

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/8/1

Title: Intelligence, General Headquarters,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force

May 1916



AWM4-1/8/1

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

G. H. Q. S. E. 7

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1916		<p>Fallen to meet his admiralty wishes to censor Neutral mails taken on the High Seas.</p> <p>also to discuss many smaller administrative details</p>	
GSTR.	1/5/16		<p>according to French News agency 10th + 103rd German Divisions remain are now left in BULGARIA.</p> <p>Public opinion in Greece is inclined to the view that in projecting a coup against the VENIZELISTS his King's nerve failed him & the matter was vetoed.</p> <p>Ambassadors in DURAZZO district number about 5000; men have been looting; copper utensils have been seized & sent to Austria</p>	BALKANS
			<p>The dispatch of troops from SMYRNA district is confirmed. They are ^{being} replaced by old men over 50 years old.</p> <p>It is also reported that a considerable number of Bulgarian troops have arrived</p>	TURKEY

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

G.H.Q. 297

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1916			<p>at MANISA and a few at SMYRNA. Enver is reported to be in Constantinople and has a firm grip on the situation. Luman continues to travel between C'ple + Smyrna. RNAS reconnaissance in the neighborhood of MARE observed out on the water from the river at ALGHUDE over to the KISIL Islands. Their agents at TERSANA report also a submarine base near the Isthmus of BOSRAZ</p>	
G.H.Q.	2/5		<p>The Italian Military Attache, who returned from CAIRO yesterday, reports that he has heard from Baron SORNINO, that the Italians will occupy PORT BARADIA The Italian Government has requested the British Government to take steps to remove the mines outside the harbour at BARADIA ENVER PASHA continues to keep a strong hold on the general position in Turkey.</p>	

~~WAR DIARY~~

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 2118

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GAQ JG 7

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
3/5.	1916		<p>From French sources it is reported that 5000 Troops recently left DAMASCUS for BIR SABA. also that two German aeroplanes arrived recently at DAMASCUS and one at BEIRUT.</p> <p>Enver Pasha's object in going to MECCA was to get the flag of the Prophet which has always been used to incite the Mahometans. He was not allowed to take it.</p> <p>The Turkish Government is spreading the report that France is asking to make peace.</p> <p>1000 French Turcos have been landed at CORFU, replacing Alpine Battalions.</p> <p>The Military League in Greece is spreading. The Artillery, the Engineers and the Navy are not so much under German influence as the Infantry and Cavalry.</p> <p>Information available shows that if the Turks advance along the central road during the next ten days or a fortnight they will have no difficulty as regards roads and water supply, up to and including HASSANA. West of HASSANA there is a good road as far as MIRM EL HOSSAIN. From which latter place on to RODH SALEM the road is indifferent, not being properly made up. West of RODH SALEM. The line of advance would probably be via GEBEL UM MAKHASSA. and as in Feb 1915. on past KHABRET ZOHRA, HUBR UM MUKSHEIB and GEBEL HABBITA. Although there is no road, the ground is hard limestone, and gravel, and if the sandy places were avoided, artillery might be brought up without much difficulty.</p> <p>There is sufficient water for a large force at RODH SALEM, and a very large supply of rainwater stored in GEBEL UM MUKSHEIB in rock cisterns. There are also rapidly diminishing but rain pools in WARI MUKSHEIB, which would be available during the next week or two.</p>	<p>TURKEY</p> <p>BALKANS</p> <p>TURKEY (SINAI)</p>

Numbers ? ?

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

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248 867

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GHQ	1916 4/5		<p>The Italians have landed a battalion at MERSA MORAISSA north of PORT BARDIA. (Report received from S.M.O ALEXANDRIA). The landing took place at 10 am on 3/5/16.</p> <p>Friction between Greeks and Italians in N. Epirus continues.</p> <p>There is no sign of the Austrians renewing their advance on VALONA</p> <p>The garrisons of the coast towns on the mainland opposite SAMOS, have been increased</p> <p>Enemy aircraft have been reported flying at a great height over the Canal zone.</p> <p>A traveller arriving in ATHENS about 3rd May reported that a concentration of British troops in CYPRUS is taking place, and that local opinion is that these troops are intended for a landing at SMYRNA.</p> <p>A submarine is said to have been seen off FAMAGUSTA, and suspicious signalling from the coast at night, has been noticed</p>	<p>W. DESERT</p> <p>BALKANS</p> <p>TURKEY.</p> <p>GAP</p>

~~WAR DIARY~~

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249-2207

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1916	5/5		<p>Two Italian battalions have landed at MORABA with 4 armoured cars. One Battalion is proceeding to BARDIA, the other probably follows. Captain Corso, Italian Navy, assured the British Commandant at SOLLUM of his hearty co operation.</p> <p>Vice Admiral MOREAU telegraphs that a Zeppelin was brought down today by the guns of his Squadron in the harbour of SALONIKA. Another report says that it fell in the marshes at the mouth of the VARDAR river.</p> <p>General SARRAIL desires to take up the forward KUKUS position, as the main line of resistance the enemy has 1 German and 4 Bulgarian divisions, within striking distance of 1 British Mounted Brigade and 1 Infantry Brigade.</p> <p>Special Mountain Artillery units have been organized by the enemy near LAKE DOIRAN.</p> <p>Reports from GREECE indicate that the concentration of British troops in CYPRUS is believed to be preparatory to a landing at SMYRNA.</p> <p>Enemy submarine has been seen off FATAGUSTA in CYPRUS, and suspicious signalling from the coast seawards has been reported.</p> <p>R.F.C. reconnaissances of the northern coast road in SINAI, establish the fact that, owing to the large number of date palm groves in the 'well country' between KATIA and BIR EL ABB it is almost impossible to form an estimate of the number of enemy troops in this district.</p> <p>The enemy therefore, marching at night, and hiding in the trees by day, might effect a surprise concentration in the KATIA district, and it is not improbable that he will attempt this, in combination with an advance along the central road towards ISMAHIA.</p>	<p>W. DESERT</p> <p>BALKANS</p> <p>TURKEY</p>

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or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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L.A.G. 8/27

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
G.H.Q.	1916 6/5		<p>Area bounded by 10 miles of coast line N. of FAMAGUSTA in CYPRUS has been prepared for reception of an Expeditionary Force of 100,000 men. Ten camping areas have been marked out, and water supplies developed. Lighters and boats at all ports numbered and provisionally repositioned. Buoys and moorings removed to FAMAGUSTA. Twenty miles of railway staked out. On April 10th an enemy aeroplane crossed the island and examined FAMAGUSTA bay. The landing of a very large force is confidently expected by the inhabitants.</p> <p>10,000 Turkish troops are reported to have arrived at SAMSUN by sea.</p> <p>An ODESSA agent reports that on April 8th the Turks decided to reinforce the 3rd Army in the Caucasus by 30,000 men, and to concentrate 60,000 reserves at SIVAS and ANKARA.</p> <p>There is reason to believe that there has been a certain amount of desertion among all troops sent E from CONSTANTINOPLE.</p>	TURKEY.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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GAP 367

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GHQ	7/5		<p>BIR EL ABD is reported by the R.F.C. to be clear of the enemy.</p> <p>F.O. telegraphs High Commission to know if any objection to Italian garrison at PORT BARDIA obtaining supplies, especially water from SOLLUM, should eventually by sea, become too difficult owing to enemy submarines. Propose to reply that our water and food supply difficulties at SOLLUM are already considerable, moreover TOBRUK is very much nearer BARDIA than is ALEXANDRIA whence all our supplies are derived.</p> <p>Activity of enemy spies in CYPRUS is confirmed by the fact that two mahometans stole a boat and made for the Syrian coast immediately after the arrival of the first troops from Egypt.</p> <p>The Russian expeditionary force advancing on KHANIKIN and BASHWAN appears to have reached the summit of the KARIND-KHANIKIN pass.</p> <p>The Italian Consul General, M. SERRA, accompanied by a Karass, leaves CAIRO for SUEZ on 9th inst to embark in a Spanish boat, en route for Italy, via Spain.</p> <p>Greek press of 5th May states that Allied Transports with Serbian troops on board are passing through the CORINTH CANAL on their way to SALONIKA.</p>	

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Army Form C. 2118 8

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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249. 8/67.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GHAZ	1916 8/5		<p>Two hostile aeroplanes dropped bombs on PORT SAID this morning.</p> <p>An agent who visited AVJA on the 2nd May reports that the gossip of the Camp is that the Turks will not attack the Canal, unless they themselves are attacked, as they have their hands full in Mesopotamia and elsewhere, and there is still much work to be done on the railway and roads in SINAI.</p> <p>The Decauville line has reached AVJA and work has been started on the next section towards HASSANA - the embankment being under construction via WADI HOSANI. No more work appears to have been done on the main line - <u>railhead being Stationary</u> a mile or less South of AVJA.</p> <p>Agent was told that the Turks had as prisoners at AVJA. 25 officers and 282 men including Soldiers, Camel men etc.</p> <p>The motor road between AVJA and KOSSAIMA has a lot of traffic and is well made. Turkish aeroplanes have been seen flying by agents at EL ARISH and AVJA.</p> <p>The Russians are making progress on the KARIND-KHANIKIN road.</p> <p>Garrisons of Coast towns in the SMYRNA district are being increased.</p> <p>LIMAN VON SANDERS has arrived in SMYRNA with a number of Germans, and Austrian guns. All harbour craft have been beached there.</p> <p>An ATHENS report states that there was a further incident at EPIRUS between Greek and Italian Soldiers. Shots were exchanged, but there were no casualties. An enquiry has been opened.</p>	TURKEY

~~WAR DIARY~~
or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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L.H.Q. 8/6

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1916 GHO	9/5.		<p>Information available points to there being no particular obstacle, as far as roads and water are concerned, to a Turkish attack on the Canal, during the next fortnight or there weeks.</p> <p>Owing to the recent heavy rainfalls, there are large pools in the generally waterless area between GEBEL MAKHASSA and ISMAILIA. These lie in the bed of the WADI MUKSHEIB, about 20 miles E of our line.</p> <p>A Cavalry reconnaissance confirms the evacuation of BIR EL ABD by the enemy.</p> <p>The Decauville line has reached AUJA and a commencement has been made to lay it towards HASSANA</p>	

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Army Form C. 2118

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GHQ. 66-7.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GHQ	1916 10/5		<p>Major W.V. Nugent took over I from Lt Col Holdich who proceeds to England on leave.</p> <p>The motor road from HASSANA to ROTH SALEM has been completed. It was followed by one of our agents to HASSANA and is fit for motor traffic all the way.</p> <p>Arab news gathered by an agent is that all Arab Sheikhs have received orders to assemble their men for an attack on the Canal during the month.</p> <p>At HASSANA on 6th inst. there were 300 tents and 25 shelters, 200 transport camels, 60 mules & 50 horses.</p> <p>At ROTH SALEM 70 tents were counted by an agent (This verifies R.F.C report of 6/5/16).</p> <p>The 8th Bulgarian Division (on the enemy's right) has removed Eastward from MONASTIR.</p> <p>The 7th Bulgarian Division has been located on the frontier with the 11th Division near VALANDOVO - PETRICH.</p> <p>German cavalry are becoming more active opposite allied advanced positions N of KUNUS.</p> <p>The Zeppelin destroyed by naval gunfire on the is now said to be the Z. 85, one of the most recent 1915 type, with a very long radius. It came from TEMESVAR in AUSTRIA - and has 4 six cylinder motors, with a capacity of 2500 litres of fuel.</p> <p>The French have only one battalion near FLORINA, and are not too friendly with local Greeks.</p>	TURKEY.

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G.H.Q. 687

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
G.H.Q.	1916 11/5.		<p>In the BALKANS there are indications that the enemy's left has been strengthened again. One or possibly two German Infantry regiments (from the 101st Division) have arrived in the XANTH. Other reports state that 2 Bulgarian Divisions are being moved to this sector from the Danube front. The Bulgarian dislocation is therefore roughly as follows.</p> <p>WEST OF THE VARDAR - The 8th and say 1 Bde of the 3rd. GEVEGLI to E of DOIRAN LAKE - 2 Divisions PETRICH to XANTH - 2 " In reserve in centre - 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ " moving to left flank - 2 " ON DANUBE - 2 or 3 " New Reserve formations in interior unaccounted for - 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 " TOTAL 20 Divisions.</p> <p>There are no fresh German troops reported. The positions along the enemy's front are exceedingly strong and well wired. The German and Austrian heavy artillery is now mostly in position.</p> <p>Russian column under General Radhoff, occupied KASR ISHIRIN on May 7th capturing large amounts of ammunition and stores.</p> <p>West of MUST the Russians from ARDUSHAN to SHAIKH after heavy fighting.</p> <p>Strong ^{Turkish} reinforcements are expected at KASR ISHIRIN.</p>	<p>BALKANS</p> <p>TURKEY</p>

WAR DIARY

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YHQ 867

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																
1916	G.H.Q. 12/5		<p>From reliable French agent returned from SYRIA. 25,000 troops have left DAMASCUS via RAYAK and ALEPPO since April 12th, on their way to BAGHDAD. They are largely composed of recruits raised in BEIRUT and Central SYRIA. The Muslims in this force were enlisted since Feb 21st, the Christians were only called up in March. Their ages are from 15 years upwards. They were all well armed, but badly equipped, and of very poor morale. The force had guns and ammunition in proportion.</p> <p>British infantry have occupied MAHAMDIYA (the point on the coast road at the W extremity of Lake BARDAWIL. Country to the E is reported to be clear.</p> <p>The following garrisons are reported at various places on the E front by an agent.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>BIR SABA ²⁴/₄</td> <td>3000 tents, on east of town.</td> <td>estimated Garrison</td> <td>2000 Turks and 200 Austrians</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GAZA. ²⁹/₄</td> <td>200-300 huts</td> <td>"</td> <td>4-5000 " 20 Germans</td> </tr> <tr> <td>KHAN YUNUS ¹/₅</td> <td>1000 "</td> <td>"</td> <td>200 Syrians</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EL ARISH</td> <td>200 "</td> <td>"</td> <td>1000 (600 Turks 200 Austrians?)</td> </tr> </table> <p>The road from NEKHEL to HASSANA has been completely metalled - A road is also being cleared from NEKHEL in the direction of SUEZ (via AHVSUAR)</p> <p>Good water supply has been found by the Italians at PORT BARDIA.</p>	BIR SABA ²⁴ / ₄	3000 tents, on east of town.	estimated Garrison	2000 Turks and 200 Austrians	GAZA. ²⁹ / ₄	200-300 huts	"	4-5000 " 20 Germans	KHAN YUNUS ¹ / ₅	1000 "	"	200 Syrians	EL ARISH	200 "	"	1000 (600 Turks 200 Austrians?)	<p>TURKEY</p> <p>W. DESERT</p>
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WAR DIARY

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GHO 887

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Gaza	1916 13/5		<p>A marked diminution in the garrisons of the enemy's advanced posts in SYRIA is noticeable. At BIR SALAMANA, BIR JIFJAFFA, SUAR EL HAITAN, and AIN SUAR there are only small posts. These form the enemy's advanced line, running N and S, roughly 50 miles E of the CANAL. Behind this line are the following posts in support: BIR EL MAZAR (300), BIR EL MAGHARA (350), RODH SALEM (200), HASSANA (1700), NEKHL (500). Behind this line again EL ARISH (3000) and KOSSAIMA (1000) with 2 well working parties in between. In SOUTHERN SYRIA, and on the frontier: RAFA (200), EL AUJA (4000), KHAN YUNUS (700), GAZA (2000), SHERIA (3000), BIR SABA (2000), KHULIL (2000), BIR ASLUW (4000 railway workmen). Guns at EL ARISH (10), HASSANA (12), NEKHL (3), MAGHARA (4), BIR SABA (7), AUJA (5). Total Estimate (13/5) about 20,000 troops exclusive of labour.</p> <p>A report from ATHENS dated 11th May, believed reliable states that 1 Austrian Division is at CONSTANTINOPLE.</p> <p>Turks have placed guns and powerful searchlight commanding approaches to mainland opposite LONG ISLANDS.</p> <p>German aeroplane threw bombs on RHODES on 5th May.</p>	

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JHQ 267

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>GHA</i>	<i>1916</i> <i>14/5</i>		<p>Russian successful actions near ERZINGAN are reported. Russian column advancing on ROWANDUZ is now only 25 miles distant.</p> <p>All reports show diminution in SYRIA garrisons, as previously reported. The truth appears to be that JEMAL PASHA intends to keep a sufficient force at BIR SABA and other places in Southern SYRIA, to prevent us withdrawing troops from the Canal zone. The vacillating movements of Turkish troops in SYRIA are calculated to have this effect, and also to persuade the Arabs that the attack on the Canal will really take place.</p> <p>Meanwhile the enemy keeps on improving his communications, especially roads.</p> <p>Major Vitale, Senior Italian Military Attache at GHA, left for SOLLUM yesterday under instructions from the C in C. He will remain about a fortnight.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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2/10 867

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1916 Gaza	15/5		<p>Capt Caccia. Italian Military attaché arrived at Gaza vice Major Vitale. gone to Sollum</p> <p>NURI BEY is reported to be about half way between TOBRUK and AIN GHAZZALA. The latter place is used as a submarine base since the Italian occupation of BARDIA and MARSALA.</p> <p>R.F.C report of the evacuation of BARRARIA by the enemy is not confirmed. Refugees who have just arrived report that there are still 300 men there.</p> <p>An agent who was at RODH SALEM on 9/5/16 reports that there were 70 tents & 1000 men there also 150 transport camels and 20 water buffaloes which were said to have come from HASSADRA. This report should be treated with reserve, but if it were true it would indicate preparations for the transport of heavy guns.</p> <p>Austrian troops were reported at PANDERMA on 21st April. Probably for MYRENA.</p>	<p>Western Desert.</p> <p>TURKEY</p>

WAR DIARY

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Army Form C. 2118

16

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GAA 297

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GAA 1916	16/5		<p>An agent reports that he heard at EL ARISH 11/5/16 that the Turkish plan was to allow us to occupy KATIA and to attack us later. also that a base post would be made at JIFJAPPA which would subsequently move on to WADI MUKSHEIB</p> <p>R.F.C reports say that JIFJAPPA and RUDH SALEM have been evacuated. This may be temporary owing to the hot weather. (115° in the shade)</p> <p>The Russians have had a set-back at MUSH, but have successfully held a Turkish offensive between ERZERUM and ERZINGAN, and have gained some ground near TREBIZOND. Efforts have been made to bring the IX, X, and XI Army Corps up to strength.</p> <p>A strict naval policy with regard to Arab and Turk-owned dhows on the E coast of the Red Sea, has been inaugurated. All dhow traffic from Egyptian and Soudanese Coast has been stopped.</p> <p>G.O.C Western Frontier Force is arranging with Italians through O.C Solloum to effect jointly the capture of MURI BEY whose whereabouts is now known.</p> <p>A submarine has been plying between CONSTANTINOPE and <u>AITY GHAZALA</u></p>	TURKEY

~~WAR~~ DIARY

Army Form C. 2118 17

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GHQ 887

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ques	1916 17/5		<p>Gen. BARATOFF has been ordered not to advance, but to fortify a strong position on the crest, a few miles W of KASRISHIRIN.</p> <p>The Russians have occupied MAMAHATUN about 30 miles NE of ERZINGAN, driving a wedge into the Turkish defensive lines. The Russians also continue to progress in the direction of MOSUL and have defeated the Turks in the DIARBEKIR region.</p> <p>An agent who came along the new road from HASSANA to JIFJAFFA. Saw no motor traffic on this road. He thinks the surface is too heavy for wheeled traffic.</p> <p>Native reports state that there is a large mixed force of Germans, Turks and Arabs at BIR EL MAZAR. whose object is to try and surprise our patrols. They have guns with them and will send up an aeroplane before attacking us.</p> <p>The post at BAYUD is said to be concealed from aeroplanes, about two miles South of the well.</p>	

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or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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GAB 687

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place 1916

Date

Hour

G.H.Q.

18/5.

Ninety thousand Serbians, and the Serbian General Staff are now at SALONIKA.

Desertions from the Bulgarian Army continue on a large scale.

The Germans claim to have repulsed an Allied detachment on the VARDAR.

The Russians have occupied ROWANDUZ.

ENVER BEY is now on the CAUCASUS front, whence he proposes to proceed to IRAK unless the situation in CONSTANTINOPLE requires his presence.

After 6 days of terrific heat, the temperature in the SUEZ CANAL zone is now normal.

The R.F.C. report that the rain pools in the WADI UM MUKSHEIB have almost disappeared.

EL ARISH was bombarded ^{from the} sea and from the air this morning. The fort SW of the town is now reported to be in ruins. A number of photographs of the town and camps were obtained by the R.F.C.

Seaplane observers report camps at KHAN YUNUS much smaller than previously reported.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118 19

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GHQ. 25.19

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1916			<p>A telegraphic report from CASTELORIZZO says that "between the 10th and 15th May there were large movements of newly raised troops and military stores, by night and by day towards MERSINA". This is evidently a direct result of our activities in CYPRUS.</p> <p>LIMAN VON SANDERS has left SMYRNA for BAGHDAD, He will probably replace VON DER GOLTZ.</p> <p>A Turkish prisoner (deserted from EL ARISH) belongs to the 2nd Co, 1st Batta 32nd Regt, 3rd Division. He says that 31st, 32nd and 39th Regts, and 3 Camel Companies are at EL ARISH, and that there are 3. 7½ c.m. guns with each regiment.</p> <p>A very reliable agent reports the following as being current gossip in ^{Turkish} SIRAÏ military circles. The Turks say that nothing but outposts are being left in SIRAÏ, as all troops are wanted for a big war in the north. If they are not attacked they propose to do nothing this year.</p>	

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Ly HQ. 827.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1916			<p>There were about 6000 Austrian troops in CONSTANTINOPLE on 27th April according to Russian source at Athens</p> <p>TIFLIS reports that about May 4th 22nd regt was observed proceeding from SCUTARI towards SIVAS</p> <p>Other reports indicate the despatch of the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 19th Divisions to SCUTARI where IZZET PASHA is said to be concentrating a reserve army.</p>	TURKEY
GHA	20/5.		<p>JEMAL PASHA has become if anything more brutal than ever. His model appears to be the worst type of German. He has become wholly Germanophile, is regarded by the populace and by the troops as cruel and despotic. He does not possess the confidence of his troops who only follow him through fear.</p>	SINAI
			<p>A refugee from EL ARISH states that the Turks are retiring, and Germans taking their place. He reports that there is a German regiment at BIR MAZAR.</p>	SINAI
			<p>The telegraph line to TOR, previously cut by Bedouins, has been restored.</p>	SINAI
			<p>RFC report a concealed post of 60 to 100 men about 3 1/2 miles S of BIR BAYUD. One of our machines discovered this by descending to 100 feet. Being heavily fired on the airman replied with their machine gun and several casualties were observed.</p>	SINAI
			<p>SIRDAR reports that MELEIT was occupied without opposition on 18th, having been previously reconnoitred by aircraft. Bombs were dropped with effect and fission of 500 retred on EL FASHER the night before troops arrived at MELEIT.</p>	SOUDAN DARFOUR
			<p>Our force expects to reach EL FASHER on 23rd May. All well.</p>	SOUDAN DARFOUR

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Y.H.O., G.F.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GMAQ.	1916 22/5.		<p>It is reported that during the last 3 weeks the Austrians have withdrawn about 30,000 troops from ALBANIA. It is said that the abandonment of this front is due to the difficulty of provisioning the Austrian Army. which is doubtless partly true. but some these Troops have been sent to TURKEY to assume the defence of the principal towns, and permit of the transference of Turkish troops to the CAUCASUS and IRAK fronts.</p> <p>It is confirmed that 25,000 out of 40,000 troops in the Damascus district, left for ALEPPO. most probably en route to BAGHDAD as previously reported.</p> <p>In SINAI an air raid by the RFC yesterday confirmed the presence of small posts, at RODH SALEM, EL HAMMA, BIR BAYUD and SALMANA. Our machines were heavily fired at from all these places during the bomb attacks. The Turks have adopted the practice of concealing their troops as far as possible from our aircraft, by using holes in the ground covered with brushwood, instead of tents.</p> <p>The Sinai SINAI Arabs are reported to be discontented, and to be leaving the Turks as they say they were made to bear the brunt of the fighting at KATIA and DUEIDAR, while the regulars were kept in rear. (The Turks are accusing the Germans of the same thing and BAGHDAD has returned to JERUSALEM, having quarrelled with the German officer on this point.)</p> <p>The railhead of the main line (1.05 metre gauge) is reliably reported to have reached WADI SRAM where it crosses the SINAI frontier, on 2nd May. This is about 9 miles S.W. of AVJA. From here the railway will follow the road to KOSSAIMA and thence to HASSANA.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

GAZ 22/5

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.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place 1916 Date Hour

GAZ 22/5

The pipe line from KOSSAIMA to WADI HOSANI found a failure, probably owing to insufficient power to cover the distance. Consequently the direct line from AVISA to HASSANA had to be given up, and a detour made to KOSSAIMA, where water is very plentiful. Report says that railhead will reach KOSSAIMA by the end of May.

The buffaloes previously reported at ROAD SALEM and elsewhere, are not for draught purposes, they are simply meat on the hoof.

A Turkish prisoner reports the whole of the 3rd Division i.e. 31st, 32nd, and 39th regiments at EL ARISH. This is most improbable. Both agents and R.F.C. agree in estimating the Garrison at 2000 men. According to latest reports, the majority of these are Germans. The Turks would appear to have gone north, through GAZA.

BIR SABA garrison has apparently been reduced to 1 battalion (1000 men) of the 78th regiment, three or four hundred Germans or Austrians, and 100 irregulars.

There are 3 Turkish Divisions in KESHAN District, and 6 Divisions in ADRIANOPLE district. All below strength estimated that the 9 Divisions total 60,000 men. Reorganized and armed by Germans destination originally CAUCASUS but retained THRACE owing to Bulgarian objections to transfer based on Turco-Bulgar agreement.

6 German aeroplanes recently arrived Turkey. 4 guns of 305 mm. Sent from CONSTANTINOPLE for defence ANGORA-BOZANTI line where considerable preparations in hand.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
G.H.Q.	1916 23/5		<p>There are indications of a probable intention of the Turkish Command on the TIGRIS to vacate the KUT area. It is reported that in the middle of April 3000 NCOs and a few officers were sent from Germany to Turkey. All these were men who had been wounded.</p> <p>The Turks appear to be apprehensive of an allied landing at MAKRI and have reinforced this district with 2 aeroplanes, 6 guns and 2000 men.</p> <p>A reliable agent reports the garrison of EL AVJA as follows. 1500 Turkish soldiers, 500 Syrians, 300 Germans and 700 irregular Arab camel corps. Several guns including 4 heavy. 200 buffaloes bullocks for food were seen - also big heaps of rails and iron pipes. Trains from BIR SABA do not go beyond AVJA. The embankment has reached within 2 miles of WADI HOWEILEH. Many workmen are employed on it. A stone bridge is being built over WADI BIREIN.</p> <p>A reliable agent reported to SOHLUMI that about a month ago <u>6 submarines and 4 steamers</u> landed a force of <u>4000 Turks and 400 Germans</u> at a place 1 days journey W of a point half way between DERWA and BENOUAZI. This force is said to be coming E to join NURI with many Maxim rifles and machine guns. It is said that <u>ALI EL KHATTAB</u>, a brother of the <u>SENOUSSI</u> is coming along to accompany the force, which will arrive in about a month's time. The concentration was to take place at <u>AKRAMA</u>.</p> <p>There is reliable news of a Council of War being held at <u>AKRAMA</u> between NURI, notables, and Germans.</p>	

~~WAR DIARY~~

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FHQ. 26/5.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Greece	1916 24/5		<p>Austrian troops in BERAT are reported to be only 8000, while Italians number 80000. The Italians do not apparently intend to take any offensive action, but are likely to withdraw troops from VALONA if Austrians do not attack.</p> <p>Greek Press reports that BULGARIA has agreed with Greece to open frontier at OKILAR to Greek subjects - This means that the SALONIKA-CONSTANTINOPLE railway is again available for Greeks.</p> <p>The Austrian aerodrome at EL BASAN is reported transferred to near DURAZZO.</p> <p>Intercepted German telegrams reported on 21/5 are now considered by ATHENS to be 'fakes'.</p> <p>LIMAN V SANDERS has been appointed to succeed VON DER GOLTZ.</p> <p>ENVER has left for IRAK (report dated C'PLE April 26th).</p> <p>No fresh arrivals of Austrian or German troops at C'PLE during last fortnight April.</p> <p>MAKRI is now undoubtedly the centre of considerable activity and preparations for coast defence.</p> <p>NEKHL Garrison on 21st reported to be about 1500 men including workmen. <u>Majority are Turks</u>. 6 guns arrived NEKHL on 16th May. On 19th a German airman flew over the town and practised bomb dropping.</p> <p>Arab report states that 3 warships landed troops at AKABA about 12th May, and drove Turks into hills. Turkish telegrams from AKABA to HAHA for reinforcements. 4 Battalions were sent one of which (1000 strong) was to reinforce NEKHL.</p> <p>We lost a Seaplane off JAFFA on 22nd inst.</p>	<p>BALKANS</p> <p>TURKEY</p> <p>SINAI</p>

WAR DIARY
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ZHO. 887

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

GHO 1916 24/5

The French agree with the British Authorities that EL FASHER should be occupied without delay and the plan of the French Commander is to make a demonstration in DAR SILA to prevent the Sultan BAKHOT from rendering assistance to ALI DINAR.

A British aeroplane flew over EL FASHER on 23rd having started from GEBEL HILLA. The airman witnessed an attack on village just N of the town. He bombed large bodies of cavalry in this village forcing them to retreat through FASHER where they joined 2000 of the enemy. He also bombed them & fired at them with his machine gun forcing them to retire in disorder.

SOUDAN

Reports indicate ^{enemy} activity in ~~LIBYA~~ **CYRENAICA**. There is lack of an attack on SOLLOUM by a mixed force of Turks & Arabs within the next fortnight.

It is reported that the Italians have landed 2000 men at ZUARA near the TRIPOLI-TUNIS frontier.

Russian military attache' reports 2 Austro-German Divisions have been sent ANATOLIA and 3 more are expected in TURKEY. These numbers appear exaggerated.

An Athens agent reports 'One Austrian Division in Banado C'PLE from 25/2 to 3/4.

WAR DIARY

07

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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G.H.O. G.C.7.

Remarks and references to Appendices

Summary of Events and Information

Place 910 Date Hour

G.H.O. 25/5

A 'considerable force' of Austrians is reported at DJAKOVA. Probably not more than 1 Division. Austrian forces have practically evacuated the triangle ELBASAN - BERAT - DURAZZO owing to typhus etc. Light railway from GRASKO to MONASTIR is expected to be completed during present month.

ENVER PASHA with C.G.S BRONSARAT VON SHELLENDORF are reported to have been in CAUCASUS. Where an attempt was made to retake ERZERUM. ENVER now said to be returning CONSTANTINOPLE.

An agent reports 3000 men at BIR MAZAR and 1 battalion of Germans at BIR SABA.

The water works at KOSSAIA have been improved.

The pipe head is just S of the gorge through which WADI EL ARISH passes between GEBELS HELAL and DHALFA. (roughly near the 6 in 'Mud bank' reference $\frac{1}{250,000}$ map).

Reliable agents report that reinforcements are daily reaching NURI, at RAS MAAVAR, SW of TOBRUK. It is said that 3000 came with EL SAYED HASSAN, but this is considered an exaggeration.

NURI was seen about 9th May, at JEBEL SEAD, 40 miles E of TOBRUK. His following was then less than 100.

The Sirdar reported occupation of EL FASHER after battle at BERINGIA. ALI DINAR escaped.

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2HQ. 8/7.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
C.H.Q.	26/5.		<p>A report of doubtful reliability says that Germans are sending gunners and new pattern quickfiring guns to IRAK also motors — to stop Russian advance on BAGHDAD Turks are attempting to induce JAFF tribe on R Bank of DIALA river to attack Russians</p> <p>A Turkish prisoner belonging to the 1st Co. Syrian Camel Corps says that he was recruited in the summer of 1915 and was trained for 6 months in BIR SABA - afterwards moving to SHELLAL, EL ARISH and BIR EL ABD. His Co was stationed at EL ARISH since 2 months ago Sending a section to SALMANA in rotation He saw at SHELLAL, the 6th Medina Camel Corps (Irregulars) In the attack on KATIA, the 2nd Co Syrian Camel Corps, the Medina Regt. and two infantry battalions of the 3rd Division took part. The 2nd Co. Syrian C.C. which attacked DUEIDAR, suffered severely only 40 escaped out of 150 He says there were 4 battalions at EL ARISH and 2 or 3 at MAZAR in April He was told that 4th Division was about to relieve 3rd Division He heard that a German Battalion had arrived at BIR SABA.</p> <p>An ERITREAN unit on night of 25th surprised a group of rebels 7 kilometres W of TOBRUK killing 24 and taking 5 prisoners. Italian casualties 1 killed and 1 wounded.</p> <p>Disturbances in ADIS ABABA (ABYSSINIA) are reported Italian legation being attacked Turks and Germans are exploiting LIS YASUS pronounced Moslem policy.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GUAQ	27/5		<p>Sir F. Eliot reports that he has received reliable information that a considerable Bulgarian force with German officers, yesterday crossed the frontier, and occupied the fort of RUPEL in the STEVNA valley, after having been met by Greek artillery and infantry fire. The heath eventually gave way.</p> <p>An increase at MAGHARA is reported by agents. Who say there are from 300 to 400 men there including 100 Germans</p> <p>A new rock cistern full of water has been discovered in <u>WADI EL GELEYGLA</u> (Sq. F. 10. $\frac{1}{250,000}$ map)</p> <p>The water holes at JIFJAPFA are giving about <u>40 gallons each daily.</u></p>	

WAR DIARY

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G.A.Q. 887

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place 1916 Date Hour

G.A.Q. 25/5

The Italian Commander at BARDIA reports that the camp at ARRAMA is increasing in size and confirms general unrest in CYRENACA and movement East.

With reference to the landing of Turkish and German troops, which is said to have taken place about a month ago between DERNA and BENGHAZI. - This landing is now said to have taken been at a place called ZUWEITINA on the coast, 70 miles S of BENGHAZI.

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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G.H.Q. 6.9.7

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
G.H.Q.	1916 29/5		<p>Four companies 2nd Bde 45th Austrian (? LANDSTURM) Regt of 14th Bde identified ALBAMA part at FIERA. Other regts this Bde on Russian front. There is no truth in continued reports spread by Austrians of large units of troops in ALBAMA. Officers patrol to DEMIRHISSAR on 27th report enemy occupying BADOVO, ovo. vicinity of railway bridges VETERINA and RAMNA, estimated strength 25,000. probably 7th Bulgarian Division with attached German engines. Sarraill has ordered occupation of POROI and BUTRUPEOVO.</p> <p>Agents from DEMIRHISSAR report 13th, 14th and 53rd regiments of BULGARIAN 7th Division on heights N of town. 3 companies at VETRINA, 4 batteries E of STRUMA on heights commanding bridge. No particular activity STRUMA valley, reported by French aeroplanes - Centre of activity round STRUMNITZA has apparently moved to ROBROVO.</p> <p>General Sarraill regards enemy intentions either (a) purely defensive, to occupy a better line or (b) idea of using for supply, Eastern MACEDONIAN zone and rail from XANTHI via SERRES.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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G.H.P. E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
G.H.P.	29/5		<p>The 9th Turkish Division appears to have reached MARDIN. Destination may be MUSH or BITLIS sector. Discrepancy in Russian location of 6th Division may be explained by recent identifications which show 2 regiments of 6th and 1 of 8th Division in IRAK, while 1 of the 6th and 2 of the 8th appear to be in front of the MUSH sector. CAUCASUS front.</p> <p>Russians held the front JULAMERG, - NERI- ROWANAUZ- SERDESHT- BANE on May 9th. KURDS in this district and in the URHIA and BAYAZID areas, have interfered with their communications.</p> <p>JEMAL PASHA spends most of his time at DAMASCUS, but often visits his family at BEYROUT.</p> <p>An agent on 15th inst saw 3000 bivops at HASSANA, an Arab says there were 1500 on 23rd inst. It is now rumoured that the HASSANA bivops have left for BIR SABA.</p> <p>An agent who was at NEKHL on 15th inst reports. 1 German officer, 2 Turkish officers, 1 Syrian officer, 20 German soldiers, 150 Syrian soldiers, 4 guns, 40 Arabs, 15 horses + mules, and 40 camels. No aeroplanes at NEKHL. - Railway has reached OGA EL HAJIR near BIREIN.</p> <p>An agent who was at AKABA on 12th reports 4 German officers, 2 Turkish + Syrian officers, 150 soldiers armed with Mauser rifles, 23 tents, 20 mules, 10 horses.</p> <p>Posts have been placed at NEGB IHEBRAN, SEIL HIRIN, WADI SIDREH, + EL RAHABA. with the idea of preventing Arabs coming to TOR.</p> <p>An unconfirmed report says that <u>NURI</u> intends to go to SIWA. Join MOHAMMED SALEH there and advance through MOGHARA and WADI NATRUN. in Egypt.</p> <p>A report returns from BAITARIA reports that there are 60 prisoners of arms with SAYED MOHAMMET IDRIS, near BENGHAZI.</p>	

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CPAQ. 887

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CPAQ	30/5		<p>A Turkish prisoner captured 12 days ago near BIR EL ABD, now says that the 4th Division Complete has arrived at BIR SABA. - A previous report stated that the 4th was to relieve the 3rd Division.</p> <p>An agent who was at EL ARISH on 26th inst reports 2000 soldiers there, Turks, Germans, and Austrians. 15 small guns and 2 big guns. 300 camels, 150 horses, 60 mules, 2 aeroplanes. He heard that 5 aeroplanes were expected from BIR SABA, also reinforcements who would join with in an attack on KATIA within the next few days.</p> <p>In the early morning of 26th being awakened by bugles, he saw about 800 German Troops march into EL ARISH from the south. - Later he saw 400 camels arrive with ammunition from the East.</p> <p>Another agent who was at HASSANIA on 26th, saw only 400 soldiers there, but heard there were about 600 mounted Germans and Austrians there, who with many Turks would attack KATIA via EL ARISH, about 6th June. At the same time there would be a demonstration against our lines opposite ISMAILIA.</p> <p>The above reports are independent and the rumours about Austro-Germans are persistent and more or less consistent.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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2/10 887

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
GHO	1916 30/5		An agent just returned from AKRAMA reports that on 27 th the Italians attacked AKRAMA which he found deserted after the fight, the Arab force retreated to SYDA. NURI is reported to have gone West to <u>JEDABIA</u> to meet Sayca Idris.	
GHO	31/5		Situation in the BALKANS is much the same. Especially Enemy troops have occupied ELESNICA and Point 1506 NE of DEMIRHESAR, and are busy entrenching themselves in all the positions occupied. Greek Division from SERES holds line from KAVAKLI - CIFTI - FRASTANI - JOKARLI bridge with detachment at DEMIRHESAR Railway Station + another detachment at LATROVO. CAVALLA reports Greeks transporting Ammunition from their frontier post INAZENES opposite OKJILAR down to CAVALLA for embarkation. Situation at CAVALLA unchanged.	

WAR DIARY

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Handwritten initials and date: C.P.L. 16/5

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>1910</i>	<i>C.P.L. 31/5</i>		<p>Since the evacuation of the Peninsula, it is estimated that 35,000 Austro-Germans, largely summered were sent through CONSTANTINOPLE to ASIA (Agent at C'PLE 16th May)</p> <p>Russian military Attache' at ATHENS confirms formation of new 16th Greek division in EPIRUS.</p> <p>TALAT is acting War Minister in C'PLE during absence of ENVER.</p> <p>On 31st May there was one regiment of Bulgarian infantry in C'PLE.</p> <p><u>An agent at BID SABA on 26th</u> saw 400 tents, + estimated the garrison at 2000 Turks and Syrians under BAGHAT BEY - All Germans had gone into SIWAH, 4 detachments to AVSA and 2 to EL BRISH. These 6 'Tabors' were composed entirely of Austro-Germans. This bears out previous reports (30/5)</p> <p>HASSANA was reconnoitred by the PFC today, and was found to be very little changed since last reconnaissance - a few huts have been built, and two buildings roofed in - Tank reservoir covered over. Impossible to estimate strength of camp but <u>400 or 500</u> men were seen. One AA gun was in action.</p> <p>A successful reconnaissance this morning drove the Turks eastward from their post at SALMANA</p> <p>Reports from CYRENACA indicate that forces are still moving Eastward to join NURI, who is said to be contemplating a junction with MOHP SALEM at SIWA - NURI is between TOBRUK + AIN GAZZALA</p> <p>Major VITALE, Italian Mil Attache', returned from SOLLOUM, + reported friendly relations between British + Italian troops, who wished to cooperate, but Italian Govt still refuses to allow our troops to cross frontier zone, and seems unwilling for any joint offensive.</p> <p>A motor track between BARDIA and SOLLOUM has been found, and wireless communication established.</p>	