

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

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/7/1 Part 2

**Title:** Headquarters 1st Australian  
Divisional Engineers

March - June 1915



AWM4-14/7/1PART2



14th Div Engineers

Date. Time and Place.

Remarks or References  
to Appendices &c.,  
attached.

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3/3/15	MENA.	Brigade & Divisional Exercises
28/3/15	"	carried out.
29/3/15	"	Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton inspected troops.

(Original of above written on same sheet  
as entry for beginning of subsequent  
month & filed with volume for that month)



Adq<sup>rs</sup> Divl Engrs

1st Fleet Down

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
3-3-15	Mena	Brigade & Divisional Exercises carried out.	
28-3-15	"		
29-3-15	"	Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton inspected troops	
3-4-15	"	Advance parties of 3rd Field Co & Signal (10.6 OR) left at 7.30 am - 3rd F Co	
4-4-15	"	Sig Co. marched out in the evening Advance party of 2nd F Co left in morning & main body in evening (for Alexandria) 1 Section of Signal Co. left Camp.	
5-4-15	"	Headq <sup>rs</sup> left Camp for Alexandria at 7 pm	
10-4-15	Alexandria	H.M.T "Indian" left Alexandria (30.15 OR).	
12-4-15	—	Reached anchored at Lemnos.	

War Capt



HQE

1st AD

(7)

Handwritten Capt

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
12.4.15	Lemnos	<p>Engineer units embarked for the front are on transports as under:-  A16 - "Indra" - Headq - 3 Officers 10 OR Interpreter &amp;  ASC - 3 off. &amp; 4 OR left "Indra" for "A 11" on 18.4.15</p>	
		<p>Other details not available at present.</p>	

133

C.11056.



HQE

(8)

Van Sturdee Capt<sup>2</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
24-4-15	Lemnos 5 am	Left Hudros Bay steamed round the Island and anchored in bay to the North at 7 am	
24/5-4-15	Lemnos 12 mm	Left Lemnos Island and arrived off ANZAC at 4.30 am. b.o.D. Eng <sup>s</sup> (Col Elliott) Adj <sup>t</sup> (Capt Van Sturdee) M.O. (Capt H B Lewis) and 3 batmen left Transport A II (Minnewaska) at 8.30 am and landed on beach about half an hour later. The Co D <sup>e</sup> of Adj <sup>t</sup> searched for water and found a small amount in a Creek beyond Dawkins Point at noon	
25-4-15	Anzac 10 am	M.O. and Orderly rendered first aid to wounded in Shearnel Gully.	

C.11056.



HQE

(9) Van Souda Capt <sup>29-30</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
25-4-15	Augae	2pm C.O.D. visited road in course of construction in rear of PLUGGE'S PLATEAU - This road was formed under shrapnel fire. 4 to 8 pm C.O.D. & Adj. assisting ADM'S in controlling traffic along to the pier (hastily erected by LIEUT. H. BACHTOLD) for evacuation of wounded. 9pm C.O.D. inspected inner line of trenches which were in course of preparation by Field Co. The whole of the work abovementioned and that of Eng. Coy's was necessarily executed under fire.	
26-4-15	Augae	-	C.O.D. exercising general supervision over

G.11056.



HDE

(10)

D. A. S. C. Capt. X

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
76-4-15 28	Auzac	The work of Field Cos. - constructing roads, supplying water, preparing defensive position on <u>PLUGES' PLATEAU</u> , and collecting stores. Adjt. superintending issue of stores on Beach. Medical officer assisting R. M. O's in <u>SHRAPNEL GULLY</u> .	
29-4-15	Auzac 9- and noon	Three (3) samples of Turkish bombs obtained - two of fuse and one of percussion type - these were submitted to examination &c by the Adjutant. Adjt. (with 1 section 1 <sup>st</sup> Field Co) visited <u>RIGHT Flank</u> in connection with placing of wire entanglements around guns. C. O. D. exercising general supervision over all engineer works.	

C.11056.



Date. Place and Time.

Remarks or References  
to Appendices &c.,  
attached.

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30/4/15 ANZAC.

C.O. Inspecting position in morning - In afternoon accompanied by Adj. visited 4th Bde with Turkish bombs to be used at Quinn's Post. Remainder of Headqrs. on A 16 which left on 27th to make a feint landing in GULF OF SAROS returned to ANZAC COVE. Heavy shelling in progress daily.

(Original of above written on same sheet as entry for beginning of subsequent month & filed with volume for that month)



ACPE

(11) Vanstunder Capt. <sup>19</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30.4.15	Anzac	C.O. Inspecting position in morning - In afternoon accompanied by Adj. visited 4 <sup>th</sup> Bde with Turkish bombs to be used at QUINN'S POST. Remainder of Headqrs on A16 which left on 27 <sup>th</sup> to make a feint landing in GULF OF SAROS returned to ANZAC COVE. Heavy shelling in progress daily.	
1/2-5-15	ANZAC	Weather warm & bright. Adj. with fatigue party collecting tools and sandbags scattered about. C.O. D.S. inspecting & supervising works in progress. 1 <sup>st</sup> Field Co (less 1 Section on beach for water and pier work) attached to 1 <sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Field Co (less Capt. WILLIAMS & 6 Sappers sinking wells for water in SHRAPNEL GULLY) attached to	

C.11056.



HQE

(12)

Van Ouden

2-6  
Capt

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
2.5.15	ANZAC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Inf. Bde. 2 sections of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Field Co attached to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Inf. Bde. & 2 sections working on BEACH.	
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 5.15		Position same. LIEUT CNR HUNTLEY, 1 <sup>st</sup> Field Co killed during night.	
4.5.15		LIEUT THIRKELL, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Field Co <del>with</del> 10 Sappers and Infantry party to GABA TEPE but beaten off. One Sapper (99, G.F. MCKENZIE) awarded D.C.M. for work at this sortie. Adj <sup>t</sup> supervising of collection and distribution of Engineer Stores and necessary administrative work.	
5 <sup>th</sup> - 5.15		Position unchanged. weather bright & warm	
7.5.15		Adj <sup>t</sup> supervising cutting of mule shelter in ANZAC GULLY and erection of bomb-proof	

C.11056



HQE

(13) Van Sinder Capt<sup>2</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
7.5.15	ANZAC	shelter for Clearing Hospital. Captain EFR	
		BAGE, RAE, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Field Co killed whilst siting	
		fire trenches in front of enemy's positions.	
		Capt. HBLIENERS, M.O. wounded. weather fine.	
8/11	5.15	Position unchanged. Supervision of Eng <sup>r</sup> works	
		in firing line and elsewhere maintained.	
1		W. O. AHDOW reported and took up duty. (11 <sup>th</sup> )	
12	5.15	LIEUT WH DAWKINS killed by shrapnel. Adj.	
		supt <sup>s</sup> cutting of ammunition recesses & other work.	
13/14	5.15	Adj <sup>t</sup> supervising cutting of recesses at Beach	
		Engineer Store. Consultation re stores held -	
		(CRE, D.E. & Adj <sup>t</sup> ). Mounted portions of all	
		Engineer units have left for Alexandria.	

C.11056.



HQE

(14)

Vaagsvunde Capt

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
15. 5. 15	ANZAC	C.O. & Adj. inspected proposed covered way up SHRAPNEL GULLY, also wells at same place. Water is supplied in two ways - for personnel on and in juxtaposition to Beach from water barges provided by navy - In firing line and in its immediate vicinity from wells sunk in selected places - water when found is led off to regulating dams & then pumped into troughs, barrels, etc. On the Beach AASC issue water on reqs - Sapper provided to assist in delivery of barges, pumping &c - In SHRAPNEL GULLY an Eng. Officer controls all water supply for firing line. &c &c	

C.11056.



HDE

(15)

Van Stunee Capt 9

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
15-5-15	Augee <sup>12/30 PM</sup>	Col Elliott's left arm broken by Shrapnel. Major AM Martyn, RAE, OC 3rd Field Co took over command by order of Col. G.B.E. Elliott.	
16-5-15 19		Capt. & A.H. Stunee carrying out all administrative work. Major Martyn superintending Engineer work in trenches. Lieut. J. Napier 3rd Field Co severely wounded necessitating amputation of leg. Adj. supervision constn of covered way up Shrapnel Tully & Stores gc. all ammunition & ration boxes taken over by Engrs for deponive works. Adj. supervising cutting of platforms for reserve rations. 1 sect. each of 1st & 2nd Field Co. repairing piers after storm	
20-5-15 2A			

C.11056.



HDE

(16)

Various under Capt <sup>2-10</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
25 27 .5.15	Anzac	Work in Shrapnel Gully proceeding. & men from hospital reported for duty with Field Cos. Position same.	32 Reinforcements
28 30 .5.15			
31 .5.15			
5 31/15 (General)		Lieut J Middleton, RE; 2 1/2 J B Potter & E D Moore Royal Eng <sup>s</sup> reported for duty & instruction with this Division and allotted to 1st Field Co, 2nd Field Co & H.Q. respectively. Bombs and hand grenades made up and issued as required by Aust <sup>n</sup> Eng <sup>s</sup> . An Engineer Post was established immediately after landing on the Beach below Hell's Spit from which stores (sandbag, timber, nails, tools, &c &c) were issued on req <sup>t</sup> countersigned	

C.11056.



HCE

(17)

Van Sinder Capt<sup>2</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
31.5.15	Augae (General)	by Adj. Personnel provided by 2nd Field Co RE Up to this date Field Cos. submitted returns, reports &c thro' Div <sup>l</sup> Eng <sup>s</sup> Hq <sup>r</sup> & Signal direct to D. S. S. owing to distance away of their Headq <sup>r</sup> s. When timber for trenches ran short old boats & barges were broken up and utilized. Picks & other tools repaired at Engineer Park. Strength of Div <sup>l</sup> Eng <sup>s</sup> on 31.5.15 less Signal Co. 18 officers 375 O.R. Casualties to 31.5.15 for Div <sup>l</sup> Engineers:- Killed 3 officers 13 other ranks Wounded 3 officers 101 other ranks injured & wounded of the latter 15 returned to duty by 31.5.1915	

C.11056.



NOE

(18) Vasundee Capt<sup>2</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
31-5-15	Auzac (General)	Vacancies caused by deaths and wounds of Officers were filled as they occurred by choosing men from the rank & file - many of whom are considered suitable in every respect for Commissioned rank. During training at Kena Camp all dismounted members of Field Cos fitted with web equipment which proved far more suitable than the bandolier pattern equipment. On landing at Auzac no animals or vehicles were put ashore - they together with mounted personnel returned to Alexandria & went into Camp at Mex.	

C.11056.



HQE

(19)

Van Studee Capt.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1-6-1915	Awyac	<p>Eng. Hdq moved up to &amp; close by Div. Headq. — This change assists greatly in carrying out Eng. work as the Eng. Cmdr is always on the spot when required. Periscopes and periscopic rifles being manufactured by details of Royal Navy &amp; Aust. Engineers. Returns &amp; States of Signal Co now submitted, with advantage, through Div. Eng. Headq. Construction of permanent pier by Lieut Watson, Signal Co, Div. Eng. and party of sappers commenced. 2 sections of 3rd Field Co have been att'd for duty for some time to N2 &amp; A Div.</p>	

C.11056.



HSE

(20)

Dassundee Capt<sup>3</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
2-6-15	Anzac	<p>Two Sections (Completing Coy) sent to NZ &amp; A. Div<sup>n</sup> for Eng<sup>n</sup> work at Quinn's Post.</p> <p>2/30 PM Major E.N. Mozley, RE, OC, 13<sup>th</sup> Base Park Co, RE arrived and took over command of Div<sup>n</sup> Eng<sup>n</sup> (temporarily) [inspecting the position with Major Martijn.] Reinfts arrived at 5am as under:- 1<sup>st</sup> Field Co 33 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Co 21, 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Co 16 Signal Co 20 (Included in these Reinfts were men returning from hospital).</p>	
3-6-15		<p>ACOB &amp; Adj<sup>t</sup> visited left flank of Aust<sup>n</sup> position in morning &amp; Plugge's Plateau in afternoon. Arrangements made for Engineer Store to be handed over to ANZAC - 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Moore RE placed in charge.</p>	

C.11056.



NOE ISLAND

(71)

Yenoshimae Capt<sup>3</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
4-6-15	Auzac	<p>AKO D &amp; Adjts visited 3<sup>d</sup> Inf Bde area &amp; inspected routes of proposed roads (a) from 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn to RIGHT of 12<sup>th</sup> Bn (b) from Beach near DAWKIN'S POINT to 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn., also visited trenches of 3<sup>d</sup> Bde. 2 Sappers of 1<sup>st</sup> Field Co sent (with charge) with Inf party to blow up M.G. in G.O. TRENCH - Charge not required. Surveyor and Draftsman attached to Eng. H.Q. for preparation &amp; keeping of plans of trenches, saps, tunnels, &amp;c (Scale 30' = 1")</p>	
5-6-15		<p>Engineer Store put in working order under temporary direction of CO D &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> Asstn Division.</p>	

G.11056.



KOE, STAB

(22)

Van Stunder Capt <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
6-6-15	Augac	Conference (GOC Div., Brigadiers, Ptn Cndts & Field Coy Cndts) at 1st Bde Hq to consider future action re saps & tunnels (See Corres A 44). Decided to generally run tunnels 20 or 30' towards enemy & then join up heads into new firing line - straight tunnel as emoune trenches with recesses cut forward out of it - tunnel to remain roofed, recesses unroofed.	
7-6-15		Artillery Road from 2nd Bn to RIGHT of 1st Bn Commenced. Covered way up SHRAPNEL GULLY as far as junction WALKERS Road Completed.	

C.11056.



HQE 18 LAB

(73) Wassenaar Capt <sup>5</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
8-6-15	Anzac	a/cod <sup>o</sup> to Cape Helles for stores. RE wounded in both legs.	2/LT MOORE,
9-6-15		Position unaltered.	
10-6-15		Co D <sup>o</sup> ket <sup>o</sup> with stores - 200 nails lost (emb with lighter) en route. W. O. PANTLIN and Sgt TUCKETT to ALEXANDRIA to collect <sup>all</sup> stores for Field of Signal Corps. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Field Co. ket <sup>o</sup> to Anz.	
11-6-15		2/Lt Potter, RE took over ANZAC Sup. Store experiments commenced making (a) bomb screens of wire netting for trenches (b) barbed wire obstacles for placing from trenches.	
12-6-15 13		Barbed wire entanglements put up in front of BARBED WIRE GULLY. Enemy heard working close to Dg tunnel and charge laid to destroy	

C.11056.



HQ 1st AB

(74) Vandenberg Capt<sup>US</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
13-6-15 <u>14</u>	Augac	their work (if necessary). Charge fired on 14 <sup>th</sup> inst	
15-6-15		by order of Brigadier. Supply of explosives ordered to be kept at HQ of each Field Coy. Dq tunnel visited, air very foul beyond 1st. Tamp. Enemy heard picking in distance.	
16-6-15		Adj <sup>t</sup> inspecting sites for 30 days reserve rations enemy reported 6 to 8' away & above Dq. New Charge 100 lbs prepared. Previous charge did little damage. 3 trained listeners to be att <sup>d</sup> to each Field Co (from Int) for duty.	
17-6-15 <u>18</u>		Adj <sup>t</sup> inspecting new position for A.C. HQ of Clearing Hospitals etc. Covered way across flat near BRIGHTON BEACH commenced.	

C.11056.



HQ E, AD

(25)

Wasserman Capt.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
19 70 . 6-15	Augue	New tunnel in progress towards enemy parallel to that in which mine was fired 70' away. Adj. making sliding loophole shield. Task work ordered to be tried in all saps and tunnels - Progress of work considered slow - Inf. Officers in continuous relief obtained to combat difficulty. Certain recommendations as to organization, stores, etc made to Div. Hdqrs (see A70) Picketing heard near sq (at intervals) New pier completed by Lt. Watson .A.E	

C.11054.



Ad Engrs  
18 AD

(26)

UMoyly Lt Col <sup>32</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
20-6-1915	Augae	<p>(1) Decided to make Div<sup>l</sup> Engr store adjacent to Advanced Engr Park. This store to accommodate articles drawn from DADOS, until Field Cos. need them (Orders on DADOS are made by C.O.D.C. after ascertaining Field Cos. requirements, C.O.D.C. signs receipt, storeman at Div<sup>l</sup> store brings articles on charge and issues to Field Cos. on their receipt). This procedure renders large Field Co. stores unnecessary.</p> <p>(2) C.O.D.C. inspected new support trenches thrown out 100' in front of firing line of 11<sup>th</sup> Bn. previous night. Sapping going forward from support trench towards a line of five trenches on forward slope 40 yds ahead. Consulted with 3<sup>d</sup> Bde &amp;</p>	

C.11056.



(27)

Summary of Co's

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
<sup>20</sup> <del>21</del> 6-15	Auzde	3 <sup>rd</sup> Co re treatment of TURKEY KNOLL and fire trench from B <sub>2</sub> to SILT also re procedure for going out on night of 21 <sup>st</sup> to excavate support trench on short ridge SOUTH of Silt. (3) Experiments in-banked wire obstacle with brushwood bundles continued.	

C.11056.



H Q Engineers 1st A.D.

28

cum gratia Lt-Col<sup>3</sup> 10

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
21 22.6.15	Anzac	<p>O.C. met OC 3<sup>rd</sup> Coy. re plans for taking ground outside trenches at the Silt. Then met O.C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Coy &amp; investigated sounds of supposed Turkish picking in tunnels B<sub>6</sub> &amp; C<sub>4</sub>. Not close. Then planned &amp; obtained G.O.C.'s approval for advance of B<sub>6</sub> &amp; B<sub>5</sub> tunnels towards enemy's trenches in LONESOME PINE for future mines.</p> <p>Consultation with Artillery Commander re course of road for guns from 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt HQ towards BARBED WIRE GULLY.</p> <p>O.C. visited trenches of No II North at night to inspect tunnel parties. Listened to enemy picking about left T of D<sub>9</sub>, 6' away. No action necessary.</p>	

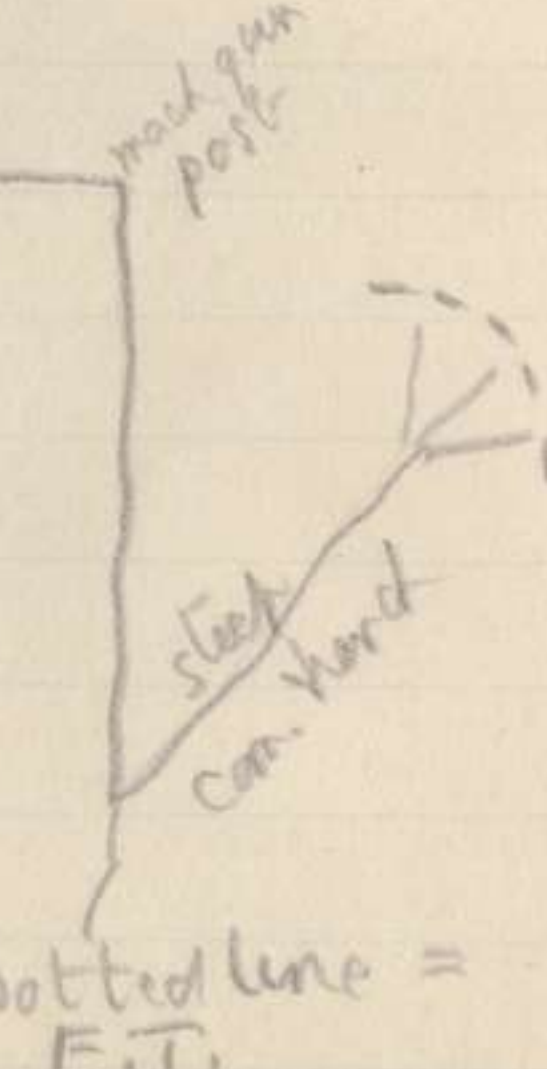
C.11056.



HQ Engineers  
1st AD

29

Murray L. Col<sup>3</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
22.6.15	Anzac	<p>During night of 21<sup>st</sup>, a digging party, covered, went out from 11<sup>th</sup> Batt. &amp; dug a support trench southward of 'The Silt' on to a ridge east of main firing line. Hard ground. 150' dug. Saw night newly gained trench on ridge S of Wheatfield was deepened &amp; sapping in 5 places to a new fire trench on forward slope of ridge continued. Digging continued day &amp; night to establish "Chatham Post" on AA ridge S of 2<sup>nd</sup> Bde L.H. lines, which is long steep com. trench works (200') branching out into three &amp; into a FT as in margin.</p>	 <p>Dotted line = F.T.</p>

C.11056.



HQ Engineers  
1st AD

30

Summary Lt Col

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
22.6.15 (continued)		Owing to slow rate of progress in tunnels forming new firing line the following methods were adopted: (a) Each group of tunnels etc. to be put in charge of an infantry officer (in reliefs) to whom adequate supply of men was to be given by Brigadier. He would be required to complete a certain task in his shift. Task to be set & measured by R. E. (b) Adequate supply of miners for pick & hod work at face to be provided by Brigadiers.	

C.11056.



HQ Engineers 1st AD

31

Summary 21-23/3

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
23.6.15	Anzac	<p>Patterns of bomb screens &amp; of wire entanglement approved by G.O.C. Conference with Major Corlette re dead end S of BARB WIRE GULLEY, with O.C. 1st Coy &amp; with O.C. 2nd Bde.</p> <p>O.C. D.E. submitted scheme to G.O.C. for future advances after new FT is opened. Approved principle.</p> <p>Lt Maddala employed in earthwork operations in mullah to make store room. Same officer subsequently ordered to prepare terraces for 2 Batt. for Army Corp along Walker Road.</p> <p>Major Corlette removed to clearing hospital.</p>	

C.11058.



H. Q. Engineers, 1<sup>st</sup> A.D.

32

Emergency Lt. Col 3-14

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
24.6.15	Anzac	<p>General Legge took over 1<sup>st</sup> A.D. from General Walker            adjutant D.E. took over earthworks for new hospitals            from Lt. Middleton.</p> <p>Army to expand site of R.E. (Army Corps) Show            beach party only allowed to work on it at            night &amp; towers made to protect day antipiers.</p> <p>Report that enemy had reached point as shown            in marginal sketch near D 9 A with their floor            level with our roof.</p>	<p>Point enemy heard at</p>

C.11056.



HQ Engineers 1<sup>st</sup> A.D

33

Eumofg Lt-Col<sup>3</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
25.6.15	Anzac	<p>Large fatigue parties at work under Lt Middleton making terraces for 2 Batt. on WALKER ROAD. (Four 4-hr relief each 200 men). Conference re firing mine in D 9 A. Decided to recommend, as enemy was advancing towards our new fire line. Shortage of tools in Brigades discovered, &amp; proposals made for general search, re-issue &amp; subsequent responsibility of Batts. Rqpts. for tools by keeping store-lists.</p> <p>OCDE visited new sample work of firing line combined with tunnel in 7<sup>th</sup> L.H. front, &amp; sample of continuous loophole on beach post.</p> <p>Mine in D 9 A blown up 9.34 p.m., part of scheme for false attack on enemy. Tamping undisturbed.</p>	

C.11056.



HQ Engineers 1<sup>st</sup> AD

34

Emergency Lt - Col 3-16

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
26.6.15	Amzac	<p>Exploded mine made crater just outside N end of 'GERMAN OFFICER' trench about 20' diameter. LLR was 12' ± 2'. It has been arranged with G.O.C.'s concurrence that OC 2<sup>nd</sup> Coy should run forward mine tunnels from end of B<sub>6</sub> (178' in) + B<sub>5</sub> (195' in) to two parts of LONESOME PINE trenches. Latter advanced 30' + then sounds of hostile picking were heard, perhaps 30' away. Decided (with G.O.C.'s concurrence) to adopt policy of going forward undetected + to avoid firing charges. Conference with OC 3<sup>rd</sup> Coy re loopholes + letter to Divn based on OC 2<sup>nd</sup> Coy's proposals re loopholes when opening new safe firing line.</p>	

C.11056.



HQ Engineers 1<sup>st</sup> A.D 35

Elmoughy Lt Col <sup>3</sup>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
27.6.15	Anzac	O.C.D.E inspected New Zealand Division defences from a general view of the Anzac position. Mining operations opposite Quinn's Country developed to great extent. <del>Some</del> Reports of hostile pickets close to left draw at point 178 of B52. Listening ordered, vice working & a new gallery run to envelop the enemy.	

C.11056.



HQ Engineers 1<sup>st</sup> AD

36

Summary of Col's

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
28.6.15	Anzac	<p>In touch with enemy at B5+6. (long tunnels). New advanced trenches at Chatham Post (with new communications). Trenches dug + silt spur proceeding quite satisfactorily. Workers withdrawn from trenches while attack (to engage enemy during advance in Southern feature) was on. Decided to listen for enemy when in touch with him in mines but to avoid firing. Casualties in R &amp; Co - 4 wounded.</p>	

C.11056.



H.Q. Engineers 1<sup>st</sup> A.B.

37

Lunnough 2nd 19

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
29.6.15	Anzac	<p>1 Conference (see A93) with G.O.C. Brigadiers etc re future tunnelling, sapping &amp; mining policy. The following recommendations of A.C.D.E. were <u>not</u> specifically ordered:- (1) Uncovered com. trench, in addition to tunnel, for fire control in rear of emplacement.</p> <p>(2) Fire emplacements behind instead of in front of tunnel.</p> <p>(3) No frontal loopholes for advanced fire trenches (admittedly not used in attack) (4) Joining up of <sup>com</sup>working holes in front to form new advanced fire trenches. (5) Meals for working parties to be out of working hours (6) Task work.</p> <p>2 At 7.00 Tanks blew in B22-B5 doing little damage to our tunnels (large craters formed) but burying a sapper in each. One tunnel slightly gassed. No change in forward policy needed.</p>	

C.11056.



HQ Engineer 1<sup>st</sup> AD

38

Summary 21 Oct 1940

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30.6.15	Anzac	<p>Conference with OC 2<sup>nd</sup> Brig, OC 1<sup>st</sup> Coy &amp; with OC 1<sup>st</sup> Brig &amp; OC 2<sup>nd</sup> Coy. re future mining policy. Schemes submitted to Aust. HQ &amp; approved.</p> <p>Report of full situation re mines submitted to C.E.</p> <p>Casualties (Dw. Enfs) for month ending 30 <sup>6</sup>/<sub>15</sub></p> <p>Killed 7 other Ranks Wounded 1 Officer &amp; 21 other Ranks. Strength of Dw. Enfs on Sallopoli Peninsula 27.6.15 25 Officers 537 other Ranks of which 2 are attached Officers &amp; also 1 OR a.H.<sup>o</sup>. Arrivals during month (from sick list &amp; other sources) 4 Officers 145 other Ranks (of which 17 other Ranks are from wounded list)</p>	

C.11056.



HQE, SAB

(39)

L. M. Moly Lt Col 3-2-1

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30-6-15	Auzoe	Departures from effective strength during the month of June owing to sickness 2 Officers & 68 other ranks, besides for month of April - May kil - June 2 (for absence without leave) 1 for (disobedience of an order). Coy were below (dismounted) strength as under:- 1st Field Coy - 38 other ranks 2nd Field Coy - 6 other ranks 3rd Field Coy - 23 other ranks Signal Coy - up to strength	On 27.6.15

C.11056



Interim Report on Water Supply.  
H.B.M. Transport "Suffolk"  
8.3.16.

O.C.

Detached Force.

I am of the opinion that the only supply of water available for troops in the immediate vicinity of MUDROS village is that available from wells in the low lying ground close to the village. S. and N. The water available from such source with the addition of new wells as required should be ample for 5,000 men and seven hundred (700) horses.

A temporary supply of a certain amount not exceeding five thousand (5,000) gallons per day could be drawn from the MUDROS village supply which is obtained from a spring about one and a half miles distant and conveyed by 1½" iron pipe to a small reservoir in the centre of the village. The entire overflow of the spring is utilized.

There are no means of delivering the water derived from wells to the camp except carting by water cart. Water can be temporarily drawn from the wells and delivered into water carts by means of the Mark II lift and force pumps carried by the 1st Field Coy., Engrs., this should only be regarded as temporary as these pumps are not intended for constant working and if so used would be quickly worn out.

For a permanent or semi-permanent camp of the size indicated an air engine and pump is necessary and storage facilities for about one and a half days supply.

A pump and engine capable of raising five thousand gallons per hour, one hundred (100) feet lift, suction lift twenty (20) ft. (suction lift is variable).

Storage required will be about fifty thousand (50,000) gallons.

Iron tanks if obtainable seem to be the most feasible. There is not sufficient cement to construct a concrete tank and such a tank would take a considerable time to construct, and would not be available for storage for some time after completion as time would have to be given for the concrete to harden.

The hill above the proposed camp site is rocky but an excavated tank would take a considerable time.

So far no suitable supply has been discovered which can be conserved and delivered by quantity to any visible camp site in or near PORT MUDROS.

No stop valves have been supplied with the water supply fittings on board this ship (SUFFOLK). Half a dozen should be obtained. Other fittings are also required.

Provision for a large force.

I do not consider it safe to rely upon obtaining a supply greater than about 50,000 gallons per day from wells near village of MUDROS, at any rate until the supply has been fully tested.

Search made for some miles from and around MUDROS close to the shore and inland has not so far indicated any good supply.

A few small flows have been located in water courses, but they cannot be relied upon to continue owing to there having been rain quite recently in this locality.

Indications so far point to the necessity for establishing only small camps which can draw water from wells. Pumping and storage facilities should be provided for each.

And interim report.

Attached sketch shows area investigated yesterday, March 7th. This appears to be the most considerable catchment area on the island as far as can be judged from Admiralty chart.

There is a good stream of water approximately as shown which was followed up stream for about 4 miles and still showed a strong flow. Rough gauging showed flow to be about 700 gallons per minute.

It is not possible to ascertain without an Interpreter how permanent the flow is.

The supply will be further investigated today, March 8th.

Sgd. J.F. McCall, Major.  
O.C., 1st Field Coy.



AUSTRALIAN PIER, HUDROS.

Notes by LT-COL. H. BACHTOLD.



On the S.S. SUFFOLK with the 1st Field Company, A.E. aboard arriving in LEVINOS BAY at the beginning of March 1915, Col. LOTBINIERE, Chief Engineer, Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, gave instructions to the field company commander, Major J.P. McCALL, to construct a pier adjacent to the camp of the 9th Australian Infantry Battalion.

The job was given to me, then 2/Lieut. and supernumerary to establishment, with the remainder of No. 3. Section. Lieut. R.L.S. HUNTLEY with part of his section (No. 3.) having gone on the battleship as a special demolition party.

The site was shown to me by Col. LOTBINIERE, and the only information given was that a depth of 7' of water was required at the end of the pier.

Before the S.S. SUFFOLK left ALEXANDRIA a certain quantity of R.E. Stores were shipped aboard, and, as on the island there were no R.E. Stores of any description, the only stores available were those on board the SUFFOLK.

These were -

6" x 6"	Pitch Pine	in 16' lengths.
6 1/2" x 3 1/2"	" "	" 12' "
8" x 4"	" "	" 15' "
4" x 4"	Spruce	in 14' lengths
4" x 2"	" "	" 16' "
9" x 2"	Planks	in 13' "
12" x 4" x 1/2"	Dogs.	
6" x 4"	Wire Nails.	

Tools of a section of engineers.

A design using the above stores was got out as per sheet No. 1. to carry a distributed load of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cwts per sq. foot. All stores were taken to the site from the SUFFOLK either in ship's lifeboats or towed in rafts, a distance of approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

An approximate section was taken and it was decided to construct the first 100' with stone which brought the sea end into 3' of water. The 9th Australian Infantry Battalion were asked to build the stone approach, leaving all the timber work for the 1st Field Company A.E.

Trestles were first made, leaving off the 8" x 4" transoms and the 6" x 6" legs uncut. Two temporary trestles were first erected roughly about the centre of the straight and well braced. The legs were left projecting below the ledgers at first 2' 3", but it was found that 1' 6" was all that the trestles could be driven with a heavy maul on each leg.

Permanent trestles were then put in, 3 men driving each trestle with a heavy mauls. After about 4 permanent trestles had been put in the temporary trestles were pulled out and work commenced building both ways.

Number of men employed averaged 30. Total time taken - 11 days, out of which 8 were worked. About the 4th day an exceptional heavy wind blew for 3 days, making the sea so rough that it was impossible to work. (contd)



It gave the work already erected a very severe test, but beyond the loss of a raft of decking no other damage was done.



- OTHER PIERS ON ANZAO BEACH. =

Notes by Lt-Col. H. BACHTOLD.

Still keeping my small party I worked for 4 days on the beach building piers. Owing to the shortage of R.E. material only small piers of a very temporary nature could be built.

In two cases barges which has been sunk by shell fire were used, timber approaches about 6' wide being built to the barges, the tops of which were planked over as best as possible. Walls of sandbags filled with shingle were used, in some cases, instead of trestles to carry decking of the approaches.

The other piers, 3 I think, were simply a timber deck about 6' wide run out into the sea about 50', supported on rough trestles or walls of shingle in sand bags.



FLOATING JETTY, GALLIPOLI.

Notes by LT-COL. H. BACHTOLD.

About April 12th, 1915, a redistribution of troops to transports took place in LEMNOS BAY, which resulted in the 1st Field Company being split into two echelons, Company H.Q. with 4 Sections under Major J.P. McCALL, and 1st Line Transport under the 2nd in command, Major J.M.C. CORLETTE. I, as supernumerary officer was detailed to go with the Transport which was placed on the S.S. NIZAM.

A few days later about 24 eight-barrel piers were taken aboard from the S.S. MINNEWASKA, and instructions given to construct a floating jetty. A quantity of timber from the S.S. SUFFOLK had also been placed on board.

Major CORLETTE gave me the job, men available being 12 sappers who had returned from hospital and about 4 drivers who were carpenters.

After careful consideration, taking into account that the only available space was the top of one hatch, I decided to build 3 rafts which could be fastened together to form a jetty 50' long, as per Sheet 2. These were built one on top of each other.

After completion a trial test of lifting a raft with the ship's derricks over the side of the boat was made.

Enough 4" x 3" and 9" x 2" to make a 30' approach to the shore end was distributed between the 3 rafts. In addition, the following pontoon equipment, from which another jetty could be made, was assembled ready for putting over the side:-

2 pontoons  
1 weldon trestle  
3 bays of superstructure.

The above preparations were all ready by April, 23rd. Final instructions were then received to have everything in the sea by 3 a.m. on the 25th ready to be towed ashore. At 6.30 a.m. April 25th S.S. NIZAM slowed down sufficiently to allow the 3 rafts and pontoon equipment to be put over the side and linked together. Pumps, anchors, rope, rations, water, tools, etc. were placed on the rafts. Everything was ready at 8 a.m.

Ultimately at 1 p.m. a destroyer came alongside and towed the rafts and pontoon gear to within 200 yards of ANZAC BEACH. Myself with 12 O.Rs. went with it.

A few minutes after getting under way we came under shrapnel fire from a battery of field guns at GABE TEPE. On the destroyer casting us off we manoeuvred the raft using sweeps and boat hooks, and brought it ashore at a position directed to me by the Military Landing Officer (Col. Leslie?). About 15 minutes was taken up in fixing up an approach and it was then used straight away to get away wounded into pinnaces, boats and barges.

(contd)



The pontoon equipment was not used to form another jetty, portions of it being taken for the approach to the barrel pier one.

On getting ashore I impressed services of all men in the vicinity to assist my party in the work, but I have no idea to what units they belonged.



S.A. . .

Confidential,

Sunday 25th April 1915.

Headquarters, 1st Australian Divisional Engineers.  
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ANZAC.

Arrived off GALLIPOLI, C.O. Divisional Engineers (Colonel ELLIOTT) Adjutant (Captain V.A.H. Sturdee) M.O. (Captain LAVERS) and 3 batmen left Transport A.11. (Minnewaska) at 8-30.a.m. and landed on beach half an hour later. C.O. and Adjutant searched for water and found a small amount in a creek beyond DAWKINS POINT.

C.O. visited road in course of construction under shrapnel fire in rear of PLUGGE'S PLATEAU, assisted in controlling traffic along to pier (hastily erected for the evacuation of wounded) and inspected inner line of trenches in course of preparation by Field Companies.

1st Field Company, Australian Engineers.  
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ANZAC.

Arrived at rendezvous off GALLIPOLI Peninsula about 2 a.m., transferred to ships boats and taken in tow by pinnaces, proceeded to land. The landing was hotly opposed, the enemy being well posted used machine gun and rifle fire. Without hesitation all ranks pushed forward and as day broke, the heights adjacent to the landing place were in our possession. The first shots noted were fired at 4.27.a.m. and at about 4.30 the landing had begun.

The Company having landed in three different divisions and each division going on with the infantry unit it came ashore with, it was hours

before sufficient Sappers could be gathered together to commence a road that it was noticed was necessary, in order to get guns, ammunition and water to the troops higher up. Work on this road was begun and continued through the night.

2nd Field Company Australian Engineers.  
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ANZAC.

Company disembarked in two parties, one with Major MARTYN in charge and the other under Lieut. DAWKINS. The latter was divided into two squads; one under Captain WILLIAMS proceeded up SHRAPNEL GULLY, while the other under Lieut. DAWKINS remained at foot of Gully. These two parties had been detailed for water supply and commenced to sink tube wells in various places. While engaged in this work a barge laden with ammunition drifted ashore near HELLS SPIT and the Sappers unloaded same at once. This work was done under heavy shrapnel fire.

(contd)



S.A.C.

Confidential,

Sunday 25th April 1915, (contd)

2nd Field Company Australian Engineers.  
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ANZAC.

Remainder of the Company immediately after disembarkation commenced construction of two roads, one from landing place towards GABA TEPE, the other from landing place to MACLAGANS RIDGE. The latter road was completed at 4 p.m. and the first field gun ashore was hauled up same by the Sappers and placed in position on MACLAGANS RIDGE. A party from the Company commenced construction under Lieut-Col. ELLIOTT, of pier

Nos. 2, 3, and 4 Sections commenced construction of trench along PLUGGERS PLATEAU and occupied same until relieved by New Zealand infantry (Taranaki Rifles) and then remained as reserve to this battalion.

Slight rain fell during night.

1st Australian Divisional Signal Company.  
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ANZAC.

No. 3. Section landed with 3rd Brigade on beach two miles south of Fisherman's Hut. Section carried all technical equipment, and laid lines during the attack.

No. 4. Section landed with 2nd Brigade Headquarters, 200 yards south of 3rd Brigade. Visual and orderly communications during storming of hills. (See Diagram of communications to Battalions and D.H.Q.)

No. 2 Section landed with 1st Brigade Headquarters at a point near No. 4. Section 2 miles south of Fisherman's Hut. One line laid from Gully, subsequently occupied by Divisional Headquarters to Brigade Headquarters (See Diagram A.) All signalling and telephone equipment in addition to arms was carried by the men. Lines were laid under fire but no casualties were sustained.

Communications were laid to Battalion Commanders shortly after they were in position. Headquarters and No. 1 Section landed from HINNEWASKA and arranged communication for the Division. (Vide Diagram A.) Headquarters personnel had to carry signalling equipment, telephone, lamps, office, and two bicycles in addition to personal equipment.

No. 1 Section provided miles of cable, drums, vibrator offices (6) sholters poles and equipment complete improvised loads arranged by detachments to meet the circumstances.

(contd)



S.A.H.

Confidential,

Sunday 25th April 1915. (contd)

1st Australian Divisional Signal Company.

ANZAC. Telegraph and telephone communication through to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Brigades. Duplicate line as emergency was run through to 3rd Brigade. Patrols were sent out at intervals, repairing and improving lines already laid.



S.A.H.

Confidential,

Monday 36th April 1915.

1st Field Company Australian Engineers.  
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ANZAC. Road begun on 25th completed. Company employed on Engineer work on PLUGGE'S PLATEAU.

2nd Field Company Australian Engineers.  
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ANZAC. Party under Liout. DAWKINS shifted camp further along beach to what is now DAWKINS POINT and sank 20 shallow wells supplying about 20,000 gallons of good soakage water. Two troughs were erected and immediately we were able to supply water for 500 animals and drinking water for all the troops in the vicinity. Two water-carts were used for storage, and all water supplied to the men was first treated with Chlorido of Lime.

Remainder of Company returned from trenches on MACLAGANS RIDGE and carried on construction of road in Shrapnel Gully. Owing to the positions being so exposed to onemy fire from head of trench, it was necessary to hold off at different times, but good progress was made. All Engineer Stores were assembled and tools issued to Units. Day fine but windy.

ANZAC. 1st Australian Divisional Signal Company.  
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ANZAC. 1st Brigade Headquarters moved to 3rd Brigade, No.3. Section taking over communications Cable laid from old Brigade Headquarters to new Headquarters, providing a third cable line from D.H.Q. to 1st Brigade.

No.3. Section was withdrawn and went into reserve with 3rd Brigade thence on to D.H.Q. Communications were established by telephone and orderly to Battalions whilst romuatering.

Communications were systematically arranged to all Units, linking up F.O.O's Div. Artillery and all Departmental Units; in touch with Fleet via shore station.



S.A.M.

Confidential,

Wednesday 28th April 1915.

Headquarters, 1st Australian Divisional Engineers.

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ANZAC.      Adjutant superintended distribution of Stores on  
Beach. Medical Officer assisted R.M.O's in SHRAPNEL  
GULLY. See 29th.

2nd Field Company Australian Engineers.

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ANZAC.      No.1 Section after a few hours rest completed the  
erection of tanks and trough for storage of water from  
barges, thus ensuring an abundance of water.

No.2. Section well-sinking in DEATH VALLEY. Good  
results.

No.3. Section constructing R.E. Depot.

No.4. Section proceeded to trench occupied by 4th  
Battalion and after improving main fire trench constructed  
communications and stops from that Battalion's Head-  
quarters to firing line. Work completed 3.a.m. 29th.  
During the night No.3. constructed wire entanglements near  
8th Infantry's firing line and communication pits.  
Rained very heavily during night.

1st Australian Divisional Signal Company.

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ANZAC.      Lines repaired and made safe after damage by fire  
and the passing of troops and communication maintained  
throughout. All units in Australian Division Section  
of defence in touch by telephones.



S.A.H.

Confidential,

TUESDAY

Monday 4th May 1915.

*1st Aust Div*  
1st Field Company Australian Engineers.

ANZAC. Ordered to report at 1st Infantry Brigade Headquarters.

Headquarters 1st Australian Divisional Engineers.

ANZAC. Lieut. THIRKELL with 10 Sappers and Infantry party proceeded to GABA TEPE but were beaten off. Sapper G.F. MCKENZIE was awarded D.C.M. for work done in this sortie.

The Adjutant was busy supervising the collection and distribution of Engineer stores.

2nd Field Company Australian Engineers.

ANZAC. No. 3. Section divided into two parties for sapping.  
(See Map Appendix 2).

3rd Field Company Australian Engineers.

ANZAC. As for 3rd.



C 863/2

SAM.

Confidential,

20th September 1918.

NOTES by LIEUT-COLONEL. MATHER, D.S.O.,

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GALLIPOLI RECORDS.  
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ROADS. The only roads with which I was directly concerned were:-

(1) For the first day the 1st Field Company, A.E. was engaged (with I believe, portion of 3rd Field Company A.E.) on the construction of a zig-zag or side-long track from the beach at ANZAC COVE, up the cliffs to the back edge of 'PLUGGE'S PLATEAU'. This track was about 6 to 8ft wide, and was used to send up ammunition and rations by mule pack-transport, and also to get up the Indian Mountain Battery which first opened fire from ridge above 'BRIGHTON BEACH'. There was nothing scientific in the construction of this track, which was graded by 'eye' and rose by zig-zag up to height of approx, 400 ft. above sea level. No metal or material other than the natural earth surface was used.

(2) During the next few days, with No.1 Section, 1st Field Company, A.E., I was engaged upon a similar side-long road from head of MONASH GULLY up to back of POPES HILL. This was 6ft. wide, earth track suitable for mule pack transport. Just prior to this, rations and ammunition were being hauled up the steep back of POPES HILL by a rope.

(3) Another track for mules with ammunition and rations was constructed to run along the back of the cliff behind STEELES POST from WIRE GULLY, towards COURTNEY'S POST.

The other main road jobs which I remember were:-

(a) GUN ROAD which ran all the way from the extreme right at BOLTON'S HILL, along the back of all the trenches, passing round the head of various gullies until it ceased just after passing BROWNS DIP.

(b) The Mule-Sap running from HELL SPIT round the beach to VICTORIA GULLY.

(c) Mule-Sap running from North Beach towards the New Zealanders Front.

(Contd)



S.A....

Confidential, (Contd)

20th September, 1918.

(d) The new road which was started in MONASH and SHRAPNEL GULLIES. Lieut. JESSEP, late 8th Field Company, A.E., now at BRIGHTELINGSEA should be able to give much information on this.

This road was necessitated by the fact that the road hitherto used up this valley was right in the water-course, and with the wet weather's arrival, the track was becoming impassable.

(e) Another new road at the head of BRIDGES ROAD was put in by Major S.F. NEWCOMBE (now P.of W. in Turkey), but perhaps the old records of 4th Field Company, A.E. may be able to describe this.