

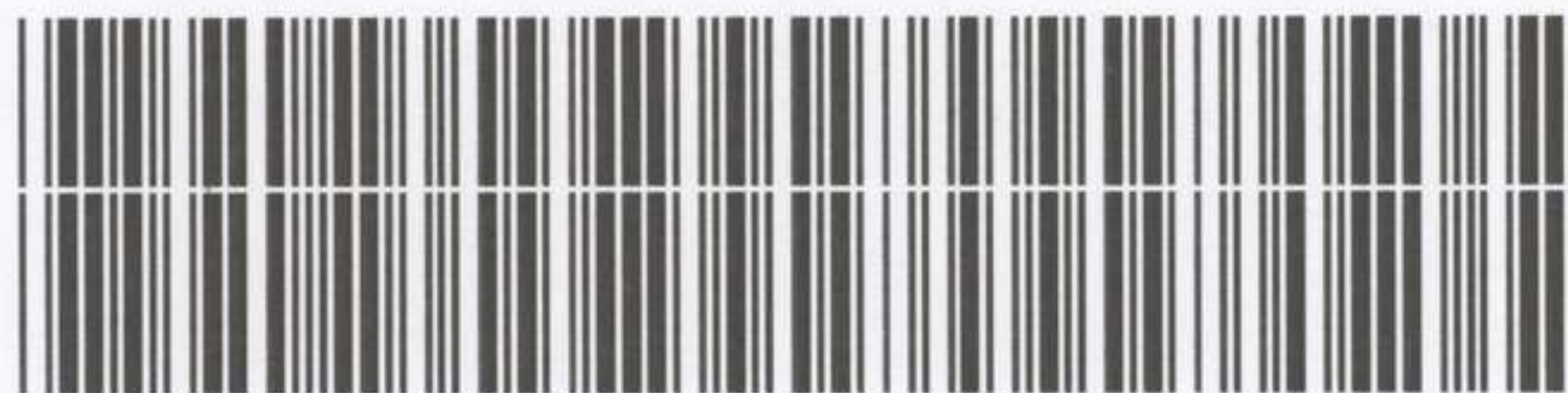
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/14/23

**Title:** 2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion

April 1918



AWM4-14/14/23



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
DUPLICATE.  
TRIPPLICATE.

2ND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.	
No.....	5/38
Date.....	2/5/18

Australian Imperial Force.



# WAR DIARY

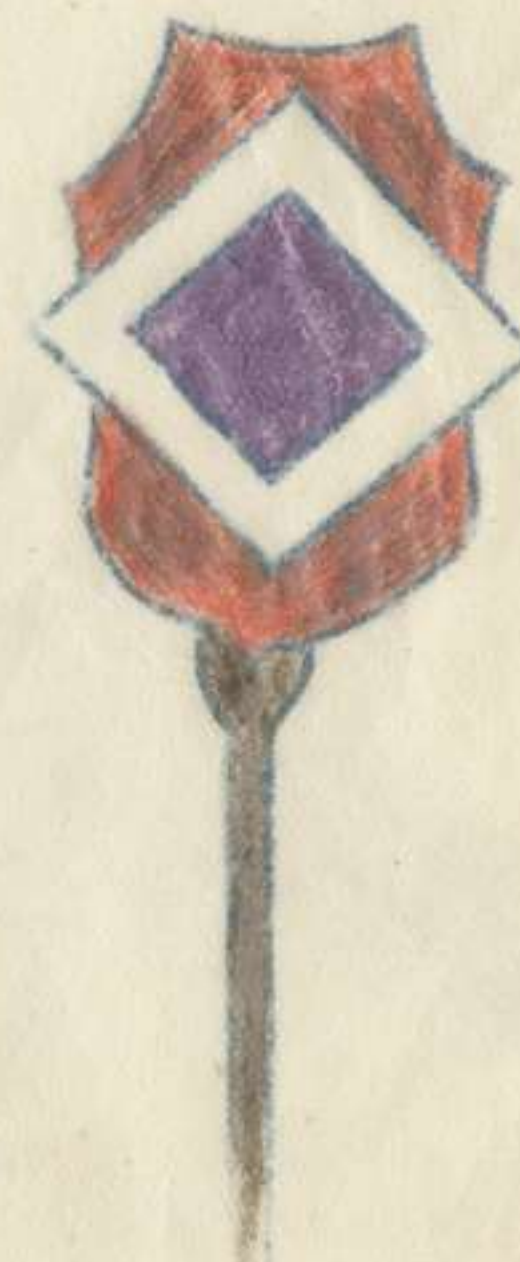
OF

2nd A.I. Pioneer Bn

FOR

APRIL

1918



Signature of Officer compiling

*Ch. Henry*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*W. L. ...*



Orig.

①

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.

2nd Aus

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Pioneer Bn.

April 1918

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hoogstraaf	1st	-	Bn moved from WULVERGHEM area to WIPPENHOEK area - by light railway to FUREVILLE. - thence by march route to huts at HOOGRAAF. - movement order attached	App 1
			LT E.M. HOLDER and LT P. ROBINSON with 2 UOR returned to Bn from temp duty with 18th Aus Coy RE.	App 2
Fontaine - Houck	2nd		Bn moved into scattered billets at FONTAINE HOUCK (N. of METEREN) - marching via BOESCHÉPPE and BERTHEN. - UOR joined from loop - 1 to loop.	App 3
do -	3rd		Bn exercise - storming & capturing of ridge near billets (App 4) - 1 UOR from loop - 2 to loop.	App 4
"	4th		Bn exercise on similar plan to that of yesterday - Coy to change places (App 5) - Recd. orders to move SOMME area by train - Bn Movement Order issued - 1 UOR to loop.	App 5
Somme Area	5th		Bn detrained at AMIENS & marched to billets HQ to, C & D Coy at POULAINVILLE, A & B Coy at CARDONETTE - LT E.M. HOLDER evad, to loop sick.	App 6
	6th		Bn marched via ALLENVILLE - QUERRIEV & PONTNOYELLES to tented field near LA HOUSSOYE taking over tents of 18th Northumb. Fusiliers (Pioneers) - Movement order attached -	App 7
	7th		Marched via FRANVILLERS and BAIZIEUX to fields near WARLOY. Dug in here and relieved 4th Aus Pioneers of their work in forward area - Movement Order attached - 1 UOR to loop.	App 8
	8th		Tight work. B, C & D Coy constructing line of posts in front of MILLENCOURT facing E. towards BUIRE - 1 UOR to loop.	
	9th		Coy constructing 10 strong posts in echelon formation, giving supporting fire, swinging N.N.W. towards MILLENCOURT - 3 UOR killed - 1 wounded & D of W. - 3 to loop sick - LT JENKINS detailed to make daily survey of previous night's work and to plot same on map -	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

April 1918

2

2nd Aus

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Pioneer Bn

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOMME AREA.	10 <sup>th</sup>		A Coy sent one platoon under Lt W.O. Toole to construct M.G. Tunnels thro' railway embankment SE. of LAVIEVILLE - One platoon C Coy constructed Wireless Str for 6 <sup>th</sup> Bde G. of HENENCOURT. Lt J.C. BIGELOW appointed ROADS OFFICER in charge of patrols forward of LAVIEVILLE - HENENCOURT. Coys during night dug 9 strong posts E. of LAVIEVILLE	
	11 <sup>th</sup>		M.G. tunnels continuing - Coys at night work gaining up line of strong posts S.E. of LAVIEVILLE and crossing ALBERT - AMIENS Road - 1 OR to hosp sick - 7 N.C.O's rejoined from P.T.B. England.	
	12 <sup>th</sup>		Digging flank line 700yds long S.E. of MILLENCOURT. Work on M.G. tunnels - Weekly works progress report sent to C.R.E. - 2 OR to hosp sick.	App 9
	13 <sup>th</sup>		A, B & C Coys constructing trench for LAVIEVILLE defences - D Coy completing previous night's work - M.G. Tunnels - 2 OR to hosp. sick.	
	14 <sup>th</sup>		Issued memo. re Organisation of Bn in case of enemy Attack - Coys constructing line from about D24a 13 NE along reverse slope of ridge in D24a and D18d - taped out by Lt J. RIDE (1230 yds in length and lying N.NE of BUIRE SUR L'ANCRE). - Lt R.A. SMITH M.C. wounded & evacd. 3 OR. Killed in action - 1 D. of Wds - 9 wounded & evacd - 1 accdly. injured - 1 to hosp. sick -	App 10
	15 <sup>th</sup>		G & D Coys completing previous night's work - A & B resting - 2 to hosp. sick - M.G. Tunnels finished.	
	16 <sup>th</sup>		Coy dug 750yds affire trench between MILLENCOURT and BUIRE - SUR - L'ANCRE. - 3 OR. killed in action 11 OR wounded & evacd. - 4 OR wounded remaining at duty -	

Bl 26



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Pioneer Bn

April 1918

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.

③  
2nd Aust

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOMME	17		Coys constructing 1000 yds of Communication Trench, running SE of MILLENCOURT to support line. Works specially commended by G.O.C 2nd Division - 10 R. joined from hop. - 1 K.I.A. - 12 wounded.	App 11
AREA	18		C & D Coys completing previous night's work - A & B Coys standing by - Addendum issued to Mem. O. on Organisation of Bn in case of enemy attack - 10 R. from hoops -	App 12
	19		A Coy digging 190 yds fire trench - 1,000 yds NNE of BUIRE - B Coy 180 yds of C.T. 1000 yds SE of MILLENCOURT - C & D Coys standing by - Weekly Progress report sent to CRE - 1 wounded - 1 from 7th R. Hoop	App 13
	20		Coys dug 1155 yds of fire trench 3'9" x 3'6" x 2" from LAVIEVILLE running due South towards RIBEMONT - 5 OR wounded - 2 acutely injd. - 1 to hoop sick -	
	21		Major Rutledge transferred to 4th Pioneer as C.O - Major Donnelly apptd 2nd i/c Bn - C and D Coys extending line commenced last night, working in NE direction for 640 yds linking up with LAVIEVILLE defences - A & B Coys standing by -	
	22		Major E.E. KING rejoined unit on transfer from 5th Pioneer - Bn standing by owing to attack by 35th and 38th Divisions - 3 to hoop sick -	
	23		Lt N.H. MALCOLM to seconded list (invalided) - A Coy dug 280 yds of C.T. lying 1000 yds SE of LAVIEVILLE - B Coy 270 yds fire trench in same area - 1 OR to hoop sick -	
	24		C & D Coy dug 545 yds C.T. in continuation of previous night's work - A & B standing by - 3 to hoop -	
	25		A, B and C Coys dug 960 yds C.T. S.W. of LAVIEVILLE - 2 to hoop -	



WAR DIARY

April 1918

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.

Pioneer Bn

(4)  
2nd Aust

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOMME AREA	26.		D Coy spitlocked to depth of 9", 650 yds of C.T. lying 500 yds E of LAVIEVILLE - 2 Lt R.W. Edwards and 2 Lt M.F. BURROWS joined from 12th Rpts - 24 U.R. from hoop - 16 U.R. from 8th-12th Rpts - 3 to hoop sick.	
	27.		Relieved 18th Bn of duties as nucleus Bn of BAZIEUX system (App 14) - Weekly Works Progress App 14. Report sent to C.R.E. - Coys dug 1200 yds C.T. starting 1500 yds E of MILLENCOURT and running generally E. towards ALBERT. 1 U.R. from hoop - 1 to hoop sick - 1 to hoop S.I.W.	App 15
	28.		Relieved of duties as nucleus Bn of BAZIEUX system by 5th Inf Bde. - Lt M.E. PATERSON 28th Bn - and Lt P.E. REYNOLDS 21st Bn (temporarily attached), reported back to their units, A.B+C Coys dug 750 yds C.T. in continuation of previous night's work (MILLENCOURT end) - 5 U.R. from hoop - 2 to hoop sick - 1 acutely injured.	App 16
	29.		Memo. re "Instructions for the Defensive" issued - Lt S.B. CHAMBERS and 4 NCO's left for 6 months duty with Pioneer Training Bn - Military Medals awarded to following NCO's: 1747 Sgt S.D. WATSON - 1993 Sgt POLAND, M. - 3625 Sgt Reid W.F. - Bn standing by - 1 from hoop - 1 to hoop sick - 1 acutely injd to hoop -	App 17
	30.		Received orders to move to MONTICENY area on 1st prox. Movement order not received. C.O.'s remarks re nature of work in this area appended.	App 22 App 23

Ch 26



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# WAR DIARY

OF

*2nd Aus Pioneer Bn*

FOR

*April*

1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject.  |
|-----|---|
| 1.  | Movement order Wulverghem to Boogaaf.   |
| 2.  | Appreciation of detached party tempy. employed with 184th tunnelling Coy R.E. |
| 3.  | Movement order to Fontaine Bouck  |
| 4.  | Bn Exercise   |
| 5.  | - do -  |
| 6.  | Movement order to Somme Area  |
| 7.  | - do Poulainville to Pont d'oyelles   |
| 8.  | - do to relieve 4th Aus Pioneer Bn  |
| 9.  | Progress report week ending 17th April 1918                                   |
| 10. | Organisation of Bn. in case of enemy attack                                   |
| 11. | Appreciation of work by G.O.C 2nd Aus Div.                                    |
| 12. | Addendum to App 10.   |
| 13. | Progress report week ending 19th April.                                       |
| 14. | Garrisoning of Bazieux defences.  |
| 15. | Progress report week ending 26th April  |
| 16. | Relief of Bazieux defences by 55th Bde  |
| 17. | Instructions for the defensive.   |
| 18. | Discipline report April 1918  |
| 19. | Graph showing daily strength of Bn April 1918                                 |
| 20. | " wastage of Bn Feb-Apr.  |
| 21. | R.M.O's report (leaflet) with graphical illustrations                         |
| 22. | Movement Order No 27 (to DAOURS via BEHENC'T).                                |
| 23. | C.O's remarks re nature of work in this area                                  |

*6/26*



COPY.

S E C R E T.

Copy. No. 18.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.Engineer Instruction No. 86 ....*M-I*  
30th March 1918.Issued under Australian Corps Order No. 40 of 30/3/1918.

1. The Field Coys. and Pioneers of 2nd. Australian Division will be relieved by the Field Coys. and Pioneers of the 19th and 25th Divisions. Reliefs to be arranged direct between C.R.Es. concerned, and completed by MIDNIGHT 1st-2nd April 1918.
2. 2nd. Aust. Pioneer Tunnelling Detachment<sup>n</sup>.  
The two Officers and 40 other ranks of 2nd. Australian Pioneers at present attached to 184 Tunnelling Company R. E. will rejoin their unit by Mid-day April 1st. 48 hours rations to be taken.  
This detachment will not at present be replaced by 19th and 25th Divisions.
3. The 40 other ranks detailed by 2nd. Australian Division for employment in the Corps. Workshops will remain as at present.
4. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Signed) C. D. Sheldon., Capt. R.E.,  
for Brigadier-General.  
Chief Engineer, AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

*CSB*



MOVEMENT ORDER (and ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO) No. 21.

BT

*appendix 1.*

COL. F.R.G. ANNAND, DSO., VD., COMMANDING WND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

*App 1.*

In the Field  
31st March 1918.

INTENTION.

1. Battalion will move out of camps at present occupied on 1st., prox. en route for -

ROUTE.

2. H.Q. and B Coy entrain at MACHONICIE Siding.  
A, C, D Coys entrain at ATHABASCA Siding (T.S.d.7.4)  
8 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. - O.C. A Coy to detail an entraining officer - detrain at FUREVILLE, billeting first night at ~~WIPPENHOEK~~ and on second in CODESWAERSV LDE, remaining at latter place awaiting orders to entrain.

MARCH DISCIPLINE.

3. As laid down in previous orders, to be strictly maintained (See A.R.O's para's 350 and 438 to 451).

STARTING TIME.

4. A, C, and D, as mentioned in Para. 2.  
H.Q. and B. Coy 1.30 p.m. from Spy Camp.

ADVANCE PARTY.

5. Lieut Henry and two H. Q. Signallers, one Officer and one N.C.O. from Coys will proceed to WIPPENHOEK on morning of 1st., Prox., reporting at Area Commandant's Office 11 a.m.  
Lieut Henry will act as Billeting Officer.

SEA KITS.

6. One Blanket and Ground sheet will be carried, attached to pack, no special method is laid down, but it is desired that each Unit of Battalion use its own method which should be uniform in that unit.

TRANSPORT.

7. T.O. will arrange for Coy. Transport to report at Coy. HQrs. at 8 a.m. on 1st. prox., returning to HQRS by 10.45 a.m., leaving for WIPPENHOEK at 11.30 a.m.

TRANSPORT GUARD.

8. Details from Q.M. Store to be H.Q. transport guard. Coys will arrange guards for respective transport. (Note :- No men except Transport Guards to ride on vehicles.)

TOOLS, AMMUNITION, ETC.

9. Full complement of tools, equipment, grenades, S. A. Ammunition to be carried. All surplus stores to be neatly packed in a suitable place in each unit's lines. No personal or other equipment of any description to be left in this area. Any surplus food to be handed to Coys Cooks or Stn Q. M. Store.

- WATER. 10.
- SANITATION. 11.
- ALONG POSTS. 12.
- WAS GUARDS. 13.
- ENEMY POW-
- ARMAMENT. 14.
- FIRE PIQUETS. 15.

As laid down in Operation Order No. 23 of

12: 12: 17.



(2).

appendix. 1.

CAMP SITES.

18. Camps to be left in clean and sanitary condition and certificates to be forwarded to B.O.R. by 9 a.m. 1st. prox.

COMPLETION.

17. On completion of each day's move Coys will report to B.H.Q. stating time move was completed and giving location.

RUNNERS.

18. Each Coy. will send a runner to Battalion Headquarters to report to Signal Sergeant and to conduct H. Q. Signallers over routes to Coys. Headquarters. Battalion Headquarters will be situated at a position to be notified later.

RELIEFS.

19. Should incoming reliefs arrive in time duties being carried on by various details will be handed over; in the alternative, O.C. Coys and other Officers concerned will leave full written instructions also maps of area at B. H. Q. The men on Electric Light duties at CATACOMBS will remain until relieved, & joining Battalion as soon as relief is completed.

*G. B. Patterson*

Capt. and Adjt.  
2nd. AUST PIONEER BATTALION.

*App 1*

*APP 1*



COPY.In the Field.  
1st April 1918.Officer Commanding.  
2nd. Australian Pioneers.

I very much regret losing Lieut. Holder and Lieut. Robinson and their men.

We had all got to know them and like them personally and found them keen and very capable workers.

Wherever they and their Battalion go they will take with them our best wishes.

*Sgd* JOHN RICHARD GWYHER, Major.  
Commanding 184th Tunnelling Coy., R. E.

*AF 2*COPY.Officer Commanding,  
184th Tunnelling Coy., R. E.,

I am very glad to know that Lieuts. Holder and Robinson also the men of my command who have been attached to you, have given you satisfaction and that they have left a good name for themselves and their Unit, behind. They also speak in very high terms, of the treatment accorded them, and were sorry that the needs of the service made it necessary for them to leave you. Thank you very much for the good wishes for our Battalion. Please accept the same for your own command.

*Sgd* F.W.G. ANNAND., Lieut-Colonel.  
C.O., 2nd. Australian Pioneer Battalion.  
A. I. F.,

*AF 2*



SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.*Copy*Battalion Headquarters.  
1st. April 1918.ADDENDUM No. 1 to MOVEMENT ORDER No. 26.SECOND STAGE.

- INTENTION. 1. Battalion will move out of Billets at present occupied on 2nd. inst., en route for GODESWAERVELDE.
- ROUTE. 2. via BOESCHEPE. *App 3*
- STARTING TIME. 3. 10 a.m.
- ADVANCE PARTY. 4. Lt. Henry and two signallers from H. Qrs., one officer and one N. C. O. from Coys will proceed to GODESWAERVELDE on morning of 2nd inst. reporting at Area Commandant's Office at 10 a.m.. Lt. Henry will act as Billeting Officer.
- ORDER OF MARCH. 5. The Battalion will move out as a complete unit in following order :-  
 Headquarters.  
 A Company.  
 B       "  
 C       "  
 D       "  
 Transport,  
 forming up with D Coy., at Railway Crossing N.N.W. of present camp with 100 yards between Coys., and Transport ready to move off at 10 a.m.
- MARCH DISCIPLINE. 6. As laid down in previous orders. Attention to be paid to intervals, dressing, etc.,
- REPORTS. 7. Reports to HEAD OF COLUMN.

(Signed) G. B. Patterson  
 Capt. and Adjt.  
 2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

*Blk*



SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

App. 4.

BATTALION EXERCISES.

BY SECOND PIONEER BATTALION. 3: 4: 18.

INTENTION. 1. To take by storm the ridge lying south of A. and B Coys' Billets. The L being metal road (included) R being valley (approx. 500 yards front).

INFORMATION. 2. The enemy has a system of cleverly concealed posts which are believed to be held by small parties only.

ASSEMBLY POINT. 3. Lane running W from road (above mentioned) near A. and B Coys' billets.

DISPOSITION. 4. A and D in attack, C and B Coys in reserve.

METHOD OF ATTACK. 5. To advance in two waves by short rushes; odd sections covering advance of even sections, who in turn act in a like manner for first named sections.  
Note :- (These are only general instructions, Officers in charge of attack will make dispositions in conformity with the situation and tactical requirements.)

COMMUNICATION. 6. A special code, attached, will indicate to Officers of attacking force, ALSO TO ENEMY, the various circumstances requiring alteration in method and disposition of troops. This is to practice organisation to overcome unforeseen difficulties.

AMMUNITION. 7. For supply of Ammunition Pack Mules are available.  
Note :- No man will carry ball ammunition on exercise. An inspection will be held before leaving parade grounds and a certificate forwarded to S.H.Q. that no ammunition is carried on the men taking part in action.

ZERO TIME. 8. By Code later.

Capt. and Adj. S.  
2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

For purposes on exercise the following signals will be used :-

- |    | <u>SIGNAL.</u>   | <u>MEANING.</u>                             |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | R.C. }<br>C.C. }<br>L.C. }   | Right, Centre, or Left, HELD, respectively. |
| 2. | BLUE flag making succession of dots.   | Rifle or Machine Gun fire from that point.  |
| 3. | ENEMY signals will be sent by WHITE flag.<br>As 3. Messages likely to be sent by enemy are those in (1). |   |
|    | CODE - MORSE.  |   |



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SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

Battalion Exercise 4: 4: 18.

- INTENTION. 1. To attack ridge lying south of Battalion Billets.
- INFORMATION. 2. Enemy in scattered positions with M. Gs. *App 5*
- FORMATION. 3. C and B Coys in 2 waves - C on Left, B on Right.  
50 yards between waves. A and D in support  
advancing as necessary in Artillery Formation,  
deploying as desired into 2 waves in line.
- SIGNALS BY WHISTLE. 4. ATTENTION. {
  - 1 dash for 1st Waves - C and B Coys.
  - 2 dashes for 2nd Waves - A and D Coys.
  - 2 dots - deployment into line.
  - 3 " Artillery Formation.
- DRESSING STATIONS. 5. First Phase. Starting Point.  
2nd Phase. Work over gully about centre of line  
of attack.
- ORDER OF DRESS. 6. Fighting Order.
- POINT OF DIRECTION & DRESSING. 7. L of Right Coy i.e., centre of Line.
- PLACE OF ASSEMBLY. 8. Same as before.
- ASSEMBLY TIME. 9. 9.50 a.m.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*G. B. Satterton* Capt. and Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.



4:4:18

Addendum No. 2 to MOVEMENT ORDER No. 26 of 31: 3: 18.

- ATTENTION. 1. To proceed to GODESWAARVELDE to entrain for ST. ROOIJ.
- ASSEMBLY POINT AND ROUTE. 2. To be notified later. *App 6*
- ORDER OF MARCH. 3. B Coy, less one platoon, H. Crs., B; C; Transport. One Platoon from D and C Coys to act as Advance and Rear Guards respectively.
- STARTING & ENTRAINING TIMES. 4. A Coy., with cooker, starting time 5 p.m. Entraining time 10.5 p.m. 4th inst. Remainder of Battalion STARTING TIME 8 p.m. ENTRAINING TIME 1.5 a.m. 5th inst. Note :- To be at entraining station 1 1/2 hours before entraining time and no troops or transport will be permitted to enter station yard until permission is obtained from R. I. O.
- BATTALION ENTRAINING OFFICER. 5. Captain Armitage, J. A., B Coy. This officer to report to Entraining Officer (Capt. Elder 27th Btn) at 8 p.m. 4th inst.
- ADVANCE PARTY. 6. Lieut Henry and 1 N. O. O. per Coy., reported to 7th Sde., H. Crs., at 12.30 p.m., 4th inst., for Billeting purposes.
- GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS. 7. No March Discipline as laid down in MOVEMENT ORDER 26 of 31: 3: 18.
- WATER CARTS & WATER BOTTLES. 8. Water carts to entrain full. Water bottles to be filled before proceeding on march.
- TRANSPORT. 9. Horses to be watered before entraining. Transport to supply own Breast Lines.
- IMPORTANT. 10. No one is to leave the train at any time without orders. Efficient control to be exercised whilst Battalion is in train.

*G. Patterson* Capt. & Adj. G.  
2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

*G. Patterson*



COPY.

ADDENDUM No. 3. TO MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 26. - 6: 4: 18.

*appendix 7.*

- INTENTION. 1. To march out to camp at I.7.a.7.3. (Sheet 62D and Amiens 17)
- ROUTE. 2. A AND B COYS via ALLONVILLE, QUERRIES, and PONT NOYELLES to MONUMENT (from CARDONETTE) H.Qrs, C and D COYS as above (from POULAINVILLE)
- STARTING TIME. 3. H.Qrs, C and D COYS and TRANSPORT, 10.30 a.m.
- ADVANCE GUARD. 4. Lieut. Henry and 1 N. C. O. per Coy will proceed to I 7.a.7-3- leaving POULAINVILLE 9.30 a.m., (Lieut. Henry C and D Coy N. C. O. ) A and B N.C.O's will look out for Lt. Henry at PONT NOYELLES.
- ORDER OF MARCH. 5. O.C. A Coy to arrange for A and B Coys. C Coy, H.Qrs. D Coy. C Coy will detail one platoon as advance guard, and D Coy one Platoon as rear guard.
- GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS. 6. Re March Discipline, etc., as laid down in previous orders.
- TRANSPORT. 7. Will march out with H.Qrs., C and D Coys.

*APP 7*

(Signed) G. B. Patterson.  
Capt. and Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

*APP 7*



COPY. ADDENDUM NO. 4 OF MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 26 of 31/3/18.

Battalion Headquarters.  
7th April 1918.

- INTENTION. 1. To move to HENENCOURT taking over Billets and work of 4th Pioneer Battalion.
- ROUTE. 2. Via LAHOUSOYE - FRANVILLERS - WARLOY - HENENCOURT. (Maps. Lens 11 Amiens 17). *off 8*
- ADVANCE PARTY. 3. Lieut. Henry and one N. C. O. per Coy., leave present camp at 9.30 a.m. for HENENCOURT for Billeting purposes.
- STARTING TIME. 4. 10.30 a.m.
- ORDER OF MARCH. 5. B, H.Qrs, D, C, A Coys, Transport. B and A Coys will detail Advance and Rear Guards respectively. 100 yards between Companies, 25 yards between Platoons.
- GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS. 6. Re March Discipline, etc., as laid down in previous orders.

(Signed) G. B. Patterson  
Capt. and Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

*G.B.P.*



SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.Progress report for week ending 12: 4: 18.

2ND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.	
No. ....	4/142
Date .....	

TRENCHES.

Two lines of posts dug in front of LAVIEVILLE averaging 3 ft. 6" deep, 3 ft 6" wide at top, 2 ft at bottom. One line of posts connected up. Total length of trench dug 3050 yards. *(As per daily traps forwarded)*  
 Also 100 yards of partially dug posts completed at D.12.d.7.0.

Average number of men employed 580. *Apr 9*SHELTERS.

Two shelters complete, proof against whizz-bangs completed at D.12.b.3.2.

Number of men employed 30.

BRIDGE.

Bridge over trench to take infantry in fours completed at D.12.a.2-3.

TUNNELS.

25ft excavated, cleaned out and timbered 4 ft 6" X 3 ft at 7th M. G. Coy. D.17.c.5.3.

Quantity of barbed wire and wooden pickets collected and a dump established at Battalion Headquarters.

500 pickets and 50 coils wire delivered to 24th Battalion Headquarters.

*G. B. Patterson*Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.Roads Report for week ending 12: 4: 18.ROADS in forward area patrolled and repaired (D.5.a. - D.21.a.0.5.)

Average number of men employed 12.

*G. B. Patterson*Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.*[Handwritten signature]*



appendix 10

TACTICAL ORGANIZATION OF BATTALION IN CASE OF ENEMY ATTACK.Battalion Headquarters.  
April, 14th 1918.

App. 10

Coys. going to work in Forward Areas will move as complete Coys, less any detached platoons. As far as possible platoons are to be kept intact. Either O/C., Coy, or 2nd. in Command, will go out with Coy, and one officer per platoon.

Should an enemy attack develop whilst any Coys or Coy are engaged on forward work, they will endeavour to fall back to and occupy line of posts running approx. S of HAVENCOURT.

Battle Battalion Headquarters would move to 7th Bde. H.Qrs. at D.7.d.5.9. As soon as Company has reached line of posts a runner should be sent to report to B.B.H.Q. at 7th Bde.

Should it be found impracticable to fall back to position indicated above, the men should be disposed on best tactical line in immediate vicinity with a view to repelling any enemy attack, and endeavours should be made to get in touch with units in the vicinity, and to get a message to B.B.H.Q.

Should the Coys. at any time have to fall back on BRESLE-HAVENCOURT Posts the R.S.M. will arrange to transport Bombs and further supply of S.A.A. on Pack Mules to cemetery at D.2.d.7.2.

*G. B. Patterson* Capt. & Adjt.  
for Lieut-Colonel.  
C.O., 2nd. Australian Pioneer Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION :-

- Copy No. 1. - O/C., A Coy.  
2. - O/C., B "  
3. - O/C., C "  
4. - O/C., D "  
5. - Q.M.  
6. - T.O.  
7. - S.O.  
8. - R.S.M.  
9. - 2nd. Aust. Div.  
10. - File.  
11/14. - War Diary.

*W. J. G.*



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SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters.  
April 14th 1918.



ADDENDUM NO. 1. to 4/168 of 14th INST.

Position of Assembly will be in Rifle Pits and Small Posts as follows, approx. :-

- A Coy. From D.8.b.9.2. to D.8.b.9.6.
- B Coy. From D.8.b.9.6. to Cemetery in D.2.d.7.2.
- C Coy. From Cemetery in D.2.d.7.2. to D.2.d.8.9.
- D Coy. From D.2.d.8.9 to D.2.b.3.7.

*App 10*

*E. Patterson* Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

DISTRIBUTION :-  
Same as for 4/168.

*W. J. P.*



SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

Battalion Headquarters.  
18th April 1918.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY BY LIEUT-COLONEL ANNAND, DSO, VD, vCOMMANDING  
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

General Smythe, V. C., C. B., G. O. C. Division, rang the C. O. this evening and expressed his great appreciation of the work the Battalion has done since coming into this area.

The G. O. C. has been over the works constructed and especially commends the work on C.T. constructed on night of 17th/18th inst. He also added that the enemy was using gas Shells freely on other sectors and advises that special precautions should be taken, especially whilst on forward work as well as in camp.

The G. O. C.'s appreciation is very gratifying and the C.O. wishes this message read to all ranks and hopes they will deem it some recompense for the hard work they have been doing.

*G. B. Lattin* Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.



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War Diary

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

Apr 16

Battalion Headquarters.  
18th April 1918

Appendix 12

Adverting to our 4/168 and 4/170 of 14th inst. and 4/251 of 17th inst.

The following numbers of O.R's will be left in camp for necessary duties :-

<u>Coys</u>	30.
<u>A.M.C.</u>	As detailed by R.M.O.
<u>Q.M.Store</u>	6.
<u>H.Q.Sigs</u>	6 to keep communication with 7th Bde. H.Qrs (and to act as reliefs as required) remainder as detailed by S.O.
<u>H.Q.Details.</u>	Lt. Henry i/c.

App 12

2ND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.  
No. 4/277  
Date 18/4/18

Sergeant in Orderly Room.  
Canteen Corporal.  
Sgt. Oliver and 6 O.R. for duties as necessary.  
1 Post Orderly.  
Guard on Duty (if any prisoners in Detention)  
Water Duty men as detailed by R.M.O.  
2 Batmen. 1 Officers' cook.  
3 Details' cooks.

Transport. On "Action" being given, Coy Limbers will report at once to Coys, for transport of surplus S.A.A., Bombs, etc.  
Coy Wagons to report to Coys and be loaded with Tools, etc, by details in camp.  
3 Limber Drivers and 5 Pack men to take Echelon Ammunition and Bombs to position previously notified.  
Water carts with details as necessary.  
20 men to be detailed as reinforcements to men in line, as necessary.

Lewis Guns. S.A.A., Bombs. With Coys to be in readiness to be forwarded to positions as requisite.  
(In first instance to Assembly Position laid down in our 4/170 )

Alarm. The word "ACTION" from H.Qrs will indicate that all concerned are to ACT IMMEDIATELY in accordance with orders laid down herein and as previously detailed.

Note :- This word MUST NOT be used except on Authority of H.Qrs.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*G. B. Sutton* Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Australian Pioneer Battalion.



SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

Progress report for week ending 19: 4: 18.

*appendix 13*

TRENCHES.

*D 5211 to D 11399  
D 17349 to D 17358  
D 17354 to D 23288  
D 18288 to D 18204  
D 24444 to D 29337*

3083 yards of trench constructed in first zone and Lavieville zone to an average width 3 ft 6" at top, 2 ft at bottom, 3 ft 9" deep.

1260 yards C.T. constructed to give 4 ft 6" of cover. Average number of men employed 610.

*(E102-2 to E201-1 (app))*

*app 13*

TUNNELS.

19 ft excavated, cleaned out, and timbered - 4 ft 6" X 3 ft at E.19.c.7.0.

19 ft excavated, cleaned out and timbered 4 ft 6" X 3 ft at D.19.d.2.2.

Average number of men employed 19.

BRIDGES.

2 bridges constructed over trench at *D 11399* ~~D.12.a.2.2.~~ and D.11.d.5.0.

BATHS.

4 men repairing Baths, BEHANCOURT.

SALVING.

8 men salving wire and pickets and carting same to 6th Brigade. Approx. 250 coils wire and 500 pickets.

*G. B. Patterson*

Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

ROADS REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 19: 4: 18.

ROADS.

Forward roads in Divisional Area patrolled and repaired. Number of men employed 12.

*G. B. Patterson*

Capt. and Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

*GRB*



S E C R E T.C O P Y .

Copy No. 10.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. Q 180.Ref. Maps - Sheets 57D and 62D - 1/40,000.  
-----

Headquarters.

26th April 1918.

1. The 2nd. Aust. Pioneer Bn. will take over from the 18th Battalion the duties of nucleus battalion of the BAIZIEUX system from 8 a.m. 27th April 1918.
2. No. nucleus garrisons will be kept in this system, but the battalion will be prepared to occupy the selected company tactical positions on receipt of orders from D.H.Q.
3. Acknowledge by wire.

Issued at 8 p.m.

*Sgd* C.G. Miles. Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
Second Australian Division.

*CB 56*



appendix 15

app 15

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

PROGRESS REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 6 p.m. 27: 4: 1918.

TRENCHES,  
POSTS,  
C. Ts.

Constructing Posts, Trenches, and C.T. in Divisional Area, as under :-

3020 yards Trench and Posts constructed at  
E.1.c.2.2. - E.1.c.1.1. )  
D.24.a.4.4. - D.11.c.3.9. )  
D.22.a.4.0. - D.16.b.1.1. ) Approximately.  
D.16.a.4.0. - D.11.d.5.5. )

900 yards C.T. constructed at D.10.d.2.6. (approx)

Trenches and Posts 3'9" deep and 9" parapet, 3'6" at top, 2' at bottom.  
C.T. 3'9" plus spoil, and 3'6" at top, 2' at bottom.

Average number of men employed daily 480.  
(Daily average is affected by the fact that on four nights one Company was "Standing By," and on one night four Companies were "Standing By").

WIRE SALVED. About 50 coils salved. (Now at B.H.Q. - V.25. central).

*G.B. Patterson* Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

ROADS REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 27: 4: 18.

ROADS:

All Divisional Roads patrolled and repaired - between D.5.a. - D.21.a.0.5.

Average number of men employed 18.

*G.B.P.*

*G.B. Patterson* Capt. & Adjt.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.



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\*\*\*\*\*

*appendix 16*

COPY.  
=====

G.32/515 (Ins.No.17)  
G.32/516 (Ins.No.16)

Headquarters,  
27th April 1918.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE No. 17 & 16.

1. The 55th Infantry Brigade is attached to the Division and will be held in Divisional Reserve.

2. Its role will be as follows :-

(a) - One Battalion located at C.5.central, will be prepared to man the BAIZIEUX system of defences as follows on receipt of orders from D.H.Q. :-

- 1 Company - Posts in D.19.b. - D.13.d. (including post at D.20.central).
- 1 Company - Posts in D.7.a. - D.1.c.
- 1 Company - Posts in C.6. - U.3Q.d.
- 1 Company - Posts in V.25.

*Appendix 16*

A nucleus garrison of one platoon will be kept in each Company sector; these platoons will carry out any work in their company sectors that is necessary to make them defensible.

(b) - On receipt of Orders from D.H.Q., the remainder of the Brigade will move to assembly area, C.3.d. - G.10.a., just east of the CONTAY - FRANVILLERS Road, and will be prepared to man any portion of the second zone defences, or to reinforce the forward area.

3. The Second Australian Pioneer Battalion will assemble in the vicinity of their present camp, and will be prepared to move forward to reinforce the forward area, or to counter attack on receipt of orders from D.H.Q.

(Signed) C.G. Miles. Lieut-Colonel.  
General Stall,  
Second Australian Division.

*Appendix 16*



SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

*appendix 17*  
Battalion Headquarters.  
29th April 1918.

2nd. Aust. Division.

O/C A Company.

B     "  
C     "  
D     "

*app 17*  
INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DEFENSIVE.

Should the Battalion be ordered to man the BAIZIEUX system with nucleus garrisons, Battalion Headquarters will be established in Strong Point about C.6.d.6.6.

Company Sectors will be amended as follows :-

"A" Company to provide garrison for trench S.E. of Windmill Tower, from road at D.1.c.9.4. to BAIZIEUX - HENENCOURT ROAD, inclusive, at D.1.b.6.3. The left end of this section of trench is most important. A Lewis Gun should be placed to shoot down the HENENCOURT ROAD past old aerodrome.

"C" Company will provide garrison for Trench System running through V.25.d. & b., V.20.c.&a., to SENLIS ROAD at V.20.a.6.7., thence along that road to V.20.b.1.9. where the trench turns north-east. The northern boundary of the Divisional Sector cuts this trench a short distance north of the SENLIS ROAD., but it will be essential to man the trench in V.14.d. to cover the SENLIS ROAD and prevent enemy entering trench running along northern edge of the road.

"C" Coy Hqrs will be at about V.25.b.3.3. (against bank on South Side of WARLOY - HENENCOURT ROAD.)

*E. P. ...*  
Capt and Adj. for Lieut-Colonel.  
C.O., 2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.



appendix, 18

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

Report on Discipline - April 1918.

App 18

During the month of April three men were remanded for trial by F.G.C.M. as follows :-

A.W.L. 8 days.	60 days. F.P. No. 2.
Drunkenness	28 Ditto.
A.W.L. 7 days and } Giving False name } to M.P.	90 days F.P. No. 2.

There were 35 cases of men being charged with missing work parade thereby causing someone else to do their task.

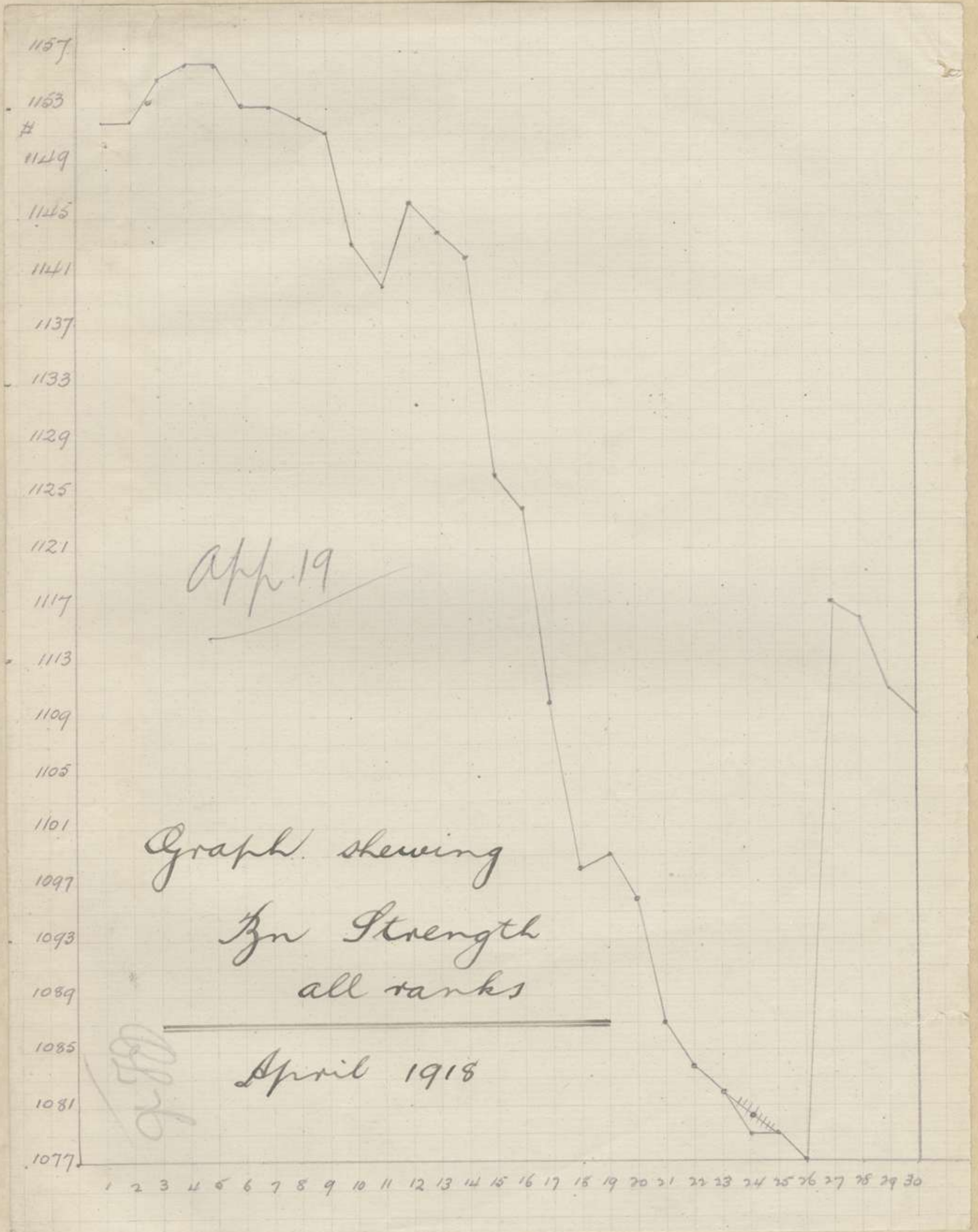
These were dealt with by the C.O., and awarded punishments ranging from a forfeiture of 5 days pay to 28 days F.P. No. 2.

11 cases of A.W.L. for a period of hours or a few days were also dealt with within the Battalion and brought punishment ranging from a forfeiture of 2 days pay to 28 days F.P. No. 2.

There were likewise two cases of drunkenness, for which offences the C.O., awarded a forfeiture of 5 days pay and one case of "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline" bringing a forfeiture of 21 days' pay.

*[Handwritten signature]*







Graph illustrating  
Bn wastage for 3mths ending  
April 1918

Figures represent total Decreases  
monthly due to  
all causes.

12684

Apr 20

87. →

Feb. 49



July 1918



March 1918



April 1918

Ch 76

Appendix 70



MONTHLY WAR DIARY REPORT.

2nd AUST. PIONEER BATTALION.

To

*Apr 21*

The health of the Battalion for April has been very satisfactory, there being only 32 evacuations to Hospital which included Venereal Disease 1, Scabies Nil, Accidentally Injured 6, Diarrhoea Nil, Pyrexia 7, Rheumatism 2, Other causes 16.

Sick Parades have been normal, chiefly men with sore feet and accidental injuries.

From the beginning of the month the Battalion has occupied various billets and camps.

From the 6th inst.m the Battalion has camped in the open, for one night in tents and the remaining days in dugouts which latter are now comfortable.

Bathing arrangements were most unsatisfactory but are now good.

Some of the late reinforcements have not proved satisfactory for forward work, the chief reasons being age, general weakness, and physical and mental defects.

The camps ~~are~~ now occupied are in a reasonable sanitary state. Fly proof latrines and urinals have been erected.

*R.H.*

(Signed) R.H. Hudson. Major.  
R.M.O.  
2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.



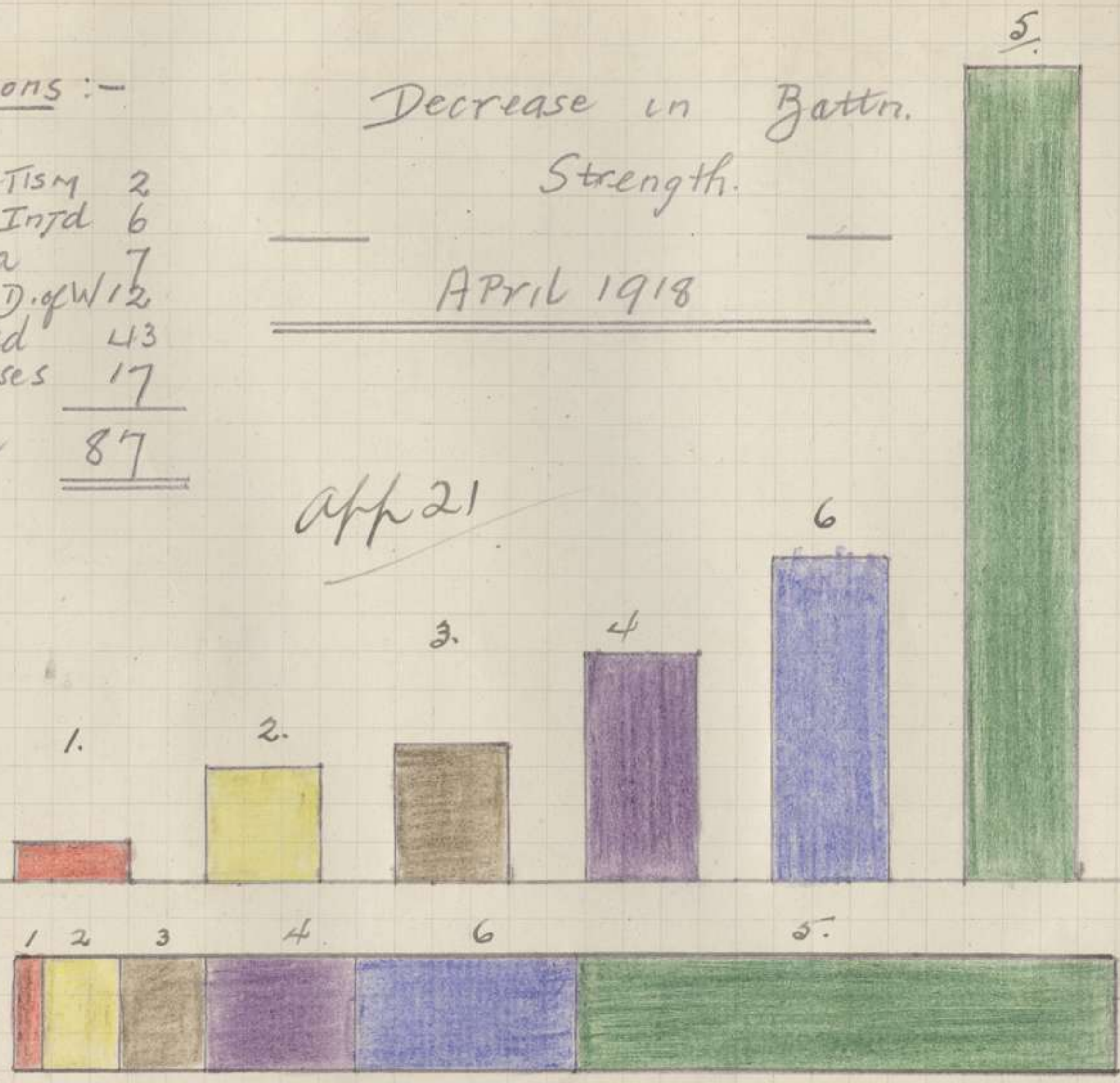
Reasons :-

1 RHEUMATISM	2
2. Acidy Injd	6
3. Pyrexia	7
4 Killed & D. of W	12
5. Wounded	43
6 Other Causes	17
<u>Total</u>	<u>87</u>

Decrease in Battn.  
Strength.

April 1918

Apr 21



Appendix

11.



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MOVEMENT ORDER (AND ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO) NO. 27.

BY

*appendix 22*

LIEUT-COL. F.W.G. ANKAND, DSO, VD, COMMANDING ENGINEER AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

*App 22*

In the Field.  
30th April 1918.

INTENTION.

1. Battalion will move out of Camps at present occupied on 1st prox., en route for DACURS via BEHENCOURT, staging at last named place on night of 1st prox.

RELIEFS.

2. Battalion is being relieved by 47th Divisional Pioneers. Reliefs to be completed by 4 p.m. on 1st prox.

ROUTE.

3. via BAIZIEUX.

MARCH DISCIPLINE.

4. As laid down in previous orders, to be strictly maintained (see A.M.Os. paras. 356 and 438 to 451). 100 yards between Companies and 25 yards between every sixth transport vehicle.

STARTING PLACE AND TIME.

5. Prisoners of War Cage, BAIZIEUX, at 2 p.m.

ORDER OF MARCH.

6. Headquarters - A - B - D - C. A and C to arrange advance and rear guards, respectively.

ADVANCE PARTY.

7. Lieut. Henry and two H.Q. Sigs. plus One Officer and One N.C.O. from Companies will report at Town Major's office BEHENCOURT, at 9 a.m. on the morning of the 1st prox. Lieut. Henry will be Billeting Officer.

BLANKETS.

8. Blanket and Ground Sheet will be carried attached to Pack. Each Coy may choose its own method of carrying which should be uniform in the Company.

TRANSPORT.

9. T.O. will arrange for Company Baggage Transport Wagons to report to Coys at 8 a.m. 1st prox. Os.C. Companies to arrange for Tool Wagons and Machine Gun Limbers to be loaded at Transport Lines. Baggage Wagons will return to Transport Lines 1 p.m.

TRANSPORT GUARD.

10. Details from Q.M. Store to be H.Q. Transport Guard. Companies to arrange Guards for respective transport.  
Note :- No man except transport Guard to ride on vehicles. No more than two men per cooker whilst on the road.

TOOLS, AMMUNITION, ETC.

11. Full complement of tools, equipment, grenades, S.A.A., to be carried. All surplus stores to be neatly packed in a suitable place in each unit's lines. No personal or other equipment of any description to be left in this area. Any surplus food to be handed to Coy Cooks or to Battalion Q.M. Store.

- WATER. 12. )
- SANITATION. 13. )
- ALARM POSTS. 14. )
- GAS GUARDS. 15. )
- ENEMY BOMBARDMENT. 16. )
- FIRE SIGNALS. 17. )

As laid down in previous movement orders.

*W.F.*



(2)

appendix 82

CAMP SITES.

18. Camps to be left in a clean and sanitary condition. Certificates to be forwarded to B.O.R. by 1 p.m. on 1st prox.

COMPLETION.

19. On completion of each day's move Companies will report to B.H.Q. stating time move was completed and giving location of Coy. Hqrs.

RUNNERS.

20. Companies will send a runner to Battalion Headquarters to report to Sig. Sergeant for the purpose of conducting H.Q. Signallers over routes to Coys Hqrs. Position of B.H.Q. will be notified later.

NOTE.

21. This movement order is subject to amendment or alteration as requisite.

App 22

*G.D. Patterson*

Capt. & Adj. Sd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.



SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

*appendix 82*  
Battalion Headquarters.  
30th April 1918.

*app 23*

Memo. re works executed by the Battalion in Divisional Area during the month of April 1918.

Area, astride ALBERT - AMIENS Road immediately west of ALBERT -

We had the relatively unique experience of several times turning out the whole working strength of the Battalion to be put on a big task at one time. So we on several occasions had the satisfaction of reporting to Brigades and the Division the completion of up to 1250 yards of new fire trench or C.T. that did not exist at dusk the previous evening.

The procedure which was found to work out very satisfactorily was that the general line of the proposed work was reconnoitred and pointed out by officers of the Bde Staff to one of our Officers.

At dusk this officer and two N.C.O.'s per Company went to the site and taped out the actual trace of the proposed works.

The section to be dug by each Coy was marked off, and then one of the N.C.O.s for each Company went back to an appointed rendezvous to meet the Companies and Guide them to the taped lines. The men were given task work, the officers being responsible that no Section or Platoon left the work until it had been satisfactorily tested by a template.

Next morning an officer surveyed the night's work, and plotted it on plans for information of Brigades and the Division.

The Battalion always went out to work in full Fighting Order, carrying tools in addition.

*[Signature]*  
Lieut-Colonel.  
C.O., 2nd. Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

*[Handwritten initials]*