

**AWM4**

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

Engineers

**Item number:** 14/21/4

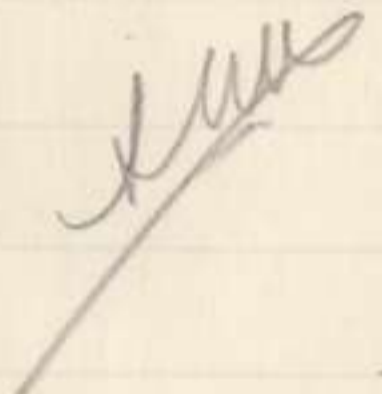
**Title:** 2nd Field Company, Australian  
Engineers

April 1915



AWM4-14/21/4

2nd Field Coy Engineers

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1-2-15 to	Mena Camp	General Training in Field Engineering. Company exercised	
3/4/15	Egypt	in Route marches, Revouces, & etc. etc.	
4/4/15 to	Egypt	Company marched out of Mena Camp on evening of 4/4/15. Entrained at Cairo	
21/4/15		for Alexandria, embarked on H.M.T. A 13 "Mashobra" on 5/4/15 and sailed for Island of Lemnos on 7/4/15 arriving on 9/4/15. Major Mearns appointed Lt. Troops and	

C.11056.

2nd Field Coy Engineers  
1st A.I.F.

1/2

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		Lieutenant Cutler as Ship's Adjutant H.M.T. A 13 'Ikashobra'	<i>[Signature]</i>

G.11056.

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

2nd Field Coy Engineers -

A.F.

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).

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
7 A.M. 25/4/15. ANZAC	No. 2. Field Coy disembarked in two parties. One with MAJOR MARTIN in charge + other under LIEUT. DANKINS. The latter was divided into two squads, one under CAPT WILLIAMS proceeded up SHRAPNEL GULLY whilst the other under LIEUT DANKINS remained at foot of gully. These two parties had been detailed for water supply & commenced to sink tube wells in various places. Whilst engaged on this work a barge laden with ammunition drifted ashore near HELLS SPIT + the sappers took steps to unload same at once. This was done under heavy shrapnel fire. SAPPER E.A. EDWARDS was wounded. The remainder of the Company, immediately after disembarkation commenced the construction of two roads, one from landing place towards KABA TEPE which was eventually the main road up SHRAPNEL VALLEY, and the other from landing place to summit of MACLAGANS RIDGE. The latter road was completed at 4 P.M. + the first field gun ashore was hauled up same by the sappers + placed in position on MACLAGANS RIDGE at about 4.30 P.M. A party from the Company commenced construction of pier under Lt. Col. ELLIOTT. At 7 P.M. No. 2. 3 + 4 sections constructed trench along PLUGGERS PLATEAU + occupied same until relieved by New 3. inf. (TARANAKI RIFLES) + then remained as reserves to this battalion until 11 A.M. 26/4/15. Whilst at work on the trench, SAPPERS A. E. REINSHAW + J. F. RICHARDS were wounded. Slight rain fell during night.	- See Appendix No. 1. for work done by this party.
11 A.M. " "		
4 P.M. " "		
4.30 P.M. " "		
7 P.M. " "		
7 A.M. 26/4/15 " "	Party under LIEUT DANKINS shifted camp further along beach to what is now DANKINS POINT + sank 20 shallow wells supplying about 20,000 gallons of good sea-water. Two croughs were erected + immediately we were able to supply water for	

Asst. Adjt. General  
5th Battalion, N.Z. F.  
15 JUL. 1915  
CENTRAL REGISTRY  
NO. 1150/132

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or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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26/4/15 ANZIAC.	for 500 animals + drinking water to all troops in the vicinity. Two water carts were used for storage + all water supplied to the men was first treated with Chloride of Lime.	
11.A.M. 26/4/15 "	Remainder of Company returned from trenches on MACLAGANS RIDGE + carried on construction of road in SHRAPNEL GULLY. owing to the position being so exposed to enemy fire from head of gully it was necessary to "hold off" at different times, however good progress was made. [Whist employed here]	
2.P.M. " "	SAPPER. D. MCCRAE was seriously wounded. All Engineer stores which had been landed at several places on beach were assembled + we were able to issue tools to the various units. Fine day rather windy.	
8 A.M. 27/4/15 "	As the sections instructed to proceed to 4th INF BDE. H.Q. to construct wire entanglements in front of position held by this Brigade at head of SHRAPNEL GULLY, now known as POPES HILL. Bails of barbed wire + staves were carried by men to the actual firing line but under COLONEL MONASH'S instructions, entanglements were held over as Turkish fire had increased (evidently reinforcements) + it was deemed advisable to improve communications to 4th BDE trenches in preference. A pathway + steps were made which allowed of reserves being brought up in a minimum of time. Throughout this work the shell fire from enemy was exceptionally heavy but fortunately we had	

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

26  
26

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>- 27/4/15 ANZAC 7 P.M. " "</p>	<p>No. 2 Section dug several more shallow wells south of DAWKINS POINT selected a third trench. The section was requested by Col ROSENTHAL to assist carrying 18 PDR. Ammunition which was urgently required for guns on right flank were engaged on this work until midnight.</p>	
<p>4 A.M. 28/4/15 " "</p>	<p>No. 3. Section Constructing T.E. depot &amp; gun emplacements for 7th Battery. LC CPL WALES from this section commenced the making of periscopes for use in trenches. Done dead end.</p>	
<p>2 P.M. " "</p>	<p>No. 1 &amp; 4 sections returned from 4th BDE. H.Q. &amp; after few hours rest a party from No. 1. proceeded to set up pumps &amp; tanks on beach for purpose of storage of water from barges. This work was completed at 2 P.M. &amp; from then there was an abundance of water. No. 2 section carried on well sinking in what is now DEATH VALLEY with good results.</p>	
<p>11 P.M. " "</p>	<p>No. 3 section Constructing T.E. depot. No. 4 section proceeded to trench occupied by 4th Bn. &amp; after improving main fire trench constructed communication &amp; steps from that Bn's H.Q. to firing line. Work completed 3 A.M. 29th.</p> <p><small>SAPPER R.T. SWIFT wounded.</small></p> <p>During the night No. 3. Constructed wire entanglements near 8th INF's firing line &amp; ammunition pits. Rained very heavily during night.</p>	

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or

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

*26*  
*X*

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
<p>7 AM. 29/4/15. ANZAC</p> <p>1 P.M.</p> <p>7 P.M.</p>	<p>No. 1. Section engaged shifting stores from north of ANZAC COVE to R.E base during morning in afternoon constructing various forms of wire entanglements. One party from this section improving condition of trenches &amp; lamms. at rear of 2<sup>nd</sup> BDE lines. At night employed in placing entanglements in front of position held by 2 BDE. It was noticed that most advisable method is to coil wire from 12' lengths &amp; throw out over parapet, making splendid &amp; most effective entanglement amongst brushwood. Whilst engaged here SGT. HOWLETT was wounded. Work completed 3 AM. 30<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>No. 2. Section improving existing wells &amp; sinking others higher up DEATH VALLEY. No. 3. Section constructing communications for 6<sup>th</sup> BN.</p> <p>No. 4. Section constructing communication trench from 2<sup>nd</sup> BDE H.Q. to 5<sup>th</sup> BN. over fire swept ground. At night section was placing entanglements in vicinity of ROSENTHAL'S BATTERY. SARG. HANDLEY wounded Fire day.</p>	
<p>7 P.M.</p> <p>3 AM 30/4/15</p>	<p>(SGT. HOWLETT wounded) No. 1. Section returned from 2 BDE lines &amp; after resting constructed road from foot of DEATH VALLEY to 2<sup>nd</sup> INF. BDE. H.Q. which was situated near summit of what is now MCCAY'S Hill. This track gave safe passage to Crooks &amp; transport animals. Communications in this part improved generally.</p>	

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

*(Erase heading not required.)*

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>30/4/15 ANZAC</p>	<p>No. 2 Section Continued to sink wells in different parts. A pump was put into position in gully near WALKERS ROAD. No 4 Section constructing wire entanglements on our extreme right. This work was carried on throughout the day.</p> <p>No. 3 Section working in conjunction with No. 4 on wire entanglements. LIEUT. MIRAMS transferred to SS DEVANHA suffering from bad foot. Fine day.</p> <p>(Original of above written on same sheet as entry for beginning of subsequent month &amp; filed with volume for that month)</p>	



2-21

APPENDIX NO. 1.

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8

(Details of water supply in Shrapnel Gully -Capt. Williams)

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- 25.4.15. Party 14.O.R. SHRAPNEL GULLY. Sunk Well 5'6" Dimensions. 5' x 4'. Time occupied 4 hours. 3 Men 1 N.C.O. Constructed dam across stream. Avg. height of dam 2'6" - 9 men 1 N.C.O. capacity 5000 gallons. Time 9 hours.
- 26.4.15. Placed pump (left pattern) on well & covered in top- Deepened dam to 3' to get a bottom of clay.
- 27.4.15. Deepened well in clay to a depth of 9' - time 6 hours with four men. Owing to continuous bailing progress was slow.
- 28.4.15. Cleaned up stream for a distance of  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile & diverted stream to one side of road. Men employed 12.
- 29.4.15. One man on pump, are distributing water. 10 men diverting road from stream bed, for a distance of 2 chains 8 hours.
- 30.4.15. Constructed lower dam for mule water, capable of conserving 8000 gallons men employed 6 - time 8 hours.

(Original of above written on same sheet as entries for May 1915. & filed as Appendix I in volume for that month)

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

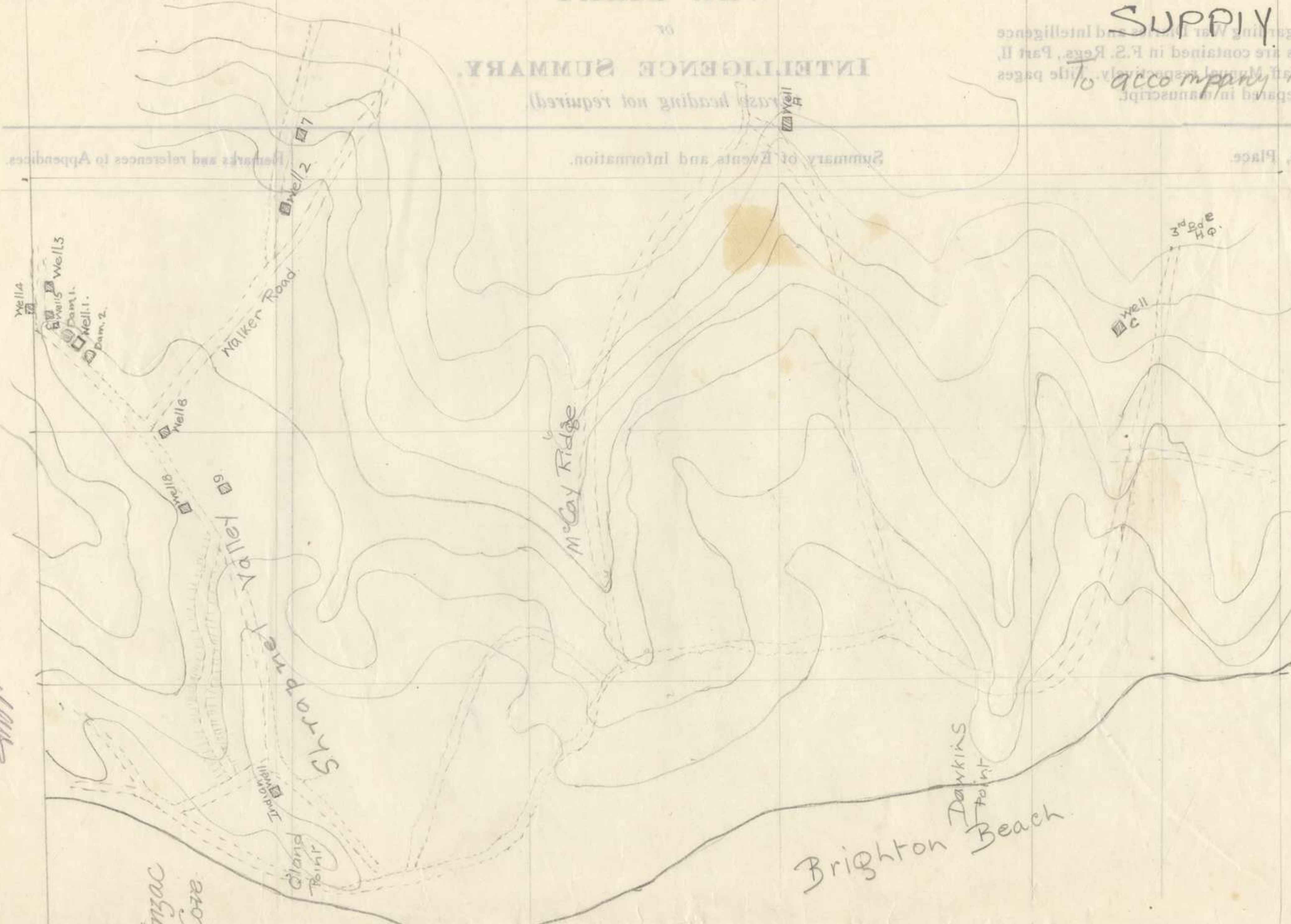
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WATER SUPPLY

To accompany Appendix I

Hour, Date, Place

Summary of Events and Information



Q.C. 2nd Field Coy. Engrs. A.I.F.

Appendix No. 1