

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/14/6

Title: 2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion

August 1916



AWM4-14/14/6

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 98

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

2nd AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BN

(Erase heading not required.)

AUGUST 1916.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
POZIERES	1		<p>Extending and deepening CENTRE WAY through POZIERES. Laid out and dug to average depth of 3 ft about 600 yds of ADVANCED TRENCH between our front line and enemy line N.W. of BAUPAUME ROAD on the N.E. of POZIERES. Guided infantry party on to the job to continue & deepen it.</p>	
	2		<p>Extension of CENTRE WAY almost impossible owing to heavy & almost continuous bombardment. Assisted in extension of jumping off (UNION) trench to join 5th Bde on right.</p>	
	3		<p>Improving CENTRE WAY through POZIERES Digging-in Field Kitchens and making Bomb Stores on SUNKEN ROAD. Extending and repairing TRAMWAY lines.</p>	
	4		<p>Completed CENTRE WAY right through to firing line during daylight. Had four detachments in the attack on O.G. 1 and O.G. 2 who dug C.T.s connecting our old and new lines. Attack quite successful.</p>	
	5		<p>Received congratulations of GENERAL BIRDWOOD and Major General LEGGE on Bris shore in last night's action. Extending tramway. Completing C.T. 2 and extending COPSE AVENUE Improving TOMS CUT and CENTRE WAY</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 186

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

2nd AUS^T PIONEER BN

(Erase heading not required.)

AUGUST 1916

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
POZIERES	6		<p>Extending TONS CUT to new line - COPSE AVENUE to O.G. 1</p> <p>widening CENTRE WAY Extending and maintaining TRAMWAY</p>	
ALBERT	7		<p>Withdrew 3 companies and moved BN (less A Coy) to bivouac at BRICKFIELD. A Coy left to maintain the tramway, temporarily attached to 4th Div.</p>	
WARLOY	8		<p>Moved to bivouac W of WARLOY.</p>	
	10		<p>Inspection by H.M. the King at WARLOY.</p>	
LAVICOGNE	11		<p>Bivouaced at LAVICOGNE</p>	
CANAPLES	12		<p>do - CANAPLES</p>	
FIFFES	15		<p>Moved to billets in FIFFES.</p>	
RUBEMPRE	17		<p>do - do - RUBEMPRE</p>	
SENLIS	18		<p>do - do - SENLIS</p>	
ALBERT	20		<p>Moved to trenches near TARA HILL and commenced work on Beauville Tram line (ballasted)</p>	
	22		<p>Completed 2000 yds grading & framing for Beauville Railway into AVOCA VALLEY. Moved BN (less A Coy) into trenches in AVOCA VALLEY & relieved 1st Pioneer Bn</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 186

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

2nd AUS^T. PIONEER BIV
AUGUST 1916.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
POZIERES	23		<p>SYDNEY ROAD deepened to 5' x 3' x 2' for 300 yds forward from UNION TRENCH. CENTRE WAY deepened & repaired from 4 central to TRAMWAY TRENCH. Commenced cutting storage chambers in WELL in POZIERES. ROAD to BE KAY DUMP formed & graded for 1400 yards. TRAMWAYS extended on both sides of POZIERES.</p>	
	24		<p>- SYDNEY STREET for 300' forward of UNION ST deepened & revetted; NEW TRENCH cut to ST KILDA ROAD, 5' deep x 2' 6" x 2' for length 150'. EMU AVENUE cleared & revetted to 6' x 3' 6" x 2' for 60' from first air trench. TOMS CUT from Union trench to O.G. 1 deepened to 4'. TRAMWAY extension to KAY DUMP completed.</p>	
	25		<p>ST KILDA ROAD, new cut revetted & improved to 6' x 3' x 2'. New trench cut from TOMS CUT to O.G. 2, 140', 6' x 3' 6" x 2'. New cut (PEG TRENCH) from COPSE AVENUE to 40 yds E of WALKER AVENUE, length 240' 3 ft deep x 30". CENTRE WAY and TOM'S CUT cleared & deepened.</p>	
	26		<p>NEW C.T. cut from SYDNEY ST to YARRA BEND, 270 yds, 5' x 2' 6" x 2'. TRAMLINE completed to NEW DUMP on PEG TRENCH. PEG TRENCH completed for 700' to 3' 6" x 3'. CENTRE WAY and TOM'S CUT cleared & repaired up to O.G. 2.</p>	
	27		<p>New cut SYDNEY ST to YARRA BEND revetted & deepened to 6' 6" x 3' x 2' 3". SYDNEY ST - ST KILDA cleared.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 386

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 2nd AUS^T PIONEER BN

(Erase heading not required.)

AUGUST 1916

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
POZIERES	27		TRAMWAY SIDING put in at PEG TRENCH Dump & general repairs. PEG TRENCH to O.G. 1 completed to 5' deep; 100' further to 4' deep. CENTRE WAY and TUMSCUT cleared deepened & vented through O.G. 2 to NEW firing line	
	28	noon	S. YDNEY ST and COPSE AV from UNION TR to POZIERES TR deepened to average of 5' x 3' 6" x 2' 3" for 800 yds. PEG TRENCH completed length 700 yds, 5' x 3' 6" x 2'. Handed over to 27 th Bn. WELL in POZIERES completed including timbering of storage chambers, erection of windlass rope & bucket and 150 gal tank. HANDLED OVER at noon to 4 th and Pioneer Bn.	
SENLIS			Moved into billets in SENLIS	
			<p><i>F. W. Cunningham</i> Lt. Col. C/o 2nd Aust Pioneer Bn</p>	

(In pads of 50 dupls.)

"C" Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123.

No. of Message

33

14/10/16 148
11.10.16

Charges to Pay.
£ s. d.

Office Stamp.



Service Instructions.

Handed in at Office m. Received m.

TO

2nd Lt Col King

Sender's Number

Day of Month

In reply to Number

AAA

149

10th

Best congratulations to all ranks 2nd Lt Col
King on their share in this action
which will make the name of 2nd Lt Col
King a name to be remembered and his
contribution to the success of the
successful achievement of their objective
and to say nothing of the
and quite aside for all good work
they have done during the past week
under difficult conditions and
AUSTRALIA will be rightly proud
both of the gallantry and fortitude
displayed by her troops

FROM

Major General Legge

PLACE & TIME

8.10 am

...received from
my friend Major G. O. C. -

In pursuing the above message which she forwards
to show that every moment who has worked so bravely under
eyes which inspired & never allow to attain success. It is full
that she has been your for able qualified at formation under conditions
of great stress. Let us hope on to a completely triumphant
conclusion & ~~and~~ ^{still} get some value out of the
enemy for the good comrades who have fallen on the battlefield

C/O 2nd and 3rd Divs

5-8-16

This message was received from
G. O. C. 2nd Div. after our first operation
at Pozieres Aug. 16

386

6

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121.

No. of Message.....

Prefix	Code	m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.						m.
			Sent		Service.	Date
			At			From
			To			By
			By		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO { 2nd Aust Division

Sender's Number. * P 179	Day of Month. 5/8/16	In reply to Number. G 79	AAA
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Major's general Legge's kindly
 congratulations to this Bn on ^{share} our
 in yesterday's victory are highly
 appreciated. AAA all ranks are
 grateful that in such a short as we
 have had the Bn has just from
 its assistance and joined the
 appreciation of the G.O.C.

From	W. G. L. Col
Place	Co 2nd Aust Pioneer Bn
Time	9.45 pm

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

Censor.	(Z) W. G. L. Col Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.
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* This line should be erased if not required.
225,000. W 14042-M 44. H. W. & V., Ltd. 12/15.

386

7

(In pads of 50 dupls.)

"C" Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123.

No. of Message.....

507 153 18 11/13 16 ay	Charges to Pay.	Office Stamp.
	£ s. d.	
Service Instructions.		

Handed in at 11/13 Office 11.50 am Received 12.50 m.

TO 2nd Pioneer Bn

Sender's Number <u>194</u>	Day of Month <u>5-1/8/16</u>	In reply to Number	AAA
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The following message of congratulation from the Army Commander begins as follows: The Army Commander desires conveyed to you to your staff and to all companies and troops concerned his warm congratulations on the complete success of last night's operations which have inflicted a severe defeat on the enemy and secured us most valuable ground and so on.

FROM 2nd Am - Lw

PLACE & TIME 11.50 am

386

(In pads of 50 dupls.)

"C" Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C, 2123.

No. of Message.....

Service Instructions.	Charges to Pay. £ s. d.	Office Stamp.

Handed in at *2:15* Office *10:45* m. Received..... m.

TO *2nd Aust Pioneer Batt*

Sender's Number <i>984</i>	Day of Month <i>5th/8/16</i>	In reply to Number	AAA
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Following from Reserve Army and French official and the French has retaken THIAUMONT position and the greater part of FLEURY with 400 prisoners and British official and West of POZIERES some ground was gained in minor operations and over 100 prisoners captured

FROM *2nd Aust Div*
PLACE & TIME *10:40 am*

W 15660M/151. 75,000 Pads. McC. & Co., Ltd., London. 1/16. Forms/C.2123.

No. Diaries

for
September
and
October 1916

