

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/10/9

Title: Headquarters 4th Australian
Divisional Engineers

October 1916



AWM4-14/10/9

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.

Edg^o - 4 Aus Div Engns
(Erase heading not required.)

October 1916.

Place	Date 1916	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	VOLUME ✓	Remarks and references to Appendices
Keninghelst	Oct. 1		more of workshops completed & put in full working order.		App. I
	to		3 circular saws & 2 handsaws working. Summary of work done at H ^o .		
	Oct. 23		Handing over left Brigade sector, workshops & dumps to 47 th Div.		
	24	10am	Handing over Div front workshops dumps &c to 41 st Div.		
	24	10am	Left Keninghelst for Steenwoorde		
Steenwoorde	25		In billets		
	26	6am	Left Steenwoorde for Godeswarevelde and entrained 10 am		
			for Longpre arriving about 8 pm. Spent night there		
	27		Left Longpre 10 am for Ailly Le Haut. Clocher		
Ailly Le	28		In billets. days raining &c		
Haut. Clocher	29				
	30				
	31				



*Attdow sent of Capt
PICKRE 4th Aus Div*

NOTES RE R. E. WORKSHOPS & DUMPS.Employed at Workshops.

14 Engineers, 7 Pioneers, ² Infantry, 2 Mechanical Transport,
38 Civilians, 12 Women = Total 81.

Employed at Dumps.

6 Engineers, 12 Infantry, 4 Civilians.

Hours of Work.

7- 30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Night Shifts where necessary.

Class of Work Done.

Sawmilling, Carpentering, Plumbing, Painting, Blacksmithing and Camouflage work.

Machinery in Use.

2 Steam Engines, 2 Petrol Engines, 3 Circular Saws, 2 Bandsaws.
Grindstone and drill being attached to power.

1	saw	running	from	14/9/16	to	24/9/16	
2	"	"	"	25/9/16	"	7/10/16	
3	"	"	"	8/10/16	"	9/10/16	
5	"	"	"	9/10/16	"	date.	Night Shifts from 6/10/16 5½ hrs

Camouflage.

About 1,600 yards made - 1,300 yards issued.

Average number of indents daily at Workshops = 25.

Tools.

All shops fitted out with a new set of Tools.

Transport of Stores to 9/10/16.

50 Railway Truck Loads, 300 Lorry Loads. In addition lorries supplied forward dumps and drew stores from Strazeele and Hazebrouck. Practically all stores now come on rail, thus releasing at least five Motor Lorries, and approximately twenty men. Forward trench dumps supplied by Tramway.

Removal of Shops and Re-erection of new ones.

Commenced on 14/9/16 - finished on 9/10/16

Materials.

Practically no stocks in hand, and all dumps and yards had to be stocked.

A. D. J.

Summary of Stores Received 9/10/16

Jobs Ordered to 9/10/16.

Item		By Rail	By Road	Total.	Job.	No.
Sandbags	No.	160,000	133,000	293,000	Latrine Seats, 1 hole	39
Barbed Wire	coils	1,600	6 100	1,700	2 "	14
Plain Wire	"	100	20	120	3 "	17
Screw Pickets & Angle Irons	No.	3,200	1,400	4,600	4 "	11
Wire Netting	Coils	300	560	860	5 "	31
Luckwalks	yards	7,000	2,400	9,400	6 "	11
Hurdles Revetting	No.	200	—	200	Tables	21
Cgtd Iron	sheets	1,200	2,194	3,394	Forms & Stools	32
Hessian Asstd	yards	1,772	9,743	11,515	Notice Boards	345
Coir Screening	rolls	—	7	7	Limber Crates	114
Felting, roofing	"	30	300	330	Corres. Trays	42
Steel Rails & Girders	No.	70	120	190	Windows & Doors	19
Nails & Staples	tons	—	3	3	Revetting Screens	447
Cement	barrels	332	22	354	"A" Frames	480
Paint	lbs.	—	700	700	Braziers & Stoves	50
Timber Wrought trucks or lorries		9	130	139	Box Drains & Well Casings	190
Forest Timber,	"	4	77	81	Gas Sungs with stand	7
Tramway Trucks	No.	12	—	12	Boxes, lge with locks	11
Bricks	"	—	6,000	6,000	Firesteps	500
Expanded Metal, lorries		—	3	3	Water Tanks & Fittings	6
Windows & Doors		—	73	73	Revetting Anchors & Stakes	370
Huts, Nissen, Bow		4	3	7	Hinges Ice	20
Cupolas	trucks	1	10	11	Blinds	15
cols, asbestos, twine)		sheets		Oiled Linen for windows	40
tallow, bolts, water)				Other Jobs	22
troughs, paint brushes)					
whitewash)					
Stoves with Piping		—	53	53		

of 7 and 14 feet each.

Added

Appendix No. I

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Engineer Headquarters,
4th Australian Division,
11th October, 1916.

Circular Memo.

To *All units 4 Div.*
CR + CRE'S 1-2+5 Divs
3 batts redy. Art. + Div. batts
ENGINEER SERVICES.

(1).-As localities have, under certain conditions, to be fitted out with certain items, it has been found necessary to devise the following system for accounting for engineer stores. On receipt of the inventories mentioned below, after checking with the records in this office, one copy will be passed to you for retention and for handing over to relieving units; one copy to the Area Commandant for the information of Barrack Wardens; the third copy will be filed in the C.R.E.'s office.

(2).-Engineer fittings and fixtures in huts must not be removed without the permission of the C.R.E. All units occupying huts, etc., will send a list in TRIPLICATE of the following engineer fittings and fixtures to the C.R.E., to reach him not later than the 16th instant: Stoves (giving maker's name, if any), Stove piping (in feet), Tables and stools made by the Engineers. All returns required.

*Also latrine soap giving 110
pieces in each*

(3).-The following stores will be kept in the area and will not be removed. O's. C. will please arrange to make a check of the following articles at present in possession of their units and will submit a return in TRIPLICATE to the C.R.E. not later than the 16th instant. All returns to be rendered where no such stores are on charge

- Grenade Aiming Rosts
- Sniperscopes for Lewis Machine guns.
- Machine gun flash obscurers.
- 1" Trench Howitzer Sigs.
- 2" " " "
- Cast Iron Trench Pumps.
- Trench Scoops.
- " Cookers.
- " Rifle racks.
- Revetting Rodkins and Anchors.
- Rifle Batteries.
- Listening Patrol Ear Trumpets.
- Loophole and Observation Plates.
- Machine gun Mountings for all machine guns, complete, to pivot the gun about the muzzle both for elevation and direction.
- Rowlock Rifle Rosts to suit all rifles used for directing accurate fire upon unseen targets.
- Thermos Boxes for cooking and keeping hot drinks.

- Wheelbarrows.
- Mills Grenade Pin Extractors.
- Shovels.
- Picks.
- Pauls.
- Tracing Tapes.
- Saws.
- Hammers.
- Chisels.
- Scrapers.
- Braziers
- Pumps of all kinds.
- Hosing
- Horse troughs.
- Machine gun sub-targets for accurately firing upon unseen targets.
- Caps and rods with plugs for firing Mills grenades from rifles to suit all rifles.
- Knobkerrie heads for entrenching tool handles.
- Periscopes, Bayonet, Loophole, and Box.

(4).-It must be understood that good cause must be shown for any loss or deficiency, otherwise the loss will fall on the Unit.

G. C. E. Smith
Lieut.-Colonel,
C.R.E. 4th Aust. Div.

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SECRET.

- 3 -

Headquarters,
Divisional Engineers,
4th. Aus Div. 15.10.16.

Circular to
Rough timber should be used wherever seen or heard of. For the present corrugated iron
cheaper than sawn timber. For the present corrugated iron
heavier and better should be used as sparingly as possible.

ENGINEER SERVICES.

Engineer shops and dumps are available as under :-

- (1) OUDERDOM (G.29.d.9.4.)
Sawmill, Carpenters', Blacksmiths', Plumbers' and Tinsmiths' shops
&c. Timber and Ironmongery will be issued here.
- (2) DICKEBUSCH, (H 27.V.22)
Engineer Dump. Material other than Workshop jobs, timber or
ironmongery will be issued from this yard.
- (3) CAFE BELGE. (H.24.C.23).
Engineer Dump. Material for front line and units in vicinity will
be issued here. This dump is only available at night, and on no
account will vehicles be sent to collect stores during the day.
- (4) BRISBANE DUMP. H.24.A.10.5).
Engineer dump. Material for front line and units in vicinity
will be issued here.
- (5) HALEBAST DUMP. (N.3.A.1.5).
Engineer dump. Material for front line and units in vicinity will
be issued here.
- (6) Engineer material for front line use may also be obtained from any
of the following dumps :- LOSK HOUSE (1.33.D.2.5), LILLE (1.32.D.1.2),
OXFORD STREET (D.1.B.8.9), MURPHY (D.1.B.9.9) VOORMEZELE (I.31.A.4.
1), RIDGEWOOD (N.5.B.1.3), BOIS CARRE (N.12.B.18-approx), POPPY -
LANE (N.11.A.24), CHESTER FARM (I.33.A.5.7), SUNKEN ROAD (I.34.A.90.
95).

(7) REQUISITIONS FOR SUPPLIES.

Requisitions, which are not required in duplicate, must show for
what purpose material is required, and in all cases must be counter-
signed by an Engineer Officer before issue will be made.
Requisitions for Infantry Brigades will be countersigned by an
Officer of the Field Company operating with the Brigade, for
Artillery by the Engineer Officer allotted to the Div. Artillery,
for A.A.S.C. and A.A.M.C. and Divisional units, when Engineer
Officers are not available in the vicinity, by C.R.E. or Adjt.,
4th. Aus. Div. Engineers.

(8) Requisitions for jobs at Workshops.

- A. All orders, for all units other than the 4th. Infantry Brigade,
must be sent to the C.R.E. On no account must they be left at the
Workshops. Indents must be accompanied by a dimensioned sketch
giving measurements as internal or external as the case may be, and
must show the relative urgency of the work. Units will be notified
when jobs are completed and ready for removal. The written notification
as to the completion of jobs must be presented at the shops, otherwise
they will not be handed over.
- B. In the case of 4th. Infantry Brigade group, all orders for jobs at
workshops will be sent to Lieut. Petts, Officer i/c R.E.
Workshops, Peperinghe Road (A.27.b.44). Details as above will be furn-
-ished to this Officer in lieu of the C.R.E.

(P.T.O.)

(9) GENERAL.

Rough timber should be used wherever possible since it is cheaper than sawn timber. For the present corrugated iron, hessian and felting should be used as sparingly as possible. These materials are difficult to obtain.

(10) SAWDUST.

Units requiring sawdust for Latrine purposes should requisition on the C.R.E. in the ordinary way, stating how much is required and when.

(2) DICKERBUSH (H. 27. N. 22)

Engineer dump. Material other than workshop jobs, timber or ironmongery will be issued from this yard.

(3) CAPE BELGE (H. 24. C. 23)

Engineer dump. Material for front line and units in vicinity will be issued here. This dump is only available at night, and an account will be sent to collect stores during the day.

(4) BRISBANE DUMP (H. 24. A. 10. 5)

Engineer dump. Material for front line and units in vicinity will be issued here.

C.R.E. 4th. Australian Division.

(5) HALBERT DUMP (H. 24. A. 1. 5)

Engineer dump. Material for front line and units in vicinity will be issued here.

(6) Engineer material for front line may also be obtained from any of the following dumps:

- LOCK HOUSE (H. 23. D. 2. 5), LILLE (H. 23. D. 1. 2), OXFORD STREET (D. 1. 5. 9), MURPHY (D. 1. 5. 9), VOORMEER (H. 21. A. 4. 1), RIDGEWOOD (H. 2. 5. 1. 3), BOIS GARRIE (H. 12. 5. 18 - approx), POPPY - LAKE (H. 11. A. 24), CHESTER BARN (H. 23. A. 5. 7), SUNKEN ROAD (H. 24. A. 20. 25)

(7) REQUISITIONS FOR SUPPLIES

Requisitions, which are not required in duplicate, must show for what purpose material is required, and in all cases must be countersigned by an Engineer Officer before issue will be made. Requisitions for Infantry Brigades will be countersigned by an Officer of the Field Company operating with the Brigade, for Artillery by the Engineer Officer allotted to the Div. Artillery, for A.A.C. and A.M.C. and Divisional units, when Engineer Officers are not available in the vicinity, by C.R.E. or Adj. 4th. Aus. Div. Engineers.

(8) Requisitions for jobs at Workshops

A. All orders for all units other than the 4th. Infantry Brigade, must be sent to the C.R.E. On no account must they be left at the Workshops. Indents must be accompanied by a dimensioned sketch giving measurements as internal or external as the case may be, and must show the relative urgency of the work. Units will be notified when jobs are completed and ready for removal. The written notification as to the completion of jobs must be presented at the shops, otherwise they will not be handed over.

B. In the case of 4th. Infantry Brigade group, all orders for jobs at

workshops will be sent to Lieut. Petts, Officer in Charge, Workshops, Papering Road (A.R.P. 44). Details as above will be furnished to this Officer in lieu of the C.R.E.

(P.T.O.)