

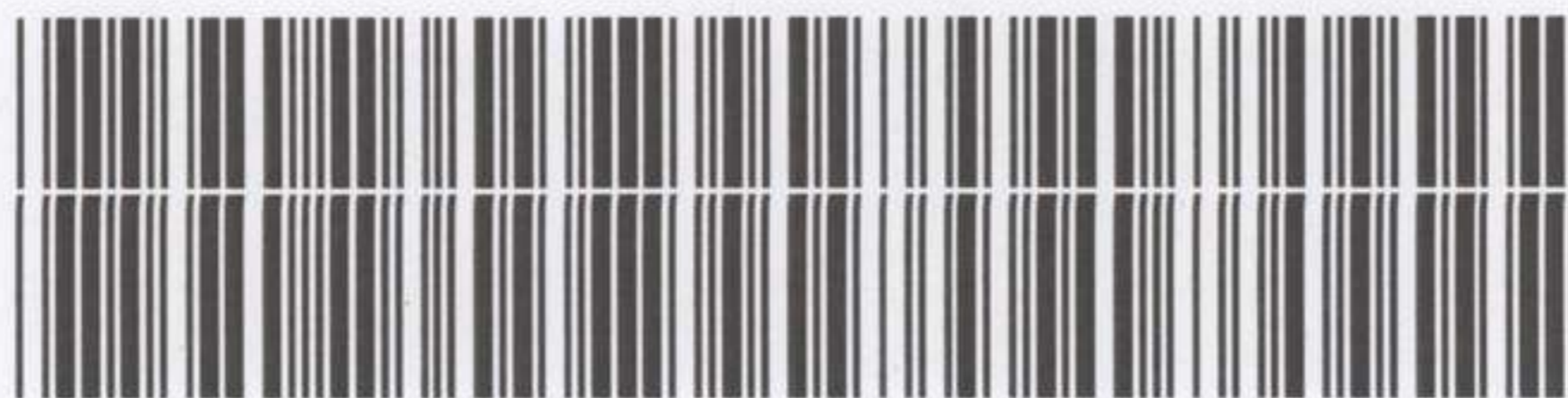
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Engineers

Item number: 14/16/24

Title: 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion

February 1918



AWM4-14/16/24

18,000-12/1 -8723

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th Australian Pioneer Bn.

FOR

February 1918



Signature of Officer compiling

W. H. Sandys-Murray

Signature of Officer Commanding

Harold Morrison

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.)

Place	Date	Temp. Bar.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>GODEZONNE FARM. N.d.10., SHEET 28., BELGIUM & FRANCE.</p>	1918.	7.3 Cam.		
	Feb.			
	1st	29°	Received Orders from Division to take over a section of Corps Defence Line from I.38.d.2.8. to I.30.c.3.8. One Company resting today, remainder on communication trenches, and one company has Tramway to LONE TREE DUMP in addition.	
	2nd.		One Warrant Officer and three other N/C.Os. proceeded to Pioneer Training Battalion, ENGLAND for a tour of duty. Lieut. G.U. Hiddleston also left for Pioneer Training Battalion.	
	2nd.	30°	Only two Companies working today. "O" track to complete. "D" Coy doing a section of OLAF AVENUE. "C" Company resting and baths. "B" Company moving their camp to BEGGARS REST (N.6.d.9.9 Major W.H. Sanday, 7306 Dvr. H.V. O'Loughlin and 4151a Pte. P. Lamb awarded the CROIX de GUERRE, BELGE.	
3rd.	31°	Very clear bright day. Visited new works on Corps defence Line. A., B., & C., resting Companies resting. D Coy. on OLAF AVENUE and Tramway at SPOIL BANK. Voluntary church parade held.		
4th	32°	Cloudy, cold wind. I visited SPOIL BANK Tramway and "A" Crater and made a reconnaissance for extension of Tramway to BOW DUGOUTS 0.5.c.2.9. "A" Coy. started work on Corps Defence Line a series of strong posts and machine gun positions. Use will also be made of "pill-boxes" i.e. German Concrete Shelters.		



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WAR DIARY

or

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GODEZONNE FARM.	1918. Feb. 5th.	7.30 am. 35°	<p>cloudy, but day got much warmer at noon. "A" Company on Corps Defences. "B" Company on IMPERIAL AVENUE. "C" Company on OLAF AVENUE. "D" Company on SPOIL BANK BOW DUGOUT Tramway. There is a large amount of draining required on this line before formation can be started. The forward portion of this railway will be under the observation of the enemy. We will do some camouflaging to cover work.</p>	
	6th.	37°	<p>All works as for the 5th. Weather good. Orders from Division to take over roads and maintain them from I.28a.8.5. to I28d.9.9. -- road from I.32.d.8.5. to NORFOLK LOCK I.33.d.3.5., road from St. ELOI 0.2. Central to EIKHOF FARM 0.3.d.3.1.</p>	
	7th.	42°	<p>Raining and misty. Rode out to EIKHOF FARM to see road, -- fair condition, few shell holes, will not need much looking after -- also visited SPOIL BANK Tramway. "A" Company on Corps Line. "B" Company on IMPERIAL AVENUE. "C" Company on Roads. "D" Company resting and baths. Capt. S.A. Mortimer to attend 2nd Army School, WISQUES.</p>	
	8th.	42°	<p>Cloudy. Held meeting of Company Commanders re keeping up number of men on works. All Coys., with the exception of "A" Company, will take over work forward of reserve line, in their respective Communication Trenches, as from tonight.</p>	



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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Temp Heat	Time	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		7.30	s.m.		
GODEZONNE FARM.	1918 Feb. 9th	49°		I visited forward portions of OLAF and IMPERIAL AVENUES. They are in a pretty bad condition and a lot of work will be required. Praapets are only 4' 6" above duckwalks in parts, drains are all silted up. I propose to dig a deviation in OLAF to get more cover and better drainage in one part near IMPERIAL COPSE, I.36.d. 33 EXREXX O/Ranks joined unit from Reinforcements, also 3 Officers. 26 O/Ranks taken on strength from Hospital (Sick & Wounded).	
	10th.	49°		Cloudy; cold; strong winds. "A" Compnay on Corps Defence Line now completed several Machine Gun positions and strong posts, and going on with others. "B" & "C" Companies on IMPERIAL & OLAF AVENUES forward of reserve line, "C" Coy. doing night work. "D" Company on OAK AVENUE, SPOIL BANK Tramway extension to BOW DUGOUTS, and road near LONE TREE DUMP for Artillery tractors.	
	11th.	49°		Visited new Tramway formation to BOW DUGOUTS (O.5c.2.9.). We have this camouflaged in a very effective manner, and so far the enemy have not disturbed it. Today 2 Officers and 30 men moved to BUFFS BANK Tunnels (O.5.b.); they are to work on a reserve line in SHREWSBURY FOREST from IMAGE AVENUE at (J25.c.7.10.) to (J25.b.1.13.). All other works on Communication Trenches going well. One man wounded today in forward area. Coy. on Corps Defences doing good work.	
	12th.	49°		Visited new work on reserve line as above. 2/lt. O.R. Charlton taken on strength from Reinfnts. Mens blankets were put through the Foden Disinfector today.	



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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Temp. Hair 7.30am.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1918. Feb.			
GODEXONNE FARM.	13th	49°	Drizzling rain all day, no change in works.	
	14th	44°	Cloudy. No change in works. Have about 650 men working everyday now, and ration strength stands at 914. No. 1058 W.O. (Cl. II) F. Archer to Officers Cadet Battn., A.I.F. List 294.	
	15th	32°	Clear frosty day. Visited our work on OLAF and IMPERIAL AVENUES forward of Reserve Line. Companies doing excellent work. A good deal of night work on OLAF Ave. Changed over Officers in charge of Tunnels as they were feeling the strain of living underground. Will change two men per Company every other day, also.	
	16th	25°	Bright frosty day. Visited all Company camps which I found in a very stark satisfactory state as regards to hygiene etc. Rations were good for this time of the year when green vegetables are scarce. Received word to send another platoon to BUFFS BANK to work with the other taxwork on Reserve line in SHREWSBURY FOREST.	
	17th	25°	Beautiful day. Visited all works on our sector of Corps defence line from near HILL 60 (I.35. b.l.8.) to Divisional Boundary at I.30.c.3.8. and found a lot of the Machine Gun ^{positions} and strong points in an advanced stage of completion. Today the enemy shelled most of our works all day, no casualties.	
	18th	25°		



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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Temp. Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GODEZONNE FARM.	1918. Feb. 18.	7.30am. 25°	Again a beautiful spring day, so different to our conditions this time last year. Got orders from C.R.E. to send a third platoon out to BUFF'S BANK. to live, while working on reserve line in SHREWSBURY FOREST. One man slightly wounded today. 47 reinforcements arrived today, a large proportion of whom are not tradesmen, this could be avoided.	
	19th.	25°	Fine day, temp. rose to 45° at noon, really remarkable weather. Visited OAK AVENUE and TRAMWAY to BOW DUGOUT. OLAF AVENUE new cut at L.36.d.3.2. completed, this will give a better communication trench than the old one. Also visited IMPERIAL AVENUE where a lot of work has been done forward of reserve line.	
	20th.	35°	Very dull, rained all day. Held a meeting of Company Commanders, Transport Officer and Quartermaster to determine on questions to be submitted to Pioneer Conference ROUEN, on 29th inst,	Appendix No 26
	21st	30°	Fine day. <i>Works as for previous day</i>	
	22nd	35°	Dull cloudy day. A. B. and C. Companies resting.	
	23rd	46°	Dull cloudy day. Col. H.L. Morrison proceeded on leave to England. Major W.H. Sanday M.C. assumed temporary command of Battalion.	
	24th	42°	Dull cloudy and windy. "B" Coy. working at night, wiring south of IMAGE AVENUE.	



W.H.

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WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Temp. at 7.30am.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GODEMONNE	1918 Feb. 25th	40°	Raining very rough windy day. <i>Works as for previous day.</i>	
FARM.	26th	45°	Bright day. All works reconnoitered by Major Sanday, M.C. and Lt. COL. W.A. Henderson D.S.O.	
			1st Aust. Pioneer Battalion, prior to handing over to 1st Austl pioneer Battalion.	
	27th	40°	Raining. Move Order NO. 14 issued. <i>see Appendix No. 3.</i>	
	28th	45°	Bright day. Routine as in Move Order No. 14. <i>Went over Works required to be done for Corps Heavy Artillery with Lieut Grant. Engineer Officer attached to Corps Heavy Artillery, this consists of 6 concrete dugouts for protection of Heavy Artillery personnel at their battery positions.</i>	



W.H.

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18,000-12/17 8723

WAR DIARY

OF

4th AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTN.

FOR

FEBRUARY, 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Memo "A".
2.	Memo "B".
3.	4th Australian Pioneer Battalion Move Order No. 14.
4.	Transport Officer's Report.
5.	Quartermaster's Report.
6.	Works Report. 1st to 4th February, 1918.
7.	Works Report, 5th to 11th February, 1918.
8.	Works Report, 12th to 18th February, 1918.
9.	Works Report, 19th to 25th February, 1918.
10.	Works Report, 26th to 28th February, 1918.
11.	Casualties.
12.	Daily strengths.
13.	Map, Part of SHEET 28, 1/10000.



W.S.

4th Australian Pioneer Battalion,
Headquarters,
21st February, 1918.

TRANSPORT ESTABLISHMENT.

Comparing the Transport Establishment of a Pioneer Battalion, with that of an A.S.C. Coy., Engineer Field Coy., or Infantry Battalion, it will be seen that the allotment of N.C.Os. is entirely disproportionate to the personnel, animals and vehicles in the different establishments.

A Pioneer Battn. has more personnel, animals and vehicles than either a Field Coy. or Infantry Battn. and more horses than an A.S.C. Coy., and yet has only one Sergeant, while

- an A.S.C. Company has 5 Sgts. & 7 Corporals.
- a Field Company has 2 Sergts. & 2 Cpls.
- an Infantry Battn. has 1 Sgt. and 1 Cpl., & all engaged on actual transport work.

The Transport is continually on works, but owing to the large number of animals, viz. 93, it is essential that a Veterinary and Farrier Sergt., with the necessary efficiency and experience, should be constantly with them. Being Divisional Troops the Battn. is often separated from the other Units of the Division with the result that the transport is handicapped, with not being constantly in touch with the Mobile Veterinary section.

In the same way the vehicles require constant attention, and they could be repaired more expeditiously, and to our own satisfaction, if the necessary work were performed under the supervision of a Wheeler Corporal on the spot, instead of having to send vehicles to the Divisional Train, thereby entailing a considerable amount of delay.

Owing to the nature of the work, a Pioneer Battalion is often split up, and so necessitating sections of the Transport being detached to meet requirements, and it is impossible to obtain satisfactory results without having an N.C.O. in charge of such sections.

The establishment of vehicles should be increased by one G.S. Limbered Wagon for the use of the transport section for carrying transport equipment, such as Farriers equipment, Saddlers equipment, Oils, Plant, Picquet Ropes, Chaff Cutter, Camp Kettles etc.

In view of the foregoing it is suggested that the following amendment and additions be made to the establishment of a Pioneer Battalion Transport Section.

- ~~Transport Officer to be promoted Capt. after 12 months service.~~
- ~~1. Veterinary Farrier Sergeant.~~
- ~~1. Wheeler Corporal.~~
- 4. Corporals.
- 1 G. S. Wagon Limbered.



W.H.

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MOBILISATION TABLES.

APPENDIX |

Delete

150 Hammers, miners, boring, 7 lbs.

Substitute

40 Hammers, miners, boring, 7 lbs.

60 " spiking.

60 " napping.

Delete.

Levels Wood, 10' and 5',.

Amend.

1 Kit, plumbers, per coy.

25 saws, hand, 20" to be increased to 50.

1 Hammers, claw, to be increased to 50.

Addition.

18 Saw Frames, hack.

1 Level, dumpy.

PERSONNEL.

It is suggested that Companies of Pioneer Battalion be kept intact where at present large parties are detached for duties, on which no technical knowledge is required. This reduces strength of Companies on works, and is misleading as to the strength of a Pioneer Battalion.

That men should be termed Pioneer instead of Private.

That in precedence of Corps Pioneers should rank after Engineers and before Infantry



WPS

E S T A B L I S H M E N T S.

A. S. C. BRIGADE COY.

Off.	Rank.	NCOs	Rank	O.R.	Animals	Vehicles	
1.	Capt.	1	W.O.	70.	63.	29.	
2.	Lieut.	1	S.M.				
		3.	S/Sgts.				1 wheeler, 1 farrier, 1 saddler.
		2.	Sgts.				Transport work.
		7.	Cpls.				1 wheeler, 1 farrier, 1 1 saddler, 4 Cpls. Trans- port work.
		1	CCMS				

ENGINEER FIELD COY.

1.	Capt.	1.	Sgt.	44.	74.	18.	Transport Work.
		1.	S/Sgt.				Farrier & Veterinary Work.
		2.	Cpl.				Transport Work.
		1	CCMS				

INFANTRY BATTALION.

1.	Lieut.	1	sgt.	40.	53.	17.	Transport Work.
		1.	Cpl.				Transport Work.

PIONEER BATTALION.

1.	Lieut.	1.	Sgt.	50	93.	23	Transport Work.
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W.H.S.

4th AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

APPENDIX 2

HANDING OVER STATEMENT.GENERAL.

Pioneers have been responsible for:--

1. Revetting and maintenance of all Communication Trenches in the Divisional Area.
2. Construction and maintenance of duckwalks noted hereafter.
3. Construction and maintenance of tramlines named hereafter.
4. Maintenance of all Tunnels in Area.

DETAIL.

1. (a). IMAGE AVENUE was only taken over during the last week, and only a few repairs have been done on it. A good deal of the revetting needs attention, and most parapets are too thin.
- (b). IMPERIAL AVENUE has been cleaned out and drained. The sides have all been cut back to a fair batter to save revetment. The work is complete as far as the reserve line, forward of that the work is still going on, and needs a lot of revetting to keep trench narrow. The parapets are thin on enemy's side also, and night parties are required to do this. The policy for this C.T. was torevet it right through from the "CLUSTERS" to SUPPORT LINE. Work not complete from Reserve Line to Support Line.
- (c). OLAF AVENUE. A lot of revetment was put into this trench in rear of reserve line, and the parapets still require a lot of attention. The trench was taken over in a very bad condition but is now fair. Forward of the reserve line the trench is in progress of re-construction. A lot of temporary revetting was done by Infantry parties which must be taken out when the more important parts are completed. It was found necessary to put in a new cut in two places to get good drainage and cover, one place being just in rear of "IMPERFECT COPSE". This section forward of the reserve line is still incomplete though in fair condition.
- (d). OAK AVENUE was taken over by Field Coys. and a lot of temporary revetting was done, there is not much need to touch this. The trench, however, needs a lot of work, first in some very shallow portions, and afterward in thickening up the parapets, which in a few places are only cover from view.
2. (a). "O" Track, which includes track to Hill 60 and LARCHWOOD TUNNELLS, maintenance only.
- (b). IMPERIAL WALK. Maintenance only.
- (c). STAFFORD WALK. Not much used. Maintenance only.
- (d). CANAL WALK. Gets a fair amount of shelling and is used a good deal. Six men under an N.C.O. repairing all the time.
- (e). OAK WALK. shelled at times.
Tunnellers Track and track from BOW DUG-OUTS to OLAF AVENUE were not maintained by Pioneers.
3. (a). The re-construction of Tramway line from Lock 8 to LONE TREE DUMP, done by us, is now handed over to Canadian Tramways Coy., who had one Officer and 50 men of the pioneers attached to them for maintenance of tramway lines in Divisional Area, i.e.

SPOEL BANK	---	LONETREE TRAMWAY.
BATTLE WOOD	---	RAILWAY DUMP TRAMWAY.
SHREWSBURY FOREST		TRAMWAY.
- (b). The extension of the tramway from LONE TREE DUMP to BOW DUG-OUTS is now under construction by Pioneers, and a good deal of formation is already completed. Some plates have also been laid. This was not treated as an urgent matter.



W.S.

app. 2.

APPENDIX 2

HANDING OVER STATEMENT, Continued.DETAILS, Cont.

4. Two Officers, who acted as Area Commandants, and 80 men were employed in maintenance of SPOIL BANK and LARCHWOOD TUNNELL Areas, pumping, mending buxks, and repairing gas doors.
5. some small attention was paid to roads in forward area also, i.e.
Road from I.28.b.5.2. to VERBRANDEN DUMP (I.28.d.8.3.)
Road from O.2. Central to BIKHOF FARM O.3.d.
Road from I.32.d.8.5. to NORFOLK LOCK and to OAK DUMP.
Shell holes were filled in or planks replaced.
6. DUMPS from
Main Dump - RODNEY; thence by tractor to MOLEN DUMP, and/thence
by push tram to RAILWAY DUMP and OLAF AVENUE.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMPANIES.

1 Company	-	CORPS DEFENCE WORKS.
1½ Companies	+	C. Ts. and forward Tramways.
3 platoons	-	Divisional Support Line and wiring.
2 "	-	Tunnells and Gas Doors.
1 "	-	Att. Canadian Railway Coy.



W. H. ... Major,
A/C. O. 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion.

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COPY NO. /-

4th AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION ORDER NO. 14.

27th February, 1918.

1. The Battalion will move on the 28th February, and the 1st of March, A & G Companies on the 28th February, and H. Qrs., B. & D. Companies on 1st March, and will march to their new camps under Coy. arrangements.
2. TRANSPORT. Three G.S. Wagons will report per Company at 7.30 on the morning of moving, loading to be completed by 9.30 a.m.
3. Companies will be clear of their camps by 10 a.m., one section being left behind as a guard, and to finally clean up their lines, and to hand over their camp to the incoming Company of 1st Pioneer Battn. Company Commanders will be responsible that camps are left absolutely clean.
4. All stoves, bunks etc., and all camp fixtures will be left absolutely intact, and it is necessary to impress upon the men that the whole camp must be left complete for immediate occupation.
5. CANTREEN will move on the 28th February to LINDENHOEK, "A" Company will return the first G.S. Wagon unloaded to convey canteen stores.
6. "A" Company will move to camp at LINDENHOEK. N.27.c.9.2.
 "B" Company will move to camp at LINDENHOEK. N.27.c.9.2.
 "C" Company will move to BUTTERFLY FARM. N.19a.5.9.
 Headquarters will move to R.E. FARM. N.15.c.1.5.
 "D" Company will move to R.E. FARM. N.15.c.1.5.
7. Companies will notify Battalion Headquarters when their move is complete.
8. Battalion Headquarters will be at GODEZONNE FARM (N.10.d.1.7.) till 10 a.m. on the 1st March, after that time at R.E. FARM (N.15.c.1.5.)

R. Williams
 Major,
 A/C.O. 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION.

- Copies Nos. 1 - 3 War Diary.
- Copies Nos. 4 - 7. Companies.
- Copy No. 8. Transport Officer.
- Copy No. 9. 1st Australian Pioneer Battalion.
- Copy No. 10. File.



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GODEZONNE FARM.	1918. Feb. 1st	7.30am.	<p align="center"><u>TRANSPORT OFFICER REPORT.</u></p>	
to	28th.		<p>During the month of February the Transport Section was engaged on Battalion work, such as constructing roads into Company Camps; and improving their sites. Transports was also engaged on Battalion works in the forward area.</p>	
			<p>The demand for vehicles was heavy but a trifle better than the previous month.</p>	
			<p>Colonel Kendell, of the 4th Australian Divisional Veterinary section, in his report mentioned the fact that our animals were being too heavily worked; and as a result the demand for transport was reduced, and an improvement in the condition of animals is already noticeable.</p>	



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APPENDIX 4 14
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																												
GODEZONNE	1918. Feb. 1st		<u>QUARTERMASTER REPORT.</u>																																													
FARM.	to		<u>RATIONS.</u> These have been uniformly good, although the vegetable ration is still light.																																													
	28th.		<u>D.A.D.O.S.</u> All demands have been supplied, the following is list of drawings and returns.																																													
			<u>BOOTS.</u> The wear and tear on these has been much lighter this month owing to more clement weather.																																													
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>DRAWN.</th> <th>RETURNED.</th> <th>SHORT RETURNED.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BRACES.</td> <td>50</td> <td>60</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BREECHES. D.S.</td> <td>67</td> <td>155</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BREECHES. M.S.</td> <td>1</td> <td>18</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BOX RESPIRATORS.</td> <td>36</td> <td>40</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HATS.</td> <td>9</td> <td>8</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>COATS GREAT</td> <td>10</td> <td>16</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JACKETS. S.D.</td> <td>61</td> <td>64</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TINS, MESS</td> <td>13</td> <td>82</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PULLERS.</td> <td>63</td> <td>127</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHEETS GROUND.</td> <td>20</td> <td>32</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		DRAWN.	RETURNED.	SHORT RETURNED.	BRACES.	50	60	-	BREECHES. D.S.	67	155	-	BREECHES. M.S.	1	18	-	BOX RESPIRATORS.	36	40	-	HATS.	9	8	1	COATS GREAT	10	16	-	JACKETS. S.D.	61	64	-	TINS, MESS	13	82	-	PULLERS.	63	127	-	SHEETS GROUND.	20	32	-	
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APPENDIX 3
15

WEEKLY WORKS REPORT TO 4th February, 1918.

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Location.	Nature of work.	Amount Done.	Men employed.		Hours worked daily.		Remarks.
			Pioneers.	Infantry.	From.	To.	
SPOIL BANK TRAMWAY.	Formation	140 yards.					
	Platelaying	100 "					
	Drainage	100 "					
	Repairs	15 "	29 men for	100 men for			Complete to LONE TREE DUMP.
	Lifting and packing	210 "	7 days.	3 days.	8.30.	2.30.	
	Spiking and sleepers.	205 "					
	Filling up Formation.	75 "					
Thickening Bank	120 "						
"A" CRATER.	Excavation	53 "	25 men for				completed 30/1/18.
	Revetment and Box-Draining.		2 days.		8.30.	2.30.	
VOORMEZERLE TRAMWAY.	Maintenance		1 Off. & 50 ORs.				
			permanently.				
SPOIL BANK & LARCHWOOD TUNNELS.	Maintenance.		2 Off. & 104 ORs.				
			permanently.				
CORPS DEFENCE LEFT SECTOR.	Strong points and Machine Gun positions	(4 S.Ps. & 3 M.Gs.) S.Ps. 5, 23, 25, & 35, M.Gs. 25, 35, and 38.	121 O.Rs. for 1 day.		8.30.	2.30.	
	Carrying Material.			50 men 1 day.	8.30.	2.30.	

5th February, 1918.



Handwritten signature Lieut. Colonel,
C. O. 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion.

APPENDIX

6
16

WEEKLY WORKS REPORT for the week ending 11th February 1918.

Appx 7 218

Location.	Nature of work	Amount done. XXXXXXXXXXXX	Men employed.		Hours worked daily.		Remarks.
			Pioneers	Infantry	From.	To.	
					a.m.	p.m.	
CORPS DEFENCE LEFT SECTOR.	Strong points and Machine Gun positions.	Excavation, revetting Draining and wiring. S.Ps. 5, 23, 25. 35. Corner House. M.Gs. 24. 25. 35. 36. 39. 40.	112 men for 7 days.		8.	2.	
	Wire entanglements Revetted drainage Open drainage Carrying R.E. Material.	250 yards. 70 yards 250 yards		100 men			
IMPERIAL AVENUE.	Trench improvements, Drainage		71 men for 7 days.	50 men for 2 days.	8	2	
VOORMEZEELE TRAMWAY.	Maintenance	Loop lines put in at I.32.b.6.7. & I.35.a.20.95. Raising, draining & improving formation.	1. Off & 50 OR permanently.				
ROAD FROM I.28b.5.3. to I.34.b.9.	Maintenance of plank Rd.	50 yards repaired 55 yards drains cut.	12 men for 7 days.		8	2	
ROAD FROM O.2.cent. to Rikhof Farm.	Maintenance	General Repairs planking & metalling.	26 men for 7 days.		8	2	50 yards drains started but not completed.
ROAD FROM I.32.d.05.30. to NORFOLK BRIDGE & OAK DUMP.	Maintenance	planks renewed Drains cut	40 yards 180 yards	13 men for 3 days.	8	2	



Am.

APPENDIX 7. 17

WEEKLY WORKS REPORT to 11th February, 1916.

216

Location.	Nature of work.	Amount done.	Men employed.		Hours worked daily.		Remarks.
			Pioneers.	Infantry.	From	To.	
					a.m.	p.m.	
"O" TRACK.	Maintenance.	Duckwalks re-paired and re-placed.	3 men for 7 days.				
IMAGE AVENUE.	Maintenance	30 yards revetted repairs to Duckwalks.	5 men for 7 days.		8	2	
OLAF AVENUE.	Revetting Building Breastwork Draining Repairing Duckwalks Loading and carrying R.M. Material.	285 285 yards. 144 yards. 230 yards	96 men for 7 days.		8	2	
OAK AVENUE.	Revetting cleaning out cutting back and battering sides	40 yards 260 yards 200 yards	26 men for 2 days.	50 men 2 days.			
CANAL AND OAK WALK.	Repairs	560 yards	5 men for 5 days.		8	2	
SPOIL BANK TRAMWAY.	Strengthening Bank Sleeping and Spiking packing Repairs Lowering track Laying Mule Track	150 yards 55 yards 240 yards 130 yards 35 35 yards 515 yards	32 men for 5 days.		8	2	
EXTENSION LINE FROM LONE TREE DUMP.	Camouflage Drainage formation	125 yards 260 yards 45 yards	41 men for 5 days	50 for 1 day	8	2	
OOSTHOCK FARM ROAD.	Repairs	140 yards	24 men for 1 day		8	2	



APPENDIX 7 18
Am

WEEKLY REPORT to 11th February, 1918.

Location.	Nature of work.	Amount done	Men Employed.		Hours worked daily.		Remarks.
			Pioneers	Infantry	From	To	
SPILL BANK AND LARCHWOOD TUNNELLS.	Maintenance		2 Offs. & 104 O. Rs. permanently.				
LEWIS MACHINE GUN A.A. DEFENCE 10th & 11th A.F.A. Bdes. and own Camp.			48 men permanently.				8 L.Gs. & L.G. Sections.

12th February, 1918.



Handwritten signature: H. H. Cameron
 Lieut. Colonel,
 C. O. 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion.

WEEKLY WORKS REPORT for the week ending, 18th February, 1918.

Appx 9 216

1 Location.	Nature of work.	Amount Done	Men employed.		Hours worked daily.	Remarks.
			Pioneers.	Infantry.		
CORPS DEFENCE LEFT SECTOR.			130 men for 7 days.		5.	
IMPERIAL AVENUE	Trench Improvements		84 men for 7 days.		5.	
VOORMEZERLE TRAMWAY.	Maintenance		49 men for 7 days.		5.	
OLAF AVENUE.	Building up parapet	280 yards				
	Revetting and Draining	355 "	130 men for 7 days.		5.	
	Digging new deviation	180 "				
	Revetting (A. frames & Iron)					
'OY TRACK AND STAFFORD WALK.	Maintaining duckwalks and repairs:		6 for 7 days		5	
	Carrying R.E. Material from RODNEY DUMP.			50 men for 7 days.	5	
SPOIL BANK TRAMWAY:	Laying mule track	220 yards				
	Sleepering and packing	75 "				
	Repairs	120 "	35 men for 5 days.		5.	
	Re-laying track	120 "				
	1 Box drain fitted					
	Moving to BUFFS BANK.					
CANAL AND OAK WALKS:	Repairs	700 yards	5 men for 7 days.		5.	
EXTENSION from LONE TREE DUMP.	Camouflage	20 yards				
	Formation	205 "	31 men for 7 days.	50 men for 7 days.	5.	
	Clearing track	240 "				
	Re-laying	20 "				
	Platelaying.	20 "				



WHS

APPENDIX 20

Location.	Nature of work.	Amount done	Men employed.		Hours worked daily.	Remarks.
			Pioneers.	Infantry.		
OAK AVENUE	Cleaning out	530 yards				
	Revetment repairs	110 "	28 men for		5.	
	Thickening Parapet	15 "	7 days.			
	Battering sides.	95 "				
	Raising Parapet	15 "				
SHREWSBURY FOREST.	Drainage	90 yards	30 men for		5.	
	Fire Trench 8' X 2'	240 yards	7 days.			
	Drains	90 yards	35 men for 1 day.		5.	
LARCHWOOD AND SPOIL BANK TUNNELLS.	Maintenance.		101 men permanently			
ANTI - AIRCRAFT DEFENCE.			45 men permanently.			



W. H. Sunday Major
 Comdg. 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion.
 Lieut. Colonel,

APPENDIX

8

WEEKLY WORKS REPORT for the week ending 25th February, 1918.

appx 9

216

Location.	Nature of Work.	Amount Done	Men employed.		Hours worked daily.	Remarks.
			Pioneers	Infantry		
CORPS DEFENCE LEFT SECTOR.			109 men for 7 days	95 men for 6 days,	6.	
PILL BOX TO HILL 60.	Deeuville Track		5 men for 7 days.		6.	
IMPERIAL AVENUE	Trench improvements & drainage		107 for 5 days.		6.	
VOORMEZELLE TRAM	Maintenance		27 for 7 days.		6.	
OLAF AVENUE	Building up parapet	250 yards	123 for 6 days.	50 for 7 days.	5½.	
	Revetting	460 yards				
	Drainage and cutting berm	480 yards.				
"O" TRACK & STAFFORD WALK	Maintenance		2 men for 6 days,		5½.	
PLANK ROAD nr. NORFOLK BRIDGE.	Repairs and shell holes filled in.	15 yards	3 men for 6 days		5½	
	Maintenance		3 for 6 days.		5½	
IMAGE AVENUE	XXXXXXXXXX wiring between the Glen and Half Way House.		95 men for 1 day		4.	
TRAMWAY EXTENSION TO LONE TREE DUMP.	Formation	115 yards				
	platelaying	50 "	11 men for 2 days	50 men for 3 days.	6.	
	packing	100 "				
	Spiking	55 "				
	Box Drain and Culvert					
OAK AVENUE.	Raising parapet	95 yards				
	Drainage	20 "		25 men for 6 days	6.	
	Repairs	45 "				
	Battering sides	100 "				
	Thickening parapet	75 yards				



APPENDIX 9

WMS

Location	Nature of work	Amount Done	Men employed.		Hours worked daily.	Remarks
			Pioneers	Infantry		
SHREWSBURY FOREST.	Fire trench	450				
	Wiring	25 yards.				
	Thickening wire.	620 "				
	Duckwalks	40 "	50 men for 6 days.	50 men for 6 days.	4.	
	Fire step	154 "				
CANAL WALK.	Repairs.	15 "				
Oosthoek FARM ROAD.	Repairs	12 yards	4 for 6 days.		6.	
	Laying fascines	100 yards				
	Drainage	80 "	6 men for 2 days.	50 men for 3 days.	6.	
HALF WAY HOUSE.	Fire trench	60 "				
	Drain	30 yards		21 men for 1 day.	6.	
LARCHWOOD & SPOIL BANK TUNNELS	Maintenance	10 yards.				
			84 men permanently.			
ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENCE.			20 men for 6 days.			
			24 men permanently.			

W. Lundy

A/C.O. 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion. Major,



APPENDIX 9

WORKS REPORT FROM 26th to 28th FEBRUARY, 1918.

Appx 10

216

Location	Nature of work	Amount done	Men employed		Hours worked daily.	Remarks.
			Pioneers	Infantry		
CORPS DEFENCE LEFT SECTOR.			145 men for 1 day.		6.	
IMAGE AVENUE.	Wiring between GLEN & HALF WAY HOUSE		97 for 2 days.		4½	
VOORMEZEELE TRAMWAY.	Maintenance		27 for 2 days.		6.	
OLAF AVENUE.	Revetment	120 yards				
	Drainage	100 "	62 men for 2 days.		5.	2 men wounded
	Clearing berm and battering	100 "				-d
IMPERIAL AVENUE	Revetment	40 "				
	Battering	100 "	68 men for 2 days.		5.	
	Mending up breaks.					
	Revetting and clearing berm.	200 "				
'O' Track, STAFFORD WALK PLANK ROADS.	Maintenance and patrolling.		7 men for 2 days.		5.	
TRAMWAY EXTENSION FROM LONE TREE DUMP.	Plate laying	95 yards.				
	Formation.	15 "	13 men for 2 days.	50 men 2 days.	6.	
	Packing.	105 "				
	Drainage.	50 "				
	xxxxxxxx					
OAK AVENUE SHREWSBURY FOREST.	Raising parapet	70 yards	14 men 2 days.		6.	
	Shelters	.5 completed.				
	Duckwalks.	100 yards	42 men for 2 days.		4.	
	Battering sides.	40 yards				
	Repairs.	20 yards	4 men 2 days		6.	
CANAL WALK. HALF WAY HOUSE.	Fire trench	10 yards	25 men for 1 day		6.	This include 6s salvagin
	Duckwalks.	25 yards				-g Duckwalk -s.



W. Mandy Major

4th. Aust. Pioneer Battn. Major.

APPENDIX

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app. 11.

APPENDIX //

APPENDIX NO. 11CASUALTIES.

No. 3320	Pte. W.G. Bodycott, wounded, H.E. Shell, head.	11/2/18.
No. 2962	Pte. J.K. Westerberg, killed, H.E. Shell.	11/2/18.
No. 3880	Pte. E.W. Maddin, wounded, enemy machine gun bullet.	18/2/18.
No. 2832	Pte. R. Battye, wounded, head, remaining on duty.	4/2/18.
No. 2072	Pte. P. Bourkee, gassed.	25/2/18.
No. 3881	Pte. L. Maddin, gassed.	25/2/18.
No. 3912	Pte. J. Sanderson, wounded, H.E. Shell, leg, hip and shoulder.	26/2/18.
No. 3209	Pte. W. Westwood, wounded, H.E. Shell, left wrist and right arm.	26/2/18.
No. 2091	Pte. F. B. Berry, died of wounds.	27/2/18.
No. 1811	Pte. M.T. Rooney, wounded, H.E. Shell, face.	27/2/18.



W. H. Sunday Major,
A/C.O. 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion.

APPENDIX NO. 12

DAILY STRENGTHS.

Date.	Effective strength		On. Roll.	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
February, 1918.				
1.	31. 32K	875.	39.	1007.
2.	30.	879.	39.	1006.
3.	30.	871.	39.	996.
4.	32.	864. $\frac{3}{4}$	39.	996.
5.	33.	869.	39.	996.
6.	32.	866.	39.	996.
7.	31.	856.	39.	996.
8.	32.	865.	39.	996.
9.	36.	923.	43.	1055.
10.	34.	920.	43.	1045.
11.	34.	914.	43.	1042.
12.	35.	916.	44.	1044.
13.	35.	918.	44.	1044.
14.	32.	911.	43.	1037.
15.	32.	911.	43.	1037.
16.	36. 32K	926.	43.	1038.
17.	36.	922.	43.	1032.
18.	36.	968.	43.	1081.
19.	36.	968.	43.	1081.
20.	36.	961.	43.	1068.
21.	36.	970.	43.	1082.
22.	36.	971.	43.	1082.
23.	36.	973.	43.	1081.
24.	35.	976.	43.	1077.
25.	35.	974.	43.	1075.
26.	33.	972.	42.	1076.
27.	32.	974.	42.	1078.
28.	30.	926.	42.	1073.



W.H.S.

TRENCH TRAMWAY
DUCKWALKS

Part of Sheet 28

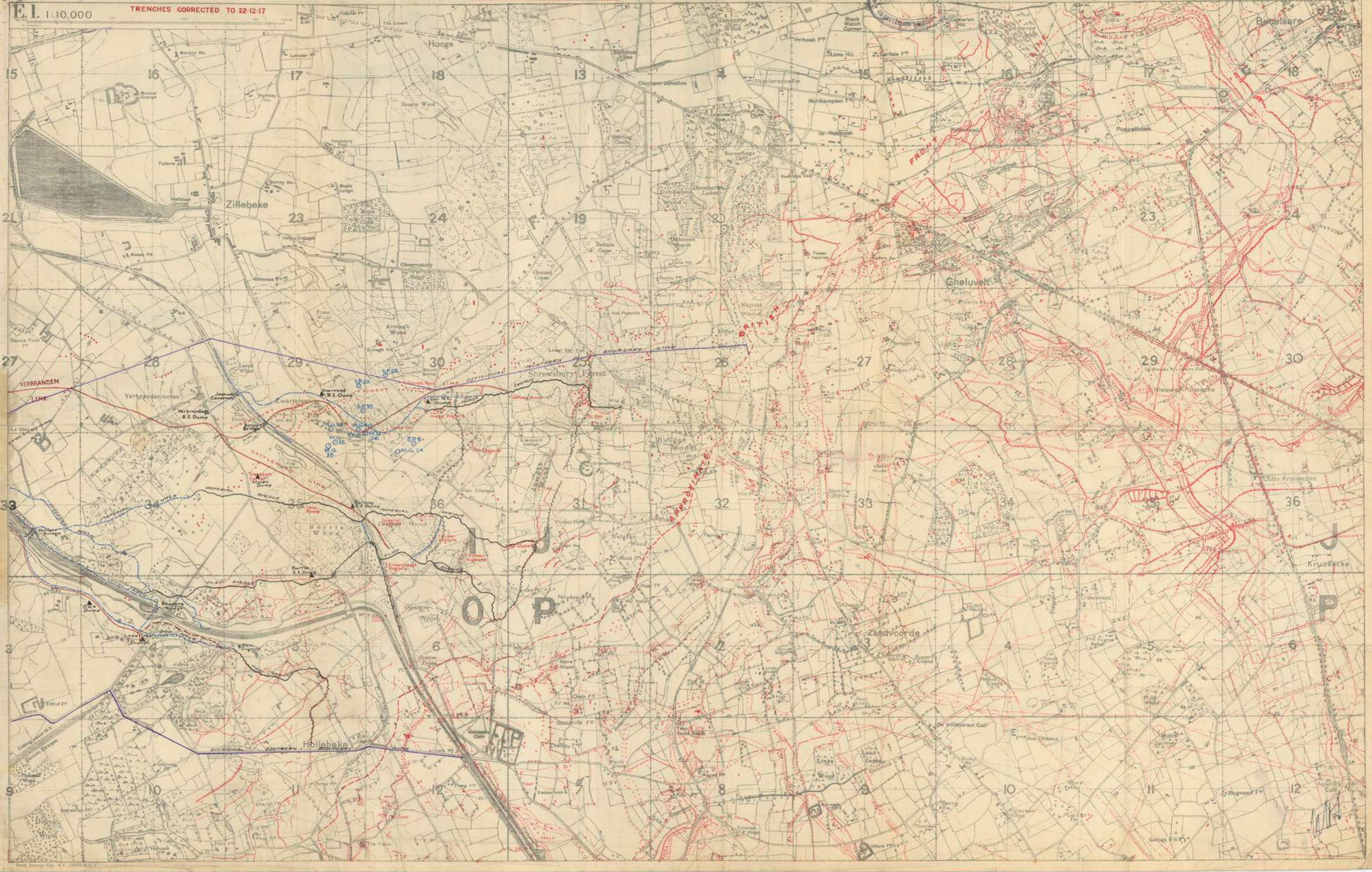
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TO ACCOMPANY
WAR DIARY 4 AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION

Appx 13

27





Back

APPENDIX

18

GENERAL.

Pioneers have been responsible for:-

- (1) Digging and revetting of New front line southwards from end IMAGE AVENUE and southwards from IMPERIAL AVENUE.
- (2) Deepening and maintenance of all Communication Trenches in Divisional Area.
- (3) Construction and maintenance of all Trench-board Tracks noted hereafter.
- (4) Construction and maintenance of forward portion of Forward Tramways known respectively as SHREWSBURY FOREST and BATTLE WOOD LINES.

Detail (1)

(a) Front line south from IMAGE has only recently been started. About 180 yards are completely dug and revetted and a further 200 yards has been partially dug and not revetted. The finished portion does not abut immediately on IMAGE AVENUE on account of drainage conditions, but we have been working towards the Avenue and were hoping to get rid of the water both in the partially dug portion and in the end of IMAGE by way of New Trench. Work was almost entirely by night but a small day party was employed by day on revetting work in portion that was dug and roughly revetted over night.

(b) Frontline south from IMPERIAL AVENUE is practically complete as far as digging and revetting of the actual trench is concerned. We have recently been providing fire steps and had orders to provide Elephant Shelters (approximately every second bay) and covered latrines every 200 yards.

(2) Communication Trenches.

(a) IMAGE AVENUE including THE GLEN, deepening practically complete. Maintenance only now.

(b) IMPERIAL AVENUE. Still a considerable amount of deepening work to complete but the worst portions have been done. Most necessary work is now back from IMPERFECT COPSE.

(c) OAF AVENUE. Deepening nearing completion. Most of the necessary work well back.

(d) OAK AVENUE. Still a considerable amount of deepening work to complete, but the worst portions have been done. Most necessary work is now back from IMPERFECT COPSE.

(e) OAK AVENUE. Deepening complete. Maintenance only.

(3) Trench-board Tracks as follows:-

(a) IMAGE or O ROUTE very little work.

(b) IMPERIAL WALK. Usually only moderate repairs in neighbourhood of battery positions.

(c) STAFFORD WALK. Receives a fair amount of enemy attention but it is gradually becoming less shelled.

(d) CANAL WALK. Generally gets a fair amount of attention and consequently is rather heavy for repairs.

(e) OAK WALK. Occasionally strafed but not really heavy repairs

(TUNNELLERS WALK, off OAF AVENUE, although built by Pioneers comes under Tunnellers for maintenance.)

(4) Tramways :-

(a) SHREWSBURY FOREST LINE runs from KNOLL ROAD and is being pushed on towards THE GLEN. There is an Embankment under construction at I.30.d. and a switch near HALF WAY HOUSE. We are at present also responsible for maintenance for whole length including COL DUMP Switch.

(b) BATTLE WOOD LINE, complete. Maintenance only from MOLEN DUMP forward to OAF TRENCH. Maintenance not heavy but occasional shelling at lower end.

DUMPS.

Main dump, RODNEY. Trench Tramway with mules to MOLEN and thence forward for IMPERIAL and OAF by push tramway.

IMAGE supplies will soon be able to come by same line which branches at MOLEN and passes on behind HILL 60 to SHREWSBURY FOREST LINE. At present stores come from ELZENWALLE up KNOLL ROAD and thence by man carriage forward.

ST. ELOI supplies EIKHOF which in turn supplies LONE TREE, thence supplies are man handled for OAK AVENUE and WALK, CANAL WALK, STAFFORD WALK and near end of OAF.

PRESENT DISTRIBUTION :-

- 1 Company..... IMAGE AVENUE & WALK.
- 1 Company
3 Platoons..... FRONT LINE South from IMPERIAL, IMPERIAL AVENUE & WALK.
- 1 Platoon..... OAK AVENUE & WALK, CANAL WALK.
- 1 Company..... OAF AVENUE & STAFFORD WALK.
- 1 Company.....
2 Platoons..... Front Line South from IMAGE.
- 2 Platoons..... Extension SHREWSBURY FOREST Line.
Maintenance SHREWSBURY FOREST & BATTLE WOOD Line
-

C.O.
? Australian Pioneer

For information please

R/S Hutchison
R/Col

Commanding
9th North Stafford Pioneer

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