

**AWM4**

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

Tunnelling & Survey

**Item number:** 16/2/4

**Title:** 1st Australian Tunnelling Company

February 1917



AWM4-16/2/4



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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.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

I: TUNN COMPANY  
A. J. F  
L. 357

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FEBRUARY 1917 POPERINGHE SHEET 28 G11AG3	1	7am.	All sectors report no sounds of enemy mining operations. Surface noises heard in 'A' gallery.	
	2	7am.	'D' left: Noises resembling face work reported. Remainder all quiet.	
	3	7am.	'D' right noises heard by officers but as yet not identified.	
	4	7am.	Enemy disposition: - under and over ground: quiet	
	5	7am.	Enemy actively working in craters opposite Anzac and on the rear lip. L.P. 5 and 'D' right can pick him up. Enemy on surface active with P. Mes.	
	6	7am.	Only usual sounds of work from craters opposite Anzac.	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
POPERINGHE SH. 28 G.I.A. 63.	7	7am.	Crater work heard from L.P. 5 & D'right. Leads tested: all normal Steelbome gallery 55' 3". Berlin adit ent. 37'-0". Larchwood Spoil adit 59' 0", "10" gallery 44'-0". Infantry subway: 79' 3". Australian dugouts 87' 6". Footages for weeks.	
	8	7am.	Work on stair exit Infantry subway hampered owing to frozen ground requiring nails. Anzac. At N.P. 5 post sounds of enemy mining as of boring & falling ground. Intensity of sound has not altered perceptibly during past few days. 1 man wounded.	
	9	7am.	Anzac, A' Nos 5 & 6 post noises as of enemy mining heard. Sounds of boring heard at intervals. D'right: sounds correspond in nature to those heard from Anzac but above.	



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1: TUNN COMPANY  
A. I. P  
L. 357

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FEBRUARY				
POPERINGHE SH. 28 G11.A63	10	7am.	Anzac: Enemy facework heard very distinctly at L. 9.5 sound as if moving toward L. 9.6. Noises appear more intense than previously. "D" right enemy heard working.	
	11	7am.	Anzac & "D" right: Throughout period intermittent working more distinct at L. 9.5 than from No. 1. Installed electrical listening apparatus: 1 microphone at L. 9.5 1 at L. 9.6. Sounds heard with gopher as of boring but not located with electrical instrument though it proved sensitive to own own gallery vibrations.	
	12	7am.	Anzac: noises as usual but only for a little while during the whole day. Camouflaged gallery will be complete at 8 L. 9. by 7am 14 <sup>th</sup> inst. borehole at 5 L. 9. is ready for 200 lbs. of loose ammonal in bag.	

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FEBRUARY				
POPERINGHE SH. 28 G11. AG3.	13	7am.	Anzac. noises intermittent but of same working nature in same direction from 5 L.P.	
	14	7am.	Camouflaged charge ready at L. P. 8 tampered for 20'-0" Anzac: only enemy activity underground is ahead to left of L. P. 5. Footages for week: Melbourne gallery 59'-3" Berlin Adis ent. 108' 7", Larchwood 47' 5", camouflaged gallery 49' Lo' gallery 42'-0" Infantry subway 96' 3", Australian dugouts 80' 8".	
	15	7am.	Noises all quiet except at No 5 L.P. Anzac: distinct sounds of enemy activity same direction as usual.	
	16	7am.	D'right a loud sounds above and to right with walking. Started & stopped suddenly. Anzac: 5 L.P. noises can be heard with ear.	

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I-TUNN COMPANY

A. I. P

L. 367

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FEBRUARY				
POPERINGHE SH. 28 G11.A63.	17	7am	"A" gallery reported loud knocking, audible without geophone at times. This is surface repair works to enemy trenches after bombardment	
	18	7am	"A" gallery. Slight sounds, distant, thought still to be surface. Anzac: 5 & 6 L.P. on day shift were noisy but could not distinguish much owing to our bombardment.	
	19	7am	All quiet.	
	20	7am	Change at 5 L.P. laid also change of 600 lb. Ammonal put in at 8 L.P. Enemy disposition fairly lively after our bombardment, no damage to our workings. Tapping noises heard in 'A' gallery.	



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1<sup>ST</sup> TUNN COMPANY  
A. I. P.  
L. 357

Place.	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FEBRUARY				
POPERINGHE SH. 28 G.I.A.63	21	7am.	<p>at 4.45 p.m. on 20<sup>th</sup> inst. 600 lbs. Ammonal blown at S.I., cratered to surface wrecking enemy lines, no severe damage to own workings. at 4.48 p.m. on 20<sup>th</sup> inst. blew camouflaged at 5 S.I. of 200 lbs. of ammonal in torpedo. slight damage to shallows &amp; S.I. Both of these charges blown effectively to schedule. Enemy disposition at intervals rather lively. Leads tested: all normal. Footages for week: Melbourne gallery, 61'-0", Berlin Adit prob. 80'-0", Larchwood Junction 89' 1", No gallery 47' 0", Infantry subway, 67' 0" Australian dugouts, 14' 9".</p>	
	22	7am.	Listening: all posts report nothing beyond surface noises.	
	23	7am.	Only post reporting noise is 'a' gallery - solid hammering on bumping with sounds as of earthwork.	



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L. 837

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FEBRUARY				
POPERINGHE SH. 28 GIIA. 63	24	7am.	<p>Enemy blew a camouflaged at 5.25 am. today evidently from a crater, 2 listeners at 6 &amp; 8 A.P. Shaken nobody seriously hurt, little damage to workings, no gas.</p> <p>'a' post &amp; 'b' post heard knocking noises which are distant &amp; thought not to be mining.</p>	
	25	7am.	<p>'a' post reports distinct sounds of bumping &amp; sawing timber</p> <p>'b' post occasional bumping noises, distant and above.</p>	
	26	7am.	<p>'b' post knocking sounds for 1 hour. 'a' knocking at infrequent intervals. Remainder all quiet.</p>	
	27	7am.	<p>'b' &amp; 'a' posts distant knocking sounds occasionally.</p> <p>Stood-to, doors closed etc. No attack.</p>	

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FEBRUARY				
POPERINGHE SH. 28 GILAGB.	28	7am.	<p>'L' gallery quiet except for occasional distant knocking. 'A' gallery occasional distant knocking &amp; nail driving to the right &amp; above. Footages for week: Anzac 22' 6" Melbourne gallery 86' 4", Berlin Adit ent. 46' 2" Larchwood 17' 8" 'L' gallery 25' 0", 'D' right 25' 6", Poeta 14' 3", Infantry subway 39' 8" 26 L.P. 47' 0".</p>	
MARCH				
	1	7am.	Noises distant only at 15 & 24 L.P. 1 man killed.	
	2	7am.	Leads tested: all normal. Distant work reported from 12, 13, 17 & 20 L.P. "A" poss distant knocking.	
	3	7am.	"A" gallery distant, indefinite noises. Distant work in front of L.P. 12 & 17.	

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