

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

Machine Guns

Item number: 24/33/15

Title: 4th Australian Machine Gun
Squadron

May 1918



AWM4-24/33/15

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

4th Aust. M. G. Sqn. 4th A. L. H. Bde.

FOR

MONTH: MAY. (5-5-18 - 31-5-18) 1918.

Vol. XVI. PAGES 1 - VII (incl.)

Signature of Officer compiling

A. Paterson Lieut.

Signature of Officer Commanding

A. Paterson Lieut.
For CO. 4th A. M. G. S.

- MAY 1918

AS 220, 2011, 1911 - WAR W.M. 2011

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGINAL
REPLICATE
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Australian Imperial Force

WAR DIARY

OF

FOR

1911

- MAY 1918 -

Signature of Officer Commanding

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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.

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Vol. XII

E211

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jericho	1918 5 th May		Laid out Camp. Completed detailed list of shortages with a view to completion as soon as possible. Anti aircraft guns established.	
		1000	Received orders from Brigade to stand & be ready to move at 2 hours notice. Drew emergency rations and fodder.	
		6 "	Drew SAA. Very lights and Very Pistols to complete establishment. Drew one one timber from each Regiment to complete "A" echelon, Cutting out of slightly wounded and sick horses, and establishing a sick horse line. Orders received from Brigade to indent for shortages to complete.	
		2115	Orders received to stand to immediately as enemy were reported to have broken through the line	
		7 th	Enemy bombed - no casualties. Reconnaissance by all Officers of front-line held by ICC Bde, 3 rd Bde, and 5 th Bde, extending from Auja to Y23D.	
		0900	Orders received to be ready to move at an hours notice. Anti Barrage arranged.	
		8 th	A thorough overhaul of all guns, SAA. Range Takers and Equipment. Indents completed and forwarded.	
		9 th	Court of Inquiry held in 12 th Regt lines to inquire into loss of 1 st Line of Transport. Recommendations during operations completed and sent Bde. Received orders to detail 100 of 30 ORs for road making.	
		10 th	Reconnaissance of ICC Bde. line with a view to relieving ICC Bde by COs. Sent representatives to arrange area for led horses. Order received that Bde would relieve ICC Bde on 11 th inst.	

- MAY 1918

J. Palmer LT.
FOR: CO. 4th AMGS

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WAR DIARY

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E 21/2

Vol XII

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jericho	11 May 1918		Moved out from bivouac area to relieve I.C.C. Pde Sgdn moved in groups - first group leaving 1330 with an interval of 15 minutes between groups	
Ref: 1 to Wadi Pal Sheet 15	15	1415	Sgdn concentrated at point 113 H. 11 A Ref. 1 to Wadi Palestine Sheet 15.	
Nomenclature		1515	Watered in Wadi Auja	
113416.C.554 "B"		1830	"B" Subsection and "C" Subsection moved into the line with 12 th Regt & took over positions I.C.C. M.G.S.	
113412.B.55 "C"		1845	"D" & "A" Sub-sections moved into line with 11 th Regt and took over positions I.C.C. M.G.S.	
113416.A.55 "D"		1900	"E" & "F" Sub-sections with HQ moved into reserve.	
113410.D.52 "A"			SAA 20000, 30 Iron Rations & 3 Jannats taken over from I.C.C. M.G.S.	
113417.A.80 H1Q		2120	Relief of I.C.C. M.G.S. completed. Rations drawn and despatched to line. Horses sent back to led Horses area under Lt MacDonald.	
113.H.11.A.55. Led Horses			Reserve SAA bombs and very light sent into line. Roads to positions commenced.	
12 th "			Selecting of alternate positions.	
2130		2130	Rations and water despatched to line.	
13 th "			Stand to arms. 0330 all clear 0515	
14 th "			Despatched 20 men to Wadi to draw timbers. Commenced work in 113417.C.8.0.	
			Road work continued. 2300. Rations and water despatched to line.	
			Stand to. 0445 All clear. Reconnaissance of front line by C.O. with a view to selecting alternate positions. Reserve sections making M.G. emplacements.	
			Road work continues.	

- MAY 1918
 J. MacDonald
 FOR CO. 4th AMGS

WAR DIARY

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E 21/3

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Auja	15 th May	0330 0515	Stand to arms All clear. Reserve positions in Y 17. C 80 completed. Reconnaissance of front line by 17 th 17 th M G. Sqd. Repes	
		2200	Rations and water despatched to line	
	16 th "	0330 0515	Stand to arms. All clear. C.O.'s meet at Bde. Ordnance Stores drawn from Jericho works commenced in 1134. 11.A.5.5 and Y 11 B. 2.9. Road works completed. Notified that Bde would move to Y 29 D. 55.	
		2000	Rations and water despatched to line.	
	17 th "	0330 0500	Stand to Arms. All clear. Reserve sections complete Second line of positions.	
		2045	Rations and water despatched to line.	
	18 th "	0330 0515	Stand to arms All clear. Arrangements made to take over £6.90 worth of Canteen stores. Positions in 1154 11.A.5.5. and Y 11. B. 2.9. completed. Rations and water despatched to line.	
	19 th "	0330 0445 1945	Stand to Arms. All clear. Reconnaissances of front line by CO 19 th M G S. Rations and water despatched to line.	
	20 th "	0330 0500	Stand to Arms. All clear. Ordnance stores from Jericho.	
	21 st "		Rations and water despatched to line.	
	22 nd "	0330 0500	Stand to all clear.	

MAY 1918

J. P. ...
CO. 4th M G S.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	22.5.18	0330.	Stand to Arms.	
		0500	all clear.	
		0630	Squad Commander met Corps Machine Gun officer & inspected front line positions.	
			Reserve sections commenced alternative positions in 113 70 B. 2. 9, very little progress was made as the ground was extremely hard. Rations & water were despatched to front line 1930.	
	23.5.18.	0330.	Stand to Arms.	
		0500.	all clear.	
			work continued in 1137 20 B 29.	
		1800	Word received that troops on our right were going to raid enemy post. Orders were despatched to sections in the line for a sharp look out in case of any trouble.	
			Location of Machine Guns in front line completed & forwarded to Corps Machine Gun officer.	
			Rations & water sent to front line 2000.	
	24.5.18	0330.	Stand to Arms	
		0500	all clear.	
			work continued in 1137 20 20 Roads made to link up front line positions with alternate emplacements. Map of front line position completed & sent to Corps Machine Gun officer.	
			Rations & water to front line 2000.	

P. Johnson LT.
 FOR CO 4 AMGS.
 - MAY 1918

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	25.5.18	0330	Stand to Arms.	
		0450	all clear. "C" Sub. Sec. completed four alternate positions.	
			"A" Sub. Sec. commenced communication trench between emplacements.	
			"B" Sub. Sec. completed two alternate positions. Reserve Sections commenced second line emplacements, owing to enemy shelling working party could not commence work till 1930	
		1930	Rations & water sent out to front line.	
	26.5.18	0330	Stand to Arms.	
		0500	all clear.	
			Received order that G.O.C. would interview candidates for Cadet School.	
			"E" & "F" Sub. Sec. inoculated against Cholera by 11 th L.H. Medical Officer.	
			& arrangements made for sections in the line to be done.	
			Indents forwarded for 1 days trench Ration.	
			Arrangements for one days reserve water for front line completed. 15 four Gal. tins drawn for this purpose.	
			"A" Sub. Sec. continued communication trench, owing to the hardness & rockiness of the ground very little progress was made.	
		2100	Rations & water despatched to front line.	
	27.5.18	0330	Stand to Arms.	
		0340	Demonstration against Green & Brown hills, with the object of drawing enemy fire.	
		0400	Demonstrations ends, enemy did not reply to our fire, a few flares sent up.	
		0500	all clear.	
		0600	50% front line personnel inoculated against Cholera by 11 th L.H. M.O.	

MAY 1918

LT.
FOR. C.O. 4 AMCS.

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	27.5.18		Complete arrangements made for water supply for front line sections, 2 Gals per man per day. Reserve Section continued second line emplacements. "A" Sub. Sec. completed communication trench.	
		1945	Rations & water sent to front line.	
	28.5.18	0330	Stand to Arms.	
		0505	All clear.	
			Remaining 50% front line personnel inoculated against cholera. Second line emplacements continued by various sections. all front line sections completed dug outs for storage of one days trench ration & water.	
		1945	Rations & water to front line.	
	29.5.18	0330	Stand to Arms.	
		0500	all clear. one days trench ration for front line personnel drawn & sent to respective positions. Roads leading from front to second line positions commenced. Second line defences continued.	
		2030	Rations & water to front line.	
	30.5.18	0330	Stand to Arms. 0500 All clear. "A" Sub. Section commenced live emplacements in 1137.15.6.B4. Reserve sections continue second line emplacements. "D" Sub. Sec commenced live emplacements in 1137.15.6.B4.	
		2000	Rations & water to front line.	

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1616 - J. J. Peterson Lieut
 Coy. CO. 4th A.M.G. Co.
 MAY 1918

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																
	31-5-18	0330	Stand to Arms.																	
		0600	All Clear. Road making continued. Second line defence continued.																	
		2100	Rations & ^{water} food to front line.																	
			<u>Summary.</u>																	
			<p>During this period 10,000 rounds SAA were expended. Twelve front line positions were completed, Twelve alternate positions also completed. Second line emplacements commenced, 8 of which were completed making a total of 32 positions completed. Owing to the rocky nature of the country in some cases it was necessary to get assistance from the Engineers. Rations & water were despatched to front line by camels, each man in front line receiving 2 Gals of water per day. The Squad's horses, with the exception of 20 with the Reserve Sub-De's at Sqdn HQ were located in H. H. 9. about 3/4 of a mile from WADI AUSA. Owing to shortage of personnel it was necessary for 1 man to look after 4 horses. Horses watered twice daily & showed a slight improvement in condition.</p>																	
			<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Reinforcements taken on strength.</td> <td>= 11.00</td> <td>Personnel evac sick.</td> <td>30.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horses taken on strength.</td> <td>= 17.</td> <td>Horses evac to vet Dec.</td> <td>20.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Casualties Personnel.</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Casualties Horses.</td> <td>Nil.</td> </tr> </table>	Reinforcements taken on strength.	= 11.00	Personnel evac sick.	30.	Horses taken on strength.	= 17.	Horses evac to vet Dec.	20.			Casualties Personnel.	Nil			Casualties Horses.	Nil.	
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		Casualties Personnel.	Nil																	
		Casualties Horses.	Nil.																	
			<p>During this period 1. officer & two NCO's attended School Zulu. 2 OR. 7 days Cairo Leave.</p>																	

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8161 MAY - 1918
 Lt Col. H. A. M. G. S.

Lt Col. H. A. M. G. S.