

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

Provost

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Title: Assistant Provost Marshal, ANZAC
Mounted Division

November 1917



AWM4-3/6/8



- NOV 1917

ORIGINAL

CONFIDENTIAL

WAR DIARY

OF

A. P. M.

ANZAC M^{td} DIVISION.

FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1917.

(VOLUME VIII.)





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.

E5/1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL-SABA	November 15 th 1917		Prisoners of war taken over from escort at daylight. They were marched and checked, and evacuated to Beersheba. Another party was taken over from the 10 th L.H. Bde in Beersheba. A large amount of abandoned enemy arms and material was collected at Tel-el-Saba and handed over to D.A.D. S. Otherwise the police were employed in the usual duties of regulating watering and patrolling roads.	
"	2-11-17		A few small parties of P.O.s received. Otherwise police employed as usual.	
	3-11-17		Instructions received that all Tibbin and grain stored in native villages at Tel-el-Saba is to be guarded and nobody allowed to remove it until taken over by A.D. S. Police patrols were ordered to enforce this. Relieved by Guard on 4 th .	
	5-11-17		Took over policing of all Desert 10 th Corps watering troughs at Beersheba. 1 Sgt & 7 men from D.H.Q. Detachment and 5 men from 10 th L.H. Bde Detach on duty there all day.	
	6-11-17		Police at Beersheba reduced to 9, comprising 6 from D.H.Q. & 3 from 10 th L.H. Bde. Division moved on towards Tel-el-Sheria in evening. Three police were left to follow on when relieved. A.P.M. with rest of Police of D.H.Q. halted with transport at about 2300 to allow them to overtake the column.	
BAKR	7-11-17		Moved on at daylight with transport. Police who had been left at Beersheba rejoined at noon. Did not rejoin "A" Echelon but camped at BAKR. Captured motor lorry and 1 P.O. sent in to Beersheba during afternoon.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>BARR to TEL ABU. DILAKH</p>	<p>8.11.17</p>		<p>Rejoined "A" Echelon DHA. at about 0900 at AMEIDAT station. Here a large party of P. of W. were awaiting evacuation. These were immediately searched & checked and evacuated. Many other prisoners had been evacuated during the absence of A.P.M. and Police with "B" Echelon, records of which were not obtained by this branch. Moved to TEL ABU. DILAKH where more prisoners were taken over and vaccinated. Police was also employed at the watering place to regulate traffic. At about 1700 the A.P.M. Captain A.J. WATTS was wounded and evacuated to clearing station. His duties were taken over by the Divisional Gas Officer, Captain F. v. Ketta. During these three days the Brigade Police have been fully employed controlling their Brigade watering areas, dealing with P. of W. and locating abandoned enemy material, stores etc.</p>	
<p>TEL. ABU. DILAKH to BUREIR thence to JULIS.</p>	<p>9.11.17</p>		<p>Small number of P. of W. brought in the previous night evacuated at daylight. Moved at about 1030 and travelled to BUREIR where a halt was made. Police posted on well there to regulate watering, but no water was obtainable for the horses. Meanwhile the Division had been in action further north and had taken many prisoners. These ^{As these} were taken over by the infantry without being passed through DHA, no record of them was obtained by A.P.M. Left BUREIR at about 1700 and moved to JULIS where a halt was made for the night. About 50 P. of W. were awaiting disposal, but nothing could be done with them till morning.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
JULIS to HAMAMEH.	10.	11.17	About 600 P.F.W. received from 2nd L.H. Bgde. They were all very exhausted and suffering from thirst and were consequently hard to manage. All the police of D.H.Q. with the exception of two were employed in dealing with them. They were evacuated to MEJDEL as soon as possible, a party of 35 wounded & 26 Red Crescent men were left behind to be evacuated to Tuld Hymbalance. This was done late in the afternoon. The two police above referred to were sent to MEJDEL to regulate the watering of the Divisional troops. Moved to HAMAMEH after dark.	
HAMAMEH	11.	11.17	Police employed water area, and patrolling orchards in the village to prevent looting.	
"	12.	11.17	Some police of the D.H.Q. Detachment were sent to Mejdal to guard three stores of tinned, one for each Brigade of the Division. As the Brigade tinned party arrived at the village, it was met by the M.M.P. and conducted to the store reserved for it. The M.M.P. on duty was then relieved by the Brigade Police. The remainder of the police were employed in usual duties of regulating water and patrolling orchards.	
HAMAMEH to YEBNAH	13.	11.17	Left HAMAMEH at 0715. A halt was made at ESOD, where watering was carried out, the police being on duty there. A few P.F.W. were evacuated by 1st L.H. Brigade to Desert H's Camp. Moved at about 1500 and marched to YEBNAH. During the march police were sent back to a bridge near ESOD to direct following troops to D.H.Q. There reformed the column soon after camp was reached.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VEBNAH to KHIRBET HERMAS	14. 11. 17		Moved to KHIRBET HERMAS, Police employed patrolling water and orange orchards, and searching villages for enemy stragglers, several of whom were secured. Small parties of P.O.W received from N.3 with Bqda and 1st LH Bqda totalling about 15.	
KH. HERMAS to Pt 240	15. 11. 17		Moved in afternoon to Pt 240. (Ref: Pal. Exploration Fund map 1" to mile sheet XIII, N21A.) Watered at BIR SALEM Orphanage en route. A post of two M.M.P. was left there to prevent looting.	
(Jaffa map 1" to mile sheet XIII, N21A.)	16. 11. 17		Took over party of prisoners of war in RATTLEH from 1st LH Bqda consisting of 14 Turkish Officers, 2 German & Rank, and 302 Turkish O.R. Handed them over to Yeomanry Div. there. A further party of 1 officer and 8 O.R. was sent in to Yeomanry Div. from Pt 240 later in the day. A permanent police post of 2 men was established at Bir Salam Orphanage to prevent looting. Patrols were also sent to the village of AYUN KARA.	
	17. 11. 17		Lieut. P. J. MARTIN arrived from DEIR-EL-BELAH and assumed duties of A.P.M. The village of AYUN KARA was patrolled by 4 men of the D.H.A Detachment till 2200. The Brigade Police have been fully employed in the ordinary police duties in their own areas throughout.	
	18. 11. 17 to 21. 11. 17		Duties as above, except that on the 19th a permanent police post of 4 men was established at AYUN KARA. Prisoners brought in in small parties throughout the period principally stragglers found hiding in various villages. Several charges were made against soldiers for being out of bounds in villages and interfering with property of inhabitants, a few cases of suspected communicating with the enemy also passed through our hands.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
PT 240 to JAFFA	22.12.17		Moved to JAFFA during afternoon. Police post relieved from BIR SALEH Orphanage but retained at AYUN KARA. The duties in the new area will be the same as usual, except that particular attention will be given to detecting any signs of communicating with the enemy, and all suspicious characters arrested. The policing of the town of Jaffa will not be done from D.H.A., as the G.O.C. N.Z. M.R. Brigade is appointed Military Governor of Jaffa and is responsible for the policing of it at present. The police of the N.Z. M.R. Brigade are employed in taking charge of patrols drawn from the Brigade for police duty. Proclamations have been posted up in all villages warning inhabitants that anyone found interfering with telephone or telegraph wires will be severely dealt with.	
	23.11.17	to 25.11.17	Police duties as detailed above. Many cases of suspected espionage and communicating with the enemy dealt with. Police post withdrawn from AYUN KARA on 24 th . D.H.A. policing villages and orchards outside Jaffa. Brigade police on usual duties in own areas.	
	26.11.17		NO 903 Tpr COLLIE W.T. 2 nd LH Bde Detachment, killed in action. NO 304 T/cpl PETERSON J.P. 2 nd LH Bde Detachment wounded. Duties as usual.	
	27.11.17	to 30.11.17	During this period several important suspects were brought in, notably TEWELICK BEY, and SHEIKH SEMIM el YACOUBI. The former was suspected of causing the arrest of two of our agents from and prior to our occupation, and of causing our troops to be fired on after ^{from his garden} our occupation of WASI HANBIN. Nothing could be proved against him however and he was passed ^{passed} to the Civil Administrator who subsequently released him.	- NOV 1917



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
JAFFA	30 11 17		<p>With regard to Sheikh YACOUB it was proved that he had formerly been employed by the Turkish Government to harangue the troops with a view to improving their morale. He was passed to the Civil Administrator with a recommendation that he be interned.</p> <p>The following is a summary of the returns for period October 26th to November 30th.</p> <p><u>Absentees - 2.</u></p> <p><u>Prisoners of War dealt with by A.P.M. - Officers 57 O.Ranks 1540 - Total 1597</u></p> <p><u>Court Martial Prisoners sent to Base - 1.</u></p> <p><u>Soldiers dealt with - 11.</u></p> <p><u>Civilians (Suspects) - 24</u></p>	<p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i></p> <p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i></p>
				<p>- NOV 1917</p>

