

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

Tunnelling & Survey

Item number: 16/5/16

Title: Australian Corps Topographical
Section

May 1918



AWM4-16/5/16

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CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.

DUPLICATE.

TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

Australian Corps Topographical Section

FOR

May 191*F.*

Signature of Officer compiling

Sturman H

Signature of Officer Commanding

Sturman H

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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~~ AUSTRALIAN CORPS TOPOGRAPHICAL SECTION.

(Erase heading not required.)

Month of May 1918.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BERTANGLES. (cont'd).			<p><u>Improvements made to Appliances and Organisation during month.</u></p> <p>1/3" Theodolite lent by Fourth Army Maps for general use. A proposal was submitted to B.G.G.S. AUSTRALIAN Corps by G.S.O. II Intelligence, AUST. Corps during month for formation of an AUSTRALIAN Corps Intelligence Company of 93 Officers and 733 Other Ranks. This formation was intended to include the "Topographical Company" as outlined in Appendix attached to War Diary for March 1918. Copy of proposed organisation attached.</p> <p><u>Record of Daily Strengths, Casualties, etc.</u></p>	
VILLERS BOCAGE.	1/5/18.		2 Officers. 22 O/Ranks.	} <u>Including all attached personnel.</u>
	5/5/18.		2 Officers. 23 O/Ranks.	
BERTANGLES.	11/5/18.		2 Officers. 23 O/Ranks.	
	18/5/18.		2 Officers. 24 O/Ranks.	
	25/5/18.		2 Officers. 24 O/Ranks.	
	1/6/18.		2 Officers. 25 O/Ranks.	
			No evacuations or casualties.	
			No other entries for May.	

H. Buchanan D
Off. Aust. Corps Topo. Section

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WAR DIARY

OF

Australia Corps Topographical Section

FOR

May 191*5*

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

- ✓ 1. Statement of Special Maps produced during month. Copies of Maps of use for War Roads cannot yet be sent to London as they are required for reference here.
- ✓ 2. Copy of proposed organisation of Australian Corps Intelligence Coy.
(with original only)

LIST OF SPECIAL MAPS PRODUCED BY AUSTRALIAN CORPS TOPOGRAPHICAL SECTION

MONTH OF MAY, 1918.

Section Map No.	Nature of job.	Type	Scale	Description	Sheet prod. on	No. of copies	For	Remarks
648	Litho	Intell.	1/20000	VAUX Bases	-	1150	General use	
608	Litho	Opns	1/20000	QUERRIEU (Trench Map)	-	50	G. Secret.	Reprints
649	Litho	Intell.	1/20000	AVELUY Bases	-	500	Genl use	
650	Ellams Dup.	Intell.	1/20000	SAILLY LAURETTE Bases.	-	600	2nd Div.	
651	do	Intell.	1/20000	Message Map No.3	-	300	4th Div.	
652	Litho	Intell.	1/20000	AVELUY Trench Map	Aveluy	350	Distrbn	Secret.
653	Litho	Intell.	1/40000	Situation Map 1-5-18	Corbie	150	Distrbn	
583	Litho	Admin.	1/100000	TALMAS		150	Office use	Reprints
654	Ellams	Intell.	1/40000	AUBIGNY Bases		300	5th Div.	
655	Litho	Intell.	1/20000	VAUX Trench Map	Vaux	400	Distbn	Secret
656	Litho	Opns	1/40000	Lines of Defence	Corbie	300	Disbn	Secret.
581	Ellams	Intell.	1/40000	MORLANCOURT		300	Genl use	Reprints
657	Sunprint	Opns	-	Caves and cellars at Warloy	-	3	B.G.G.S.	
658	Hand	Opns	1/40000	Aust. Corps Boundaries	62D	3	G.	
659	Hand	Opns	1/20000	Copy of Master Map C Div. Area	62D NE	1	III Corps	To hand over
660	Hand	Opns	1/20000	Machine Guns in Corps Area	(Heilly (Vaux, Contay (Daours Corbie	6 170	G	
661	Litho	Intell.	1/40000	Situation Map 7-5-18.	Contay	450	Distrbn	
662	Litho	Opns	1/20000	Contay Trench Map	Contay	450	do	Secret
663	Litho	Intell.	1/40000	Hostile shelling 28-4-18 - 4-5-18	Sh. 1/40000	80	do	
664	Hand	Intell.	1/20000	Bombing targets	(Heilly, (Dernancourt (Vaux	1	Iga.	
665	Hand	Admin.	1/40000	Aust. Corps Area 8-5-18	62D & 62E	3	A.	
666	Litho	Intell.	1/20000	Heilly Trench Map	Heilly	450	Distrbn	Secret
667	Hand	Admin.	1/40000	Maps shewing sub-areas administered by Area Commandants	62D	11	A	
668	Hand	Opns	1/20000	Dugouts in Corps Area	(Contay, (Daours, (Heilly, Vaux	1	G.	
669	Ellams	Opns		Sketch showing markings on British Tanks		30	G	
670	Litho	Opns	1/20000	Daours Trench Map	Daours	450	Distrbn	Secret
671	Litho	Admin.	1/40000	Aust. Corps Area 13-5-18.	(Sh. 62E & (spl. 1/40000	100	A.	
672	Litho	Intell.	1/40000	Hostile shelling 5-5-18 - 11-5-18	Spl 1/40000	.80	Distrbn	
673	Litho	Intell.	1/20000	Target Map	Vaux	250	Distrbn.	
674	Hecto.	Opns	1/40000	Corps Boundaries 13-5-18	62D	30	G.	

Section Map No.	Nature of job.	Type	Scale	Description.	Sheet. prod.on	No. of copies	For	Remarks
675	Ellams Dup.	Intell.	1/20000	Malard Wood	-	300	2nd A.Div.	
676	Hand	Admin.	1/40000	Traffic routes	Talmas	36	A.	
677	Ellams Dup.	Operns	1/40000	Infantry Dispositions 14-5-18	62.D.	28	G	secret
678	Roneo.	Admin.	-	Sketch of solder reducer	-	80	Q	
679	Hand	Admin.	1/40000	Medical Arrangements Australian Corps.	spl.1/40000.	1	A.D.M.S.	
680	Hectog.	Admin.	1/100000	do do do do	Talmas	12	A.D.M.S.	
681	Litho.	Intell.	1/20000	Target Map.	Aveluy	300	Distribn.	
682	Ellams Dup.	Intell.	1/20000	Copy of captured German Map shewing dispositions of 237 I.R.	-	146	I.g.a.	attd to Int. Summy.
683	Hand	Admin.	1/100000	Australian Corps Area 15-5-18.	Talmas	2	A	
684	Hand	Operns.	1/40000	Dispositions of Aust. Troops 26-4-18 -28-4-18	62.D.	1	G	for records
685	Litho.	Operns.	1/40000	Infantry Dispositions 19-5-18	62.D.	28	G	secret
686	Hand	Operns.	1/20000	M.G. Positions and dug-outs in Corps Area 19-5-18.	(Helly (Daours, Vaux, Contay.	5	G	secret
687	Ellams Dup.	Admin.	1/7500	Sketch plan of Bertangles.	-	50	Camp Cdt.	
688	Ellams Dup.	Operns.	1/20000	Barrage map 18-5-18 (attack on VILLE-sur-ANCRE)-	-	100	2nd Div.	
689	Litho.	Intell.	1/20000	Target Map.	Cerisy	400	Distribn.	
690	Litho.	Intell.	1/40000	Situation map 19-5-18.	Corbie	170	do	
691	Hand	Intell.	1/100000	Allied front line from ARRAS to NOYON.	reg.issues	1	Liaison Offr.	
692	Litho	Intell.	1/40000	Hostile shelling 12-5-18 - 18-5-18.	spl.1/40000	80	Distribn.	
693	Hand	Intell.	1/20000	Probable shell-hole Ammunition dumps.	(62.D. N.E. (62.D. S.E.	12	do	
694	Hand	Operns.	1/20000	Chart shewing tours of duty of Aust.Divs	-	3	G	
695	Hand	Operns.	1/20000	Tracing of trenches near Bertangles.	-	1	C.R.E., G.H.Q. Defences	
696	Ellams Dup.	Intell.	1/40000	Probable shell-hole Ammunition dumps.	(Morlancourt	350	Distribn.	
697	Litho	C.E.	1/40000	Water supply Aust. Corps	(Cachy. Bertangles	120	W.S.O.	
698	Litho	Intell.	1/20000	Ville-sur-Ancre Bases	-	350	Genl.use	
699	Hand	Operns	1/40000	Artillery positions for 2nd and 3rd zones.	62.D.	1	B.G.G.S.	secret
700	Hand	Intell.	1/100000	British front line 21-5-18.	(layered (1/100000	1	B.G.G.S.	
701	Hand	Admin.	1/100000	Traffic Routes 21-5-18.	Talmas	36	A	
702	Litho.	Intell.	1/20000	New Enemy work up to 19-5-18.	(Ville-sur-Ancre. Vaux.	250	Distribn.	
703	Litho.	Intell.	1/20000	New Enemy work up to 19-5-18.	Vaux.	250	do	
704	Ellams Dup.	Operns	-	Sketch shewing proposed method of camouflaging Batty positions.	-	30	G.b.	
705	Litho.	Intell.	1/20000	Cerisy Trench Map.	Cerisy.	250	Distribn.	

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APPENDIX / 5

Section Map No.	Nature of job	Type	Scale	Description	Sheet prod.on	No. of copies	For	Remarks
706	Hand	Operns	1/20000	Copies of Divs Master Maps	62D SE & NE	2	Army & G.	
707	Litho	Operns	1/40000	Infantry Dispositions 25-5-18	62D	25	G. Secret.	
708	Litho	Intell.	1/40000	Situation Map 25-5-18	Spl 1/40000	130	Distrbn	
709	Hand	Oprns	-	Chart showing schools	-	1	Gt.	
710	Hectogr.	Intell.	1/20000	Copy of captured German maps showing barrage fire 199th Div.	62D NE	11	I.	
711	Hand	Oprns	1/20000	Dugouts in Corps Area	Daours, Contay.	12.	Gt.	
712	Hand	Admin.	1/40000	Reserve Ration Points	62D SW	1	B.G.G.S.	
713	Hand	Operns	1/10000	Tracing showing defences of Villers Bretonneux	-	1	B.G.G.S. Secret.	
714	Hand	Intell.	1/20000	Copy of captured German Map showing scheme of attack on BOUZINCOURT, HENENCOURT, etc.	Senlis.	14	I.	
715	Hectogr.	Intell.	1/20000	Copy of captured German Map showing annihilating fire on 199th Div. front.	Senlis	11	I	
716	Litho	Intell.	1/40000	Hostile shelling 19-5-18 - 25-5-18	Spl 1/40000	80	Distrbn	
717	Ellams Dup.	Intell.	1/250000	German offensive in Champagne.	-	300	do	
718	Litho.	Operns	1/40000	Lines of Communication (signals) Austz Corps.	Bertangles	80	Corps Sig. Coy.	
719	Litho.	Operns.	-	Circuit diagram (signals)	-	80	do do do	
720	Litho.	Intell.	1/40000	Situation Map 29-5-18.	Spl. 1/40000	125	Distribn.	
721	Litho.	Operns.	1/20000	Contay Defence Map Ed. 2.	Contay.	241	do	
722	Litho.	Intell.	1/40000	Artillery information Map.	62.D.	50	B.G.G.S.	
723	Hand	Operns.	-	Sketch tracing of collapsible tripod for Lewis Guns.	-	1	G.T.	
724	Ellams Dup.	Intell.	1/40000	Ribemont. Bases.	-	300	Genl use	
725	Hand	Operns	1/100000	Area near RUE.	-	4	G.T.	
726	Hand	Operns	1/20000	New work British since 5-5-18.	-	4	Army.	
727	Hand	Operns	1/380160	British front line 21-5-18.	Belgium & N.E. France	1	B.G.G.S.	
728	Hand	Operns	1/250000	British front line 31-5-18.	Regular sheets	1	G.	

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AUSTRALIAN CORPS INTELLIGENCE COMPANY

The following organisation is proposed.

Formation	Ia Section			Ib. Section			Topographical Section					Total					
	Off. NCOs	Observers Ptes	Germ. Spk	Clerks NCOs.O.	Off. NCOs	Intell. Pol. Ptes	Off. NCO	Draftsmn Spr	Topogr. NCOs	Spr	Others NCOs	Spr	Off.	O.Rs			
Corps Hqrs.	4			3		1	6	6	2	6	4	2	1	3	2	7	33
(Bch Intell. Subsection	1			1	1					2						1	4
Hvy Arty Subsection										1	1	1					3
Army Arty Bdes										3							3
5 Div. Sections each	16	16	80	15					1	5	20	1	1			85	690
																93	733

APPENDIX

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Distribution as follows :-

<u>Corps Headquarters.</u>	Officers	Addns to pres. Estab.	Carried supply to W.E.	Actual Increase
Commandant	G.S.O. 11 Intelligence (not included in W.E.)			
C.O.				
1st Intell. Off.	1			
2nd Intell. Off.	1			
Supy " "	1			
P.O.W. Cage	1			
Ech Intell. Off.	1			
Topographical Offrs	2			
Ib. off.	1			
	<u>8 Officers</u>			
<u>Other Ranks</u>				
Ia Section	Clerks	Sgts	1	
		Cpl	1	
	C.Q.M.S.		1	
Ib Section	Intell.	Sgts	4	
	Police	Cpls	2	
		Ptes	6	
<u>Topographical Section</u>				
H.Q. subsection	Draftsmen	W.O. Cl.2	1	
		Sgts	2	
		Cpls	3	
		Sprs	4	
	Topographers	W.O. Cl.1	1	
		Cpl	1	
		Spr	1	
	Litho Printers	Sgt	1	
		Cpl	1	
	Clerks	Cpl	1	
	Orderlies	Spr	2	
<u>Branch Intelligence Subsection.</u>				
	Draftsmen	Sgt	1	
		L/Cpl	1	
	Clerk	Cpl	1	
	Orderly	Pte	1	
<u>Heavy Arty Subsection</u>				
	Draftsman	Spr	1	
	(with Aust. Sge Bde)			
	Topographers	Sgt	1	
		Spr	1	
	(for resection of Hvy Arty Bty positions at present done by F.S. Cos.)			
<u>Army Arty Brigades :</u>				
	Draftsmen for Bde H.Q.	Spr	1	
<u>Each Divisional Section</u>				
Division H.Q.	Ia Intelligence Officer		1	
	Observers	Sgts	1	
		Ptes	5	
	German Speakers	Ptes	3	
	Topo. Topo Officer		1	
	Topographers	Sgt	1	
		Spr	1	
	Draftsmen	W.O. Cl.2	1	
		Cpl	1	
		Sprs	2	

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	Addns to pres. W.E.	Carried supp.to W.E.	Actual Increase.
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Divisional sections

D.A. H.Q.	Topo Draftsman		
	Spr	1	
	Intell. Offr.	1	

<u>Inf. Bde H.Q.</u>	<i>Intelligence off.</i>	1	
	Topo Draftsman	Cpl	1
		Spr	1
	Ia observers	Cpl	1
		Ptes	5

Arty Bde H.Q.
 Topo Draftsman Spr 1
 (Army Bdes included with Corps H.Q.)

Battalion H.Q.

Ia Intelligence Off.		1	
Observers	Cpl	1	
	Ptes	5	
German Speakers	Pte	1	
Topo Draftsman	Spr	1	