

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

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/30/5

**Title:** 1st Australian Machine Gun  
Squadron

February 1917



AWM4-24/30/5

# 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.

## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

*Machine Gun Squadron. 1st L.I. Brigade*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917			
<i>Le Arish</i>	<i>1 February</i>		<i>One Section carrying out Musketry - Inspection in afternoon by Major General Sir H. Chauvel. Squadron carrying out its ordinary training: Attack on position by a Regiment supported on flank by guns. After which the guns supporting each other advanced on Hill 160.</i>	
		2.	<i>Musketry abandoned on account of sandstorm - unable to see effect of firing:</i>	
		3	<i>Musketry practice resumed. Range visited by G.S.O.s. Lieut A. Kemp (wounded at Rafa) reported back for duty.</i>	
		4	<i>These new (proposed) camp site: Received much shrapnel &amp; broken cases from own anti aircraft guns whilst firing at enemy planes. "overs" worse than bombs -</i>	
		5	<i>Musketry practice:</i>	
		6	"	
		7	<i>Musketry for Lewis guns. Ranted over own targets &amp; M.G. officer detailed to show L.G. Officer the range for practice etc.</i>	
		8	<i>Interviewed D.A.D.s re M.G. guns. broken parts etc.</i>	

*Andrew Martin Major  
M.G.S.*

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Machine Gun Squadron. 1st L.I. Brigade

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917			
El Arish	9	2 17	Received marching orders made preparations to move out on	
	10	0930	Left El Arish en route to Bir El Abd: good day for marching - arrived at	
Bardaint		0515	Where Brigade bivouacked - watering arrangements very satisfactory	
	11	0900	Moved out <del>out</del> + found "the going" pretty good: Reached	
Margat about		1530	+ bivouacked. Moved out again at 1000 on	
Tillul	11			
	12		Arrived about midday. bivouacked. Left again about	
	13	0900		
Bir El Abd	13	1415	Arrived (about) bivouacked. No. 1 Section detached to 1st Regiment & moved out on	
	14		To Bayud. Received long expected balance of Draught Horses - twenty nine.	
	15		In Bivouac.	
	16		Moved into camp vacated by 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mounted Brigade.	
	17		Settling down & cleaning up new camp site.	
	18		Inspection by Brigadier: M.G. Squadron received colors - which are not correct:	

Andrew Hartley Major  
M.G.S.

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Div le Aba	1917 19-2-17		Inspection by General Watson. Squadron out training - had to bring sections back to camp: Daily training of M.G.S. commenced. Received 3 new men.	
	20		Training - morning - afternoon. Lieut. A. Kemp evacuated sick.	
	21		Training carried out.	
	22		"	
	23		Submitted names of two D.Cos. for Commissions in 4 <sup>th</sup> L.I. M.G.S.	
	24		Cleaning & dubbing harnesses.	
	25		Inspection of doubtful horses by Brigadier - sit condemned & passed. Camp inspection.	
	26		Received eight horses. Training of Squadron.	
	27		Squadron horses sent out to graze on grass patches in hills.	
	28		Training of Squadron.	

Andrew Martin Major  
M.G.S.