

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

Water Supply & Stores

**Item number:** 21/1/7

**Title:** Australian Corps Water Supply  
Officer

August 1918



AWM4-21/1/7

309

R.20,000-5/18-11069.

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.

~~DUPLICATE.~~

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**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*Water Supply.*

FOR

*August* 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

*J. W. Lawson*  
maj a/c.

Signature of Officer Commanding

*C. F. ...*  
CE Aus Corps

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.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	August 1918 1st-30th ctd.		<p>At BAYONVILIERES a power CHAINE HELICE pump was put in at a well in square, and at HARBONNIERES a Band pump driven by a Petter engine was installed.</p> <p>A steam pumping plant was found in ROZIERES and put into operation by 1st Aust. Div. Engineers.</p> <p>Work was started to put in action an old French military Horse water line from MORCOURT to HARBONNIERES, and also to provide a point at MARCELCAVE SUCERIE. Owing to the rapidity of the advance these schemes were not gone far with - but abandoned.</p> <p>A Corps Bath was established at FOUILLOY 0.17.a. and fed from VILLERS BRETTONEUX supply.</p> <p>At CERISY an Isler pump was repaired and a new engine fixed to supply stand pipe and D. &amp; B. Filler.</p> <p>At SAILLY LAURETTE a spring previously used was cleaned out and a Guy &amp; Mittal fixed to supply water carts direct.</p> <p>The advance now became more rapid and water supply was dealt with in three ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Pumps and windlasses were erected at all useful wells with short lengths of horse trough.</li> <li>(2) Water trains were supplied to carry water by light railway to the places short of natural supply.</li> <li>(3) Sterilizing lorries were placed where water had to be drawn from stagnant supplies.</li> </ol> <p>As opportunity permitted stations to be developed and power plant installed at the following: LA FLAQUE ( captured German plant repaired ) 2 standpipes, 72' of Horse trough, D &amp; B Filler. RAINECOURT damaged plant repaired. 36' of horse trough, one standpipe and drinking supply. FROISY all intact. Merryweather was found and worked to supply water trains.</p> <p>At BRAY a Pelaphone set was installed with 2300 gallon storage to supply 2 standpipes and D &amp; B Filler. Power plant was also installed at FOUCOUCOURT, Tangye engine and Isler pump, 2300 gallon storage, 2 standpipes, 72' of horse trough and D. &amp; B. Filler- and at ESTREES, Petter engine and BAND Pump, 400 gallon storage, 32' horse trough and standpipe.</p> <p>At BARLEUX bore was found undamaged and 9000 gallon storage arranged on ground filled by compressor lorry and 2 hand pumps to supply 36' water troughs and water carts.</p> <p>Sterilizing lorries were placed at MERICOURT, CAPPY, SUZANNE and later at FEUILLIERES.</p> <p>From 17th August to 1st September the Corps Water Supply Officer was on leave and during his absence Lieut. A. J. Healey R.E. acted for him. Lieut. Healey rendered excellent service and the results obtained were extremely satisfactory.</p>	

*J. W. Lawson  
Maj. W. S.O.  
Aust Corps*

22-9-18

WAR DIARY

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	AUGUST.1918. 1st to 30th.		<p>The work during this month was of exceptional interest - owing to a rapid advance - Instructions were received early in the month to prepare for an advance - and steps were taken accordingly. A large supply was required on main road near VILLIERS BRETTONEUX as initial supply for troops taking part in the offensive. No suitable service was available in the vicinity so a scheme was prepared for a supply from a spring at FORT MANOR FARM ( sheet 62D. S.6.b.8.8.) and a 4" pipe line forward.- When this proposal was under consideration Army asked that a branch be given to the Canadian Corps ( who were on our right) and this was done. The 238 A.T.Coy were given instructions to proceed with the work. The daily rate of pipe laying is of interest and exceeds anything done in this Corps up to date :</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>August.2nd.</td> <td>Work commenced.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" 3rd.</td> <td>1200 yards laid.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" 4th.</td> <td>1800    "    "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" 5th.</td> <td>2100    "    "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" 6th.</td> <td>2800    "    "</td> </tr> </table> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">4    )    <u>7900</u></p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">1975    or 1.12 miles per day.</p> <p>Water was available both in our own area and in Canadian Corps Area on night of 8th inst. The pumping plant consisted of two Aster Boving sets each capable of delivering 5000 galls per day against a head of 500 feet. Two storage tanks of 8000 gallons capacity each were erected and a large waterpoint at 62d/O.25.c.3.3. consisting of three standpipes, Dixie and Bottle Filler and 72 feet of horse troughing erected at this point.</p> <p>As the advance proceeded it became possible to locate the old sources of supply and the first point was at the old Aerodrome at 62d/P.25.d.9.1. forward of VILLIERS BRETTONEUX, where the old bore was found to have been very slightly damaged - repairs were effected , a temporary tank placed on the ground and water discharged therein by means of a compressor lorry.- Afterwards an overhead tank was erected and a waterpoint consisting of two standpipes, Dixie and Bottle Filler and Horse Trough erected.</p> <p>A bore, 8" diameter was put down at WARFUSEE and a 3000 per hour pumping set,- 1-8000 gallon tank - 2 standpipes, D &amp; B Filler and two 72' lengths of Horse Troughing erected.</p>	August.2nd.	Work commenced.	" 3rd.	1200 yards laid.	" 4th.	1800    "    "	" 5th.	2100    "    "	" 6th.	2800    "    "	
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