

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

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/23/11

**Title:** 4th Field Company, Australian  
Engineers

August 1916



AWM4-14/23/11

# 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

4<sup>th</sup> Field Co., A.E.

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Vol III

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Warloy	August 1		Expanding drill & Demolitions at Bellet's	
	2		Drill + tactical schemes at Bellet's	
	3		marching on and laying out work (Practice)	
Brickfields	4		Left Warloy with 4 <sup>th</sup> Inf Bde at 9pm. for Brickfields (Albert) arrived 12.30 am. 5 <sup>th</sup>	
	5		Resting	
La Boisselle	6		Left for La Boisselle arrived 7pm went to front line to dig Comm. Trench	
	7		Road repairs from Becourt Wood to Sausage gully	
	8		Bridge & Road repair 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue	
	9		blearing 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue. blearing out & revetting Centre way from Pozieres to front line Clearing + revetting Copse Avenue. blearing & digging "K" Trench.	
	10		blearing out + revetting Centre way from Pozieres to front line, Posting notice boards in Trenches.	
			Same as previous day with the addition of making Mortar emplacements & dug outs for Mortar Batt. at Pozieres	
			Same as previous day	
Centre Way Rail Trench	13		12.45. Section part of 84 Repairing & widening Trench. Shift work at Pozieres on H.T. mortar Batt. and Salvaging Timber + Iron for Well.	



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La Boiselle	Aug 14 <sup>th</sup>		at 6.30pm Party left to excavate Crumie Trench to the left of Pozieres after the attack, but owing to heavy enemy shelling the work had to be postponed till 3am following morning 15/8/16 Party returned at 11pm	
"	15 <sup>th</sup>		Excavated Crumie Trench attempted the previous night. Good progress was made. Planting well at Pozieres in serviceable condition	
"	16 <sup>th</sup>		Excavating & widening Crumie Trench at Pozieres also overhauling Wall. Left La Boiselle at 2.30 pm. for Buckfields arrived at 4pm. Bivouaced for night 12 men left at well Pozieres	
Buckfields	17 <sup>th</sup>		Left for Senlis 10.30 am. arrived at noon. 12 men still at well.	
Senlis	18		Coys. Bathing parade, inspection & clothing kit. Remainder of the day resting	
"	19		Drill order parade 9am. Inspection of Rifles & Gas helmets. 80 <sup>th</sup> 2 & 4 Sections with Section T Port marched out at 2.30 pm for work at Contay.	
Contay.	20		80 <sup>th</sup> Section joined 80 <sup>th</sup> 2 & 4 & commenced the construction of a Corduroy road at new Casualty Clearing Stn.	
"	21		H.Q. 80 <sup>th</sup> 3 Sec arrived from Senlis 80 <sup>th</sup> 3 joined the other sections on road. Good progress made 2 Secs. from 12 <sup>th</sup> Coy joined up in afternoon to assist.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Boontay	Aug		<p>Constructing Road &amp; re-metalling 160 ft. of road previously constructed.</p> <p>22</p> <p>23 Same as previous day.</p> <p>24 ditto Progress not good for want of metal.</p> <p>25 All timber laid &amp; ready for completion with metal.</p> <p>26 Road completed with the exception of 100 ft. which the 2 Secs. of 12th Field Co were left to carry out.</p> <p><u>Short Description of Road</u></p> <p>Length 2000 ft width 11 ft. Beams of pine logs laid in the direction of road from 3 to 7 varying with the nature of the ground. Roadway of logs with the exception of 1 curve which was of Ply. Sleepers</p> <p><u>Metalling</u> <u>First layer</u> of Chalk &amp; earth. <u>2nd Layer</u> Prepared Road metal (Flint) &amp; blended with Chalk &amp; ashes.</p> <p>Boy left for Brickfields at 2 pm arrived at 6 pm.</p>	
Brickfields	27		<p>Half Company left for La Boisselle at 9 a.m. followed by the other half Coy at 2 pm</p>	
La Boisselle	28		<p>At 12 noon 2 Officers &amp; 50 Life Guards reported on Rays trench for construction working till 6 a.m. 28/8/16. 5 a.m. 50 Life Guards continuing Rays Trench working with another Officer till 11 a.m.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
La Boisselle	Aug 28/16		At 11 a.m. 80 Leicester Jeomanry reported for construction of work, working till 5 p.m. 4 Sections of Sappers (less 2 COs. in charge of Cavalry fatigue), digging BOX LANE. Heavy shelling necessitated retirement. 1 Sapper killed.	
"	29		At 3 a.m. Party of 50 Life Guards reported at Kays Trench for digging. 50 Life Guards for Rail Trench excavating. 2 Sapper officers + 1 Section in charge.	
"			At 9 a.m. 1 Section 2 COs. + 50 Leicester Jeomanry reported for construction of Rail Trench. 1 Section of Sappers excavating Box Lane from 3 a.m. to 9 a.m. 3 COs. + 18 Sappers constructing Telephone junction box at corner 6 <sup>th</sup> St + 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue working 6 hrs on + 12 hrs off.	
"	30		9 COs. + 54 Sappers cleaning out old German dugouts in Kays Trench working shift 6 hrs on + 12 hrs off. Telephone junction box continued. 6 Sappers placing notice boards + remainder of Coy in La Boisselle dugouts.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
La Boisselle	Aug 31		<p>75 Life Guards reported at junction of 1st Ave &amp; Kays Trench at 11.30. for work on Comue Trench from Quarry to point 77. 1 Sapper Officer + 3 NCOs in charge</p> <p>200 Inf. reported at 11.45 junction of Kays &amp; 1st Ave. for work on Assembly Trench</p> <p>Owing to very heavy weather &amp; bad condition of trenches these parties failed to do any appreciable work. At 2 a.m. party of 75 Life Guards reported for relief of party working on Quarry to point 77. 1 Sapper Officer + 3 NCOs in charge</p> <p>at 2.30. a.m. 200 Inf. reported for relief of party digging Assembly Trenches 1 Sapper Officer + 3 NCOs with the party. Further of these parties accomplished any appreciable work.</p>	

*Robert*  
*Major A.E.*  
*4th Field Coy A.E.*

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Field Co., A.E.

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Remarks and references to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place Date Hour

at 2.30 am 200 of reports for relief of front digging trenches and 1200 am with the last batch of these reports completed and of front working on ground trench 11 1200 am + 3500 in charge of front digging trenches at 2.30 am 200 of reports for relief of front digging trenches and 1200 am with the last batch of these reports completed and of front working on ground trench 11 1200 am + 3500 in charge of front digging trenches at 2.30 am 200 of reports for relief of front digging trenches and 1200 am with the last batch of these reports completed and of front working on ground trench 11 1200 am + 3500 in charge of front digging trenches

Boonville 31

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