

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/33/2

Title: 14th Field Company, Australian
Engineers

April 1916



AWM4-14/33/2

(2) APRIL

WAR DIARY

14th Field Coy HQ

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

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FERRYPOST	2-4-16	1800	<p>The Coy. less N^{os} 3 & 4 SECTIONS today have been busy laying out their camp, making latrines, cook's kitchens etc. N^{os} 3 & 4 attached to 14TH INF. BDE. have also been employed on same work.</p> <p>MAJOR BACHTOLD together with 14TH INF BDE STAFF OFFICER and ADM'S 5TH A.D. decided today on the best layout for the following units 14TH INF BDE. 14TH M.G. COY. 2 sections of. 14TH FLD. COY ENGRS. 5TH PIONEER BN. 5TH DIV. CAV.</p> <p>The COY received orders from DIV. ENGR. to take over BRIDGE HEAD DEFENCES and be responsible for the hutting and layout of all camps south of the MAIN ROAD.</p>	
"	3-4-16	1800	<p>The Surveyors of the Coy have been very busy today pegging out the Camps for the above Units.</p> <p>A BDE. STORE. for timber, sandbags, matting etc. has been</p>	

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FERRY POST	"	"	<p>Started near 14TH INF. BDE. Today, the idea being for all stores to be carted from the CANAL to the BDE STORES, and then to be issued to Units, to suit their requirements. The balance of the COY not engaged in the above work, have been doing section drill and rifle exercise.</p>	
FERRY POST	4-4-16	1800	<p>N^o 3 & 4 Sections with the above Units shifted on to their new sites. A site was also pegged out for 14TH FLD. AMB., who occupied it straight away. N^o 1 Section commenced to build a mess hut for the COY less 3 & 4 sections N^o 2 Section training in care of arms, and rifle exercise</p>	
"	5-4-16	1800	<p>N^o 3 & 4 Sections started today, pegging out the positions for the mess huts, open and closed cook's shelters etc</p>	

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FERRY POST	"	"	<p>for the various Units camped south of the MAIN ROAD some of the huts were started, the general principle being that Units would supply the labour, and the Sappers supervise, and be responsible for the work. A start was also made on the mess huts for the 14TH F.A. BDE. and M.V.S. who have been here some days.</p> <p>N^{OS} 1 & 2 Sections were busy on huts for themselves.</p>	
FERRY POST	6-4-16	1800	<p>2/LT. HOLMES R.A. 13TH REIN. 1ST FLD. COY ENGRS, arrived from hospital today, and was taken on the strength of the COY</p>	
FERRY POST	8-4-16	1800	<p>During the present week N^{OS} 3 + 4 sections, continued with the hutting of the various Units, any spare men being trained by N.C.O^S in regimental training.</p>	

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FERRY POST	"	"	N ^o 142 Sections were employed on the hutting for the COY, concreting round water taps, and other small camp works.	
"	9-4-16	1800	Received today our first draft of horses. VIZ:- 1 Riding, and 32 heavy Draught.	
"	15-4-16	1800	During the present week N ^{os} 3 & 4. Sections, continued working on the hutting for Units. N ^o 2 Section each day was given one INF COY from the 14 TH INF BDE, and worked on improving and renovating STRONG POINT N ^o 4. of the BRIDGE HEAD DEFENCES N ^o 1. Section on the 10 TH INST. took over from the 134 TH FORTRESS COY. The unfiltered water supply scheme, and during the week installed an additional 4000 gallon storage tank, connecting it to a new set of horse troughs, cleaned out, and timber lined the sump pit on the West side of the CANAL, from where the water is drawn, and with a working party of 100 INF. on the 14 TH cleaned out the channel, leading through Somalia to the	

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FERRYPOST	"	"	<p>Source of the Supply.</p> <p>MAJOR BACHTOLD with STAFF CAPT. HQDA. 5TH AD. decided on the layout for the 13TH & 15TH F.A. BDE^S, 25TH HOW. BDE and the 5TH D.A.C.</p> <p>77 Native Carpenters & 17 Laborers were also taken over from the 134TH FORTRESS COY. and continued to work on huts etc. at DHQ. & HQDA. on the making of forms, and Tables under our supervision.</p> <p>5 G.S. Wagons were borrowed from the 5TH DIV. TRAIN. and using our own horses, they were worked each day, on the carting of timber etc. from the CANAL to the BDE. STORES</p> <p>on the 11TH inst a very strong dust-storm was experienced which stopped the majority of work. This afternoon we received an additional draft of horses. VIZ -</p> <p>12 riding 4 pack. 11 Light draught.</p>	
FERRYPOST	22-4-1900.	1800.	<p>During the present week the Sections have been employed as follows. N^{OS} 1 & 2. Sections. training, specializing in musketry. N^{OS} 3 & 4 section on STRONG POINT BRIDGE HEAD DEFENCES, with one INF COY. working party N^{OS} 4 section</p>	

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FERRY POST	"	"	supervised the hutting. Good Friday was a General Holiday. 2 Incinerators built of corrugated iron, and expanded metal, built for the purpose of burning horse manure, have proved a success. Targets were also made for the 14 TH INF. BDE.	
FERRY POST	24/4/16	1800	No 14 2 Sections were out all day at the range, each man firing 30 rounds.	
FERRY POST	25/4/16	1800	ANZAC DAY: MAJOR BACHTOLD at 0800 inspected dismounted part of the COY. and at 1600. a portion of the First Line Transport. The rest of the day being a holiday.	
FERRY POST	26/4/16	1800	The COY (with First Line Transport) was inspected in LINE by the DIV ENGR. at 07.15. and at 1630. was again inspected by the DIVISIONAL COMMANDER, the 15 TH FD COY. was the only other Unit present. After the inspection in LINE the COY marched past the GENERAL in COLUMN OF ROUTE.	
FERRY POST	27		No 14 2 Sections again continued their musketry practice	

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FERRY POST	"	"	at the range firing 30 rounds per man. The Egyptian Carpenters, and Laborers, who have so far been employed building stables were handed over to CAPT. INGRAM. O.C. DEFENCE STORES.	
FERRY POST	28-4-16	1800	M.O. from 15 TH FD. AMB. inspected the COY as to physical fitness at 1100 today. At 1230. the COY again, with the 15 TH FD. COY. ENGRS paraded and rehearsed the march past etc. for the G.O.C. 2 ND ANZAC. inspection tomorrow.	
FERRY POST	29-4-16	1800	N ^{OS} 14 2 Sections changed over with N ^{OS} 394. Sections today, being therefore attached to 14 TH INF. BDE. The COY. together with 5 TH DIV. CAV. 5 TH DIV. CYCLISTS. 15 TH FD. COY. 5 TH DIV SIG COY. at 1730 were inspected by GENERAL GODLEY. G.O.C. 2 ND ANZAC.	
FERRY POST	30-4-16	1800	Men who had not been inoculated for para-typhoid at TELELKEBIR last March. were inoculated by an M.O. 15 TH FD AMB. During the last week N ^{OS} 4 section worked on the BRIDGE HEAD.	

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Terry Post	"	"	<p>DEFENCES N^o 3. Section supervised the hutting</p> <p>The following is a list of the hutting built under the supervision of this Coy during the month.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">FINISHED</th> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">STARTED</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cooks shelters open</td> <td>21 18/12'</td> <td>27 12/12'</td> <td>1-18/12'</td> <td>3-12/12'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>" " closed</td> <td>22-18/12'</td> <td>28-12/12'</td> <td>2-10/10'</td> <td>1-18/12'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mess huts</td> <td>15-66/30'</td> <td>5-50/25'</td> <td>2 40/20'</td> <td>5-66/30'</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2-40/16'</td> <td>1-20/20'</td> <td>1 15/12'</td> <td>4-50/25'</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>3-39/30'</td> <td>1-12/12'</td> <td></td> <td>1-40/16'</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stables</td> <td>1-48/29'</td> <td>1-237/29'</td> <td></td> <td>1-162/9'</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1 168/29'</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The DIV. ART were supplied with targets and the 14TH INF. BDE with 3 rows of gallows for bayonet fighting</p> <p>The Coy is complete in vehicles, and 18 horses under strength, and has received about 50% of its technical equipment.</p>		FINISHED		STARTED		Cooks shelters open	21 18/12'	27 12/12'	1-18/12'	3-12/12'	" " closed	22-18/12'	28-12/12'	2-10/10'	1-18/12'	Mess huts	15-66/30'	5-50/25'	2 40/20'	5-66/30'		2-40/16'	1-20/20'	1 15/12'	4-50/25'		3-39/30'	1-12/12'		1-40/16'	Stables	1-48/29'	1-237/29'		1-162/9'					1 168/29'	
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