

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/32/7

Title: 3rd Australian Machine Gun
Squadron

April 1917



AWM4-24/32/7

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Deir el Belah	1/4/17	1200	Proceeded with Brigade to Outpost position. 2 Sections attached to 8 th Lt Regt + 2 Sections attached 9 th Lt Regt for duty in front line. 2 Sections in reserve with 10 th Regt. 2 Other Bnks marched in from Moascar. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	2/4/17	1330	Returned to Camp from Outpost line. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	3/4/17		Overhauling & inspection of equipment & carried out in preparation of next move. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	4/4/17	0445	Marched with 10 th Lt Regt to Wadi EL Ghuzze & remained in support until about 1400. 1400 Marched to Camp. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	5/4/17		'A' Section with 8 th Lt Regt in support to Outpost line. 2 nd Lt K. W. Filmon proceeded to report to 4 th Lt Bde for duty. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	6/4/17	0730	'A' Section returned from Outpost line. 4 Remounts received. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	7/4/17	1200	Squad, with Brigade, marched to Outpost line. 1 Section with 8 th Regt, 1 Sect with 9 th Lt Regt, 1 Sect of 10 th Lt Regt. Remaining 2 Sections in support to Brigade. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	8/4/17	1430	Returned to Camp. Recd 3 Vickers Guns & 6 tripods to replace those condemned. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	9/4/17		Recd 3 New Vickers Guns w/ 6 tripods & complete. Recd 6 Remounts (hock). <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	10/4/17		Recd 20 remounts. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	11/4/17		Issue of 1 anti gas helmet for man. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	12/4/17		Tested 6 New Vickers Guns. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	13/4/17		Anti Gas Helmet parade. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	14/4/17		Do do. <i>H.M.N.</i>	
	15/4/17		Received Orders to move to Tel el Jemari on 16/4/17. <i>H.M.N.</i>	

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H. M. Harper Capt.
For CO. 3rd Aist W/Ly Lab.

WAR DIARY

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Doir el Belah	16/4/17	1400	Marched on Tel el Jamni 1600. Arrived Tel el Jamni 2 Sections with 10 th L.H. Regt were on outpost on right of Bde on Wadi Ghuzze. Remaining four sections in reserve. <i>H.M.W.</i>	
	17/4/17	0900	Moved to Mendur & watered, remaining there till 1800. 1800. Moved to vicinity of Tel el Jamni <i>H.M.W.</i>	
	18/4/17	0200	Moved out in support of Outpost line. 0700. Returned to vicinity of Tel el Jamni & watered, remaining there till 2100. 2100. Marched on ATAWINEH (Ref map 1/125000 Beersheba. 1/40000 Gaza), resting for 1 1/2 hours en route. 21 Other Bn's marched in from 3 rd Training Regt, Moascar. <i>H.M.W.</i>	
	19/4/17	0400	<p>Arrived Atawineh ready to go into action. 2 Sections E & F under Lieutenants Bryant & Stoney respectively moved forward mounted at 0515 and 0530. These sections were under direct command of Capt Harper, during the whole of the actions, they gave covering fire to the 9th L.H. Regt whilst this Regt advanced and later galloped forward & joined this Unit, with whom they remained until the withdrawal of Brigade at 1500. During this withdrawal they gave covering fire to our troops.</p> <p>4 Sections moved forward at 0540 under direct command of Major Nicholas. 2 Section under Lieutenants Phillip & Moore went forward & took up position on the left flank of 10th L.H. Regt. These two sections gave covering fire to the 10th L.H. Regt while this Regt advanced.</p> <p>At 0615 A Section, under Lieut Brown moved up & went into action on the left flank of 10th L.H. Regt. where they remained until the withdrawal of Brigade to a more favorable position at 1500.</p> <p>At 0645 C Section under Lieut Lowry also moved forward took up a position of left flank of 10th L.H. Regt & remained here until withdrawal. During withdrawal under more favorable conditions these 6 Sections withdrew & gave covering fire to troops of Brigade. Later in the day Major Nicholas obtained permission for these 3 Sections to remain in firing line of Brigade. On obtaining permission 3 Sections were immediately ordered to move forward & take position on left flank of 6th Yeomanry Bde, being supported later by 2 Sqns 8th L.H. Regt.</p>	263 2/9/17

*H.M. Harper Capt
For CO 3rd 9th Coy Welch Gun Bn*

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	19/4/17	2100	Later, the remaining three sections of Sqdn. were brought forward to firing line and the Sqn remained in the position until final withdrawal of troops of the Division. ^(Lieut T.M. Hardy, A.J. Phillips, H. Lawry, H. Moore + 1) 30 ORank's wounded. 10 horses killed + 19 wounded. Marched on Mendur. 2400 Arrived Mendur. 3 Sections (D E + F) went on outpost. Remaining 3 sections bivouacked at Mendur. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
	20/4/17		D.E + F at Outpost line, Mendur digging emplacement. A-B + C sections in reserve. 1800. Owing to expected attack remaining 3 Sections went into outpost line remaining there till 1800. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
	21/4/17	1800	Relieved from front line + went into reserve. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
	22/4/17	1600	Marched on Abasan el Kebir. 2000 Arrived Abasan el Kebir. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
Abasan el Kebir	23/4/17		Lost 50% Sqn swimming. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
"	24/4/17		Lost 50% Sqn swimming. 14 ORank's marched in from Training Regt. Monroes. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
	25/4/17	0800	Moved to Tel el Marakeb. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
Tel el Marakeb	26/4/17		} Re-organizing. <i>H.M.H.</i>	
	27/4/17			
	28/4/17			
	29/4/17			
	30/4/17		Received order to move at 0200 1/5/17. owing to expected Turkish attacks. <i>H.M.H.</i>	

H.M.H. Harper Capt 5/9/17
For CD. 3rd Aust M. Gun Sqn