

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/16/16

Title: 4th Australian Pioneer Battalion

June 1917



AWM4-14/16/16

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
	1/6/17.		Battalion engaged on road work under C.R.E., New Zealand Division.	
	2/6/17 & 3/6/17.		"C" Company working on road. Remainder of Battalion in Camp holding kit and rifle inspection.	
	4/6/17 & 5/6/17.		"B" Company supplied pushing and loading parties at R.E.Dump. Remainder of Battalion in Camp.	
	6/6/17.		Battalion resting in Camp.	
	7/6/17 & 8/6/17.		<p>The following work was carried out by "A" and "B" Companies.</p> <p>At about 10-30 P.M. work was started from O.33.a.85.10. on road crossing Black line which was not continuous. The strip from DESPAGNE FARM to O.33.b.central is only 3 feet 6 inches deep owing to marshy location. This strip has been partially duckboarded, salvaged from a German dump near FANNYS FARM, and in places the parapet built up with sandbags. The Communication Trench passes through a small strong point at O.33.b.6.8. As far as O.34.a.0.9. the Trench is in trafficable order.</p> <p>From there on the trench is about 2 feet 6 inches deep and runs partly along a fairly thick hedge, terminating on the road at O.28.c.5.1. This length is not quite continuous. When the party reached this spot they were heavily fired on by machine guns and rifles from O.D.D. Trench, apparently. Two Germans who were apparently repairing the wire were captured by us.</p> <p>It was then deemed advisable to withdraw to O.34.a.0.9. as it was doubtful whether our Infantry were in the Green line in this vicinity. The following work was carried out with "C" and "D" Companies.</p> <p>On a reconnaissance of Unbearable Trench being made it was found to be good and usable up to HUNS WALK which was as far as we were in possession. The trench was crowded with Infantry- New Zealand and Australian, and required no immediate attention. It was then decided to dig back from the Black line to enable troops and carrying parties to get over the ridge in safety. A trench was then dug from approximately U.2.d.7.5. to U.3.a.8.8. leaving a gap between U.3.c.4.9. and U.3.a.5.4.</p>	



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	9/6/17.		Battalion resting. Moved to new camp at 6 P.M. at T.11.d.5.2.	
	10/6/17.		"A" and "C" Companies on Works in Camp. "B" and "D" Coys working on Communication Trenches.	
	11/6/17.		"A" and "C" Companies on Tramway Construction. "B" and "D" Coys working on Communication Trenches on night 11/12th.	
	12/6/17.		"A" and "C" Companies on Tramway Construction. "B" and "D" Coys working on Communication Trenches on night 12/13th.	
	13/6/17.		"B" and "D" Companies moved to Camp at T.25.d.5.2. "A" and "C" Coys remained in old camp.	
	14/6/17.		"B" and "D" Companies resting in new camp. "A" and "C" Coys finishing works forward.	
	15/6/17.		"B" and "D" Companies moved to Forward Camp T.11.d.5.2. "A" and "C" Companies moved to Back Camp at T.25.d.5.2.	
	16/6/17.		"D" Coy widening Road from Souvenir Farm to Ration Farm. "B" Coy improving Communication Trenches. "A" and "C" Companies resting.	
	17/6/17.		"A" and "C" Coys Camp Inspection. "B" Coy digging Communication Trench from Fannys' Farm to Green Line. "D" Company widening Wulveringhen Road.	
	18/6/17.		"A" and "C" Coys training in camp. "B" Company widening, and improving with duck walks Communication Trench Fannys' Farm forward. "D" Company on Road Work.	
	19/6/17.		"A" and "C" Coys training in camp. "B" Company improving Communication Trench from Fannys' Farm to Green Line. "D" Company on Road Work.	
	20/6/17.		"A" and "C" Coys moved to Forward Camp at T.11.d.5.2. "B" Company widening Communication Trench and putting in Duck Walks. "D" Company on Road Work.	
	21/6/17.		"A" Coy salvaging duck walks from Messines to Swaynes Farm. "B" Coy improving C.T. "D" Coy repairing road Souvenir Farm to Ration Farm. "C" Coy improving Communication Trench from Messines to Huns Walk.	
	22/6/17.		"A" Coy salvaging. "B" & "C" Coys improving C.T. "D" Coy working on Roads.	
	23/6/17.		"A" & "B" Coys working on C.T. "D" and "A" take over from "C" and "B" Coys respectively.	
	24/6/17.		Heavy shelling in camp- 6 casualties. Battalion moved to camp at T.10.d.1.0.	
	25/6/17.		Battalion Resting.	
	26th to 28/6/17.		Battalion Training.	
	29th & 30/6/17.		Two Platoons employed on Trench Tramways- remainder of Battalion training.	

J. D. Graham Capt & Adj

for

C.O. 4TH. AUST. PIONEER BATT.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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			<u>APPENDIX NO. 1.</u>	
			<u>CASUALTIES.</u>	
	1/6/1917.		No. 4204 Cpl Kernick F.M. Wounded in neck, back, right arm and left thigh by H.E.Shell.	
			4284 Pte Tester G.R. Right leg badly smashed by H.E.Shell. Reported died 5/6/17.	
			2930 " Ronalds R.W. Wounded in buttock by H.E.Shell.	
			2404 " Jones M.H. Wounded in left hip by H.E.Shell. Reported died 5/6/17.	
	3/6/1917.		3429 " Corkery P. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2354 " Burnett G.R. Wounded in right arm by H.E.Shell.	
			5679 " Guymer G.B. Wounded in head by H.E.Shell. Reported died 4/6/1917.	
			2382 " Hatton A.L. Wounded in face by H.E.Shell.	
			2912 " Robinson W.J. Wounded in buttock by H.E.Shell.	
			2105 " Seaton H. Wounded in foot by H.E.Shell.	
			2622 " Greenwood W. Shell Shock.	
			1902 " McKee M. Wounded in arm by H.E.Shell.	
	4/6/1917.		4637 " Ferrall H.W. Wounded in right fore-arm by H.E.Shell.	
			Lt Hiddlestone G.U. Wounded in right hand by H.E.Shell. (1/6/17).	
	5/6/1917.		2107 Pte Davidson J.H. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2082 " Bunn T.F. Wounded by H.E.Shell.	
			2068 " Anderson J.T. Wounded by H.E.Shell. (Remained on duty).	
			2074 " Beal R.H. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
	6/6/1917.		4744 " Cannon S.S. Wounded in head by H.E.Shell.	
	8/6/1917.		2337 " Baker T. Wounded in left shoulder by H.E.Shell.	
			2648 " Jakeman T. Wounded in face by H.E.Shell.	
			2813 " Rollston A.S. Accidentally injured hand whilst on work.	
	9/6/1917.		2650 " Milburn J. Wounded in left hand by H.E.Shell.	
			2110 " Drummond E.J. Wounded in jaw by H.E.Shell.	
			286 " Johnson E.R. Wounded in right leg by H.E.Shell.	
			2101 " Cousins F.H. Wounded in ankle by H.E.Shell.	
			2346 " Bradford S. Wounded in left arm and back by H.E.Shell.	
			2115 " Dale J.T. Wounded in neck and face by H.E.Shell.	
			2362 " Lilley E.W. Wounded in face by H.E.Shell.	
			2149 " Lind W.O. Bullet wound in knee.	

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	9/6/1917.		No 4129 Pte Hollisoake H. Wounded in left shoulder by H.E.Shell.	
			2211 " Window A.V. Wounded in wrist by H.E.Shell. (Remained on duty).	
			2162 " Coyne J.H. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			1882 " Hume F.L. Wounded in left arm by H.E.Shell.	
			916 " Greenwood H. Wounded in left arm by H.E.Shell.	
			1952a " Woolnough M.H. Wounded in left hand by H.E.Shell.	
			1614 " Hinchmore A. Abrasion- H.E.Shell. (Remained on duty).	
			1960 " Wilkinson V.S.K. Wounded in right knee by H.E.Shell.	
			1878 " Henry J.M. Wounded in knee by H.E.Shell.	
	10/6/1917.		Lt Reid J.C.D. Wounded in head- Bullet. Reported died 10/6/17.	
	11/6/1917.		3077 Sgt Jackson A. Wounded by H.E.Shell.	
			183 Cpl Cowell S.J. Wounded in head by H.E.Shell.	
			2080 Pte Barry S. Wounded in left arm by H.E.Shell.	
			1951 " Gray S. Wounded in left thigh by shrapnel.	
			2113 " Doyle A. Wounded in shoulder by shrapnel.	
			88 " Smoothy G. Wounded seriously by H.E.Shell.	
			1952 " Hannon W.T. Wounded both arms and head by H.E.Shell. Reported died 12/6/17.	
			2161 " McCosh J.T. Wounded in head by H.E.Shell.	
			1956a " Ward J.A. Wounded in arm by H.E.Shell.	
			2606 " Dillon T.P. Wounded in leg by H.E.Shell.	
			2390 " Highet R. Wounded in hand by H.E.Shell.	
			3923 Cpl Bugg P. Wounded in chest by H.E.Shell.	
	12/6/1917.		3476 Pte Kruck C.C.J. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			1759 " Lines F.A. Wounded in leg by Shrapnel.	
			1947 " Schrader J. Wounded in right arm, hand and leg by H.E.Shell.	
			332 Cpl Young W.M. Wounded in left wrist by H.E.Shell.	
			2146 Pte Leese H. Wounded in right knee by H.E.Shell.	
			1954a " Taylor W.W. Wounded in right knee by H.E.Shell.	
			719 Cpl Mansfield W.H. Wounded in right knee by H.E.Shell.	

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			<u>APPENDIX NO. 1.</u>	
			<u>CASUALTIES.</u>	
	13/6/1917.		No. 2679 Pte Mills W.G. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2939a " Walsh M.J. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			4142 " Beer W.L.C. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2333 " Westbrook H.S. Wounded- right leg amputated, body and head wounds, reported died 13/6/1917.	
	17/6/1917.		2nd Lieut Forster W.B. Wounded in left arm by H.E.Shell.	
			1833 Pte Clarke F.L. Wounded in both legs by H.E.Shell. Reported died 17/6/17.	
			1898a " Mitchell W.S. Wounded in legs and arm by H.E.Shell.	
			4197 " Robins A.P. Wounded in both legs by H.E.Shell.	
			3777 " Hong E.D. Accidental injury to left knee.	
	18/6/1917.		3100 " Cooper C. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2585 " Baker S.H. Wounded in legs and head by H.E.Shell.	
			1818a " Bridley A.B. Wounded in legs, shoulder and head by H.E.Shell.	
			2656 " Lynham F.J. Wounded in right side by shrapnel pellet.	
	21/6/1917.		1919a " Baker H.J. Wounded in leg by H.E.Shell. (Remained on duty).	
	22/6/1917.		2405 " Jones W.J. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2660 " Lindop R. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2209 " Thompson W. Wounded in left arm and left leg by H.E.Shell.	
			2210 " Thompson D.H. Wounded in left arm, left leg and back by H.E.Shell.	
			864 " Goff J.P. Wounded in left buttock by shrapnel.	
			2216 " Tunstall T.D. Wounded in left shoulder by shrapnel.	
			2453 " Reade W.W. Wounded in right buttock by shrapnel.	
			1820 " Bennett J. Killed. Shrapnel in chest.	
			2180 " Nicholas G.E. Wounded in back by shrapnel.	
	23/6/1917.		3823 Sgt Kiely P.M. Wounded in right arm by H.E.Shell.	
			2352a Pte Burke P. Wounded in face by H.E.Shell.	
			2159 " Levitt R. Wounded in face by H.E.Shell. (Remained on duty).	
			3362 " Guy J. Shell Shock.	
			1854 " Davis G. Wounded in right side by H.E.Shell. Reported died 24/6/17.	

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	23/6/1917.		No. 2858 Sgt Sharp G. Died of wounds from H.E.Shell.	
			1843 Pte Copeland C.G. Died of wounds from H.E.Shell.	
			3618 " Patton J. Wounded in arm by H.E.Shell.	
			1953 " Cummings W.R. Body Wounds- H.E.Shell.	
	24/6/1917.		2891 " Clarke T.H.C. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			2418 L/Sgt Moore W.H. Wounded in hand by H.E.Shell.	
			3255a Cpl Deugarde P.F. Wounded in back by H.E.Shell.	
			1956 L/Cpl Wishart C. Killed. H.E.Shell.	
			1648 Pte Wallbank A. Wounded in neck by H.E.Shell.	
			2662 " Long J. Wounded in right leg and back by H.E.Shell. Reported died 24/6/17.	
			3480 " Pearce J.C. Wounded in left leg and back by H.E.Shell.	
			3408 " Moffitt J.J. Wounded in right arm by H.E.Shell.	
	25/6/1917.		3250 " Blythe F. Wounded in left foot by H.E.Shell.	

J.D. Graham Capt & Adj

for

C/O: 4TH. AUST. PIONEER BATTN.

Appendix No. 1

APPENDIX NO. 11.

DAILY STRENGTHS.

DATE.	Effective Strength.		On Roll.	
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.
1/6/17	33	1027	40	1145
2/6/17	33	1013	40	1145
3/6/17	33	1006	40	1145
4/6/17	32	1000	40	1140
5/6/17	33	1003	40	1142
6/6/17	33	1004	40	1129
7/6/17	33	1004	40	1128
8/6/17	33	1007	40	1127
9/6/17	33	973	40	1112
10/6/17	33	971	40	1113
11/6/17	34	978	40	1115
12/6/17	37	961	42	1113
13/6/17	37	961	41	1112
14/6/17	35	985	41	1087
15/6/17	37	982	43	1088
16/6/17	37	973	43	1079
17/6/17	37	984	43	1080
18/6/17	37	965	43	1083
19/6/17	35	988	43	1083
20/6/17	35	987	20	1082
21/6/17	35	965	43	1076
22/6/17	34	980	43	1099
23/6/17	34	874	43	1096
24/6/17	34	970	43	1094
25/6/17	34	963	43	1093
26/6/17	35	954	43	1088
27/6/17	34	902	43	1085
28/6/17	34	907	43	1087
29/6/17	35	901	43	1074
30/6/17	34	893	42	1072

H. Graham

Captain.

A/Adjt., 4th Aust., Pnr., Battalion.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

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