

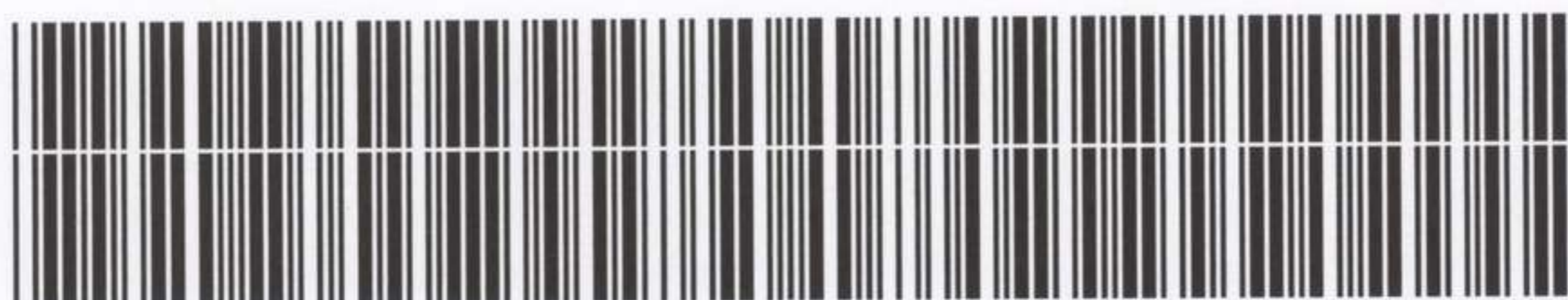
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Engineers

Item number: 14/36/28 Part 1

Title: 1st Field Squadron, Australian
Engineers

September 1918



AWM4-14/36/28PART1



CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL. ✓
DUPLICATE. ✓
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY



SEPTEMBER. 1918

Signature of Officer compiling *J. Brown Capt.*

Signature of Officer Commanding *J. Brown Capt. for A. Max Allen Major, C.M.G.*



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.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	September Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS.	
Camped	1st.		Cutting & threading bolts. Carted sand & water to No 2 Bridge — also No 3. Removed unserviceable reservoir & commenced to erect new one.	
JERICHO BG	2nd		Carted stone & water to Nos 2 & 3 Bridges. Completed reservoir at watering area. Drew 50 camels & handed over ^{with RE stores} to guides from NZ & 1st Bde. Repaired showers & made small notice-board for same.	
2nd Ed 1/40000				
H34. b. s.w.	3rd		Made iron straps for Bridge — Repaired limber & G.S. wagon. Threaded bolts.	
	4th		Repaired typewriter cover for DHQ. Carted water, stone & cement to bridges.	
	5th		Made notice-boards — camouflaged tents — Drew limber from TEL-ES-SULTAN	
	9th		Repaired watering area fence — Erected cover over engine.	
	10th		Carted sand, cement, stone (& limber from RE Park, JERICHO) to Nos 2 & 3 bridges. Made straps for hand-rails for No 2 Bridge. Made Ice Chest for DHQ Officers' Mess — also petrol-tin clamp. Made notice-boards.	
	11th		Erected shelter for Provost Corps, DHQ. Repaired seat for Officers' Mess. Overhauled & repaired pumps. Carted stone & water to Bridges.	
	12th		Carted stone & water to bridges. 1/4 R to RE Park & DADOS to repair tank & fanati's.	
	13th		Sand & stone to No 3 Bridge — Repaired showers — overhauled limbers. 1/4 R on road repairs (exchanged). 1/2 Limber at Workshop (repairs) JERICHO.	
	14th		Water & stones to No 3 Bridge. 1/4 R to supervise loading of defence material & guide Tractor to destination. 1/4 R on road work — Limber, 4 horses & 2 drivers to NZ Troop for duty. Repairs to seat.	
	15th		Carted stone to No 3 bridge, water to No 2. Sent G.S wagon to H.Q.	

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	September Date 1918	Hour	SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS. (cont'd) Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	16 th		1 st Battalion B.W.I. Drew cement & explosives from RE Park. 2 ^o /R on road work. 1 ^o /R guiding Tractor. Repairs to stationery-box for ADMS. Carted stone, water & cement to No 3 Bridge. Made notice-boards for NZ Troop. Sent G.S wagon to JERICHO to collect timber & re-inforcements.	
	17 th		Sent G.S wagon to RE Park to collect defence material. Carted sand & cement to No 3 Bridge. Repaired iron knees for bridge. Made map-screen for DHQ.	
	18 th		Made iron brackets for DHQ motors & 1 chest. Moved horse-lines to safe place on account of shell fire — work interfered with from same cause.	
	19 th		Made notice-boards — Sent limbers to bridges to collect tools, also to RE Park for stores — Overhauled limbers & watering gear. Cross for RHA.	
	20 th	21 st	Loaded Limbers and prepared to move.	
	22 nd		Left JERICHO and crossed the JORDAN. bivouaced ES SALT 2 nd Ed 1/63360. 127. Q. 34. a.	
	23 rd		On trek all day — Repaired roads between JERICHO & ES-SALT — Camped near ES-SALT*. Sapper WALGERS to Hospital. * 127. J. 27. c.	
	24 th		Made arrangements for drinking water & left ES-SALT at 2130.	
	25 th		Arrived at AMMAN 0515 — moved onto Railway Station. Sap JACKSON to Hosp. ^l	
	26 th		Overhauled captured water-supply & plant. Erected 3 pumps complete.	
	27 th		Made & erected notice-boards. Buried 5 dead horses & 1 NZ horse.	
	28 th		Made & erected notice-boards at watering area. — Collected captured explosives. Commenced erecting wooden trough. 2 ^o /R on road repairs with Lt BALE.	
	29 th		2 ^o /R running captured water-supply plant. Filled in Latrines. Completed & erected wooden trough at watering area. Made cross for DHQ. Repaired fence round Camp. 1 ^o /R on duty with C.O.	

(A7092). Wt. W12859/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	September 1918		SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS (cont'd)	
	30th		30/R repairing railway line. Collected remainder of captured explosives Procured buffers & draw-bars for Locomotives - 20/R on repairs to railway trolley. Loaded rails for repairs to line - Erected gyn and pulled horse out of well. Fitted Lamp-brackets to motor-car for DHQ.	
JERICHO BG 140000			2000* Road work consisting of soleing & metalling was completed under the supervision of Lt BAILE with ELC. location H.G.a. & Y30 C, Y30 a. & Y24 C. on ROMAN Road. - Lt STOEKS supervised soleing, metalling & rolling with oil & steam rollers section of New Motor Road from K9 b. SE. through 3.d, 3 b, 4 a, H34.d. in all 2700*. - Completed the erection of the 2 stone, steel & wood bridges in squares H.29.d (Nº2) & H.23.d Nº3. & opened to all traffic. Sketches of these were forwarded with the diary for August.	
NIMRIN B7 & SALT C.7. 1st Ed.			On Es SALT - NIMRIN road at a point in Square M 22 B. G.I. the whole roadway on a steep sideland was blown away by the Turks to an average depth of 15'. Party got to work under O.C. & light motor traffic was enabled to pass in 4 hours & all CHAYTORS Force transport got through from a time 1 hour later. Temporary repairs were completed 12 hours after commencement sufficient to enable heavy Mechanical transport to pass. On 29th at AMMAN, Lt Lockington NZE commenced repairing captured locomotive engine.	

Necessary sketches will be included with Diary for October.

J. Brown Capt for Op 1st Field Squadron AE.

(A7092) Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

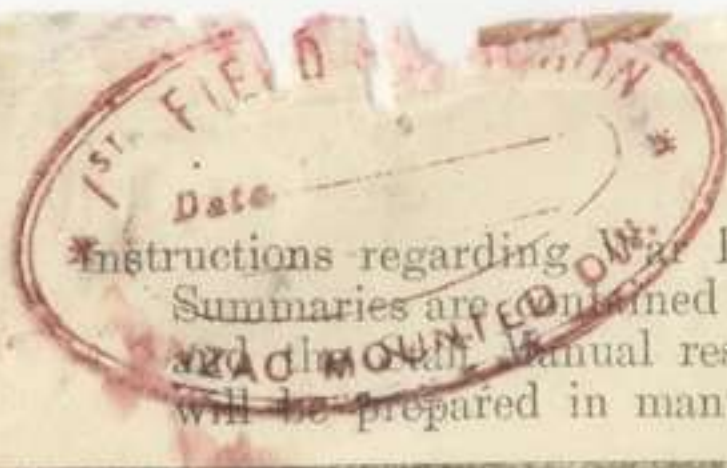
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	September Date 1918.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
JERICHO B6. 1/40000	1 st		"A" FIELD TROOP. 60 Men from 2 nd ALH Regt. employed on WASP POST, erecting wire entanglements & digging new Fire Trench. 30 men from 1 st Battalion BWI working on No 4 Post, THE BLUFF, digging Communication Trench and putting back-apron on existing wire fence. 20 men from 1 st BWI working on ABU TELLUL Left No 1 Post improving Communication Trench, sappers supervising.	
	2 nd to 4 th		50 Men from 2 nd ALH Regt. working on the defences on WASP POST. 50 men from 1 st Battalion BWI working on ABU TELLUL and THE BLUFF. 20 men from 3 rd ALH Regt working on a Battle Headquarters and Signal Station on ABU TELLUL Left, sappers supervising.	
	5 th		In addition to the usual parties working on the defences 35 men from the 3 rd ALH Regt. were employed on the Battle Headquarters on ABU TELLUL.	
	6 th		Shifted Camp from site in WADI OBEIDEH, JERICHO (B6) 1/40000 H 4 d, to H 27 c.	
	7 th		Erected 3 canvas troughs for use of 3 rd ALH Regt. and 1 st Machine Gun Squadron on WADI NUEIAMEH.	
	8 th		Lined wooden troughs in the Brigade area with canvas	
	9 th		Made 6 second class Figure Targets for the use of 2 nd ALH Regt.	
	10 th		Dismantled 3 canvas and 1 wooden trough in 3 rd ALH Regt. area, and erected 2 canvas & 1 wooden trough and one 2300 gallon reservoir on their camp site in JERICHO 1/40000 (B6) H 33 c.	
	11 th		Blacksmiths and Carpenters busy on repairs to Transport.	
	12 th		General Camp Routine and dubbing parade.	

Pt Brn Capt for Ofc
1st Field Squadron
AE

F

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

"A" FIELD TROOP (cont'd.)

Place	September Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	13 th to 19 th		Camp work & grazing. Making Crosses & repairing fanatis for Brigade. Making notice-boards for roads in Brigade area. Repairing Transport. Dubbing saddlery	
	20 th		Making preparations for moving.	
	21 st		Moved with Brigade to point Y 29c JERICHO (B6) 1/40,000.	
DAMIEH C. 6. 1/40000 U27a	22 nd		Moved to KHIRBET FUSAIL. Brigade watered at two troughs erected by NZ Engineers on Aqueduct from AIN FUSAIL.	
	23 rd		Moved with Brigade to ES SALT taking two pumps and troughs complete and explosives on pack horses — wagons taking the main road through JERICHO and crossing the river at GAORANIYEH Bridge.	
	24 th		Erected two troughs for Brigade on the WADI SHAIB at ES SALT. Moved to AIN HEMAR and prepared for the watering of the Brigade. AMMAN 3 rd Ed 1/63360. 142. O. 30. C. N. W.	
	25 th		Moved to AMMAN, bivouacking at the railway station. X 33. b	
	26 th		Erected 2 troughs and one drinking-water reservoir on the WADI AMMAN about half a mile north of the Station.	
	27 th		Repaired boiler on pumping plant at AMMAN Station.	
V 36 a + b.	28 th		Brigade moved to junction of WADI AMMAN and WADI HAMMAM. Erected one L&F pump for drinking-water, drawing the water direct from the spring. No troughs erected, as it is a good stream and the Brigade being scattered along it a distance of five miles.	
HEDJAZ line NORTH.	29 th		Went to SAMRA, overhauled & got Motor Locomotive in working order. Motor Loco. arrived at ZIRKA at 1800 & stayed the night. One truck with Turkish wounded & sick prisoners had to be left between SAMRA and ZIRKA.	
	30 th		Motor Loco. with one truck of Turkish wounded & sick prisoners arrived at AMMAN.	

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118 14.

John Capd for OTC
1st Field Squadron
AE



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	September Date 1918.	Hour	"B" FIELD TROOP.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CAMP JERICHO B6	1 st		Cleaned out sump and repaired sand-bag wall of same in WADI OBEIDEH, JERICHO 3B10.7. This area is, and has been, in good order. Two sappers reported to 6 th ALH Regt. for duty at GHORANIYEH Bridge Head. Regiment watering at Q2D8.3. (Horses.)		
Z 28 C 86	2 nd		Overhauled and repaired troughs at JERICHO 5B3.4, AUWA-MELLAHAH Junction. Repaired road crossing at JERICHO 4B98 which had become cut up, paving the ramp on either side with small stone. Put cover over drinking-water reservoir for 38 th Battalion near TOOL POST, X34 Central (C6) 2nd Ed.		
	3 rd		Cleaned out and put cover on 5 th Regt. drinking reservoir at J12A8.7. Repaired 13 fanatis for 38 th Battalion. Repaired limbers in anticipation of move.		
	4 th		Painted and printed two crosses for 2 nd MGS. Cleaned Camp site at Z28C8.6 and moved out at 1515. Arrived at N5A2.5. at 2100, having proceeded on East bank of JORDAN from AUWA Bridge-head to GHORANIYEH, thence S.W. to above place.		
	5 th to 6 th		Planned out and made new camp area. Commenced sand-bag emplacements for 4 troughs at N5A25, and drained out stagnant pools caused by Indian Cavalry washing at Spring HAJLAH in this area. Erected one trough for "B" Troop use.		
	7 th		Put down watering area for 7 th ALH Regt. at S2D24 to use in conjunction with two Indian Inf. Battalions. Saddlery Inspection.		
	8 th		Finished sandbag emplacements for troughs. Repaired same for, and erected, two 2300 gal. Reservoirs N5A25.		
	9 th		Put down troughs on emplacements finished on the 8 th (four in all) & overhauled pumps. Erected one pump near camp site & hosed all troop horses. Raised trough emplacements (which had settled at higher end) one sand-bag & cleaned out & re-erected the troughs. Cleaned out pipe line to N5B central (which leads surplus water from Spring to stone reservoirs at that point).		
			NOTE. During period erected 8 troughs, 4 reservoirs. Men detached: GHORANIYEH Bridge, one NCO 4 O/R (these handed over 1500 on 9-9-18, returned to unit 1500 10-9-18. JERICHO, one NCO, 2 O/R; 2 MGS — one NCO & 1 O/R, 6 th ALH — 2 O/R 10-9-18.		

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118 14.

Plum Capt for Op 1st Field Squadron AE



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	September Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	11 th		Overhauled Pumps & Dump equipment. Repaired fence round Watering Area No 1. Cleaned out Aqueduct at AIM HAJLA. Rifle Inspection.	
	12 th		Dismantled Troughs & cleaned out Concrete Reservoirs & made bathing pools for 5 th ALH Regt. One O/R repairing Fanatis at JERICHO, R.E. Park. Replaced two reservoirs at No 1 Area.	
	13 th		Erected pump & trough at No 2 Area. Repaired store for Field Ambulance. 1 Officer & 6 O/R reported to SHQ for duty swimming horses in JORDAN RIVER. Inspected GHORANIEH Watering Areas.	
	14 th		Made Ice-Chest for Brigade H.Q. — Overhauled pumps & hosing. Kit inspection.	
	15 th		Erected 2 troughs & pumps on sand-bag emplacements at No 5 Area, & one trough & pump on sand-bag emplacement at No 6 Area. Repaired pumps & hosing.	
	16 th		Repairing troughs & pumps. Overhauling Regimental Watering gear & Fanatis.	
	18 th		Repaired Aqueduct & pipe-line at No 1 Area. Made cross for 5 th LH Regt. and table for No 3 AIF Canteen. Examined all explosives & issued Regimental qotas.	
	19 th		Shifted Area Stores Dump to BHQ Dump at KUSR HAJLA, also all spare Troop gear.	
	20 th		Made 2 perch poles for 2 LHFA wagons. Repaired Water-bottle filling apparatus.	
	21 st		Dismantled, cleaned & re-erected troughs & drinking reservoirs at No 1 Area M5A95. Repaired 3 G.S. pumps, & stone pipe leading from AIM HAJLA to stone reservoirs M5B20.	
	22 nd		Received 3 mules from SHQ. Carted Area stores to Brigade dump at KUSR HAJLA.	
	23 rd		Packed up & moved out at 0800 with one half hour's notice, & arrived at Q3 Central 1130. Moved at 1530 to P21.C.4.3 with Bde Transport. 1 Officer & 5 O/R rejoined troop at Q3 Central. Watered transport from WADI NIMRIY. 5 O/R went forward with 2nd BHQ.	
	24 th		Left P21.C.4.3 at 0700. Marched continuously along road & reached ES SALT at 1800.	

1st Field Squadron
 ANZAC
 Captain [Name]
 1st Field Squadron RE

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
AMMAN 3 rd Ed. 1/6226 142. P. 20. b.	September 1918 25 th		"B" FIELD TROOP (cont'd) Moved at 0430 to SUWEILEH arriving at 0900. Watered at existing stone trough. Lt JONES went forward at 1200 to report to BHQ, AMMAN. Secured Watering Area at Y12A central, & camped there. Remainder of Troop moved at 1500 & arrived AMMAN at 2130 & camped with Brigade Transport.	
	26 th		Troop moved into 2 nd Brigade water area at 0630 in Y12A Central. Erected drinking-water reservoir & water-bottle apparatus from Aqueduct supplying Mill. Repaired 200 yds road in Y12A central. Lt JONES & 6/R left with one squadron 5 th Regt. to destroy portion of HEDJAZ railway line south of AMMAN. Damaged points at NESSIR station. Destroyed 1450 ft. of line at L23 & 150 ft. of line at N30	
	27 th		Erected 6 canvas troughs at AIN AMMAN (Y16 B9.8 and Y17A central). Shifted drinking-water reservoir from Y11 D3-1 to Y16 B8.8, obtaining very clear water from the AIN source. Besides 2 nd Bde, NZ, Artillery, Indian & other troops used this watering area.	
	28 th		Shifted Camp from Y17B central to Y9c central.	
	29 th		Surveyed and mapped out proposed new road running from watering area along N bank of Wadi in Westerly direction to Y9D central, thence N to Road No 4 to give 2 nd Bde access to Watering Area.	
ZIZA HEDJAZ LINE	30 th		Lt STOCKS and 10/R including 2 drivers with half-limber were sent to SEIZA Station to overhaul Locomotive Engines. This party arrived 1930 and reported to NZ Bde HQ. Made two crosses for 5 th ALH Regt.	

J. Brown Capt for 1st Field Squadron RE.

2



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	September 1918		NZ FIELD TROOP.	
CAMP. JERICHO B.G.	1 st		Watered Brigade — 2 1/2 overhauling pumps. 1 Officer & 3 1/2 wiring posts at AUJA with working party of 50.	
H.Q. 2 nd Ed.	1 st			
H 27 c.	1 st			
	1 st		One officer & 3 1/2 wiring. Eight 1/2 with 16 horses carting material for Battle Posts from JERICHO to AWA. Sgt. PETERSON on Road work with SHQ. JERICHO - AUJA Road & detached for duty.	
	1 st			
H 4 d.	5 th		Picked up water supply gear & moved to AUJA area. Took over area stores & water areas from "A" Troop. 1 1/2 detached for duty with WMR.	
	6 th		Put down water-supply gear to water Bde. along AUJA. 2 1/2 placed on dump of RE material	
	7 th		One 1/2 detached for duty with CMR. 2 Officers & 5 1/2 wiring posts with working parties. Lt LOCKINGTON marched in.	
	8 th		Shifted troughs at WMR water area, placing them under cover from fire.	
	10 th		Cleaned 8000 gal reservoir at AMR area — repaired troughs.	
	11 th - 13 th		Lt BALE & 2 1/2 detached for duty at SHQ. Carted water for ELC	
Y. 10. central.	14 th		Carted material for Battle Posts. 1 Officer & 7 1/2 constructing Battle Posts on AUJA line. Constructing tracks along AUJA. Brought explosives from JERICHO.	
	15 th		2 Officers & 8 1/2 on Battle Posts with working parties. Constructing 30x30 reservoir at AMR water area & 2300 gal. reservoir at BWI water area. Continued work on Battle Posts & wiring. Brought sign posts from SHQ.	
	16 th			
	18 th			
	19 th + 20 th		Brought troughs from SHQ. Handed over RE Dump to BWI guard. Ready to move.	
	21 st		Picked up water-supply gear & moved out at 1900 with Bde. Trekked to	

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M:293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118 14-

John Capt for 1st Field Squadron AE



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

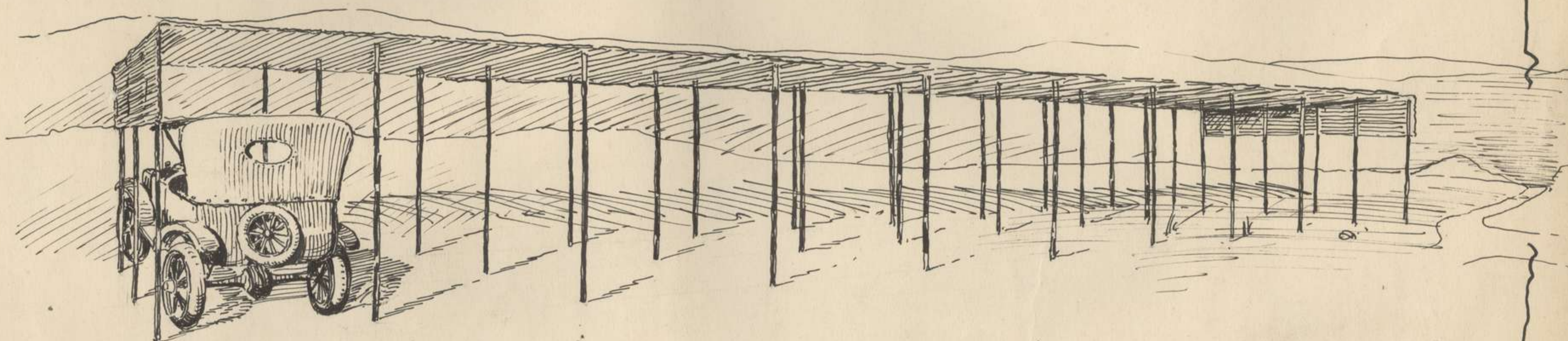
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	September 1918		NZ FIELD TROOP.	
DAMIEH CG 2 nd P. Coy 14000 U 29 a.	22 nd		FUSSAIL and bivouacked Put down 3 troughs at FUSSAIL and watered various units. 1 Officer & 2 O/R joined Bde — remainder of troop with 1 st Line Transport.	
	23 rd		Watered animals & supplied drinking-water at FUSSAIL. Picked up gear at 1800 & moved to Obeideh.	
	24 th		Moved off with Transport at 0500 & trekked to NIMRIN. NIMRIN-ESSALT 14000 Composite.	
AMMAN 3 rd E 143260 122 D. 30 C.	25 th		Moved off 0130 & trekked to HEMAR. Put down trough to water transport animals.	
	26 th		Trekked to AMMAN. Joined Bde & put down 4 troughs, supplied from running stream — also bottle-filler, & pump for carts supplied from spring.	
	27 th -28 th		Watered & pumped for Bde. Repairing Locomotive at AMMAN Station. Made crosses.	
	29 th		Picked up gear at 1500 & moved south with Brigade. 1 Officer & 5 O/R remained at AMMAN repairing Locomotive.	
	30 th		1 Officer & 7 O/R with 1/2 limber & water supply gear moved off with Brigade at 0130 & trekked to EL KASTAL. Put down 2 troughs & watered Brigade. AMMAN 3 rd E 143260. 143. X 10. 10 C. at Ancient Birket Ziga. Remainder in bivouack with Transport.	

John Capt for O/C
1st Field Squadron

10

D.M.Q ANZAC MTD DIV.
GARAGE TO HOUSE 10 CARS

Constructed of BAMBOO Sticks.
and BORDEE MATTING.



1ST F. S. Engrs.
ANZAC MTD DIV.

W.H.G.
1918

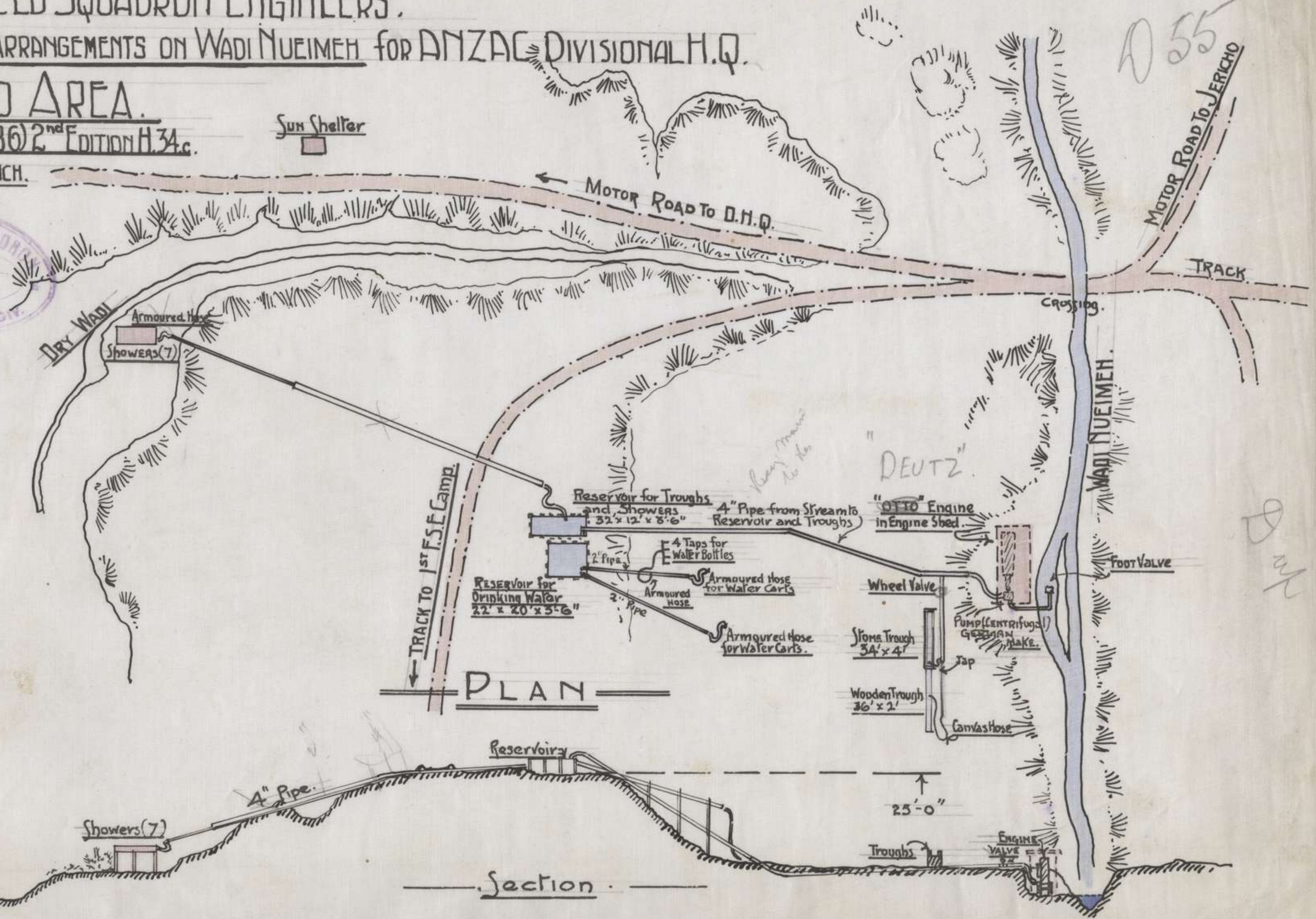
==

A & N. Z. FIELD SQUADRON ENGINEERS.
 WATERING ARRANGEMENTS ON WADI NUEIMEH FOR ANZAC DIVISIONAL H.Q.

JERICHO AREA.

Map JERICHO (B6) 2nd EDITION H. 34.c.

SCALE 24' = 1. INCH.



PLAN

Section

WAG
22.9.18.

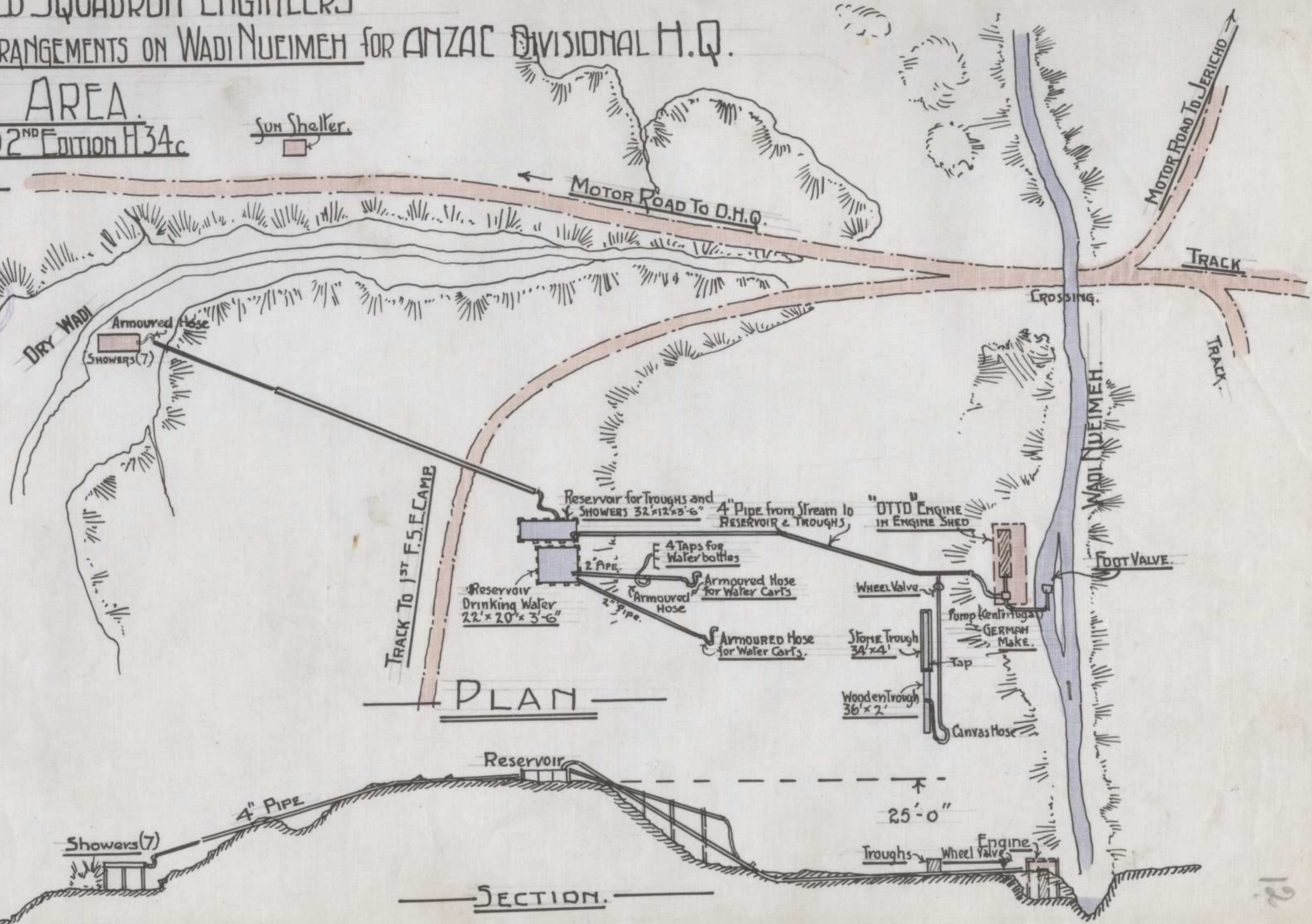
A & N.Z. FIELD SQUADRON ENGINEERS

WATERING ARRANGEMENTS ON WADI NUEIMEH FOR ANZAC DIVISIONAL H.Q.

JERICHO AREA.

Map JERICHO (B6) 2ND EDITION H 34c

SCALE 24' = 1 INCH



W.H.G.
23/1/18

12