

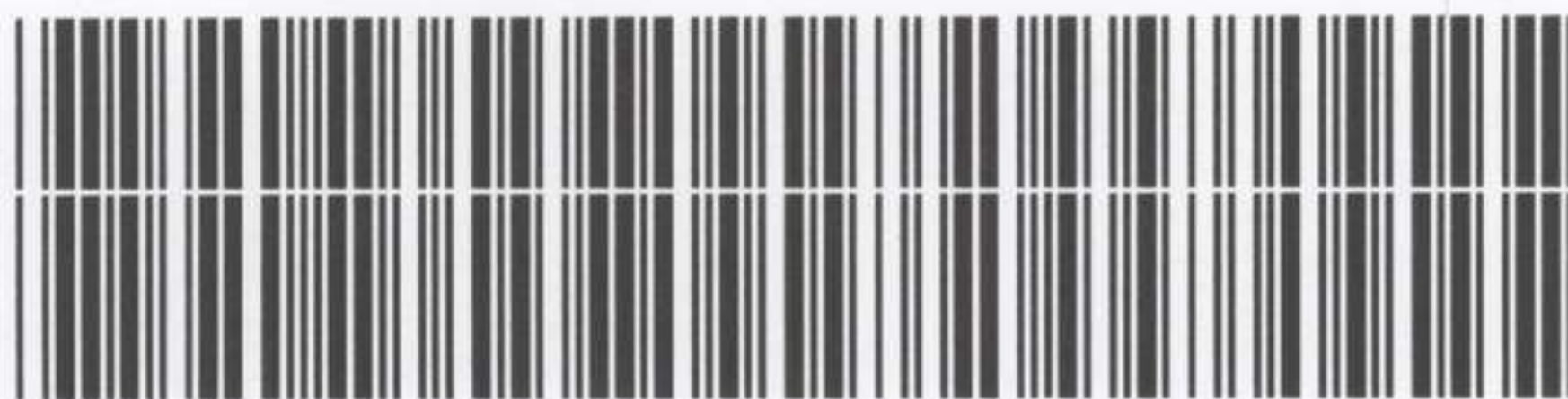
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/31/24

Title: 2nd Australian Machine Gun
Squadron

August 1918



AWM4-24/31/24

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.



Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Australian Machine Gun Squadron

FOR

August. 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

W. Harris Capt

Signature of Officer Commanding

Jack R. Cain Major

PLACE	DATE	TIME	SUMMARY OF EVENTS
TALAAT ED DUMM	1st to 8th		Squadron remained in Desert Corps Reserve with 2nd L.H.Bde.
	9th	1800	Squadron moved out from TALAAT ED DUMM with 2nd L.H.Bde and marched to allotted camp site in SOLOMON'S POOLS AREA
SOLOMON'S POOLS AREA	10th	0600	arriving at 0600 and established camp.
	11th to 18th		Squadron chiefly occupied in cleaning all saddlery and equipment owing to shortage of personnel.
	19th	1030	Inspection of Saddlery and equipment by Major General Sir E.W.C. Chaytor KCMG, C.B., A.D.C., T.D., G.O.C. Australian & N.Z. Mounted Division at 1030 satisfactory
	20th to 22nd		Squadron resting. Daily leave parties to JERUSALEM of 1 Officer & 10 O.R.
	23rd	1600	Squadron moved out with 2nd L.H.Bde from SOLOMON'S POOLS AREA at 1600
KILO 3		2100	and halted at KILO 3 at 2100
TALAAT ED DUMM	24th	0330 to 0700	continued march at 0330 and arrived at TALAAT ED DUMM at 0700 and bivouaced for the day
	25th	0400 to 0800	Moved out from TALAAT ED DUMM at 0400 and arrived at allotted site at ES SULTAN at 0800 remaining until 1800
		1800	when Squadron proceeded to WADI SECTOR AUJAH BRIDGEHEAD DEFENCES where the following Posts were taken over from 18th M.G. Squadron :-
WADI MELLAHAH			SALT POST (Sgt J. Graham & 2 guns)
			SAFE " (Sgt T. Christensen & 2 guns)
			TEA " (Sgt G. McKinnon MM & 2 Guns)
			TOOL " (Lieut F.W. Nivison & 2 Guns)
WADI AUJAH		2100	Relief of these posts commenced at 2100
			1 Section (Sgts J.R. Bloomfield & W.J. Brimblecombe) in Reserve with all Led Horses of sections in the line, also Squadron Headquarters and Transport, in WADI AUJAH ((Z 28.a.3.1, JERICHO (B6) 1/40,000))
	26th to 28th		Disposition of Sections unaltered. Squadron shelled intermittently without casualties until 1800 on 28th when 2 O.R. were killed and 3 O.R. wounded and 1 horse wounded.
WADI MELLAHAH	29th	1400	Moved Led Horses and Reserve Sections from WADI AUJAH to WADI MELLAHAH and established another camp site ((Z 29. B.) JERICHO (B6) 1/40,000))
	30th & 31st		Disposition same as 29th. Intermittent shelling without any casualties to Squadron.

P.T.O)

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.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Army Form C. 2118.

(Assoc.) D.D. & L.L. London, E.C. Wt. 177g/Mozgr 750,000 517 Sch. 52 Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part B
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
will be prepared in manuscript.



WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and
references to
Appendices

STRENGTH During the month Lieut K.C. Fraser and 33 O.R. evacuated sick, 20 O.R. killed and 3 O.R. wounded. 46 O.R. marched in from M.G. Training Squadron. Lieut R.B. Dixon and 14 O.R. have been struck off strength on account of being in quarantine at Rest Camp, PORT SAID during an epidemic of influenza (Spanish).

Present Effective Strength 6 Officers 184 O.R. making a total of 2 Officers and 38 O.R. wanting to complete establishment. These reinforcements are most urgently required.

SCHOOLS During the month Lieut F.W. Nivison reported back from M.G. Officers' Tactical Course and Lieuts R.G. Owen-Jones and F.S. Cornett MC proceeded to School of Instruction, ZEITOUN for Rangefinding and M.G. Officers' Tactical Courses respectively.

Lieut E.R. Mayes proceeded to M.G. Training Squadron, MOASCAR, to await the Elementary Signalling Course.

CADRE Lieut C.E. Perrottet proceeded to Cadre, M.G. Training Squadron, MOASCAR on 13th instant

GAS During the month 6 N.C.Os attended a course on Gas Training given by the Divisional Gas Officer. 1 N.C.O. is at present attending a Gas School at RAFA.

At present only P.H. Helmets are on issue, and one hour per week is set down on the training syllabus for Gas Training.

DECORATIONS On 28th instant The Commander-in-Chief presented ribbons to the following members of this Squadron :-

MILITARY MEDAL

- No 586 Sgt Gerald Claude McKinnon
- 1752 L/Cpl Donald Stuart Lipscomb

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

- No 953 L/Cpl Harry Malcolm

This ceremony took place at Anzac Divisional Headquarters at 1400 on above date.

AWARDS Mentioned in General Sir E.H.H.

Allenby's despatches :-

Lieut F.W. Nivison
for 'Gallantry and Devotion to Duty'.

PROMOTION Captain J.R. Cain M.C. granted the temporary rank of Major dated 24-7-18.

Jack R. Cain
Major
O.C. 2nd Australian Machine Gun Squadron

(Assoc) D.D. & L., London, E.C.
Wt. W77/M3037 750/000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/Ca.1/14

WAR DIARY

OF

2nd Amb Squadron

FOR

August 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|---|
| 1 | 2nd LH Bde Operation Order No 9
9.13.8.18. |
| 2 | 2nd LH Bde Administrative Instructions
of 23.8.18 |
| 3 | 2nd LH Bde BRY 908 re move
from TALHAT ED DUMIN to
Solomon's Pools Area 9/10.8.18 |

5

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form 2121.
(In pads of 100)

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code..... m.	Words.....	Charge.....	This message is on a/c of..... Service..... (Signature of "Franking Officer.")	Reed. at..... m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.....		Sent			Date.....
		At..... m.			From.....
		To.....			By.....
By.....					

TO: 2nd LHB Bde (3)

Sender's Number. BOM 908	Day of Month. 6	In reply to Number. —	AAA
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2nd LHB Bde will move
from TALHT ED DUMM
to SOLOMONS POKS right
of AUGUST 9/10th under
arrangements to be made
by DATQMC DES CORPS

From 2nd LHB Bde	
Place 2008	
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.	(Z)
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line, except AAA, should be erased if not required.
Wt. W 3253/P511, 500,000 Pads. 1/18. B. & S. Ltd. (E2389.)



Secret.

2ND LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE OPERATION ORDER NO. 9 OF 17/8/18.

Reference Map. 1/63,360.

Copy No. 2. 6

1. INFORMATION.

The following rearrangement of the Line is being made by orders of DESERT MOUNTED CORPS.

NEW DIVIDING LINE.

- (a). To facilitate administration, at 1200 on August 15th., No. 1 sub-sector, LEFT SECTOR will ~~now~~ be included in the RIGHT SECTOR.
- (b) The new Dividing Line between SECTORS will then be:-
(B.6) F.26.central - F.25.central - Z.30 central - due SOUTH along the EASTERN Bank of the WADI MELLAHAN to J. 5.d.7.o. through J.10 - J.15 - KH ES SUNRAH - H.30.central - to JEBEL KURUNTUL.
- (c) The Command of all troops in the AUJAH Bridgehead Defences including those of the WEST Bank of the JORDAN passes to G.O.C. RIGHT SECTOR at 1200 on 15th August.
- (d) The responsibility for reconnaissance and patrols remains as at present.

2. MOVES.

- (i) The 2nd Light Horse Brigade (less 34th Coy Divnl Train) will leave SOLOMONS Pools area at 1600 on 23rd Inst for KILO 3, where 3rd L.H. Bde will pass.
- (ii) Leave KILO 3 for TALAAT ED DUMH at 0330 on 24th Inst.
- (iii) Leave TALAAT ED DUMH at 0400 on 25th Inst for LEFT SECTOR - relieving 12th Cavalry Brigade.

3. ORDER OF MARCH, from SOLOMONS Pools will be:-

Brigade Headquarters
2nd Signal Troop.
"B" Field Troop.
7th.M.V.Section.
2nd Aust.M.G.Sqdn.
6th.L.H.Regiment.
7th.L.H.Regiment.
5th.L.H.Regiment.
2nd L.H.Field Ambulance.

The head of the Column will pass starting point (on main road WEST of watering area) at 1600 on 23rd Inst.

4. MARCH DISCIPLINE.

Owing to dust and to prevent congestion of traffic, a distance of fifty yards between Squadrons will be maintained and strictest march discipline will be insisted on.

5. AREA STORES.

On relief, Units will take over all ammunition, area stores, and orders for the sub-sectors and Posts; a certificate being rendered to B.H.Q. that this has been done.

6. MOVE OF TRAIN COY. (2nd L.H. Brigade).

- (i) Leave SOLOMONS Pools at 1500 on 22nd Inst for KILO 3, where 3rd L.H. Bde Coy of Train will pass.
- (ii) Leave KILO 3 for TALAAT ED DUMH at 0300 on 23rd Inst.
- (iii) Leave TALAAT ED DUMH at 1500 on 24th Inst.

7. TRAFFIC.

No wheeled transport is allowed to move on the OLD ROMAN ROAD (Northern) - it must use the NEW ROAD (Southern).

8. ACKNOWLEDGE.

ISSUED AT..... 1800

Copy to A. & H.Z. MTD DIVN.
34th Coy Divisional Train.
& Normal distribution.

J. O. Richardson Major,
Brigade Major, 2nd Light Horse Brigade

*Acknowledged
@ 2045 on 17/8/18
P. H. Hargrave*

Move of 2nd. Light Horse Brigade from SOLOMON'S POOLS
to JORDAN VALLEY - 23rd. August, 1918.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

C.O.'s 5th. L.H.
6th. L.H.
7th. L.H.
O. C. 2nd. M.G.S.

O. C. 2nd. Field Troop.
2nd. Signal Troop.
2nd. Field Amb.
7th. Mob. Vet. Sec.

O.C. 34th. Coy, A.S.C.
B. H. Q.

1. RATIONS. Rations for consumption 23rd. inst will be drawn in present area on 22nd. inst. Rations for consumption 24th. will be delivered to Units Areas at TALAAT ED DUMM on 23rd. inst by Divisional Train. Quartermasters and ration parties will accompany 34th. Coy, Divisional Train, leaving present area at 1500 on 22nd. inst, and TALAAT ED DUMM at 1500 24th. inst. Parties to report to O.C. 34th. Coy one hour before starting time on these days.
2. CAMP SITES. Units will occupy the same sites at TALAAT ED DUMM as they occupied on the march up. All Camp sites here and at TALAAT ED DUMM must be left in a clean and sanitary condition, and certificates by C.O.'s to this effect will be rendered to this office on moving out. Field Officer and Brigade Sanitary Officer will inspect and report on Camp sites after Units move out.
3. AREA STORES. All Area Store tents will be struck and be at Brigade Refilling Point at 0830 on 22nd. inst. Tents will be loaded on to returning ration lorries and handed over to Reinforcement Camp, JERUSALEM. All other Ordnance area stores will be handed to Ordnance, JERUSALEM. Receipts in duplicate will be sent to this Office for all tents and other area stores handed over. Units will arrange to load their tents etc. on to lorries and send representative to hand over stores and obtain receipts.
4. do. Area Stores at TALAAT ED DUMM will be taken over by Units representatives who will be taken out of q. M. parties mentioned in para (1). Copies of receipts given to be sent to this Office by 0900 24th. inst. On leaving TALAAT ED DUMM area all area stores will be handed over to representatives of incoming Brigade and receipts in duplicate forwarded to this Office.
5. TRANSPORT. All wheeled transport will assemble at Brigade Refilling Point at 1530 on 23rd. inst and will then come under the orders of Major Hession, 7th. L. H. Regt. Transport will follow Brigade and after leaving TALAAT ED DUMM will proceed to JORDAN VALLEY by new Motor Road (Southern).
6. STATES. Marching out states to be wired this Office by 1300 21st. inst.

[Signature] Captain,
Staff Captain, 2nd. Light Horse Brigade.