

Royal Engineer Units in the British Salonika Force

The information here has been taken from Pritchard¹, the Unit War Diaries at both The National Archives and the Royal Engineers Museum. Information has also been taken from Vol 6 of the Royal Engineers Corps History.

1) Lines of Communications Troops

Railway Units²

Unit	TNA War Diary	RE Museum	Date range	Remarks
Director of Railways	Not held	Box 130	Nov 1915 to 31 Dec 1918	
Railway Troops Base Depot				
Railway Stores Section		Box 129?	06 Sep 1915 to ?	Not sure if this is a BSF unit
Railway Transport Section Salonika Army		Box 130	13 Nov 1915 to ?	
No. 2 Railway Traffic Section	WO95/4932		1918 Dec - 1919 Apr	
19 Railway Operating Coy	WO95/4932	Box 122	Aug 1916 – Apr 1919	
32 Railway Operating Coy	WO95/4932	Box 122	Feb 1917 – Mar 1919	
33 Light Railway Operating Coy	WO95/4932	Box 122	Jun 1917 – Jan 1919	
107 Railway Operating Coy	WO95/4932	Box 122	Jan 1918 – Mar 1919	
108 Railway Survey and Reconnaissance Section	WO95/4932	Box 129	07 Feb 1918 to 08 Dec 1918	
117 Railway Construction Coy	WO 95/4931	Box 123	Aug 1915 – Mar 1919	
200 later 267 Railway Construction Coy	WO 95/4931	Box 126	Feb 1917 – Apr 1917 May 1917 – Feb 1919	Renumbered May 1917
204 Railway Operating Coy	WO95/4932	Box 124	Sep 1918 – Apr 1919	
217 Railway Operating Company	WO95/4932	Box 124	Dec 1918 – Mar 1919	
270 Railway Labour Coy	WO95/4932	Box 126	Nov 1915 – Apr 1919	
273 Railway Construction Coy	WO95/4932	Box 127	Sep 1916 – Mar 1919	
No.1 Railway Construction Engineer				Not sure if these were units or just an appointment.
No. 2 Railway Construction Engineer				Not sure if these were units or just an appointment.

¹ Pritchard, Major-General H. L. (Ed). History of the Corps of Royal Engineers, Vol. V, The Home Front, France, Flanders and Italy in the First World War. Chatham: The Institution of Royal Engineers, 1952.

² Pritchard has other additional railway units currently unaccounted for, they are: a second light railway operating coy, a Light Railway Signal Coy and one L.of.C Signal Unit.

Railway Telegraph Coy	WO95/4932		1918 Oct - 1919 Mar	
L of C, Signal Company	WO95/4932		1915 Nov - 1919 Nov	Believe that this unit handled all Railway Communications before the establishment of the Railway Telegraph Coy.
Macedonian Rly Labour Coy				Mentioned in 117 Coys War Diary in Oct 1918, is this just a mistake?
No. 1 Railway Labour Coy				On 23 rd January, 1918 273 RCC received 200 men and 4 officers that were to form this Coy.

2) Other Lines of Communication Units in WO95/4932 or WO95/4931 from iv onwards

- i) Mining Company (Dranista) Royal Engineers (1918 July - 1919 Jan).
- ii) 4 Advanced Park Company Royal Engineers (1915 Oct - 1919 Apr).
- iii) 33 Base Park Company Royal Engineers (1917 June - 1919 June).
- iv) Inspector of Works Yeni Mahalle (1918 Mar - May).
- v) Works Officer Royal Engineers Devikran (1918 Mar - 1919 Jan).
- vi) Works Officer Royal Engineers Dudular and Unchantar (1918 Mar - 1919 Apr).
- vii) Works Officer Royal Engineers Harmankeut (1918 Mar - Dec).
- viii) Works Officer Royal Engineers Kalamaria (1918 Mar - 1919 July).
- ix) Works Officer Royal Engineers Karaissi (1918 Mar - Dec).
- x) Works Officer Royal Engineers Lembet (1918 Mar - 1919 June).
- xi) Works Officer Royal Engineers Naresh Quarry (1918 Mar - Aug).
- xii) Works Officer Royal Engineers Naresh Road (1918 June - 1919 Jan).
- xiii) Works Officer Royal Engineers Piers and Quays (1918 Mar - 1919 July).
- xiv) Works Officer Royal Engineers Salonika Central (1918 Mar - 1919 July).
- xv) Works Officer Royal Engineers Saragol (1918 Apr).
- xvi) Works Officer Royal Engineers Stavres (1918 Mar - 1919 Feb).
- xvii) Works Officer Royal Engineers Stratoni (1918 Mar - 1919 Feb).
- xviii) Works Officer Royal Engineers Summerhill (1918 Mar - Apr).

3) **Army Troops**

a) Army Troops WO95/4802

- i) 37 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1916 Jan - 1919 Mar).
- ii) 137 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1918 Feb - 1919 Mar).
- iii) 139 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1916 Feb - 1919 Mar).
- iv) 140 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1915 Aug - 1919 Mar)³

b) Army Troops WO95/4803

³ Allocated to XII Corps

- i) 143 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1916 Sept - 1919 Jan).⁴
- ii) 286 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1917 June - 1919 May).⁵
- iii) 287 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1916 Sept - 1919 May).⁶
- iv) 420 West Lancashire Field Company Royal Engineers (1917 June - 1919 Apr).
- v) Field Troop Royal Engineers (1918 Nov - 1919 Feb).
- vi) 8 Field Survey Company Royal Engineers (1917 Jan - 1919 Mar).
- vii) Indian Survey Detachment Royal Engineers (1917 Nov - 1918 Sept).
- viii) Meteorological Section Royal Engineers (1915 Oct - 1919 Apr).
- ix) Signal School (1918 May - 1919 Mar)⁷

c) Army Troops WO95/4793

- i) 7 Mounted Brigade: 8 Field Troop Royal Engineers (1916 Sept - 1917 June).⁸
- ii) 8 Mounted Brigade: 9 Field Troop Royal Engineers (1916 Nov - 1917 May).

4) Corps Troops

a) 12th Corps

- i) Corps Signal Company Royal Engineers (1918 Nov - 1919 Jan).
- ii) Constantinople Signal Section Royal Engineers (1919 Mar - June).
- iii) Chief Engineer (1916 May - 1918 Oct). WO95/4820

b) 16th Corps

- i) Chief Engineer Feb 1916 – Feb 1919 WO95/4826

5) Divisional Troops

a) 10th (Irish) Division, WO95/4832

- i) 65 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Oct - 1917 Aug).
- ii) 66 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Oct - 1917 Aug).
- iii) 85 Field Company Royal Engineers (1916 Mar - 1917 Aug).
- iv) Divisional Signal Company (1915 Nov - 1917 Aug).
- v) CRE WO95/4830 (Sept 1915-Aug 1917)

b) 22nd Division WO95/4846

- i) 99 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Apr).
- ii) 100 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Mar).
- iii) 127 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Apr).
- iv) Divisional Signal Company (1915 Nov - 1919 Mar)
- v) CRE WO95/4843 (Nov 1915 – Mar 1919)

c) 26th Division WO95/4865/4866⁹

- i) 107 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Apr).
- ii) 108 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Apr)
- iii) 131 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Apr).
- iv) Divisional Signal Company (1915 Nov - 1919 May).
- v) CRE WO95/4863 (Nov 1915-Apr 1919)

a) 27th Division WO 95/4884

⁴ Allocated to XVI Corps

⁵ To XVI Corps Nov. 1916

⁶ To XII Corps Nov. 1916

⁷ It has been assumed that this was a RE unit, as the Royal Corps of Signals was not formed until A [Royal Warrant](#) for the creation of a **Corps of Signals** was signed by the [Secretary of State for War, Winston Churchill](#), on 28 June 1920. Six weeks later, King [George V](#) conferred the title **Royal Corps of Signals**.^[4]

⁸ RE Corps History has this as 6th Field Troop in Jan 1916

⁹ WO95/4866 contains the last two War Diaries

- i) 17 Field Company Royal Engineers (1916 Jan - 1919 May).
 - ii) 99 Field Company Royal Engineers (1919 May - Nov).
 - iii) 500 (1/1 Wessex) Field Company Royal Engineers (1916 Jan - 1919 Oct).
 - iv) 501 (1/2 Wessex) Field Company Royal Engineers (1916 Jan - 1919 Sept).
 - v) Divisional Signal Company (1915 Dec - 1919 Sept)
 - vi) CRE WO95/4882 (Jan 1916 – Sept 1919)
- b) 28th Division WO95/4908/4909¹⁰
- i) 38 Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Mar).
 - ii) 100 Field Company Royal Engineers (1919 Apr - Sept).
 - iii) 449 (2/1 Northumbrian) Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Oct)
 - iv) 506 (1/7 Hampshire) Field Company Royal Engineers (1915 Nov - 1919 Nov).
 - v) Divisional Signal Company (1915 Nov - 1919 Nov).
 - vi) CRE WO95/4906 (Nov 1915-Nov. 1919)
- c) 60th (London) Division WO95/4927
- i) 519 (1/6 London) Field Company Royal Engineers (1916 Dec - 1917 June).
 - ii) 521 (2/4 London) Field Company Royal Engineers (1916 Dec - 1917 June).
 - iii) 522 (3/3 London) Field Company Royal Engineers (1916 Dec - 1917 June).
 - iv) Divisional Signal Company Royal Engineers (1916 Dec - 1917 June).
 - v) CRE WO95/4926 (Dec 1916 – June 1917)

6) Black Sea Troops WO 95/4952

- i) Black Sea Troops: 137 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1919 Apr - Nov).
- ii) Black Sea Troops: 139 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1919 Apr - Sept).
- iii) Black Sea Troops: 143 Army Troops Company Royal Engineers (1919 Feb - Aug).
- iv) Black Sea Troops: 72 Field Company Royal Engineers (1918 Dec - 1919 Nov).
- v) Black Sea Troops: 32 Railway Operating Company Royal Engineers (1919 Apr - Aug).
- vi) Black Sea Troops: 273 Constructional Company Royal Engineers (1919 Apr - Sept).
- vii) Black Sea Troops: Caucasus Signal Company (1918 Dec - 1919 May).
- viii) Black Sea Troops: Army Signal School (1919 Apr - Dec)

7) Other RE Units mentioned in Corps History

- i) 95th Labour Coy R.E.
- ii) 96th Labour Coy. R.E.
- iii) 28th Fortress Coy R.E. (detachment)
- iv) 138th Army Troops Coy. R.E.

¹⁰ WO95/4909 contains the last two War Diaries