

**AWM4**

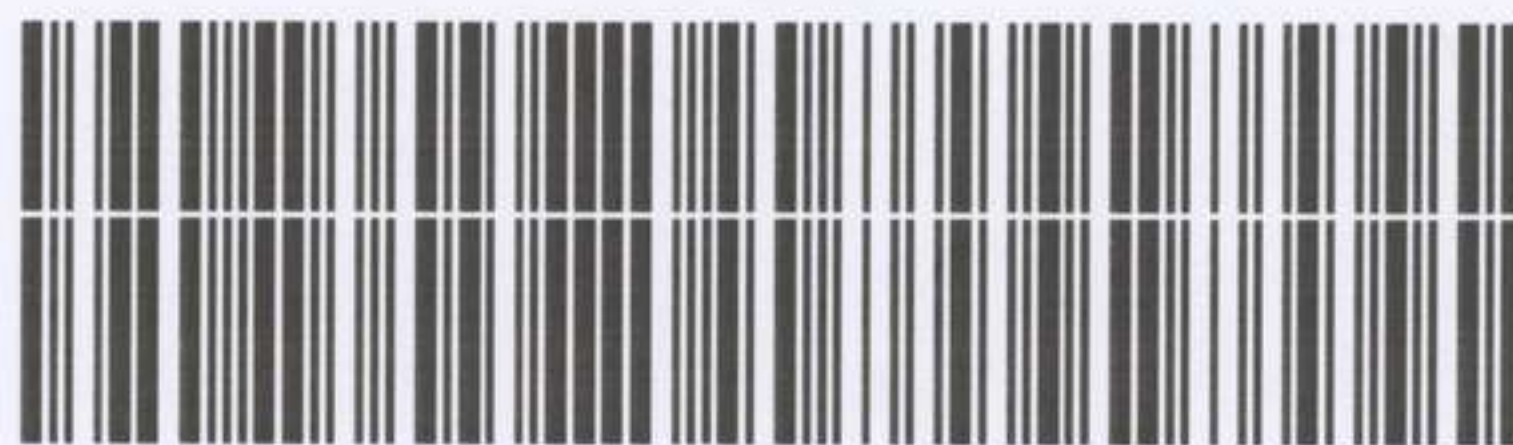
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

New Zealand Units

**Item number:** 35/10/14

**Title:** 1st Field Company, New Zealand  
Engineers

March 1916



AWM4-35/10/14



*Duplicate*

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>WAR DIARY</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">OF</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>1<sup>ST</sup> FIELD COMPANY      N.Z. ENGINEERS</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 1916 TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 1916.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>VOLUME 13</u></p>				



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## -or- INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MOASCAR	1916 March 1		Drill, General training of the Company & maintenance of Camps Engineering work	<u>Casualties</u> 2 OR returned to duty, 1 OR transfr. to King's Coy. 24/3
ISMAILIA	2		" " " " " " " " " "	1 OR transfr. to NZ Record. See
	3		" " " " " " " " " "	nil
	4		" " " " " " " " " "	LIEUT. A. V. WILLIAMS left for ZEITOUN SCHOOL of INSTRUCTION
	5		" " " " " " " " " "	nil
			+ 2 horses	
			LIEUT. H. M. CLARK + 11 ORs marched out - details of Detachment to relieve Australian Engineers at FERRY POST on CANAL DEFENCES.	
	6		+ 1 horse	
			2 <sup>nd</sup> LT. DA. PARRY. RE + 26 ORs marched out Detachment for duty at FERRY POST, on CANAL DEFENCES	Q.M. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Lt. A. G. GLASSE promoted to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieut.
	7		CAPT. A. G. McNEILL RE left for FERRY POST to take up duties as C.R.E. + 1 OR	13 OR returned to duty, + 2 horses
	8		LTC. W. SALMON + 51 ORs marched out to join Detachment at FERRY POST. (and 13 horses)	19 OR transfr. from Infantry 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. A. G. GLASSE transfr. to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Field Coy 12 OR transfr. from Infantry
	9		Drill & general training etc of those left in Camps as per Syllabus	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. G. V. RUSSELL and 20 OR of Reinforcements reported for duty
	10		of Training attached	3 OR transfr. to NZ Pioneer Bn.
	11			
	12		Church Parade	1 OR returned to duty
	13			10 OR returned to duty, 2 <sup>nd</sup> LIEUT. H. W. NEWMAN relinquished Temporary rank of Lieut 29/2/16

APPENDIX I



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1916			
MOASCAR	March 14		Drill & General Training as per Syllabus of Training attached.	
ISMAILIA	15		" " " " " "	
	16		" " " " " "	
	17		" " " " " "	
	18		" " " " " "	
	19		Church Parade	
	20		Drill & Training as per Syllabus of Training attached.	
	21		Re-organizing & re-equipping Company & general preparations for embarkation.	
	22		Continuation of 21 <sup>st</sup>	
	23		- do -	
	24		- do - FERRY POST Detachment marched in	
	25		- do - CAPT A.G. McNEILL, RE returned from FERRY POST.	
	26		Church Parade	

*Personalities*

- 1 OR transfer to 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Coy NZE
- 1 OR " " to Eng. Det Regt
- Nil
- Nil
- 1 OR transfer from Coy
- 1 OR transfer to NZ Mtn Transport
- 1 OR sick to hospital
- 1 OR returned to duty
- 1 OR sick to hospital
- 2<sup>nd</sup> LT G.W. SALMON relinquished Temp Rank of LIEUT 20/2/16
- Nil
- 1 OR sick to hospital
- 1 " transfer from Infantry
- 1 OR returned to duty
- 1 OR transfer to R.H.B.
- 1 " " to Eng. Det Regt
- 1 OR sick to hospital
- 1 OR transfer from 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Coy NZE
- 2 " " to NZ Field Amb
- 1 " " to NZ Infantry Regt
- 1 " " to No 2 Field Coy NZE
- Nil
- 1 OR sick to hospital
- 1 OR rejoined unit
- 1 OR transfer from Eng. Det Regt
- 2 OR returned to duty
- 2 OR transfer to Eng. Det Regt
- CAPT R.S. J. KEENAN transfer to Base Det Regt as Adjutant
- 2<sup>nd</sup> LT D.H. PARRY, RE and
- LT A.W. WILLIAMS, NZE transferred to NZ Infantry Base Depot.

APPENDIX II

APPENDIX III



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## OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MOASCAR ISMAILIA	1916 March 27		Drill, Training. Reorganizing and equipping + general preparations for embarkation.	<u>Casualties</u> - 1 OR to Detention Barracks - CAPT F.W. SKELSEY transfr from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Field Coy, 142E.
	28		as above. Lecture by CAPT A.G. McNEILL, R.E. on Conduct of Troops in France. Discipline, Billeting etc.	- 1 OR sent to hospital - 1 OR transfr from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Field Coy
	29		Continuation of 27 <sup>th</sup> inst.	- 1 OR sent to hospital - 1 OR reported for duty.
	30		do	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information			Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>APPENDIX I</u>			
			<u>Syllabus of Training</u>			
MOASCAR ISAJALIA	1916		1 <sup>st</sup> Parade 0630 to 0715	2 <sup>nd</sup> Parade 0845 to 1215	3 <sup>rd</sup> Parade 1200 to 1545. Lectures 1545 to 1700	
	hand. 7		Physical Training (Semaphore)	Knocking of working	Arms Inspection. Knitting of working Lecture Technical Arms etc.	
	8		do do	do do	Arms Inspection. Erection of Gyn, shovels legs & derrick. Lecture Technical Arms etc. continued	
	9		do do	Erection of Gyn shovels legs & derrick	Arms Inspection. Use of spars. Lecture - Bridging expedients	
	10		Squad drill with arms	Trestle & frame bridging	Arms Inspection. Trestle & frame bridging Lecture - Demolition. CAPT P.S.J. KEENAN.	
	11		Physical Training (Semaphore)	- do - do -	Half Holiday	
	12		do do	Lecture by LT COL G.R. PRIDHAM. RE. CRE. on work of Engineers	Arms Inspection. Field Geometry & use of field level Lecture - Tools & materials etc 2 <sup>nd</sup> LT G.V. RUSSELL	
	13		do do	Field Geometry course of field level	Arms Inspection. Bathing parade Lecture - Obstacles. CAPT P.S.J. KEENAN.	
	14		do do	Pier Trenches	Arms Inspection. Demolitions & Lecture CAPT P.S.J. KEENAN.	
	15		Squad drill with arms	- do -	Arms Inspection. Lecture - working parties & tests 2 <sup>nd</sup> LT H.W. NEWMAN.	
	16		Physical Training (Semaphore)	- do -	Arms Inspection. Pontoon Bridging & Weldon Trestle	
	17		do do do	Pontoon Bridging & Weldon Trestle	Arms Inspection. Pontoon Bridging	
	18		do do do	Parade - Marching order short march	Half Holiday	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information			Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>APPENDIX II</u>			
			Syllabus of Training			
MADAGASCAR ISMAILIA	1916		1 <sup>st</sup> Parade 0600 to 0645	2 <sup>nd</sup> Parade 0800 to 1100	3 <sup>rd</sup> Parade 1500 to 1645	Lectures 1645 to 1700
	March 30		Squad drill with arms	Construction of wire entanglements - Chemise-de-fusi	Arms inspection Breaching drill Wire entanglements	
	• 31		Physical training + Semaphore	Pontoon Bridging	Arms inspection Pontoon Bridging	
	• 22		do do	Bridging Single lock	Bridging Single lock Lecture - Catechism - Tools materials & their employment	CAPT. R. S. V. KEENAN.
	• 23		Musketry practice	Bridging Double lock	Arms inspection Bridging double lock Lecture - Catechism - Earthworks	CAPT. KEENAN.
	• 24		Physical Training + Semaphore	Construction of Revolving drum obstacles	Practical work Fuses - Detonators + connecting up charges for fuses Lecture Catechism - Terms & Definitions	2 LT G. RUSSELL
	• 25		Company drill	Parade Full marching orders	Half Holiday	





Report on work carried out by Detachment at Ferry Post

Front Line Two sections of 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Coy under Lieut Wilson & 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Chilcote respectively supervised the work of Canterbury & Auckland mounted Rifles. In addition to resetting the Sappers constructed wire entanglements.

Roads Lt Reeve of 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Coy supervised the work on two roads leading respectively N.E. & S.E. of Railhead.

Railhead. Lt. Clark and detachment of No. 1. Field Coy were stationed at Railhead - They were employed on general camp duties - pipe laying erecting tanks & troughs etc and repairs to Sams - water system at Railhead and beyond.

Water Supply 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Parry R.E. and section of 1<sup>st</sup> Field Coy were <sup>employed</sup> engaged on water supply - Their duties were - Running of main pumping station (2. 18 H.P. Blackstone Engines & 2 centrifugal pumps) - maintenance of 6" main to Railhead and of 3" main to Staging Camp. Running of small oil engine & Gwynne pump for watering camels from well - Sinking a similar well and erecting plant as above distribution pipe to new camp.

Camps. A small party was employed on distribution of materials for latrines cooking shelters etc to camps. Cpl McMaster being in charge. Sapper Hobbs was employed as chief ganger under Railway <sup>Officers.</sup>

Bridge Defence Lieut Salmon & section supervised the work of 800 men of No. 1. N.Z. Inf Bde.





Each Battalion provided one company per day and each Battalion had its own section and the same detachment of Sappers though not left complete all the works were ready for occupation

A Look Out Post for the French warship "Requin" was constructed at Bench mark Post. The work was neatly executed and the openings cleverly made and concealed by Cpl McKay and party of Sappers under 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Salmon's direction.