

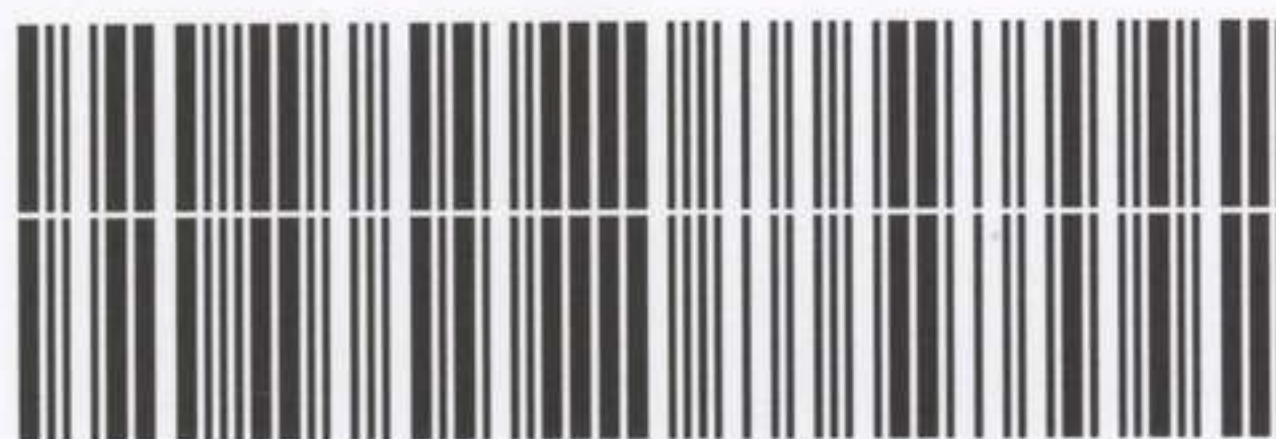
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Provost

Item number: 3/7/10

Title: Assistant Provost Marshal, Australian
Mounted Division

July 1918



AWM4-3/7/10

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

Assistant ^{OF} Provost Marshal
Australian Mounted Division

FOR

JULY 191*8*



Signature of Officer compiling_____

Signature of Officer Commanding_____

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BETHLEHEM	July 1 st		Visited 3 rd Light Horse Brigade and was present at F.G.C.M. of Tm O'NEIL. 9 th Light Horse Regiment	dm
	2 nd		Present at F.G.C.M. of Tm (A/Cpl) PARMETER. C.D. Aust. Prov. Corps. attached D.H.Q.	dm
	3 rd		- as 2 nd July.	dm
	4 th		Visited Staff Capt and police of 5 th Mounted Brigade also Staff Capt & police 3 rd L.H. Brigade. Visited patrols in BETHLEHEM. Found everything satisfactory.	dm
	5 th		Inspection of Police attached 3 rd L.H. Brigade and 5 th Mounted Brigade by A.P.M. Desert Mounted Corps. Everything entirely satisfactory. Visited patrols in BETHLEHEM. Nothing to report.	dm
	6 th		Raided village of BEIT FETJAR in conjunction with Deputy Military Governor HEBRON. (See attached append. 19) Rode round patrols found everything satisfactory.	dm append. 19
	7 th		Church Parade. Visited BEIT JALFA also patrols. Found everything satisfactory.	dm
	8 th		Visited Staff Captain 22 nd Mtd Bde and police. Arranged for policing of watering area at SOLOMONS POOLS. Interviewed mukhtars of BEIT JALFA reference stolen Government property. Visited units of 22 nd Mtd Bde and watering area at SOLOMONS POOLS. Also visited patrols in BETHLEHEM. D.M.G. BETHLEHEM forwarded a complaint re drunken soldiers to D.H.Q. (See appendix 20)	dm appendix 20
	9 th		Received a wire from 3 rd L.H. Bde that a box containing money had been broken open and money stolen. Investigated. (appendix 21)	dm appendix 21
	10 th		Visited patrols in BETHLEHEM. Detailed additional patrol in town during the move of 3 rd L.H. Bde. Visited night patrols found everything in order.	dm
	11 th		attended F.G.C.M. of Tm (A/Cpl) PARMETER	dm

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BETHLEHEM	JULY			
	12 th		Called on Staff Capt and police 5 th Mounted Brigade. Inspected civilian canteens and withdrew permit from one holder as the place was dirty.	
	13 th		As a result of visit to MUKHTARS on 8 th inst I received a quantity of old clothing, one fanato and some baggage straps from the village of BEIT JALA. Visited 22 nd Bde area, inspected road picket during evening and found everything quiet.	
	14 th		Visited patrols in BETHLEHEM during the day and inspected picket at night. Found everything satisfactory.	
	15 th		Rode round BETHLEHEM and visited patrols. everything satisfactory.	
	16 th		Visited 22 nd htd Brigade area at SOLOMONS POOLS and found Indian soldiers bathing in the lower pool. Reported as per appendix 22.	append 22.
	17 th		Visited patrols and inspected canteens in 22 nd htd Bde area: quite satisfactory.	
	18 th		Handed over to Lieut COWAN for A.P.M. Angac htd Div. Divisional H.Q. left BETHLEHEM for TALAT-ED-DUMM at 1730. I left five police behind to await arrival of Angac Divisional Police.	
TALAT-ED-DUMM. H. 34. A	19 th		Divisional H.Q. arrived at TALAT-ED-DUMM about 0300 and moved about 1900 arriving at WADY NUMEIRAMEH about 2300.	
	20 th		Divisional H.Q. occupied camp vacated by Angac Mounted Division. Took over from Capt WATTS A.P.M. Angacs. Posted police on ROMAN ROAD, ROAD 29 and watering area WADY NUMEIRAMEH.	
	21 st		I. Capt MULLINER returned from leave (U.K) today and took over from Lieut MACNIE, who has been A/P.M. during my absence.	

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H. 34 - A.	July 22 nd		A.P.M Desert hila corps and CO Aust. Prov. Corps called at D.H.Q CO Aust. Prov. Corps visited 4 th L. H. Brigade and interviewed the Detachment of Australian police. Visited watering area. - satisfactory	L.A.M.
	23 rd		Lieut MACNIE proceeded to ALEXANDRIA on leave. Inspected patrols everything satisfactory. One NCO and four OR ^s Indians (attached 5 th Bde)	L.A.M.
	24 th		Visited Staff Capt 13 th Cavalry Bde and police. found everything satisfactory	L.A.M.
	25 th		Visited 4 th Light Horse Bde police, condition of horses were not very satisfactory	L.A.M.
	26 th		Rode round Divisional area and found everything satisfactory	L.A.M.
	27 th		Visited watering area and rode along ROMAN ROAD. Also visited patrols and found everything in order.	L.A.M.
	28 th		Rode along WADY NUMEIAMAH and OBEDIAH also visited patrols on ROMAN ROAD. Charged two soldiers for riding on Roman Road.	L.A.M.
	29 th		Received 3 Turkish Deserters. Off duty, sick	L.A.M.
	30 th		Received 1 Turkish Deserter and evacuated four. (off duty).	L.A.M.
	31 st		Visited 3 rd L. H. Bde and area. Inspected police horses found them in a poor condition Received and evacuated 4 prisoners of war (Turkish)	L.A.M.

WAR DIARY

Assistant Provost Marshal
Australian Mounted Division

FOR

JULY 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
19.	Raid of BEIT FETER.
20.	Crime in BETHLEHEM.
21.	Robbery at Y.M.C.A. - 3 rd L.N. Bde.
22 22	Battering at SOLOMONS POOLS

On the 6/7/18 I raided the village of BEIT FETAR in conjunction with the Deputy Military Governor HEBRON.

I found various government stores including four pairs military ammunition boots (three pairs quite new) a number of bivouac sheets, portions of canvass horse troughs and various other articles such as built up ropes etc.

The goods were in different houses and under the piles of tibbon and barley which the natives were threshing.

I placed two men under arrest and sent them to HEBRON under guard of the Military Governor's police. There was a third man in whose house a number of articles were found, and I have charged the mukhtars to report his arrival in the village to the Military Governor so that he may also be arrested.

I believe all mukhtars and all the inhabitants of this village to be expert thieves and cognisant of all the thefts made in the neighbouring camps.

APPENDIX 20.

The Deputy Military Governor - BETHLEHEM complained to Headquarters that men were galloping their horses and getting drunk, in vicinity of BETHLEM. The following is my report rendered to D.H.Q. on 8/7/18.

With reference to letter BM/120 from the Deputy Military Governor I note that men were seen galloping on the JERUSALEM - HEBRON Road but it was quite impossible for me to always have this road patrolled owing to the small number of police under my control.

I shall be able to patrol this road in future during the hours of 1600 and 2000 owing to the arrival of the police of the 22nd Mounted Brigade, and the return of one of my police. It would however obviate any difficulties if leave parties were kept together on leaving JERUSALEM.

The number of police I have only enables me to keep the necessary patrols in the town, on D.H.Q. lines and patrol BEIT TALA and the outskirts of BETHLEHEM two or three times a week.

It is quite possible for isolated cases to happen of men entering the town under the influence of drink without being seen by my police. The patrol

except at nights consists of only two men and they cannot see everything that is happening in the town which is a network of lanes and of considerable size. A town picquet would help to stop cases of the kind.

With regard to the case reported by the D.M.G. to have happened on the 4th inst. since receipt of his letter my Sergeant has reported to me that the case was mentioned to him today the 8th July by the owner of the tea shop in the narrow street just past the archway on the way to the Church of the Nativity.

The soldiers about whom no one could give any information tried to get wine from the wine shop in the neighbouring street. The owner of the tea shop called out to the wine seller to shut the door and when he complied the soldiers turned to the tea shop and pulled down the sign over the door. Some boys then called out that the police were coming and the soldiers got on their horses and rode away.

Regarding the cases reported by D.M.G. on the 6th inst. I cannot see why my corporal should arrest two men who had passed him quietly at a walk and there seems no reason to attach any blame to him. I have complete confidence in my police who are working very well. They are stamping out the sale of drink which is the chief source of crime and are complying with their duty in every respect.

LATER. A road picquet was established.

APPENDIX 21.

Wire received from Staff Captain 3rd Light Horse Brigade stated that money had been stolen, the result of my investigations are as follows.

I found that a large tin dispatch box containing various articles and money had been stolen from the tent of the manager of the Y.M.C.A.

The box was at the head of the managers bed and was taken out from underneath the tent flap.

The robbery took place between 1930 and 2200 on 8/7/18. when the manager was at a Brigade Concert.

The box was stolen by a man with small feet.

Continued 21.

apparently wearing Australian or Ammunition boots

It is obvious that the robbery was committed by someone who knew where the box was and its contents. He endeavored first to open the box by cutting round the edges with the tin opener of his clasp knife as two incisions were made in the top. The lock was then forced open, probably with the host pick. Only the money was taken from the box which was left about 200 yards away. The box contained a couple of watches, films, papers and a number of other small articles. This would seem to show that Bedouins were not concerned in the affair.

APPENDIX 22

On the 16th July I visited the lower pool at Solomon's Pools and found two Indians (19th Lancers) one bathing and the other washing his clothes directly in the pool. A spring board had also been erected. I reported this matter to the Staff Capt 22nd Mtd Brigade and the board was removed and no further contravention of orders occurred. Explanation received from the Serjt/c Brigade Police as to why he did not report the matter was that as the spring board was erected by the Brigade Engineers, he consequently understood that bathing was allowed by Brigade arrangements.
