

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

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/27/12

**Title:** 8th Field Company, Australian  
Engineers

August 1916



AWM4-14/27/12

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

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 1.

8th Field Coy. A. E.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In The Field	1-8-16		<p>8th Field Coy Aust. Engrs carrying out Engineering Work on front and area occupied by 8th Aust. Inf. Bde. Unit billeted at CROIX LESCORNEX. Captain W. G. Farquhar and Interpreter together with about 10 N. C. Os and men running ERQUINGHEM R. E. YARD.</p> <p>Most of the Coy was engaged on front line repairing CELLAR FARM and MINE AVENUES which were in a bad state of repair. Parapets were being thickened to 12 ft and re-lurdled. Parados were being rebuilt with small wooden dugouts in them. Bomb and Ammunition recesses being put in new parapets. Mine Avenue being repaired by a half company of 5th Pioneers; Cellar Farm Avenue by this Coy.</p>	

1st to 3/8/16

Handwritten signature or initials.

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

8th Fld Coy. A.E.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 2.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>a start was made to clear out drains on Right sector. YORK and CONVENT AVENUES being re-hurdled and parapets increased.</p>	
	5/8/16		<p>Captain Farguhar and party returned from Duty at Birmingham R. E. Yard as yard was taken over by 18th Division (British)</p> <p>Captain Farguhar put on to Artillery and back area work.</p>	
	6/8/16		<p>20 Reinforcements arrived from 5th Aust. Div. B. Details.</p>	
	4 <sup>th</sup> to 11/8/16		<p>Similar work carried out during period 1st to 3/8/16, and a start was made on 300' line between Bellar Farm and York Avenue, and behind Convent Wall on left to thicken existing parapets and build them in other places. Wooden dug-outs also put in and parapets built up. a start was made on a deep dug-out with 25' of back</p>	

*J.P.S. 201*

## 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~~

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy. A.E. (Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>in the blue clay.            Shaft got down 20ft by 10<sup>th</sup> Inst.            It was found that at 7ft there was fine sand and water for 2ft then 2ft of coarse sand but less water, then blue clay at 11ft. from surface.            The shaft was sunk down with 4" x 4" centres and 4" x 1" sheeting.            No difficulties were encountered; the shaft being 5' by 5' at top and 4' by 4' at bottom.            It was then intended to make a drive 30' long with two inclined entrances, the shaft being used for working purposes only and to dig up the inclines.            The scheme was changed later.            An attempt was made to dig the inclined entrance from the surface but was found to be impracticable and was abandoned.            At this time the front was divided up between the sections</p>	

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

Sheet 4

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy. A.E. (Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	11 <sup>th</sup> 15 17/8/16		<p>as follows :-</p> <p>No 1. from left flank to CHARTREUSE AV. exclusive.</p> <p>No 3 CHARTREUSE AV. inclusive to DEVON AV. inclusive.</p> <p>No 2. DEVON AV. exclusive to CELLAR FARM TRAM. inclusive.</p> <p>No 4. CELLAR FARM TRAM exclusive to MINE AV. inclusive.</p> <p>The work in front line between bellar Farm and mine avenue gone on with.</p> <p>The amount of work right along 300' line greatly increased and parapets, parados and dug-outs put in.</p> <p>Shaft of deep-dug-out got down 30 ft with a 4 ft sump. cross cut in 6 ft.</p> <p>Tram line along 300' line from bellar Farm Trane Towards Devon Avenue commenced.</p> <p>Work on concrete dugouts first started.</p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p>

# 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.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy. A.E.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	13/8/16		<p>Start made on concrete dug-out for Dressing Station at EATON HALL to hold 12 stretcher cases; 10' x 10' x 6'-6".</p>	

# 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

*8th Field Coy. A.E.*

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 6.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>In the Field</i>	<i>16<sup>th</sup> 18/8/16</i>		<p>O/c. away at BOULOGNE at Special Camouflage Works.</p> <p>7. OR. Reinforcements arrived from 5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Div. B. Details (17-8-16)</p> <p>Just concrete dug out finished as far as concrete is concerned.</p> <p>Since then one per day has been put in.</p> <p>8 OR. Reinforcements arrived from 5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Div. B. Details</p> <p>Work on 300<sup>x</sup> line and firing line proceeding as before.</p>	
	<i>20/8/16</i>		<p>In the remodelling of 300<sup>x</sup> line MILL ROAD and CORDONNERIE POSTS were cut out and formed into line, the latter making a fair Salient.</p>	
	<i>17<sup>th</sup> 25/8/16</i>		<p>A section of about 50<sup>x</sup> of single wire netting screening was put up along RUE PETILLON but does not appear to be very effective</p> <p>Two O.P.s for Artillery are being built in brick, in old mill RUE DES BRASSERIES, and in house near CELLAR FARM AV. in RUE PETILLON.</p> <p>(Sketch Sheet 7)</p>	

*Ward*

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

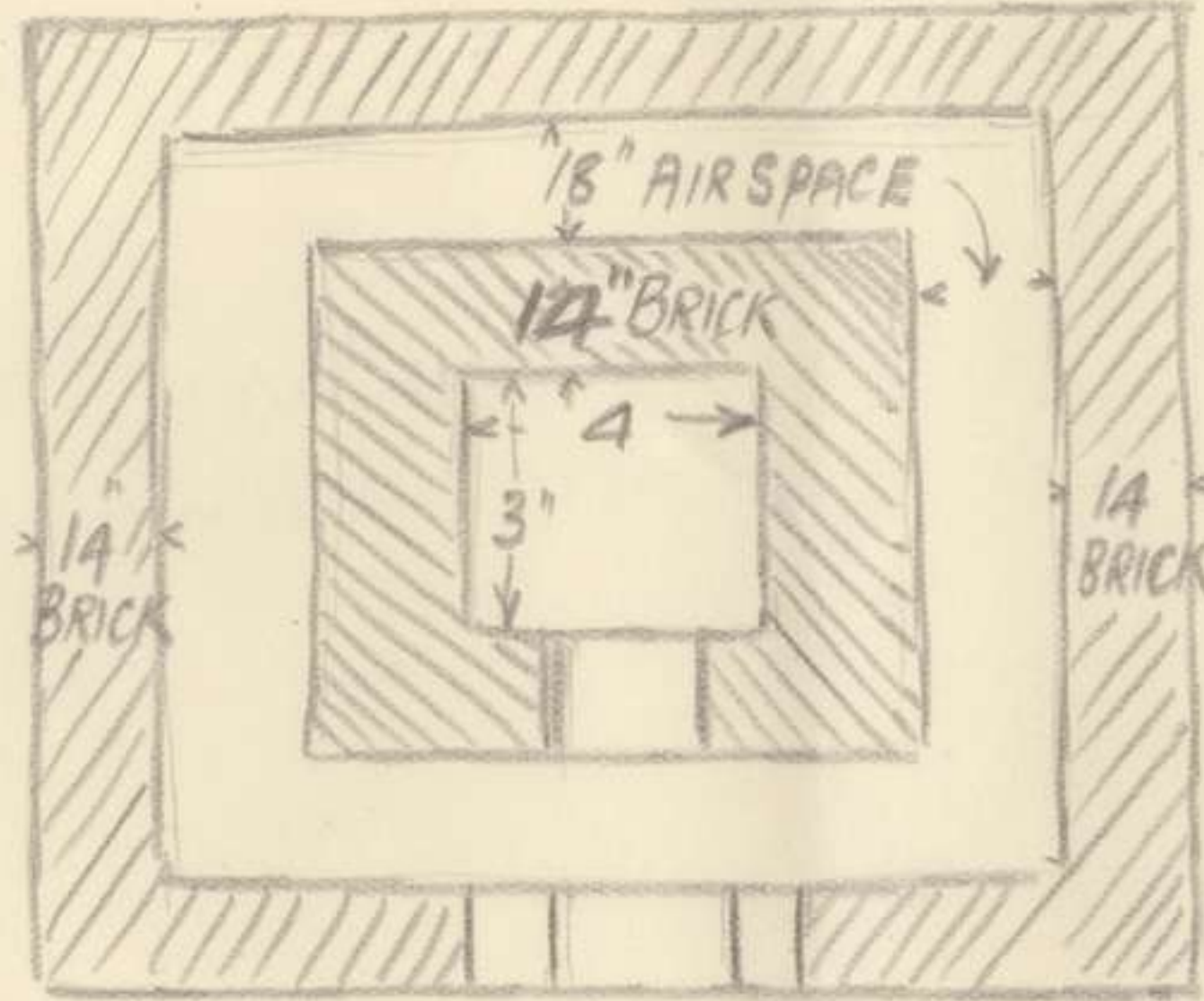
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

8th Field Coy. A.E. (Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 7.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information .	Remarks and references to Appendices
-------	------	------	-------------------------------------	--------------------------------------



- Artillery O.P. -

Van



# 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.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy. A.E.

Sheet. 8

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices											
In the Field	25/8/16		<p>A start was made on Detention Barracks, also Reserve Water Supply at ROUEN MILL. RUE DES BRASSERIES. Deep Dug-out now 20ft on North Drive and 12ft. on South Drive. Work hindered owing to want of air as no air pump was available. Air improved by air funnel and brazier. 6. OR. Reinforcements arrived from 5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Div. "B" Details.</p>												
"	25 <sup>th</sup> to 31/8/16		<p>Work as before. Dug-out, Elaton Hall ready for occupation. This Dug-out has 15" reinforced roof, 2 layers of bags on top, 2ft. air space and 3 layers of bricks on galv. iron.</p> <p>Dug outs - concrete.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Walls and roof in</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ready for occupation but not bagged completely</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td rowspan="2">} accommodation 15 men.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Completed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Walls and roof in	8		Ready for occupation but not bagged completely	3	} accommodation 15 men.	Completed	1	Total	12		
Walls and roof in	8														
Ready for occupation but not bagged completely	3	} accommodation 15 men.													
Completed	1														
Total	12														

*Handwritten signature*  
∞

## 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.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

8th Field Coy. A.E. (Erase heading not required.)

Sheet. 9.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	31/8/16		<p>Generally work has been hampered owing to shortage of labour.</p> <p>Deep dugout :-  North drive - 38 feet.  South drive 12 feet.</p> <p>Scheme now changed to use large vertical shafts with stairways.</p> <p>A certain amount has been done to Drainage in Right sector and during a few days rain there were no serious cases of flooding except in MINE AV.</p> <p>The duck boards in this Avenue are now being raised and parapets raised accordingly.</p>	

Rain

# 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.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Sheet 10.

*8th Field Coy. A.E.*

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																																								
<i>In the field</i>	<i>31/8/16</i>		<p>The following dug-outs wooden covered with galv. iron have been put in by this Coy:-</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Types</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Complete</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Incomplete but shelter from weather</th> <th style="width: 45%;">No accommodated</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>2 men front line</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>33</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>70</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>300* "</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>20</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>3</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>46</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>4 men front line</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>9</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>11</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>80</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>300* "</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>21</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>7</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>112</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Officers front line</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>3</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>5</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>300* "</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>4</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>3</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>7</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Coy. office. front line</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>12</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>300* "</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>-</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>8</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Signal. front line.</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>-</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>8</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>300* line.</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>-</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>4</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>L.T.M. Empl't front line</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>-</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>300* "</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>4</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;"><i>Total.</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>354.</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Types	Complete	Incomplete but shelter from weather	No accommodated	<i>2 men front line</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>300* "</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>4 men front line</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>300* "</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>Officers front line</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>300* "</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>Coy. office. front line</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>300* "</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Signal. front line.</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>300* line.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>L.T.M. Empl't front line</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>300* "</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Total.</i>			<i>354.</i>	
Types	Complete	Incomplete but shelter from weather	No accommodated																																																									
<i>2 men front line</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>70</i>																																																									
<i>300* "</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>46</i>																																																									
<i>4 men front line</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>80</i>																																																									
<i>300* "</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>112</i>																																																									
<i>Officers front line</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>																																																									
<i>300* "</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>7</i>																																																									
<i>Coy. office. front line</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>12</i>																																																									
<i>300* "</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>8</i>																																																									
<i>Signal. front line.</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8</i>																																																									
<i>300* line.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>4</i>																																																									
<i>L.T.M. Empl't front line</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1</i>																																																									
<i>300* "</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>																																																									
<i>Total.</i>			<i>354.</i>																																																									

*WAS*

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy. A.E. (Erase heading not required.)

Sheet. 11.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	31/8/16.		<p>The following are casualties during the month ending 31/8/16</p> <p>Wounded <del>4</del></p> <p>1921. Sap. PRITCHARD. J. 5-8-16.</p> <p>4491 " CUTTRISS. C. H. 10-8-16</p> <p>4507 " LUCAS. L. - 13-8-16</p> <p>4421 " LOADER. P. H. - 19-8-16. Died of wounds. 20/8/16. M. I. A. C. S.</p>	

Wounded  
 of 8<sup>th</sup> Field Coy. Aust Eng