

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

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/13/15

**Title:** 1st Australian Pioneer Battalion

May 1917



AWM4-14/13/15

# 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.)

713

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bancourt	May 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1917		A and D companies Augac Corps Light Railway Construction B. Company. Infantry training. C. Company. Construction of dry weather track.	
Bancourt	May 4 <sup>th</sup> 1917		A and D companies Augac Corps Light Railway Construction B and C companies. Infantry training	
Bancourt	May 5 <sup>th</sup> 1917		B Company. Construction of Decauville Railway at Lebucquiere D. Company. Construction of Decauville Railway at Monument corner. A and C. Companies. Road repairs and filling of 2 Craters on Grevillers - Bapaume Road. 2 Lewis Gun teams proceeded to Reinforcement Camp. Bazentin for instruction purposes.	
Bancourt	May 6 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> 1917		B. Company Construction of Decauville Railway at Lebucquiere. D. Company Construction of Decauville Railway at Monument corner. Divisional Commander instructed C.O. to place 2 Coys at disposal of C.R.E. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aust Div. C.O. interviewed C.R.E. & received the position of proposed trenches & proceeded on a reconnaissance of ground together with A & C Coy Commanders. At 5 am A & C Companies moved to I 7d. 3.7. At 8.30 pm they left their bivouacs & arrived at starting point at 9.20 & commenced work continuing until 2.30 am they excavated 660 yds of which 80% was completed approx depth 4' 6". Casualties 7. O.R.'s one of whom remained on duty. Location of work C 5C. to C 12. C. d. 9.	
Bancourt	May 7 <sup>th</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> 1917		B. Company Construction of Decauville Railway at Lebucquiere. D. Company Construction of Decauville Railway at Monument corner A and C Companies. Continuation of communication trenches from C 5C to C 12 C d 9. An additional 660 yards of trench dug & previous night work completed. Total trench dug for 2 nights work 1320 yards. Casualties 1 killed. 2 wounded	

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

*Ad. Lytall*  
ADJT. 1<sup>st</sup> Pioneer Bn  
1<sup>st</sup> Abs Div  
LIEUT.

713

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bancourt	May 8 <sup>th</sup> 1917	9 <sup>th</sup>	Continuation of Communications trench commencing at 9.30 pm & ending 2.30 am. Trench completed making a total length of 1500 yds. Casualties 3. OR's.	
Bancourt	May 9 <sup>th</sup> 1917		B and D Companies. Angas Corps Light Railway Construction 2. OR's were wounded by shell fire in A & C. Coy Camp at I 73 D 7. A and C companies returned at 6 pm. to Fremicourt Camp.	
Bancourt	May 10 <sup>th</sup> 1917		B and D Companies. Decanville Light Railway Construction A and C Companies. Resting. Leave quota to England 22 per week. 2 M.C. Teams on anti-aircraft work in the vicinity of Haplincourt and Bancourt	
Bancourt	May 11 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup> 1917		Battalion Resting and Training. Platoon in attack	
Bancourt	May 20 <sup>th</sup> 1917		Battalion move to Pioneer Camp. Bazentin	
Pioneer Camp	May 21 <sup>st</sup> 1917		Battalion move to Dernancourt	
Dernancourt	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> 23 <sup>rd</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup> 26 <sup>th</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup> 29 <sup>th</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup> 31 <sup>st</sup> 1917		Battalion Training	

 LIEUT.  
 ADJT. 1<sup>st</sup> Pioneer Bn  
 15<sup>th</sup> Ans Div.