

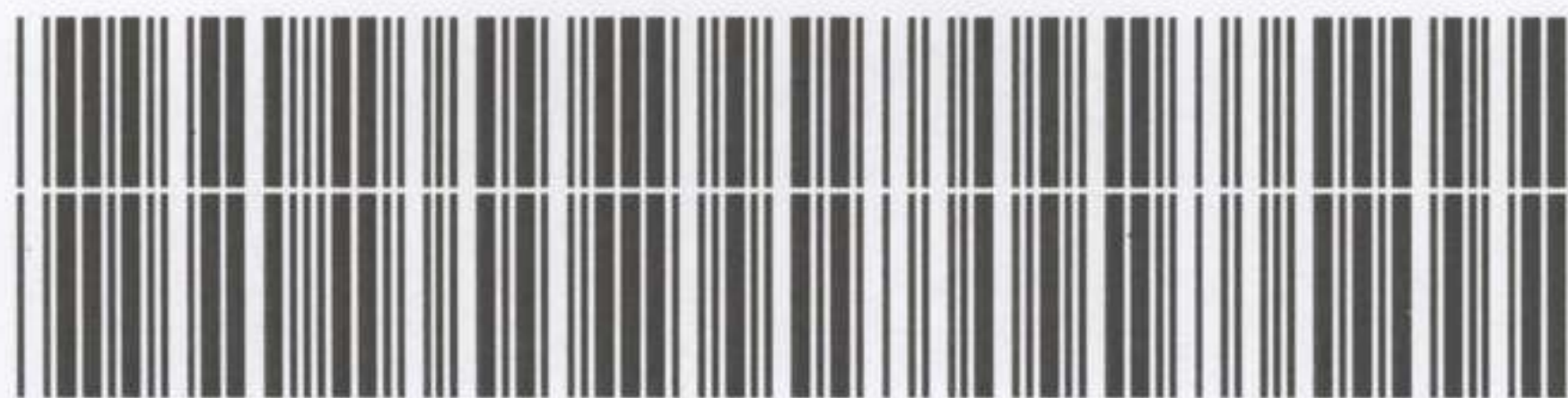
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/20/49

**Title:** 1st Field Company, Australian  
Engineers

January 1919



AWM4-14/20/49



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*1<sup>st</sup> Field Coy A.I.F.*

FOR

*January 1919*

Signature of Officer compiling

*W Higgins Lieut.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*W Higgins Lieut.*



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.

*Confidential*

or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. 1

(Erase heading not required.)

19

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SART EUSTACHE	Jan 1		<p>At this period the company were billeted in the small village of SART EUSTACHE and the greater portion of the company were accommodated in a large old-time bachelors in that village. There being plenty of room the men have been able to make themselves comfortable, the greatest drawback being the difficulty in obtaining fuel. The stabling accommodation is excellent and probably we have never fared so well in this respect. Owing to the fact that so many men have returned to AUSTRALIA there is a shortage in driver personnel and it has been necessary to employ a number of Sappers to assist drivers in their duties. The educational classes, commenced during December are being continued although the classes are small. The men are keen and appear to be anxious to avail themselves of opportunities for improving their knowledge. The afternoons are being mainly devoted to recreation.</p>	<p><i>MAA</i></p>
	2		<p>Classes held in Elementary Arithmetic and Motor Driving. - Recreational training in afternoon.</p>	<p><i>MAA</i></p>



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WAR DIARY  
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2

Army Form C. 2118.

19

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SART EUSTACHE	Jan 3		Classes in Book-keeping and Commercial Arithmetic in morning and Carpentry in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 4		GENERAL BIRDWOOD visited the village and inspected the three field companies. He afterwards visited 1st Field Coy Officers' mess where he had a few words with some of the men.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 5		C.R. Co called in morning and made inspection of billets. Football team practising in afternoon in preparation for competition for Divisional Troops.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 6		Classes in Harkness' Arithmetic and Bookkeeping in morning and Carpentry in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 7		Classes in Elementary Arithmetic and Motor Driving. Great interest being taken in the latter class.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 8		Classes in Arithmetic, Commercial and Harkness in morning, and Carpentry in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 9		Classes in Elementary Arithmetic and Motor Driving. No 1261 Sgt. JAMIESON-W awarded Belgian 'cross de guerre' LT. W. HIGGINS 14 days furlough to U.K.	<del>////</del>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SART EUSTACHE	1919 Jan 10		Classes in Bookkeeping and Commercial Arithmetic in morning and carpentry in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 11		Musket ranges being prepared for practice purposes. Practice football match in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 12		Church parade in morning. Recreational training in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 13		Classes in Forkman's Arithmetic and Bookkeeping in morning and carpentry in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 14		Elementary Arithmetic and Motor Driving in morning. In afternoon a game of rugby football was played against 1st Machine Gun Battalion. The Engineer team was beaten by 3 points to nil.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 15		Classes in Forkman's and Commercial Arithmetic in morning and carpentry in afternoon.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 16		Classes in Elementary Arithmetic and Motor Driving in morning. The weather which had been keeping quite mild, now changing and the ground beginning to freeze.	<del>////</del>



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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. <sup>4</sup>

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SART EUSTACHE	Jan	17	Classes in Commercial Arithmetic and Bookkeeping in morning and carpentry in afternoon. The work of classifying and banding all horses now being proceeded with in view of early demobilisation	<del>////</del>
	Jan	18.	Classes in Bookkeeping and Commercial Arithmetic in morning. In accordance with orders received from G.H.Q. a party has been sent out to collect any German ammunition in area and take same to Dump at ACOZ.	<del>////</del>
	Jan	19	Capt. J.E.G. STEVENSON and 28 <sup>th</sup> Coy, all of whom embarked in 1915, left in Port of Hazeons at 0830 on their way to Australia. The remainder of the company were present to give them a hearty send-off.	<del>////</del>
	Jan	20	Classes continued - Arithmetic and Bookkeeping in morning and carpentry in afternoon.	<del>////</del>



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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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(Erase heading not required.)

19

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SART EUSTACHE	Jan 21		Classes in Elementary Arithmetic and Motor Driving. Weather continues cold and fine.	<i>MAA</i>
	Jan 22		Classes in Arithmetic and Carpentry. Owing to the loss of so many men, it is now found that very few can attend educational classes. It is now necessary to employ all available papers to assist men in their duties.	<i>MAA</i>
	Jan 23		Classes in Arithmetic and Motor Driving. Motor Company conveys members of company to CHATELET in evening to performance of Divisional Concert Party.	<i>MAA</i>
	Jan 24		Owing to the poor attendance at classes and the departure of portion of instructional staff it has been decided to abandon all classes with exception of Motor classes for the present. B.R.C. visited company and inspected billets.	<i>MAA</i>
	Jan 25		The company entertained members of 12th Field Company Football Team. A match was played during the day so good and even game resulted in a win for this company by 8 points to nil.	<i>MAA</i>



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**WAR DIARY**  
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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SART EUSTACHE	Jan 26		2nd Lt. W.R. EASTON proceeds on duty to Demobilization camp at LE HAVRE.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 27		A series of lectures being arranged by E.R. Cpl BERGAN.E on 'Business' commencing on 28th inst. (Programme see Appendix II). Class in Motor Driving Continued.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 28		Lt. Bergan gives his first lecture in company lecture room. Subject: 'Business - the meaning of the term - what constitutes Business' -	<del>////</del>
	Jan 29		T. Major STEELE, C.S. M.C. & 20/R leaves unit for U.K. on return to Australia as part of special draft of University Students for early repatriation. Lieut W. HIGGINS takes over command of company, under supervision of Major CUTLER of 3rd Field Coy. Mr. W.H. ROBERTS gives a very interesting lecture in company lecture room on 'Drawing'. The attendance was good the audience included the S.O.C. 2nd and 3rd Bde. 14. Aust. Division.	<del>////</del>
	Jan 30		Class in Motor Driving Continued. Lecture by E.R. Cpl BERGAN.E - Subject: 'The Law of Contract - what constitutes a contract - the several kinds of contract.'	<del>////</del>



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SART EVSTACHE	Jan 31		<p>LT. F.G. MOFFITT 14 days leave to U.K. - bless in Motor Driving continued. Preparations are now being made for handing over of transport stores, which is expected to take place in about a week. All harness has been thoroughly cleaned and transport is being painted. Arrangements are being made to collect all technical stores in readiness for packing.</p>	<p><del>///</del></p>



19

18,000-12/17-8723.

# WAR DIARY

OF

1st Field Coy Engineers.

FOR

January 1919.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Strength.
2.	Programme of lectures
3.	Company Orders (January).

*Higgins* Major, A.E.  
 1st Field Coy. Engineers



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**WAR DIARY**  
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**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.**

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Appendix I.</u>	
			Strength at 31/12/18. 10 off. 120 <sup>o</sup> /R.	
			do at 31/1/19. 7 off. 142 <sup>o</sup> /R.	
			<u>Basinthes, Evacuations etc for January 1919</u>	
			To Hospital. - 6 Snow Hospital 8 <sup>o</sup> /R.	
			To U.K. (Employment). 1 4	
			To Australia. 2 36	

*W. Higgins Major A.S.*  
A.O. 1st Field Coy. Engineers.



Lectures on "Business Organisation"

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1. Business.

"The Meaning of the term"  
 "What constitutes Business" Jan. 28.

2. The Law of Contract.

"What constitutes a Contract"  
 "The several kinds of Contract" Jan. 30.

3. Principal and Agent.

"Who may be a Principal"  
 "Who may be an Agent"  
 "Appointments and Authority of Agents" Feb. 4.

4. Payments.

"Different manner of "  
 "Responsibility for "  
 "Collections and Systems of " Feb. 6.

5. Exchange and Credit.

"Business Forms"  
 "Banking Accounts" Feb. 11.

6. Discounts.

"Their advantages and disadvantages" Feb. 13.

7. Insurance.

"The several kinds"  
 "Compulsory"  
 "Voluntary" Feb. 18.

8. The Stock Exchange.

"What it is "  
 "Some of the simpler forms  
 of business thereon" Feb. 19.

9. Business Terms.

"Common Terms and their meanings"  
 "Abbreviations and signs" Feb. 25.

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Lecturer. E. R. Cpl. BERGAN. E.

-

Hours. 1100 to 1200.

*MAA*



Copy.

Company Order NO 199 by Major C.S. Steele M.C.  
Commanding 1st. FIELD COMPANY ENGINEERS,

Dated 4-1-19.

German Bombs.

Corps Routine Order NO 300 is republished for information:-

The Corps Commander regrets to notice that in spite of repeated orders to the contrary, German Bombs are still being exploded by the men in streams and elsewhere.

Commander will at once take energetic steps to put a stop to this practice.

Unit Commanders are held responsible that it does not occur in their Billiting areas and that any men found exploding bombs are severely punished.

RATE OF EXCHANGE MARKS.

G.R.O. NO 5952 is republished for information:-

From January 1st. 1919 and untill further orders the rate of exchange of the Mark will be as follows:-

5 Marks - 2/4 - 3 Francs.

G.R.O. 5854 is cancelled.

Signed C.S. Steele Major A.E.

O.C. 1st. Field Company Engineers.

C Company Order NO 200 by Major C.S. Steele M.C.

Commanding 1st. Field Company Engineers.

Dated 13-1-19.

HONOURS & AWARDS.

No 1261 T/Cpl W. Jamieson has been awarded the BELGIAN

CROIX de GUERRE, The congratulations of the Corps Commander, Divisional Commanders, Engineer Commander, Coy Commander, Officers and Men are herewith conveyed to the recipient.

PROMOTIONS:-

NO 2767 Dvr Weinburg W. to be T/Farrier Sgt vice Mobbs to Australia 23-12-18.

NO 1261 Cpl JAMIESON to be T/Sgt vice MASTERS to hospital 31-12-18.

NO 10926 2/Cpl ARMSTRONG J.H. to be T/CPL vice JAMIESON 31-12-18 and posted to NO 2 section for duty.

NO 6295 L/CPL HOOK V.B. to be T/2Cpl vice ARMSTRONG C posted to NO 2 Section for duty.

The following appointments to rank are confirmed,

321 Sgt AUSTIN T. to be C.Q.M.S as from 3-10-18

2396 C/1. HAGAN W.H. to be Sgt as from 22-9-18

341 C/L. HICKS P. " " " " " 3-10-18

2412 2/Cpl MACFARLANE H.A. " Cpl " " 22-9-18

2393 2/Cpl GREEN A.E. " " Cpl " " 22-9-18

1261 2/Cpl JAMIESON W. " " Cpl " " 22-9-18

2332 2/Cpl BENNIE R.O. " " Cpl " " 3-10-18

2415 2/Cpl NICOL T.B. " " Cpl " " 3-10-18

6280 2/Cpl SHIRRESS J.L. " " Cpl " " 29-9-18

10926 L/CPL ARMSTRONG J.H. " 2/Cpl " " 22-9-18

6370 L/Cpl TAIT H.F.L. " " 2/Cpl " " 29-9-18

14565 L/Cpl MASTARD W. " " 2/Cpl " " 3-10-18

17367 L/Cpl DUNN V.A. " " 2/Cpl " " 3-10-18

MOUNTED SECTION.

447 L/Cpl BLATTMAN J.C. " Sgt. " " 13-9-18

1388 Dvr BOURKE J. " " Cpl " " 22-9-18

2057 Dvr KIDNEY W. " " 2/Cpl " " 3-10-18

C.S. Steele Major A.E.

O.C. 1st. Field Company Engineers



Copy.

19

Company Order NO 201 by Major C.S. Steele M.C.  
Commanding 1st. Field Company Engineers,  
Dated 15-1-19.

CORRIGENDA.

Company Order 194 of 2-12-18 reverting NO 795 T2/Cpl DOYLE J. St V.  
and NO 1561 T2/Cpl HALDANE D. to thier substantive rank of L/CPL  
on proceeding to Australia is now hereby revoked in accordance with  
A.I.F. Order 1477 which states that men holding temporary rank  
granted prior to 11/11/18 will retain such rank on returning to  
Australia for demobilization.

1914-15 STAR.

By authority of Army Order 20 of 23-12-18 and A.I.F. Order 1495  
of 31-12-18. Commanding Officers may now allow all Officers, N.C.Os,  
and other ranks to wear this decoration provided that they satisfy  
themselves that they are entitled to do so, but it must be clearly  
understood that the responsibility for ascertaining whether  
anyone is entitled, rests with the Commanding Officer.  
Anyone wishing to wear this decoration will submit his name to  
Orderly Room for inspection.

Signed C.S. Steele Major A.B.  
O.C. 1st Field Coy Engineers.

Company Order NO 202 by Major C.S. Steele M.C.  
Commanding 1st Field Company Engineers,  
Dated 18-1-19

The following L.R. Ranks have been approved for Educational  
purposes to date from 1st January 1919.

192	Spr.	PHILLIPS W.I.	to be L.R. Sgt
7185	Spr	ADDERLEY P.R.	" " E.R. Cpl
17698	Spr	MAYO R.S.	" " E.R. Cpl attached to C.R.E.
17729	L/Cpl	BERGEE E.	" " S.R. CPL

Authority C.R.E. MB/111 of 12-1-19

Signed C.S. Steele Major A.B.  
O.C. 1st Field Coy. Engineers.

Company Order NO 203 by Major C.S. Steele M.C.  
Commanding 1st Field Coy. Engineers

Dated 21-1-19

PROMOTIONS.

2417	L/Cpl	HOWLAND R.J.	to be T/Cpl vice Bourke to Australia 19-1-19
16291	Dvr	PRICE L.	" " T2/Cpl " LIDNEY " " "
6273	Dvr	HOOK G.W.E.	" " L/Cpl 19-1-19
5450A	Dvr	SQUIRES A.C.	" " L/Cpl 19-1-19

Signed C.S. Steele Major A.B.  
O.C. Commanding 1st Field Coy Engineers



1.9  
Copy.

wCompany Order NO 204 by Leut. W. HIGGINS M.C.

Commanding 1st Field Company Engineers

Dated 1-2-19

REVERSIONS.

17729 ER/Cpl Bergan E. reverts to substantive rank of L/Cpl  
on proceeding to U.K. 31-1-19.

66 T/Sgt MASTERS N. " " " " Cpl  
on evacuation to Hospital 31-12-18.

Signed W. HIGGINS Leut. A.E.

A/O.C. 1st Field Coy. Engineers.