

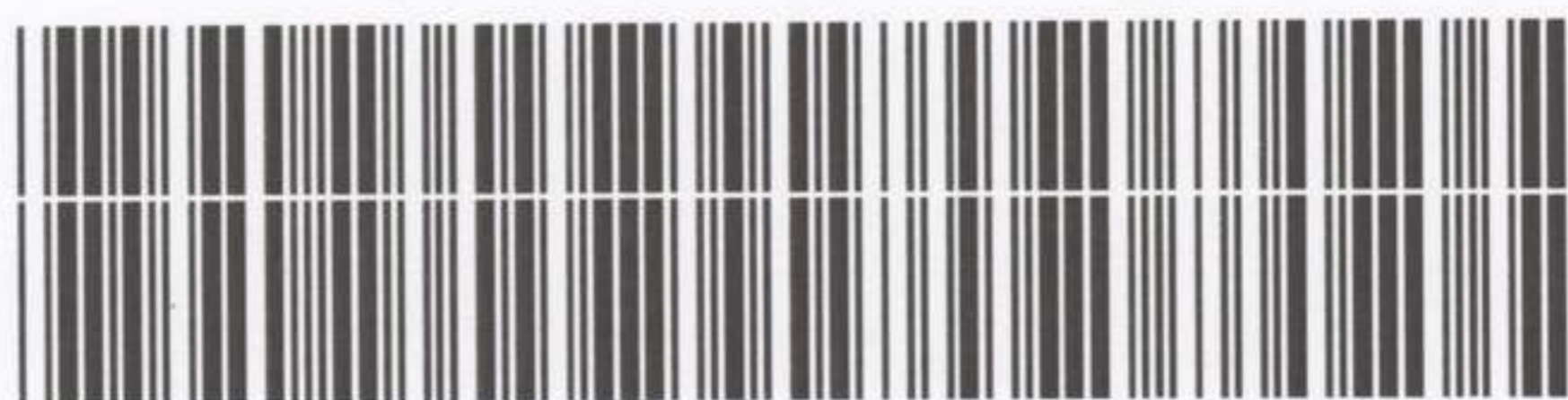
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Engineers

Item number: 14/13/23

Title: 1st Australian Pioneer Battalion

January 1918



AWM4-14/13/23

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

1st Aust. Pioneer Batta

FOR

January 1918

Signature of Officer compiling.....

Signature of Officer Commanding *W. Henderson*.....

WAR DIARY

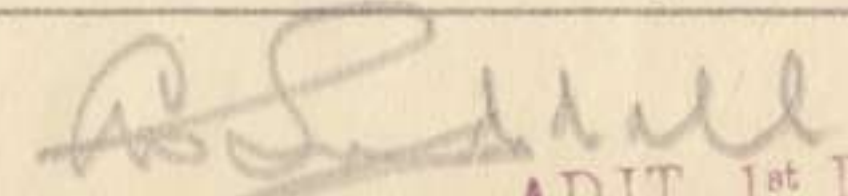
Army Form C. 2118. 43

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	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N28C6.6	1918		Battalion H.Q. Located at N28C6.6. Companies located as follows	
	Jan		A and C Coy - N24C8.4 B Company N27C0.2	
	1 st	2 nd	Battalion distributed on works as follows.	
	3 rd	4 th	A. Company 3 Platoons on Bob Street Communication,	Weather report
	5 th	6 th	located as follows: - (1) 026d2.7 (2) 027d6.9	1 st Frosty
	7 th	8 th	(3) 028C.29. One platoon on strong point at	2 nd Frosty
			020C8.9	3 rd Frosty
	9 th	10 th	B. Company 3 Platoons on Corps line located as follows:	4 th Snowing
			(1) 026d2.9 and 026b2.5. (2) 014'09.3 (3) 015a4.3. 15	5 th Snowing
	11 th	12 th	09 Central. One platoon on Wulverghem-Messines	6 th Fine & Frosty
			Road at 032C1.7	7 th Dull & Frosty
			C. Company. One platoon detached on railway work and	8 th Frosty
		stationed at Vierstraat. One platoon on road at 019d2.9	9 th Snowing	
		One platoon on Pioneer Lane communication trench	10 th Snowing	
		at 016C3.4. One platoon on Camouflage work.	11 th Fine	
		D. Company Three platoons on New Cross Trench located	12 th Fine	
		as follows: - (1) 010a4.9 (2) 014d1.1 (3) 014d6.5.		
		One platoon on Tramways stationed at Wulverghem		

 CAPT.
 ADJT. 1st Pioneer Bn.
 1st Aus Div.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N28066	1918		Battalion distributed on works as previously shown. On 13 th Divisional Commander presented medals to the following: Lieut.-Col. W.A. Henderson. D.S.O. Lieut. E.G. Butcher. M.C. Lieut. W.H. O'Brien M.C. Lieut. N.L. Jarvis M.C. Lieut. R.G. Dobbie D.C.M. No 735 Sengr A.C. Walder D.C.M. 2692 Pte H.B. Warner. Bubb D.C.M. 4034 W.J. Horvat. M.M. (A.A.M.C. attached) 3910 Sengr G.E. Conley M.M. 258 L/C E.J. Cassidy M.M. 3743 Pte J.H. Duff M.M. 2456 L/C G.W. Vass M.M.	Weather Report <hr/> 13 th Snow 14 th Frosty 15 th Thunderstorm 16 th Snowing 17 th Raining. 18 th Fine 19 th Fine 20 th Fine 21 st Fine 22 nd Dull 23 rd Dull 24 th Frosty 25 th Frosty 26 th Cold 27 th Fine 28 th Fine 29 th Dull & Frosty 30 th Dull & Frosty 31 st Frosty

A. S. Hall CAPT
 ADJT. 1st P... BA.
 1st Ais Div.

WAR DIARY


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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N28066 (Spy Farm)	1918 Jan	24 th - 25 th 26 th - 27 th 28 th	<p>Diversion of work. Battalion ¹⁹⁰ Companies located as previously shown.</p> <p>Battalion distributed on works as follows.</p> <p><u>A Company</u> construction of concrete OP's as under: - Messines Left (033 C40.35) Messines Right (N3a20.10) Damstrass (09 C42.97) Erection of storage hut at Vernon Dump.</p> <p><u>B, C & D Companies</u> work as previously shown.</p>	
N28066	1918 Jan	29 th	<p>A, B and D baps on works as previously shown</p> <p>C Company resting. A Company moved to N2700.2 (Lindenthoek Farm)</p>	
N14D85 RE Farm	1918 Jan	30 th	<p>Battalion HQ, Transport & D Company moved to RE Farm (N14D8.5).</p> <p>C Company resting. A & B Companies on works as previously shown. L.G.D. anti-aircraft work.</p>	
N14D8.5 RE Farm	1918 Jan	31 st	<p>A & B Companies on works as previously shown.</p> <p>D Company & Transport resting.</p> <p>C Company and L.G.D. moved to Butterfly Farm (N19A5.9).</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;">N 28 C 0.6 (Sp. Farm) <u>Month of January 1918</u></p> <p>Strength as at 1/1/18 - 38 off 1072 Other Ranks Strength as at <u>31/1/18</u> - 43 off 1158 Other Ranks</p> <p><u>Evacuated to hospital Sick</u> - 10 off 46 Other Ranks <u>Evacuated to hospital Wounded</u> - 2 Other Ranks</p> <p>Taken on Strength of unit - 50 Other Ranks Rejoined unit from hospital - 87 Other Ranks</p>	
			<p><i>W. L. Lunnell</i> CAPT. ADJT. 1st Pioneer Bn. 1st Aus Div.</p>	

Headquarters,

10th November 1917.

My Dear Henderson;

Now that we are leaving this sector I cannot let you go without expressing to you, and your splendid Battalion, the 1st Pioneers, my gratitude, and admiration for the way in which you have carried out the important work of building our forward roads right up to the front.

It is needless for me to tell you of what vital importance to the success of the army these roads were; your Officers and men shewed that they recognised this by the way in which they carried their work through in the face of the most deadly artillery fire, day after day. Alas; many of your splendid fellows, both Officers and men, have laid down their lives, but not uselessly, as the success of the Army in Flanders has demonstrated.

I wish to thank you, your Officers, N.C.O's & men for the splendid example of courage, and devotion to duty you have shewn through all these strenuous weeks.

I shall always remember with pride that I have been associated with the 1st Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) A. G. W. Lotbinière,

Brig. Gen.

Ch. Engr. 1st Anzac.