

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

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/15/5

**Title:** 3rd Australian Pioneer Battalion

March 1917



AWM4-14/15/5

ORIGINAL

## 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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917			
ARMENTIERES	1/3		No. 559, Sergeant WHITE J.T., "B" Company. Slightly wounded to Hospital. Shell shaken. <i>M.</i>	
	3/3		No. 1135, L/Corpl. DADDS F.P., "D" Company. Shell wound in head. To Hospital. <i>M.</i>	
	4/3		No. 1241, Private. RIDLEY W.P. "D" Company. Bullet in leg below knee. <i>M.</i>	
	4/3		2nd/Lieut. MANDERS F. A. "C" Company. Killed in action. <i>M.</i>	
	12/3		On the evening of 12th March 1917, a hat was found on the bank of the canal in this vicinity, with "S. BROWN" marked on the inside. As there was an S. BROWN in "B" Coy. of this Battln., the O.C. of that Company ordered a Muster Parade to be held, at which it was found that No. 1508, Private S. BROWN was missing. Draining operations were commenced in the vicinity in which the hat was found, but owing to the darkness, had to be abandoned until the following morning, 13th. On resuming the dragging of the canal the following day (13th) the body of Pte. BROWN was recovered. A Court of Inquiry was appointed, which established the body recovered from the Canal as that of Pte. S. BROWN, and submitted a Finding that death was due to "Accidental Drowning". <i>M.</i>	
	13/3		While dragging the Canal in this vicinity for the body of Pte. S. BROWN, a bicycle (No. C.48) was recovered at Sheet 30 N.W. EXXX.C.19.d.0-3. This is the number of the bicycle ridden by the late 2nd/Lieut. F.N. SIMPSON, when last seen alive. The Court of Inquiry which reported on the disappearance etc. of this Officer, was re-assembled, and established this bicycle as the one which 2nd/Lieut. F.N. SIMPSON had in his possession at the time he met his death. (See War Diary for month of January 1917, submitted by this Unit) <i>M.</i>	
	15/3		No. 901, Corpl. STRICKLAND P.L., "C" Company, Wounded. Shrapnel in the head. <i>M.</i>	
	19/3		No. 1505, Pte. BRADFORD W.G., "B" Company "Killed in Action-"; This N.C.O. and man were at the time of casualties, engaged on special secret work with "I" Company, R.I. <i>M.</i>	
			No. 559, Sgt. WHITE J.T. do "Wounded"	
	22/3		At At 235 p.m., a fire broke out in cupola on tower of <sup>H.O.</sup> billets. was extinguished at 4 p.m. <i>M.</i>	

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARMENTIERES.	1917. 27/5		No. 1857, rte. CORRY J., "D" Coy., Slightly wounded. Flesh wound. Srapnel in arm. (A)	
	28/5		No. 1155, L/Cpl. DADDS F.P. "D" Coy., Died of wounds. received 5/5/1917. (A)	
	30/5		2nd/Lieut. Victor Grey BARNDEN, "D" Coy., Shell splinter right arm near shoulder. (A)	

WORK TABLE FOR 3RD AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION, A.I.F., FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1917. (AVERAGE DAY'S WORK).

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OFFICERS, O.R.	NATURE OF WORK.
3	150 Cleaning out, repairing and constructing Trench drains on Divisional Front.
1	30 Making Heavy Trench Mortar Emplacements, SS.88, FUSILIER.
2	70 Repairing, revetting and generally maintaining Communication trenches, LEITH, COWGATE, HAYSTACK, QUEEN, JAPAN, FLANK, CENTRAL, IOTHIAN, PORT EGLE and BUTERN AVENUES, WESTRALIA WALK & BYRNES BOULEVARDE.
2	100 Working on railway construction outside Divisional Area (WEST CARPEL).
1	50 Constructing, repairing and generally maintaining Trench Tram Lines on D ivisional Front.
2	96 On Special Secret work with "L" Coy. R.E.
1	46 building Hutments L'EPINETTE and A110 Central.
1	15 Working at Saw Mill making A frames, nore troughs, Drain boxes and Revetting frames, etc.
2	56 Repairing ad making M.G. Emplacements (INNER DEFENCES).
1	46 General Transport for Battalion.
1	20 Repairing shell holes in roads and generally maintaining same.
1	16 Regimental Police under Provost Sergt.
1	16 Signallers working as Runners, etc.
1	24 Lewis Gunners working Anti-aircraft guns on Divisional Front.
1	30 9 Workshops, 7 Engine Room, 9 water tower and mains, 2 Sewers, 2 Fire Station and 1 Carpenter.
	3 Collecting bricks.
	4 Supplied daily, working Y.M.C.A. Ciama Snow.
	7 Guard on rumping Station and Saw mill.
	11 Sanitary work, Bilets.
	23 Band at WISQUES Central School of Instruction.
	2 Draughtsmen, Divisional H.Qtrs.
	4 3 Draughtsmen 1 Runner C.R.E. Office.
	12 Running, refitting and generally maintaining Divisional Batns.
	2 Tally Clerks, R.E. Dump.
	4 Working at Steenwerk for S.S.O.
	4 Blacksmiths working at Bilets making tools etc. for Working Parties.
	3 Bootmakers repairing boots, Bilets.
	1 Regimental Tailor working in Bilets.
1	14 On Command, D.H.Q. and Divisional Train. 1 C.R.E.
	8 Receiving instruction in First <del>ad</del> from R.M.O.
	3 Carpenters making tables, etc, Bilets.
	4 Fumigation of diarats, Div. Batns.
	20 Supplied to act as Foremen for 9th and 10th Field Coy. Engineers.
5	49 at Divisional and Army Corps Schools of Instruction.
2	100 Repairing, revetting ad generally maintaining communication trenches IRISH, DURHAM, CAMBRIDGE, WESSEX, GLOUCESTER, SPAIN and EDMEDS AVENUES, also No. 11 Locality.

*Frank Law*  
 C.O. 3rd AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION, A. I. F.      LIEUT. COLONEL,

APPENDIX