

**AWM4**

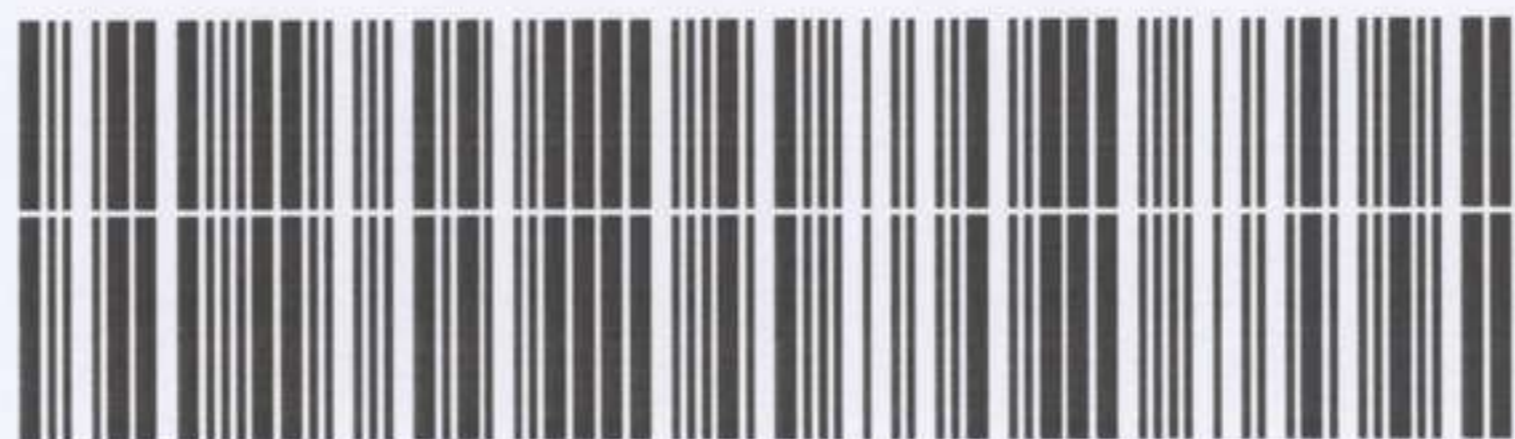
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

New Zealand Units

**Item number: 35/23/10**

**Title: 1st Machine Gun Squadron, New  
Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade**

April 1917



AWM4-35/23/10

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol VIII

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| Place         | Date<br>1917 | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------|--------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| DEIR EL BELAH | April 1st    |      | Church Parade 5 O/R marched in. N.P.H.   | R.A.F.F.<br>1.185000                 |
|               | 2nd          | 1200 | On outpost with Brigade N.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 3            | 1400 | Returned from outpost Sent 3 ladders to BIR EL MELALHA for gear N.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 4            |      | Camp routine cleaned saddlery N.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 5            |      | Gun instruction R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 6            |      | Signalling & Gun instruction R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 7            |      | Lieut Kelly returned to Moascar R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 8            |      | 1200 left for outpost N.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 9            | 1400 | Returned from outpost Drew ammunition from B.A.C. R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 10           |      | Camp routine cleaned saddlery, 5 O/R marched in from Moascar R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 11           |      | Inspection of Belts, Boxes, & ammunition R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 12           |      | Gun instruction 3 O/R left for Garo for interview with OC. R.F.C. R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 13           |      | Grazing Parade N.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 14           |      | Gun instruction & Signalling R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 15           |      | Church parade R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 16           |      | Preparations for move. Received secret orders for operations in SHELLAL-BEERSHEBA  |                                      |
|               | 17           | 0900 | Marched out with Bde at 1830 Arrived SHELLAL 0600, watered & fed R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 18           | 1000 | Moved out with Bde in direction of BEERSHEBA, advance guard came into touch with enemy at 1100. Squadron stayed in reserve & returned to bivouac at SHELLAL at 2300 R.P.H. |                                      |
|               | 19           | 1000 | Reconnaissance in BEERSHEBA area. Returned to SHELLAL 2100. Rationed & moved out at 2300 R.P.H.  |                                      |

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

R.P. Gargal Capt

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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| Place             | Date<br>1917     | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and<br>references to<br>Appendices |
|-------------------|------------------|------|---|--|
|                   | 19 <sup>th</sup> | 0600 | Arrived TEL EL JEMMI. Rationed & watered  | R.P.H.                                     |
|                   |                  | 1100 | Sent 4 guns with Wellington Reg. east of WADI EL BAHHA to attack R.P.H. SAUSAGE RIDGE. Guns gave covering fire at ranges from 1000 to 1400 yds. on to enemy entrenched while our troops advanced. R.P.H.  | 1:125000                                   |
|                   |                  | 1200 | Moved with Bde to KH. EL ABBIFBRIYIEH. R.P.H.   |  |
|                   |                  | 1300 | Sent four guns with Canterbury Reg to attack enemy at RISM EL ATAWINEH. One section had severe casualties from shell fire but advanced behind the first line troops & obtained good targets at 1000 yds to 1600 yds on to a retreat. Also enemy advancing through crops at 400 yds. |  |
|                   |                  | 1900 | Brigade commenced to withdraw over Wadi and at 2030 moved to TEL EL JEMMI. watered bivouaced.<br>Casualties 1 O/R killed. 1 officer & 16 O/R wounded. Ammunition expended 10000. R.P.H.   |  |
| WELI SHEIKH NURAN | 20 <sup>th</sup> | 0930 | Moved to WELI SHEIKH NURAN. R.P.H.  |  |
|                   |                  | 1600 | Took over outpost line  |  |
|                   | 21 <sup>st</sup> |      | Out post line until 1600, were relieved by 2 <sup>nd</sup> Brigade R. H.  |  |
| ABASAN EL KEBIR   |                  | 1630 | Moved to ABASAN EL KEBIR to bivouac. R.P.H.   |  |
|                   | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 1400 | Moved out to outpost line vicinity KARIM ABU EL HISEIA north to point 280. R.P.H.   |  |
|                   | 23 <sup>rd</sup> |      | On outpost trench digging etc. R.P.H.   |  |
|                   | 24 <sup>th</sup> |      | On outpost " " 10 O/R from MOASCAR marched in. R.P.H.   |  |
|                   | 25 <sup>th</sup> |      | On outpost trench digging 3 Pack horses taken on strength. R.P.H.   |  |

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R. P. Angell Ltd

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| Place       | Date<br>1917           | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------------|------------------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
|             | April 26 <sup>th</sup> | 1700 | Relieved by SCC moved to new bivouac 3/4 miles N.W. of Point 330  | R.P.A.                               |
|             | 27 <sup>th</sup>       |      | In Bivouac supplied digging parties for trenches  | R.P.A. 1:125000                      |
|             | 28 <sup>th</sup>       |      | In Bivouac<br>4 guns on out post  | R.P.A.<br>R.P.A.                     |
| TEL EL FARA | 29 <sup>th</sup>       | 1200 | Digging parties Received orders for MOVE<br>Abandoned out with Brigade and went into Bivouac at TEL EL FARA | R.P.A.                               |
|             | 30 <sup>th</sup>       |      | Comp Routine - all officers went round outpost line   | R.P.A.                               |

N.P. Hatfield Capt  
O.C. N. 2 M.R. M.C. S. square

# WAR DIARY

Army Form. C. 2118.

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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| Place         | Date                  | Hour  | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------|-----------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| DEIR EL BELAH | 1917                  |   |   |                                      |
|               | April 1 <sup>st</sup> |   | Church Parade 5 O/R marched in. R.P.H.  | R.A.P.A.                             |
|               | 2 <sup>nd</sup>       | 1200  | On out post with Brigade R.P.H.   | 1:185000                             |
|               | 3                     | 1400  | Returned from out post Sent 3 ladders to BIR EL MELALHA for gear R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 4                     |   | Camp routine cleaned saddlery R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 5                     |   | Gun instruction R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 6                     |   | Signalling & Gun instruction R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 7                     |   | 2 Lieut Kelly returned to Moascar R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 8                     |   | 1200 left for out post R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 9                     | 1400  | Returned from out post Drew ammunition from D.A.C. R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 10 <sup>th</sup>      |   | Camp routine cleaned saddlery, 5 O/R marched in from Moascar R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 11                    |   | Inspection of Belts, Boxes, & ammunition R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 12                    |   | Gun instruction 3 O/R left for Cairo for interview with O.C. R.P.C. R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 13                    |   | Grazing Parade R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 14                    |   | Gun instruction & Signalling R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 15                    |   | Church parade R.P.H.  |                                      |
|               | 16                    |   | Preparations for move. Received secret orders for operations in SHELLAL - BEERSHEBA area R.P.H.   |                                      |
|               | 17                    | 0900  | Marched out with Bde at 1830 Arrived SHELLAL 0600, watered & fed R.P.H.<br>Moved out with Bde in direction of BEERSHEBA, advance guard came into touch with enemy at 1100. Squadron stayed in reserve & returned to bivouac at SHELLAL at 2300 R.P.H. |                                      |
| 18            | 1000                  | Reconnaissance in BEERSHEBA area. Returned to SHELLAL 2100. Rationed & moved out at 2300 R.P.H. |   |                                      |

R.P. Dwyer Capt

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Summary of Events and Information

| Place              | Date         | Hour         | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---|--------------------------------------|
|                    | 1917<br>19th | 0500<br>1100 | <p>arrived TEL EL JEMMI Rationed &amp; watered<br/>Sent 4 guns with Wellington Reg. east of WADI EL BAHB to attack R.P.M.<br/>SAUSAGE RIDGE guns gave covering fire at ranges from 1000 to 1400 yds. on to<br/>enemy entrenched while our troops advanced. R.P.M.</p>   | R.P.M.<br>R.A.P.A.<br>1:125000       |
|                    |              | 1200<br>1400 | <p>moved with Bde to KH. EL ASEIFERIYEH. R.P.M.<br/>Sent four guns with Canterbury Reg to attack enemy at RIM EL ATAWINEH One section<br/>had severe casualties from shell fire but advanced behind the first line troops<br/>&amp; obtained good targets at 1000 yds to 1600 yds on to a redoubt. also enemy advancing<br/>through crops at 400 yds.</p> |                                      |
|                    |              | 1900         | <p>Brigade commenced to withdraw over Wadi and at 2030 moved to TEL EL JEMMI<br/>watered bivouaced.<br/>Casualties 1 O/R killed 1 officer 16 O/R wounded. Ammunition<br/>expended 10000. R.P.M.</p>   |                                      |
| WELI SHEIKH NURAN  | 20th         | 0930<br>1600 | <p>Moved to WELI SHEIKH NURAN R.P.M.<br/>took over outpost line<br/>Out post line until 1600 were relieved by 2nd Brigade L. St.</p>  |                                      |
| ABASAM EL<br>KEBIR | 21st         | 1630         | <p>Moved to ABASAM EL KEBIR to bivouac R.P.M.<br/>moved out to outpost line vicinity KARIM ABU EL HISEIA north to point 280<br/>R.P.M.</p>  |                                      |
|                    | 22nd         | 1400         | <p>On outpost trench digging etc R.P.M.</p>   |                                      |
|                    | 23rd         |              | <p>On outpost " 10 O/R from MOASCAR marched in R.P.M.</p>   |                                      |
|                    | 24th         |              | <p>On outpost trench digging 3 Pack horses taken on strength. R.P.M.</p>  |                                      |
|                    | 25th         |              |   |                                      |

R.P. Hargreaves

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| Place       | Date             | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------------|------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
|             | 1917<br>April    |      |  |                                      |
|             | 26 <sup>th</sup> | 1700 | Relieved by <u>JCC</u> moved to new bivouac 3/4 miles N.W. of Point 330  | R.P.A.                               |
|             | 27 <sup>th</sup> |      | In Bivouac supplied digging parties for trenches   | R.P.A.                               |
|             | 28 <sup>th</sup> |      | In Bivouac<br><u>4 guns on outpost</u>   | R.P.A.<br>R.P.9                      |
| TEL EL FARA | 29 <sup>th</sup> | 1200 | Digging parties Received Orders for MOVE<br><u>Marched out with Brigade and went into Bivouac at TEL EL FARA</u> | R.P.A.                               |
|             | 30 <sup>th</sup> |      | Camp Routine - all officers went round outpost line  | R.P.A.                               |

A.P. Hatfield Capt  
O.C. N. 2 M.R. M.C. 5 gms.