

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/31/23

**Title:** 2nd Australian Machine Gun  
Squadron

July 1918



AWM4-24/31/23



A.P. & S.D., Alex./<sup>3088</sup><sub>1225</sub>/3: I&IM. W.M. & Co.



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

**ORIGINAL.**  
**DUPLICATE.**  
**TRIPLICATE.**

**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Machine Gun Squadron.*

FOR

*July* 191*8*

Signature of Officer compiling

*Jack R. Cain Capt*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Jack R. Cain Capt*



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.



## WAR DIARY

### INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WADIS MELLAAH & AUJAH	1st to 3rd		Disposition of Sections in the line <del>was</del> , held by 2nd L.H. Brigade, via No 2 Sub- Sector - as follows :- <u>TOOL POST</u> 1 Section (Lieuts R.B. Dixon & R.G. Owen-Jones) <u>SAFE POST</u> 1 Section (Lieut C.E. Perr- ottet & Sgt G.C. McKinnon MM) <u>RESERVE</u> 1 Section (Lieut F.W. Nivison & F.S. Cornett M.C.) with Squadron Headquarters at 113.Z.25. central (AUJAH) <u>LED HORSES</u> Led Horses of 3 Sections in TOOL & SAFE POSTS in charge of Capt G.W. Harris at 113.Z.30 A Central (MELLAAH) Work carried out :- Improving Communication Trenches, Digging M.G. Emplacements, and keeping Posts in repair.					
	4th		1 Sub-Section (Sgt G.C. McKinnon MM) moved from SAFE POST to <del>TEA</del> POST, and 1 Sub- Section from RESERVE (Lieut F.W. Nivison) took over SALT POST on night of 3rd/4th; Lieut F.W. Nivison leaving for School of Instruction, ZETOUN on morning of 4th, leaving Sgt C.T. Johnson in charge of Sub-Section.					
	5th to 13th		Work carried out during period :- <u>SAFE</u> New M.G. Emplacement dug, keeping communication trenches in repair. <u>SALT</u> 2 M.G. Emplacements dug, and communication trenches to same sandbagged. <u>TEA</u> 2 M.G. Emplacements dug with over head cover Belt Filling Dug-out also completed, together with communication trenches to Emplace- ments) <u>TOOL</u> Alternative Emplacement south of TOOL COUNTER POST completed, and another commenced in same vicinity. Keeping Post generally in repair.					
	14th		Heavy Enemy Bombardment throughout night of 13th/14th. Order to 'Stand-to-Arms' 0230 received from 2nd L.H. Bde at 0230 in anticipation of an attack, which duly 0300 commenced about 0300 against those Sub-Sectors of the line held by 1st A.L.H. Brigade, and N.Z.M.R. Brigade, with demonstrations along the whole line in the JORDAN VALLEY. Snipers were dealt with by guns at SAFE POST and TEA POST but no good M.G. targets presented themselves in No 2 Sub-Sector during the operations. 5th & 7th Regiment Patrols came in touch with enemy and accounted for some 20 or so prisoners and inflicted casualties. During the day hostile heavy calibre artillery shelled the back areas, killing 2 Squadron Transport Horses, otherwise there were no casualties.					
	15th to 28th		Work carried out during period :- <u>SAFE</u> Keeping Communication Trenches and general Position in repair.					



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# WAR DIARY

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WADIS MELLAHAH & AUJAH	15th to 28th		Work carried out during period (con) :  <u>SALT</u> . Alternative Position on south side of SALT POST completed. Keeping trenches in repair. <u>TEA</u> . Communication Trenches dug and sides sandbagged and deepened. Keeping position in repair. <u>TOOL</u> . Another Alternative Emplacement south of TOOL COUNTER POST completed, together with communication trenches to same. Keeping remainder of post in repair.					
			On 16th instant the enemy shelled in the vicinity of WADI AUJAH with large calibre guns from direction of RED HILL. Several shells fell in Squadron Transport lines and inflicted the following casualties :- 2 O.R. Wounded. 2 Draught Horses killed 2 " Mules wounded & destroyed 2 " " & evacuated 4 " Horses " & "					
			On 17th instant 1 O.R. wounded at TOOL POST					
	29th	0300	Sections in the line relieved by 18th M.G. Squadron as follows :- <u>TOOL POST</u> . 1 Section (Lieuts R.B. Dixon & R.G. Owen-Jones) <u>TEA POST</u> . 1 Sub-Section (Lieut K.C. Fraser) <u>SALT POST</u> . 1 Sub-Section (Sgt C.T. Johnson) <u>SAFE POST</u> . 1 Sub-Section (Sgt J. Graham) by 0300. Sub-Section from SALT POST reported back to Squadron Headquarters WADI AUJAH, and remainder to LED HORSES WADI MELLAHAH. Relief carried out under mutual arrangements of O.C. Squadron, and O.C. 18th M.G. Squadron. Squadron moved out independently from No 2 Sub-Sector, JORDAN DEFENCES at 1930 and marched to allotted site at TALAAT ED DUMM, arriving at 0130					
TALAAT ED DUMM	30th & 31st		Establishing camp, attending to sanitation etc.  <u>STRENGTH</u> . During the period under review 29 O.R. evacuated sick, and Lieut W.L. Reuse & 34 O.R. marched in from M.G. Training Squadron, MOASCAR.  The present strength of the Squadron is 10 Officers & 184 O.R. making 38 O.R. wanting to complete. These reinforcements are most urgently required.  C.M.G.O., Desert Mounted Corps visited all the posts in the line during the month.  REFERENCE MAPS :- JERICHO (B6) 2nd Ed. 1/40,000. DAMIEH (C6) 1st Edition.					
			31-7-18. O.C. 2nd AUSTRALIAN M.G. SQUADRON					



# WAR DIARY

OF

*2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Machine Gun Squadron*

FOR

*July* 1918

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

- 1 *2<sup>nd</sup> L H Brigade Operation Order 18  
with March Table*
- 2 *2<sup>nd</sup> L H Brigade Administrative  
Instruction re move from  
Wadi Auja to Talaat Ed Dumm.*

*Jack R. Cain*  
Capt  
OC 2<sup>nd</sup> Aust M. G. Squadron



SECRET.

2ND LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE OPERATION ORDER NO 8  
OF 26/7/18.

Copy No. 9

Reference 1/40,000 Map, Sheets B.6 & C.6.

1. INFORMATION.

The 12th Cavalry Brigade will relieve the 2nd Light Horse Brigade on the nights 28/29th and 29/30th as detailed below:-

2. MOVES.

Moves are detailed in move table attached.

3. RELIEF.

The relief in the Line will be carried out under mutual arrangements of Regimental Commanders and O's C., Machine Gun Squadrons concerned.

The following points are to be noted and complied with:-

- (a). The Command of the Sub-sector will pass to B.G.C., 12th Cavalry Bde at 1200 on July 29th.
- (b) The C.O's Regiments at present in the Line will remain in Command of their Sections until completely relieved, when these Hdqrs will be notified by PRIORITY wire.
- (c) Every effort must be made to complete the relief of the two Regiments and Machine Guns in the Line by 0415 on 29th. Inst.
- (d) Every effort must be made to ensure a smooth relief and to prevent confusion, and any unnecessary noise must be at once checked.
- (e) The Regiments relieved will return and bivouac in present bivouac positions of their led horses.
- (f) The led horses of the Relieving Regiments will return ~~WXXX~~ to a permanent bivouac in the WADI NUBIANEH in L.2 and L.3 by 0415.
- (g) The Reserve Regiment, 12th Cavalry Brigade, will relieve the 5th.L.H. Regiment, 2nd. L.H. Brigade, early on night JULY 29/30th. Reserve Machine Gun Section will be relieved at the same time.

4. O's C. Units will hand over and obtain receipts for :-

- (a) All special Maps, Sketches, Defence Schemes, Orders, Plans and information relating to their Sections or Posts.
- (b) All area stores.
- (c) These receipts to be forwarded to B.H.Q. without delay.

5. MARCH.

Units will march independently from the AUJA and distances of at least 50 yards should be maintained between Squadrons to obviate the dust nuisance.

6. TRANSPORT.

Separate instructions will be issued as regards transport.

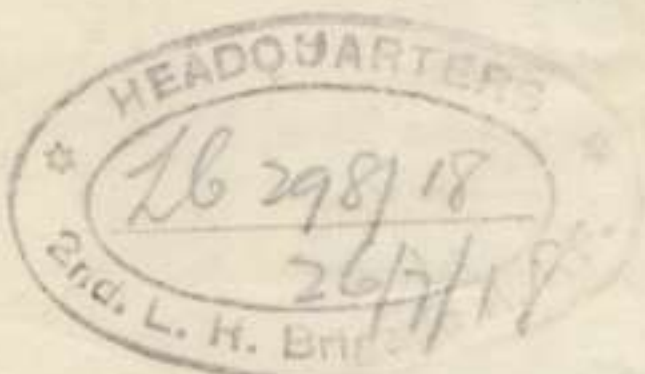
7. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*[Signature]* MAJOR,

ISSUED at 1600

Brigade Major, 2nd. Light Horse Brigade.

Copy to A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVN.  
AUSTRALIAN MTD. DIVISION.  
& Normal distribution to Units





MARCH TABLE to accompany Brigade Operation Order No. 8 of 26/7/18

Date.	Unit.	From.	to.	TIME of Starting.	ROUTE.	REMARKS.
Night July 28th to 29th.	6th. Regt. 6 M. Guns.	D. Section.	Led Horses Bivouac.	After relief.	19	
do.	7th. Regt. 4 M. Guns.	E Section.	Led Horses Bivouac.	After Relief.	Night track A Road 19 (ration track)	
Night July 29th to 30th.	BHQ. Sig. Troop, Fld Troop, Field Ambulance M.G.S (less one section)	WADI AUJA	Corps Hdqrs Area.	1930	17. 17a. 29 Roman Road.	All wheels by SOUTHERN or MOTOR Road to TALAT ED DUMM.
do.	(5th. Regt (1 Section, M.G. Sqdn.	WADI AUJA	Corps Hdqrs Area.	After relief.	17. 17a. 29. Roman Road.	
do.	6th. Regt.	WADI AUJA	Corps Hdqrs Area	1930	19. 17a. 29. Roman Rd.	
do	7th. Regt.	WADI OBBINAH	Corps Hdqrs Area	1930	17a. 19. Roman Rd.	
DO.	7th. M.V.S.	TEL ES SULTAN.	Corps Hdqrs. Area.	1930	Roman Road.	

*P. W. Harrison* Major,  
Brigade Major, 2nd Light Horse Brigade.

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(2)

Move of 2nd L.H.Bde. from Wadi Auja to Talaat ed Dumm  
on night 29/30 July.

Administrative Instructions.

To/ C.O. 5th L.H.	O.C. 2nd Field Troop.
6th L.H.	2nd Signal Troop.
7th L.H.	2nd Field Amb.
O.C. M.G.Sqd.	7th Mob. Vet Sec.

1. Transport. *House* All Transport with the exception of 5th Light Horse Regt. will assemble on Main Road to Jericho, at a point East of the Refilling point at 1800 on night 29th inst and will then come under the orders of Major Hession. 5th Regt. will detail an Officer to take charge of their transport and will move out independently proceeding to TALAAT ED DUMM by new motor Road.
2. Camp Sites. *Cornett*  
*Palma & cron* At least two representatives per Regt. and Machine Gun Sqd and one each per other Units will report to Staff Captain at Camping Area about three miles on Jerusalem Road beyond TALAAT ED DUMM Road Junction at 1600 on 29th Inst. to be shown Camp Site and water. These representatives will meet their Units when the march in well clear of the Camp and conduct them to Camping Sites.
3. Area Stores. *Thayer* One Officer per Regt. M.G.Sqd. and Field Ambulance and one N.C.O. from each of the smaller Units, will take over Area Stores from 12th Cavalry Brigade at TALAAT ED DUMM on 29th inst. Party will be in charge of senior Officer and will accompany 34th Coy. Divisional Train leaving JERICHO at 2130 on 28th inst. Copies in duplicate of all receipts given to reach B.H.Q. on 30th inst, *by 0900*
4. Rations *Coleman* Trench Rations will be made up to full ration on 28th inst and consumed 29th inst, balance of rations for 29th inst. will be delivered to refilling point at usual time on 28th inst. Rations for consumption 30th inst. will be drawn 30th inst. from Supply dump, Corps Headquarters Area. Quartermasters or their representatives and Ration parties will accompany 34th Divisional Train on 28th inst. and will report to O.C. Divisional Train at 2030 at JERICHO on 28th inst.
5. States. Marching out states of men and animals will be wired to this office by 1800 on 27th inst.
6. Sanitation. Certificates will be rendered to this office by 1900 on 29th inst stating their Camp Areas have been left in a clean and sanitary condition. Brigade Sanitary Officer will inspect and report on condition of Areas to this office and also to the A.D.M.S. Australian Division.

*Res. Larnach* Captain.

Staff Captain 2nd Light Horse Brigade.