

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

Engineers

Item number: 14/14/20

Title: 2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion

January 1918



AWM4-14/14/20

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Aus Pioneer Br

FOR

January 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

B. L. Bennett.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Y. W. Amman & Co.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY
1918

2nd AUSTRALIAN (Erase heading not required.) PIONEER BN

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NIEPPE	1		Completed installation of system of telephones along the forward tramway lines, so that patrols could 'ring up' & speak to the depot of maintenance parties from several advanced posts. The Bn officers gathered for dinner at the gas mess, those on patrol duties coming in for late supper. Lieut. A. H. TRAVES and 4 NCOs marched out for tour of duty with P. TRG BN 9 O.R. joined from hospital; 9 O.R. joined from 9 th Reinforcements. C/O issued a 'Memorandum on Defence' of area adjacent Bn billets	app No. 1
	2		4 O.R. joined from hospital.	
	5		Weekly Work Progress Report issued	app 2
	7		Bn R. O N:6 issued containing 'Honours' & 'Mentions' & appointment of Lieut. F. A. DEWEY as 'Dist. Camouflage officer'.	app 3
	8		3 O.R. joined from hospital; 18 O.R. joined from 3 rd , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th & 9 th Rpts	
	10		Lieut. C. L. HENRY & W. H. FISHER 14 days leave to U.K.	
	12		Lieut. F. S. LODGE resumed duty from Served list & P.N. TRG BN Weekly Work Progress Report issued	app 4

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

JANUARY
1918

2nd AUSTRALIAN (Erase heading not required.) PIONEER BN

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NIEPPE	13		12 O/R joined from hospital; 13 O/R joined from 9th Rfts.	
	14		Received Memoranda of work Programme in Left Bde Sector. This Bn is only concerned in the Communication Trenches	app 5
	15		Boy Sgt-Major O. S. MARTIN appointed 2/Lieut.	
	16		Improvements to STEENWERCK Laundry completed: C.R.E 2nd Divn congratulates Sery-EDMONDSON who had charge of the work.	app 5A
			C/O suggests system of Control of Laundry Trolleys which were frequently taken forward by ration & other parties at night & left under observation to be shelled by day, & be unavailable for forward transportation next evening.	app 6
	19		Lt. A. H. PROCTOR and A. E. ROBERTSON 14 days' leave to U.K.	
			Weekly Works Progress Report issued	app 7
Ch 26	16		after show a heavy flood occurred in River LYST & the WARNAVE. The latter backed up into many trenches of right Bde Sector. Trenches that had been left with unrevetted sides at a steep angle were falling in & blocking drainage making traffic in C/Ts very difficult. We anticipated this, but had to do other work deemed more urgent	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.) PIONEER BN

Army Form C. 2118.

JANUARY

1918

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.

2nd AUSTRALIAN

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
NIEPPE	21		7 O/R joined from hospital; 9 O/R joined from 9th Rth	
	22		5 O/R joined from hospital	
	23		Lieut. R. A. SMITH, M.C. evacuated sick	
	24		Capt. J. NICOLSON on 7 days' leave to U.K., thence to PNR TRG BN. 1 O/R killed in actions.	
	26		Weekly Works Progress Report issued Sent advance parties to 3rd Pioneer Bn with a view to relieving them on work on Corps Light Railways Bn operation order N: 23 issued	app 98 app 9
	27		Lieut. T. SMITH returned from Pioneer School, ROUEN	
	28		Lieut. A. W. GLERKE 4 days leave to Paris 7 O/R joined from hospital; 2 O/R from 9th Rth. Bn moved to new billets: - Hd Qrs & A. Coy to LURGAN CAMP, DRANOUTRE. B Coy to FUSILIER CAMP, nr DE KENNEBEKE DUMP; C Coy to DE SEULE; D. Coy to GLASGOW CAMP N of KEMMEL. Weather turned cold; a heavy frost at night.	
	29		Relieved 3rd Pioneer Bn at work on Corps Light Railways, leaving them instructions Lieut. CHAMBERS & GROVE, 14 days to U.K.; Lt J. RIDE 8 days leave to MENTONE Monthly health report and discipline report	app 10 app 11 & 12

F. W. Shumard Lt Col

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Aus Pioneer Bn

FOR

January 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Memo on defence of Stieffe area and adjacent Bn billets |
| 2. | Weekly Works Progress Report to C.P.C.
2nd Aus Div. week ending 5th Jan 1918. |
| 3. | Bn R.O No 6 containing Honors & Awards also Appmt of Div Camouflage Officer in person of Lt J.A. Dewey. |
| 4. | Weekly works progress report ending 12th Jan. |
| 5. | Memo of works programme in Left Bde Sector |
| 6A | Steenwerck Laundry repairs and improvements |
| 6. | C.O.'s suggestion re control of Tramway trolleys |
| 7. | Weekly works progress report to 19th Jan 1918 |
| 8. | - do - to 26th Jan 1918 |
| 9. | Bn Operation Order 23. Move to Branoutre de |
| 10. | Relief of 3rd Aus Pioneers by this unit & vice versa. Table of work to be done on sector left. |
| 11. | Monthly health report |
| 12. | Monthly discipline report |
| 13. | Map shewing work done by this unit for Decr 1917 and Jan 1918 |

C. H. Bennett

105
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

Copy No. 5
Appendix I

MEMORANDUM ON DEFENCE.

BY

LT-COL. F.W.G. ANNAND, DSO., VD., COMMANDING 2ND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.
=====

In the Field,
1st January, 1918.

In the event of a hostile attack on our Divisional Area, the Battalion will form up on the AVOIDING ROAD W of NEEPPE in B.15. b and d. The following picquets will be posted at once:-

No.1 of one platoon from A Company in trenches S.E. of MILL in B.16.d. covering road from PONT NIEPPE.

No. 2 of one platoon from D Company in trenches East of NIEPPE near last detached cottage in thoroughfare called TRAIN DE CHARIOT - COUROBLE, about 300 yards from AUBUCHERON ESTAMINET.

No.3 of one platoon from C Company in trenches at COURTE RUE BIOD, about B.10.d.9 $\frac{3}{4}$.5.

The picquets will send out reconnoitring patrols, listening and observation posts well ahead, and send information and reports to Battalion Headquarters, AVOIDING ROAD, near the southern end.

All the battalion officers should inspect the system of trenches from South West of the MILL in B.16.d. to COURTE RUE so as to be fairly acquainted with them in case the battalion had to man them as a reserve line.

Should the battalion get the order to 'Stand to', the Assistant Adjutant with 8 Headquarters Cyclists will report to Divisional Headquarters for orders, getting into and keeping touch with G Staff and C.R.E.

After assembling on AVOIDING ROAD each Company will send a runner to Battalion Headquarters.

LEWIS GUNS. - B.L.G. Officers will select posts to be occupied by the guns and crews doing anti-aircraft duty in default of any other direct orders being received by them.

He will attach any remaining guns to the picquets detailed above, giving preference to No's. 1 and 3 in that order, but dividing available guns evenly as possible.

Pack animals will report to R.S.M. at present Battalion Headquarters and be loaded with S.A.A. They will then join their respective Coys on AVOIDING ROAD. Limbers for remainder of ammunition and bombs, and for Headquarters Stationery, etc., will also report to R.S.M. at Present Battalion Headquarters and after loading proceed to AVOIDING ROAD. The Battalion Pioneers to provide a loading party.

(Sgd) Ivan Dimant, Capt. & Adj.
2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion.

Distribution:-

Copy No. 1. - Commanding Officer.
2 - O/C., A Company.
3 - O/C., B "
4 - O/C., C "
5 - O/C., D "

6 - Transport Officer
7 - B.L.G.O.
8 - Asst-Adj.
9 - R.S.M.
10 - File.
11 - War Diary.



105
 SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.
 =====

My
 Battalion Headquarters,
 Jan. 5th 1918.

To/-
 G. R. E.,
 2nd Australian Division.

PROGRESS REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 5:1:18.
 =====

TRENCHES.

ULTIMO LANE. from U.17.a.5.5. to U.17.d.3.9.

182 yards of parapet filled in and heightened. 83 yards revetted. 55 yards revetted one side of trench. 86 yards of Fire-Steps constructed and improved. 30 yards drained and cleaned.

ULTIMO AVENUE. - from U.15.c.4.3. to U.16.b.4.4.

610 yards of netting laid on duckwalks. 27 yards revetted. 20 yards repaired and improved.

CRATER TRENCH. U.15.d.9.7.

20 yards repaired and revetted.

LOOK SLIPPY TRACK. - U.15.c.

275 yards Double Duckwalks and 100 yards single duckwalks wired.

DOUVE TRACK :- U.10.a.

80 yards of Duckwalks netted.

SUPPORT LINE. U.17.a.

14 yards repaired and revetted.

UNA AVENUE. U.28.b.

214 yards revetted.

UNA SUPPORT. U.22.d.

150 yards revetted.

UMPIRE AVENUE. U.28.a.

Trench repaired where blown in.

Average number of men employed :- 200

TRENCH MORTAR
 POSITIONS.

LEFT SECTOR.

Ammunition Pit dug, revetted, floored and covered. Communion Trench dug from Gun Pit to Ammunition Pit, revetted and duckboarded.

2 sides of Gun Pit revetted. Trench leading to same revetted and duckboarded. Back wall of pit strengthened.

RIGHT SECTOR.

Ammunition Pit duckboarded, revetted, sandbagged and covered. Trench from Gun Pit to Ammunition Pit revetted, duckboarded and covered. Sump and drain revetted. Gun Pit partially revetted and sandbagged.

Average Number of men employed 25.

Ch. Leung
 Lieut-Colonel.
 C.O., 2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion.

105
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.
=====

APPENDIX 2

Battalion Headquarters,
Jan. 5th 1918.

To/-
C. R. E.,
2nd Aust. Division.

PROGRESS REPORT, WEEK ENDING 5:1:18 -- ROADS AND TRAMWAYS.
=====

ROADS.

PLOEGSTEERT - WARNETON ROAD - U.25.c.8.6. to U.27.b.8.9.

Further improved to LE GHEER. 120 tons of metal spread. 90 yds of Drains revetted. Lateral Drains cut as far as LE GHEER. Side Drains re-dug and cleaned for 1,000 yards. 27 loads of bricks used for filling. Culvert repaired at U.26.b.2.3.

GUNNER ROAD :- C.7.b.5.2. to C.3.d.5.3.

Improved as far as SUFFOLK AVENUE C.3.d.5.8. but most of work done to C.2.d.3.4. 70 tons of metal laid. 2 large culverts erected. Lateral Drains dug as far as C.3.d.5.3. and small box drains put in under Tramway.

LE BIZET-MOTOR CAR CORNER ROAD:- C.14.a. patrolled.

Average number of men employed 130.

DRAINS.

Drains in U.20. patrolled and kept clear.

TRAMWAYS.

VANCOUVER TRACK:-

384 yards of formation completed. 184 yards track laid. Large shell holes filled in and bridged at various points. Ramp through Communication Trench commenced.

WARNETON TRACK:-

200 yards of formation completed. 180 yards of track completed. Large shell holes filled in and bridged. Trench bridged. All breaks repaired where line blown up.

WARNETON LINE:-

Now complete to U.16.b.8.8. and VANCOUVER LINE to U.17.a.4.5. Formation practically completed throughout.

Line from WARNETON LINE to TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY complete to U.11.c.3.8.

Average number of men employed:- 77

Ch. Deery Lt Asst Adj
for Lieut-Colonel.
C.O., 2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.*APPENDIX 2*
APPENDIXBattalion Headquarters,
Jan. 5th 1918.To/-
C. R. E.,
2nd Australian Division.
-----WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT -- STEENWERCK LAUNDRY.SMALL DRYING ROOM. - Half furnace between two small Drying Rooms, pulled down and re-built inside.

Two flue pipes run inside.

Reception flue chamber and main flue built.

Lining boards taken off rafters and re-erected on collar-ties.

Fresh-air flue built.

LARGE DRYING ROOM. - Main furnace in large Drying Room concreted on outside.

Racks completed.

Ch Steenwerck
2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion.

Lt. & Asst-Adj.

105
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

ROUTINE ORDER NO. 6. APPENDIX 3.

BY

LT-COL. F.W.G. ANNAND, DSO., VD., COMMANDING 2ND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.
=====

In the Field,
Jan. 7th 1918.

DUTIES.

1. C Company will supply a guard of three men to report to R.S.M. at 3 p.m. to-morrow.

LEAVE TO ENGLAND.

2. The undermentioned men will proceed on leave to England on 9th instant, reporting to Battalion Orderly Room immediately after examination by R.M.O. at 9 a.m. on that date :-

No.2150 Pte. Parker, J.J.	A Company.
No.2383 " Kavanagh, M.	B "
No.2741 " Hunter, W.	B "

HONOURS AND REWARDS.

3. Extract from 'The Honours Gazette' 'London Gazette' Supplement No.30450 dated 1st January, 1918 :-
His Majesty The King has been graciously pleased to approve of the undermentioned rewards, in recognition of valuable services in connection with the war :-

MILITARY CROSS.

Capt(now Major) R.H.HUDSON - A.A.M.C., attached 2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.
Capt. L.C.ROTH - 2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.
Lieut.A.H.TRAVES - do -

Extracts from 'London Gazette' Supplement No.30448 dated 28th December, 1917 :-

Special mention in Sir Douglas Haig's Despatch of 7th November, 1917 - For distinguished and gallant services and devotion to duty :-

Captain A.D.NEVEIN	2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.
Captain R.C.WERTHEIM	do -
Captain J.NICOLSON	"
Captain J.ARMITAGE	"
Lieut. A.E.ROBERTSON	"
No.434 CSM. Manners, J.M.	"

The Commanding Officer's congratulations are tendered to the above officers and warrant officer under his Command.
(Authority A.I.F.Honours List(List No.279) dated 1:1:18).

P A R T I I.

APPOINTMENT.

Lieut. F.A.DEWEY, has been appointed Divisional Camouflage Officer, and will draw any parties that he requires from B Company.

PROMOTION.

No.4351 Pte. K.C.R.Smith, to be T/Cpl vice Prior promoted. Dated 19:12:17.

Cl. Benney
Lieut. & Asst-Adj.
2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

105
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

APPENDIX 4/10
Battalion Headquarters,
Jan. 12th 1918.

To/-
C.R.E.,
2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT - FOR WEEK ENDING 12 : 1 : 18.
=====

TRENCHES.

ULTIMO LANE.

75 yards of fire step completed at U.17-c.9.9.
50 yards - do - U.17.a.4.4.
20 yards " U.17.d.2.9.
75 yards revetted at U.17.a.8.0.
40 yards - do - U.17.c.9.9.
20 yards of trench repaired at U.17.a.5.3.
25 yards - do - U.17.a.7.1.
32 yards " U.17.d.2.9.

* ULTIMO AVENUE.

117 yards of Duckwalks wired in vicinity U.16.a.9.4.
165 - do - U.16.b.5.9.
140 yards wired and 35 yards of Duckwalks laid in vicinity of U.16.b.8.4.

CRATER TRENCH. - U-15.d.9.7.

5 yards of trench revetted, 10 'A' Frames fixed, and trench repaired where blown in.

* ULTIMO AVENUE.

130 yards of duckwalks wired at U.16.b.7.4.
40 yards revetted at U.16.b.8.4.

ST YVES AVENUE. - U.15.d.5.5.

35 yards of duckwalks wirenetted. Trench repaired where blown in.

DOUVE DUCKWALK TRACK.

280 yards wire-netted from U.8.c.8.6. to U.8.d.3.8.

UNA AVENUE.

98 yards revetted, 105 yards cleaned out and duckwalks laid at U.28.b.8.1. and U.28.d.2.9.

Trench repaired where blown in.

UNA SUPPORT.

87 yards revetted and 100 yards cleaned out and repaired at U.22.d.3.2. and U.28.c.6.2.

NOTE:- Flex Alley ends at U.28.c.7.1. and not as shewn on map.

UMPIRE DRIVE SOUTH.

58 yards revetted at U.23.c.5.8. and U.23.c.2.8.

Average number of men employed 187.

ROADS.

ASH AVENUE.

Large culvert erected at U.14.a.6.4. 8 tons of metal laid.

PLOEGSTEERT-WARNETON ROAD.

Road now formed and metalled to LE GHEER. Side drains re-dug. 84 yards of shell holes revetted. Culvert erected at U.26.b.6.3. 500 tons of metal used.

GUNNER ROAD.

Now good for single traffic to C.3.d.5.9. Side drains cleaned, small box drains put under tramway (10) between C.7.b.5.2. to C.3.d.5.8. 250 tons of metal laid.

ROAD. - C.8.a.2.5. to C.14.a.8.9.

Side drains cleared and culvert repaired at C.8.c.4.8.

DRAINS.

Drains in U.20. patrolled and kept clean.

Average number employed 100.

(2):

APPENDIX 4TRAMWAYS.WARNETON-VANCOUVER CIRCUIT.

Connected up and fit for urgent traffic. Requires improvement in ballasting. 378 yards laid from U.16.b.8.8. to U.17.a.4.5 .

300 yards of Duckwalks wired from U.14.d.7.5. to U.14.b.9.2.

Material carried up for extension of Warneton Line past Trench Mortar Batteries.

Tracks repaired and several large shell holes repaired.

Average number of men employed 74.

STEENWERCK LAUNDRY.

Drying Room ceiling boarded. New Brick furnace built. Hood for air inlet pipe made. Old furnace taken down and bricks cleaned. Air inlet pipe and flue pipes erected. Malthoid laid on ceiling, roof repaired and frame fixed over furnace.

Number of men employed 7.

One platoon on Camouflage Work.

Trench Mortar Battery positions completed.

PAPOT BATHS.

Latrine repaired. Ironing tables being constructed.
Two men employed.

7TH FIELD AMBULANCE.

Heating apparatus and stand for storage tank erected.
Work completed. Four men employed.

Ch Bengt
2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

Aost
Capt. & Adj.

105

(11160.) Wt. W 492/M1647. 65,000 Pads. 5/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 1187.)

Brigade Headquarters,
21st Jan. 1918.

PROGRAMME OF WORK.

RIGHT BATTALION. (in order of urgency).

1. Maintenance of ULTIMO LANE, ULTIMO AVENUE and ST YVES AVENUE. Draining, berming and revetting where necessary.
2. Completion of Duckboarding of VANCOUVER TRACK.
3. Improvement of Front line posts in form of short lengths of trench. Draining where possible, otherwise to be pumped. These posts to be subsequently joined up by a proper constructed and revetted trench.
4. Improvement of cellars and other accommodation in LA BASSE VILLE. See attached sketch 'A'. This work must be done at night and all precautions taken to prevent its being observed by enemy.
5. Improvement of wire outside front line posts.
6. Reclamation of portion of GHEVEN SUPPORT to provide further accommodation from ULTIMO AVENUE to U.11.c.4.d. This to be done immediately remainder to be completed later.
7. Drainage and improvement of S.P.'s. at HILL 30 (UNITY) at U.17.a.05.85. and FUSE COTTAGE (VICTORY) at ~~U.10.b.9.d.0.~~ U.10.d.4.3.
8. Drainage of R.A.P. and provision of more shelters.
9. Improvement of accommodation trench leading from ULTIMO AVENUE in U.16.b.1.4. and providing more shelters. Completion of S.P. at end of this trench (UNTIDY) U.16.b.0.65.
10. Improvement of left Flank Post No.9 thicken wire to corner gap.
11. Opening up Support Line south of Ultimo Lane at U.17.a.8.1. (VIGO SUPPORT) to connect eventually with Right Brigade.
12. Improvement of shelters and trenches of Support Coy at ST YVES.

LEFT BATTALION. (in order of urgency)

1. Opening up USEFUL LANE, USEFUL SUPPORT, EGMONT AVENUE and RIVER LANE, first cleaning, berming and digging drains afterwards completely revetting same.
2. Completion of foot rubbing shelter at U.11.a.6.1.
3. Improvement of Front Line Posts and trench connecting same. Proper scheme of drainage to be provided.
4. Maintenance of Support Line (WALLY SUPPORTX from U.11.c.2.9. to USEFUL LANE. Afterwards completing GNEVEN SUPPORT to connect with Right Battalion.
5. Construct R.A.P. and shelters at U.10.a.3.6.
6. Reclaim UGLY LANE from EGMONT AVENUE to Front Line.
7. Improve Right Flank of No.1 Post and thicken wire to cover gap.
8. Lower DOUVE DUCKWALK and camouflage hedge on right of same at U.10. a. and b.
9. Improvement of S.P. HILL 27 (WATCHFUL) U.10.a.6.8.
10. Construction of S.P. at U.10.c.9.8. URBAN.
11. Improvement of shelters of Support Coy in U.9.b.
12. Construction of shelters in SUNKEN ROAD in U.10.a.

Sgd. Capt.
A/Brigade Major 6th Inf. Bde. A.I.F.

Copies to :-

21st Bn.
22nd "
23rd "
24th "
7th Field Coy.A.E.
2nd Aust. Pioneers.
2nd Aust. Division.

105
COPY.

APPENDIX 5 A.

C/O., 2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

The work at Steenwerck Laundry is now practically complete as required and has effected a great improvement.

Your Sgt. Edmondson who was in charge of the work, took a great interest and made a very good job of it.

16:1:18.

(Sgd) J.M.C. Corlette, Lt-Col.
C.R.E. 2nd Aust. Div.

105
2nd Pioneer Battalion.

Reference visit to STEENWERCK Laundry to-day, will you please arrange to put in hand the following jobs :-

Q. LARGE DRYING ROOM.

1. Patch up furnace and render as safe as possible by erecting wire netting or similar grids over it and part of flues, so that there is no danger of clothing falling on heated surface and becoming ignited. Also remove woodwork close to furnace where there is risk of fire and replace with sheet iron or brickwork.
2. Strip lining from roof and re-lay as ceiling on the beams of roof principally. Cover on top with tarred felt.
3. Make provision for air outlet through ceiling round flue at end remote from ~~flue~~ furnace.
4. Provide for air inlet fitted with regulator at furnace end either by 2 cast iron 4" pipes through furnace or by sheet iron flue on top of furnace. Inlet end to be provided with sheet iron hood and discharge end to be about 2 feet higher than inlet end.
5. Put glass in upper panes of windows and repair any other panes where necessary with linen.
6. Block up as far as possible all air ingress and egress except specified inlet and outlet.

2. SMALL TWIN DRYING ROOMS.

1. Alter one of these as follows :-

Make and install new flue connected to furnace ~~in~~ through top of fire box, thence sloping upwards through drying room to connect to old vertical flue at further end of room. Block up entrance to old flue. Part of new flue outside of drying room should be bricked in or boxed in with sand to prevent radiation and woodwork protected where it passes through wall. Wire protection should be arranged round flue to prevent clothing coming in contact.

2. Provide air inlet by flue sloping upwards from a hood fixed over fire door and leading into drying room. Opening of hood should not be less than 18" x 12".
3. Provide for outlet, with regulating device, round flue where it penetrates ceiling.
4. Strip part of roof and use boarding for ceiling on collar ties.
5. Glaze windows with glass in lieu of linen.
6. Block up all air leakage as much as possible.
7. Improve system of drying racks.

3. NISSEN HUT DRYING ROOMS.

1. Repair all damaged windows with linen and block up all unnecessary holes.
2. Re-arrange stoves and flues with more system and to give more heating surface.
3. Provide for definite system of air in-draught and out-draught.

The above alterations should be done as far as possible without interfering with work of Laundry. The only stoppage for any extended period required should be in repairing furnace of big drying room and fitting air inlet pipes. This should only require one days interruption

(Signed) J.M.C. Corlette, Lt-Col.
C.R.E. Second Aust. Div.

COPY.SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.
=====

C.R.E.

2nd Aust. Division.
-----

Reference proposed control of Tram trollies.
I enclose draft of suggested D.R.O. and form of receipt.
If these are approved, I can put it in hand at once.

(Sgd) F.W.G. Annand, Lieut-Colonel.
C.O., 2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

SUGGESTED FORM OR RECEIPT.

Received from _____ Trolley Depot, Trolley No. _____
which I undertake to return to the depot by _____ m. on _____ in
terms on D.R.O. No. _____

.....
Unit.....

SUGGESTED DIVISIONAL ROUTINE ORDER.

All tramline trollies will be under the control of the
Divisional Tramway Officer.

There will be three trolley depots, at Motor Car Corner,
Dellenelle Farm and Racine Dump respectively.

Representatives of the Tramway Officer will be constantly on
duty at each of these depots.

Trollies will only be issued to officers or N.C.Os. or the men
who present an order signed by an officer and bearing a unit stamp.

The individual to whom a trolley is issued will sign a receipt
therefor, and will be personally responsible that the trolley is
returned to the Depot from which it was drawn within 12 hours.

When a trolley is returned to the Depot the relative receipt
will be handed to the one who returned the trolley.

Receipts for trollies that are unredeemed after 12 hours will
be sent to D.H.Q., for disciplinary action against the delinquents.

C O P Y.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.

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APPENDIX 7

17

Battalion Headquarters,
Jan. 19th 1918.

105
To/-
C.R.E.,
2nd Aust. Division.

WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORT -- FOR WEEK ENDING 19:1:18.
=====

TRENCHES. UNA SUPPORT.

47 yards revetted from U.22.d.3.2. to U.22.d.3.3.
Digging and revetting Five bays at U.22.d.2.2.
12 yards cleaned and drained at U.22.d.2.2.
90 yards cleaned, duckboards relaid, revetted where necessary
approx. U.28.b.0.2.
60 yards cleaned and drained, and revetted where necessary
between U.28.d.2.9. and U.28.c.7.1.
Trench cleaned and blocks removed in various places.

UMPIRE DRIVE SOUTH.

47 yards revetted approx. U.23.c.2.8.
50 yards deepened and widened for 'A' Frames.
260 yards drained. Box Drains, Duckboards and Revetment
repaired approx. U.23.c.4.9.

FLAX ALLEY.

Revetting repaired, Blocks cleared, Duckboards relaid and
Drains deepened in various places from U.28.c.7.1. to U.28.c.4.2.

NICHOLSON'S AVENUE.

12 yards repaired.
60 yards cleaned and drained, approx. C.3.d.0.6.

UNA AVENUE.

Blockages cleared, Revetment repaired and Duckwalks relaid,
approx. U.22.d.0.2. U.28.b.8.1.

UMPIRE AVENUE.

Trench drained and cleaned, blockages removed at approx.
U.22.d.0.2.

UMPIRE ROW.

Drained and cleaned, 2 shell holes repaired, U.22.d.3.3.
to U.22.d.0.3.

CRATER TRENCH.

20 yards revetted U.15.d.8.8.
40 yards repaired.
70 yards of duckwalk relaid.

ULTIMO LANE.

58 yards revetted U.17.a.6.2. to U.17.a.7.1.
Trench repaired where blown in.
Fire steps completed and levelled U.17.a.8.0.

ULTIMO AVENUE.

Repairing, cleaning and draining trench where necessary.

ST IVES AVENUE.

Revetting, repairing, draining and cleaning U.15.c.5.4. to
U.15.d.5.5.
Average number of men employed 227.

DOUVE DUCKWALK TRACK.

440 yards of duckwalk wire-netted from U.8.d.0.7. to U.8.d.9.9.

TRAMWAYS.WARNETON LINE.

400 yards of track formed and lines linked up at from U.11.c.1.6. to U.11.a.5.2.

400 yards of duckwalks laid from U.10.a.9.4. to U.10.d.6.2.

Track cleared and cuttings battered from U.10.d.6.2. to U.10.d.8.5.

1,700 yards of duckwalks wire-netted from U.15.a.0.6. to U.10.d.1.4.

VANCOUVER TRACK.

840 yards of duckwalks laid from U.22.a.3.5. to U.16.d.9.6.

300 yards of track improved from U.16.d.7.5. to U.17.c.3.9.

240 yards of duckwalks wire-netted from U.16.d.4.4. to U.16.d.8.6.

PIONEER DUMP LINE.

50 yards of formation improved U.22.a.5.1.

Average number of men employed 98.

ROADS.ASH AVENUE.

Road improved and culvert erected at U.14.b.7.8.

100 tons of metal laid U.14.a.6.3. to U.15.a.4.9.

PLOEGSTEERT-WARNETON ROAD.

Drains improved. 60 tons of metal laid U.15.c.8.5. to U.21.d.7.0.

GUNNER ROAD.

Drains improved. Shell holes filled in.

Large culvert erected at C.8.a.8.6.

No metal laid C.7.b.5.1. to C.3.d.5.9.

LE BIZET-MOTOR CAR CORNER ROAD

patrolled.

DRAINS.

Drains in U.29. and U.26. patrolled and kept clear.

Average number of men employed 90.

STEENWERCK LAUNDRY.

Work completed.

C. L. Henry Lt. Asst.
Capt. & Adj.
2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.

Battalion Headquarters,
Jan. 26th 1918.

To/-
C. R. E.,
2nd Aust. Division.

PROGRESS REPORT -- FOR WEEK ENDING 25 : 1 : 18.
=====

TRENCHES. ULTIMO AVENUE. U.15.d.8.9. to U.16.b.8.4.
Deepening and revetting existing drains.
New drains cut where necessary.
General repairs to trench where fallen in or damaged by
shell fire in numerous places.
60 yards drained at AN CHAUSSEUR CAB. U.17.a.0.5.

ULTIMO LANE.
Draining and repairing at U.17.a.6.2.

DOUVE TRACK.
180 yards wire-netted U.10.a.

UNA SUPPORT.
General repairs. Draining, cleaning, revetting and relaying
duckwalks where necessary between U.23.c.8.3. and U.22.d.3.3.

UMPIRE ROW.
General repairs. Cleaning, draining, revetting repairing and
relaying duckwalks between U.22.c.0.3. and U.22.c.3.3.

FLAX ALLEY.
Trench revetted and duckwalks repaired at U.23.c.3.2.
and U.23.c.7.1.

UNA AVENUE.
Trench cleaned and drained at U.23.b.8.1.
Duckwalks raised and trench cleaned at U.29.a.0.1. and
U.29.a.2.2.

UMPIRE AVENUE.
25 yards of trench cleaned and drained at U.22.c.7.0.
95 yards drained, cleaned and duckwalks repaired, revetting
repaired between U.23.c.2.8. and U.23.c.5.8.

PILL BOX cleaned out and fitted with bunks at U.22.d.7.7.

CECIL LANE. C.4.a.8.9. to U.23.d.1.1.
Cleaning, deepening and preparing for 'A' frames.
Cleaning drains and repairing duckwalks.

ST YVES AVENUE.
Duckwalks taken up and drains cleaned between U.15.c.4.3.
and U.15.d.5.3.
Lateral drains cut and revetted at U.15.c.4.3. - U.15.d.2.3. -
U.15.d.5.3.
General repairs.

LOOK SLIPPY TRACK.
Duckwalks repaired at U.15.c.4.3.

Average number of men employed :- 222.

ASH AVENUE. U.14.a.6.3. to U.14.b.7.8.

Road improved, culvert erected at U.14.b.7.8.

80 yards of metal spread and shell holes filled in.

PLOEGSTEERT - WARNETON ROAD. - U.25.c.8.5. to U.23.b.3.9.

Drains cleaned out.

Road patrolled and repaired.

42 loads of metal spread

GUNNER ROAD - C.7.b.4.1. to C.3.d.5.9.

Road maintained and shell holes filled in.

36 loads of metal spread.

MOTOR CAR CORNER ROAD.

Patrolled and kept clean.

Average number of men employed :- 50.

TRAMWAYS.WARNETON LINE.

232 yards sleepered from U.11.a.5.2. to U.11.c.2.8.

250 yards of duckwalks wire-netted from U.10.d.1.4.
to U.10.d.5.2.Mud and slush cleared from track, banks and cuttings cut
back and battered, and track drained from U.15.a.2.8. to
U.10.c.5.4. also from U.10.d.5.2. to U.11.c.0.6.VANCOUVER LINE.

1,000 yards duckwalks laid from U.16.d.7.5. to U.10.d.7.0.

200 yards of duckwalks wire-netted from U.16.d.8.6. to
U.17.c.0.7.

300 yards of track improved from U.16.d.7.5. to U.17.c.2.8.

100 yards of track cleaned at U.21.b.9.8.

CALEDONIAN TRACK AND LE TOQUET TRACK - maintained.

Average number of men employed :- 97

DRAINS.

Drains in U.20 and U.23. patrolled and maintained.

CAMOUFLAGE.

On e platoon employed on Camouflage.

Ch Leighton
2nd Aust. Pioneer Battalion.*Asst*
Capt. & Adj.

105
OPERATION ORDER (and ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO) NO. 23.

BY

LT-COL. F. W. G. ANNAND, D.S.O., V.D., COMMANDING 2ND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.
=====In the Field,
Jan. 26th 1918.INTENTION.

1. Battalion will march out of this camp on 28th instant to relieve 3rd Aust. Pioneer Battalion on Corps Work, taking over billets now occupied by that Battalion, as well as works being done by them.

ROUTE.

2. H.Q., (including Band) via NEUVE EGLISE to DRANOUTRE. Coys to arrange own routes.

MARCH
DISCIPLINE.

3. As laid down in previous orders, to be strictly maintained.
4. (a) H.Q., (including Band)
(b) Companies and Transport will march out and move independently to new billets.

STARTING
TIME.

4. H.Qrs. at CEMETERY on Rue de la Gare, at 10 a.m. Companies to arrange own time and place. Company Transport to accompany respective Companies and return to LURGAN CAMP at completion of move.

ADVANCE
PARTY.

5. Party consisting of 1 Officer and 1 Sgt. per Coy proceeded to various locations on afternoon of 26th inst., to take over Camps and Works of Coys of 3rd Aust. Pioneer Bn. Lieut. C.L. Henry and 2 Signallers from H.Qrs will proceed to H.Q., 3rd Aust. Pioneer Battalion on 27th inst., to take over all billets for personnel and transport. Advance Parties to take over all maps, official papers, stores, etc., giving receipts for same and certificates re billets.

CAMPS IN
THIS AREA.

5. Camps at present occupied by all units of this Battalion will be left thoroughly clean, including shelters camp lines and adjacent areas. A certificate to the effect that this has been done will, after a searching inspection has been made by an officer, be forwarded to Battalion H.Qrs. by 9 a.m. on 28th instant. Inspection of **billets**, lines, etc., will not be made until every man is on parade in full marching order (not including blankets) ready to march out. If after Coys or other units of the Battalion have marched out, it is subsequently found that billets occupied by them **Have NOT** been left **clean** when this could, and should have been done, orders will be given to the unit concerned to detail a party under an officer, to return the following day and clean up.

BLANKETS.

6. Full instructions will be issued later.

BLANKET GUARD.

7. To be detailed later.

TRANSPORT.

8. Transport for H.Q., and Coys will report to respective billets by noon on 27th instant. Vehicles to be parked and loaded, and horses will report for such vehicles at times to be arranged on 28th instant.

Transport Officer will arrange ~~that~~ horses for cooks report to Coys by 8.30 a.m. on 28th instant, and that cooks accompany each Coy on the march.

TRANSPORT
GUARD.

9. H.Qrs. transport guard to be Q.M. Details.
Coys to arrange guards for their respective transport.

TOOLS,
AMMUNITION
ETC.,

10. Full complement of tools, equipment, Hand Grenades, 19,000 rounds of S.A.A., etc., to be carried. All surplus gear to be dumped in a suitable place in each unit's lines, and no personnel or other gear of any description, will be left in this area. All surplus good food will be taken and handed over to Coy Cooks or to Battalion Store.

FIREWOOD
AND FUEL.

11. It is suggested that Coys make arrangements to carry any firewood or fuel obtainable in this area, with them on the march, in order to guard against men taking timber from billets in new area on arrival there. Disciplinary action will be taken against any man offending in the matter respect.

WATER.

12. Instructions as laid down on para 13 of Operation Order No. 22 of 12:12:17 will be adhered to.

SANITATION.

13. As laid down in para 14 of Operation Order No. 22.

ALARM POST.

14. As laid down in para 15 of Operation Order No. 22.

GAS GUARDS.

15. As laid down in para 16 of Operation Order No. 22.

ENEMY
BOMBARDMENT.

16. As laid down in para 17 of Operation Order No. 22.

FIRE PICQUETS.

17. As laid down in para 18 of Operation Order No. 22.

COMPLETION.

18. On completion of individual moves each unit of the Battalion will at once report such to Battalion Headquarters, stating time move was completed.

RUNNERS.

19. Each Company will send a runner to Battalion Headquarters to report to Signal Sergeant, and to conduct Headquarters Signallers over routes to Company Headquarters.

Battalion Headquarters will be situated at LURGAN CAMP, M.35.b. (Sheet 28).

G.B. Patterson Capt. & Adj.
2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion.

Distribution:-

Copy No.	1	-	Commanding Officer.
do	2	-	Adjutant.
"	3	-	O/C., A Company.
"	4	-	O/C., B "
"	5	-	O/C., C "
"	6	-	O/C., D "
"	7	-	Quarter Master.
"	8	-	Transport Officer.
"	9	-	File.
	10	-	R.S.M.
	11	-	WAR DIARY.

List of works requiring immediate attentionTrenches

Ultimo Lane to be pumped out from V17d59 to V17d19 also at Irine Farm V17a71

Whole of Ultimo Lane parapet to be raised & thickened from V17d19 to V17a45

Ultimo Lane requires revetting as soon as possible from V17a45 to V16b84 (This is cleaned out ready for revetting at present).

Drains require to be revetted in following sector from Iron Gate V16b84 to Crater V15b78

Umpire Drive St. - Repairing, revetting, draining and duckwalks require attention

Umpire Row as above

Una Support Revetting where necessary; draining & repairing duckwalks.

Umpire Avenue Drainage

Beel Lane Revetting, draining & repairs to duckwalks.

St Yves' Avenue Drainage from C15c central to C15d45 is almost complete.

Slippery Lane - This duckwalk requires constant repair.

Roads

Ash Avenue - Draining urgently reqd. & to be properly done will take large party.

Plaegsteert Warneton Rd to Le Gheer - More small metal reqd on this road - formation now good, but screening is required - draining is good

Gunner Road Is in good condition & a section can maintain it.

Le Bizet Road to Motor Car Corner - Maintenance patrol is sufficient.

Drainage

A section is reqd to patrol & keep clear drains in V20 and V26.

Dumps

Stones dumps are established at Tor Dump V19b27, Ingersoll Dump V25d central; and Delenelle Dump at V7b58. Party is reqd to unload trains

Transport

Qu wagons at least are needed - carting must be night work.

Tramways

Balloasting & drainage is reqd on Warneton Extension line from V10d53 to V10d106 also laying of cyclone wire on duckwalks at forward end of Warneton - Vancouver line about 750 yds. Material for this has already been indentured for, to be delivered at Racine Dump. All other Divl tramways are in good order

Ch. Green Lt
Asst Adj.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION. APPENDIX 11

HEALTH OF BATTALION DURING MONTH OF JANUARY, 1918.

No prevailing diseases or cases of trench feet in this month, although the weather changed from a hard frost to a thaw, that required most of the men to walk and work in slush and mud for several days.

The great improvement in comparison with January 1916 is probably accounted for in part by being in more comfortable billets and the careful attention to regular foot baths and massage by French method under the Coy Chiropodists. Hot drinks were provided for all night parties.

There were few cases of venereal disease, and generally the health was good.

[Handwritten signature]


Lieut-Colonel.
C.O., 2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion.

SECOND AUSTRALIAN PIONEER BATTALION.REPORT ON DISCIPLINE FOR MONTHS of JANUARY, 1918.

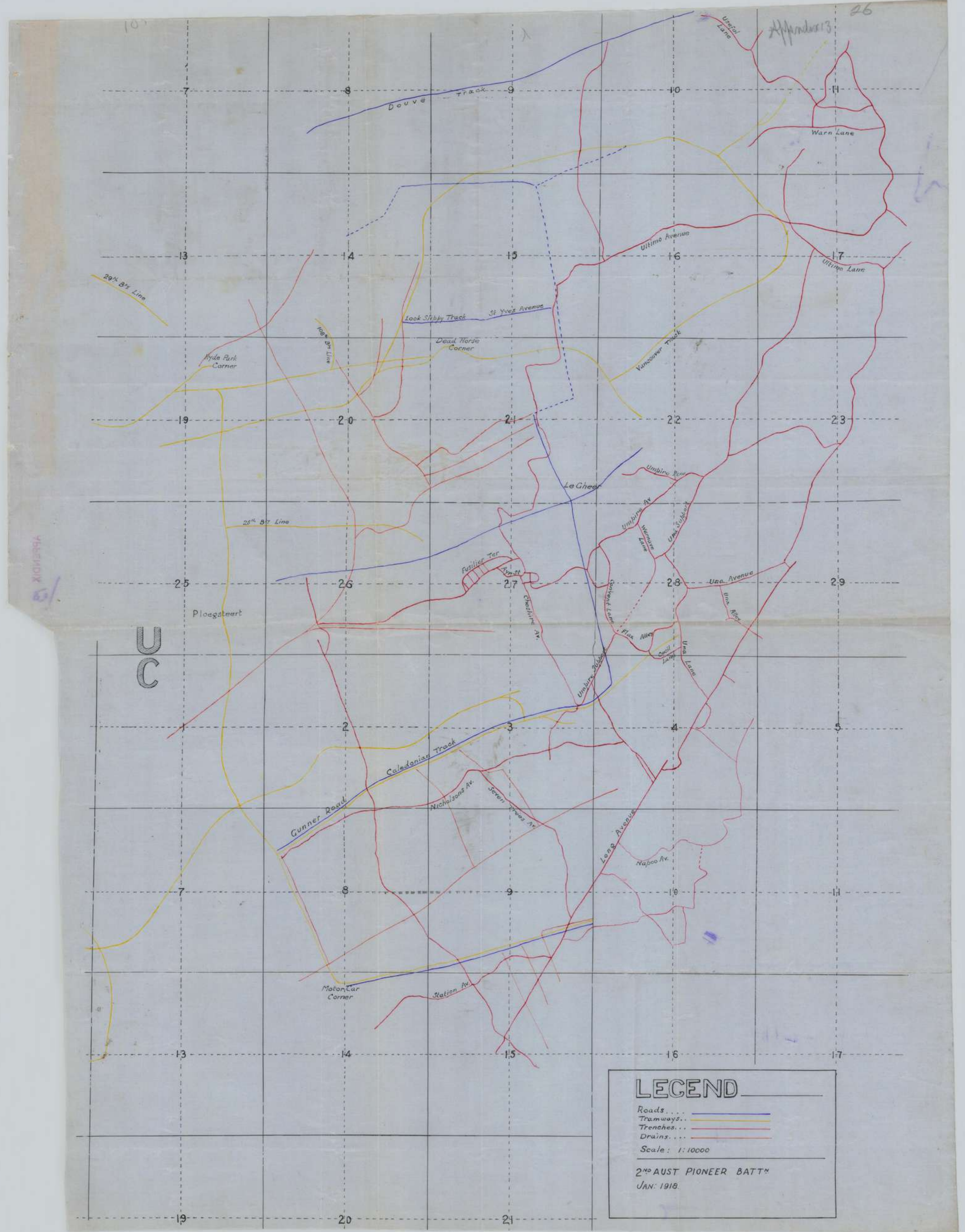
APPENDIX 12

Although the Battalion was billeted in the village of NIEPPE, which contained numerous Estaminets, discipline during the month was very good.

There were four minor cases of Absent from billets after 9 p.m. and two cases of A.W.L. where the C.O., awarded 14 days and 10 days F.P. No. 2 respectively.


C.O., 2nd Australian Pioneer Battalion.

Lieut-Colonel.



10

26

Appendix 13

29th Bn Line

Douve Track

Warn Lane

Ultimo Avenue

Ultimo Lane

Lock Slippy Track

St Yves Avenue

Dead Horse Corner

Vancouver Track

Hyde Park Corner

106th Bn Line

28th Bn Line

LeGheer

Umbira Row

Umbira Av

Umbira Lane

Umbira Lane

Umbira Lane

Umbira Lane

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Fusilier Ter

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Chesham Av.

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Umbira Lane

Gunner Road

Caledonian Track

Nicholson's Av.

Serfer Drive Av.

Long Avenue

Napoo Av.

Motor Car Corner

Station Av.

LEGEND

- Roads . . .
- Tramways . .
- Trenches . .
- Drains . .

Scale: 1:10000

2ND AUST PIONEER BATT^N

JAN. 1918

