing over. Went out as far as 13 th Bde H.Q. also inspected R.R. Yard at BAC ST MAUR.	
	5 th		Handed over to CRS 4 th Aust. Div. and proceeded to billets in MERRIS.	
	6 th		CRS went to BAILLEUL to see Chief Engr re taking over new lines.	
	7 th		Transferred H.Q. to BAILLEUL.	
	8 th		CRS went went out & inspected 1 st F. Co. but found they had orders to move so returned to BAILLEUL and found preliminary orders waiting for a move.	
	9 th		Preparing for departure, storing superfluous baggage furniture etc.	

See

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BAILLEUL	10 th		Preparing to entrain for the SOMME.	
	11 th		H.Q. & Field Companies entrained for the Somth.	
	12 th		Arrived at FLESSELLES and took up our quarters there.	
FLESSELLES	13 th		C.R.S. attended conference at D.H.Q. of Brigade Commanders & Staffs and afterwards went to ALBERT and out to the positions near FRICOURT and interviewed the C.R.S. 7 th Division re conditions on that front.	
	14 th		Conference at D.E. H.Q. of Field Company Commanders to discuss Engineer matters for the forthcoming operations.	
	15 th		Routine work & preparations for departure as orders were received to move to CONTAY.	
	16 th		Moved to CONTAY	
CONTAY	17 th		Resting. Orders received at 4pm. to move to SENLIS tomorrow.	
	18 th		Moved to SENLIS	
	19 th		Moved in to ALBERT and took up our H.Q. at the Baupanne Rd. Took over dumps etc from C.R.S. 34 th Division	2

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ALBERT	20 th		Establishing Engineer dumps, office &c. and getting things into working order. Dump established at Tramway Base. 3 rd F.Co. working in the forward line improving the comm. trenches.	
	21 st		Conference of Field Coy Commanders & O.C. Pioneer to decide work to be done tonight. all three Companies being employed on forward work. The attack postponed till tomorrow night.	
	22 nd		Conference of Field Coy Commanders & O.C. Pioneer and decided no work to be done in the attack tonight. Parties to be told off for the construction of Strong Points and communications. The Capt. of each Field Coy has been detailed to go with the Brigade Command. to act as Engineer adviser.	
	23 rd		Attack took place at midnight but it was some time before any work could be done by the Field Coy. Lieut Williams of 3 rd Coy & Lt. Taylor of 1 st Coy killed also Capt Robertson of 1 st F.Co. Major Mathers of 2 nd F.Co. was wounded.	
			13 th Field Coy & 1 Coy of 4 th Pioneer Bn arrived during the day and were put on rear positions & communications. Great difficulty was found in getting news through.	
			2 nd Field Coy. was sent up early in the morning to assist the 13 th F.Co. They had been in reserve in Sausage Valley.	

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ALBERT	24 th		Report received that good work has been done by the Field Coy in the front line during the attack. 3 rd F. Co. owing to casualties now reorganised into 2 Sections. Great difficulty experienced in getting sandbags & other Engineer material to front line	
	25 th		1 st Field Coy relieved on the left by the 3 rd F. Co. but both are done up. Tramline being extended up Sausage Valley.	
	26 th		Tramway being pushed up Sausage Valley & good progress being made.	
	27 th		Orders received to move to rest billets. Handed over to CPE 2 nd Aust. Div. and moved to RUBEMPRE	
RUBEMPRE	28 th		Moved to CANAPLES and occupied temporary billets.	
CANAPLES	29 th		Moved into permanent billets.	
	30 th		} In rest billets	
	31 st			

Summary of
CPE
1st Aust Division