

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

Provost

Item number: 3/7/14

Title: Assistant Provost Marshal, Australian
Mounted Division

November 1918



AWM4-3/7/14

A.P. & S.D., Alex./³⁰⁸⁸/₁₂₂₅/3: 18/1M. W.M. & Co.



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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

Deputy Assistant Provost Marshal, Aus. Mtd. Div.

FOR

November 1918.

Signature of Officer compiling

W. J. ... Capt
D.A.P.M.

Signature of Officer Commanding

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)



Army Form C. 2118.

E11/8

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.

REF. MAP 1/250,000.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HOMS	1.11.18	—	4 th L.H.Pds left HASIE and 3 rd L.H.Pds and Divisional troops left SHAMSIN at 2300 previous night (30.10.18) and marched to Camp Area one mile N. of HOMS, on the ALLEPO ROAD, arriving 0700. Police patrol in HOMS. Policed watering area. Put 'Out of Bounds' notices in windows in town.	App A way
HOMS	2.11.18	—	Police patrol in town. Town also frequented, 2 troops by day and 1 troop by night. Parties of 10 under an officer permitted to visit town to purchase supplies. Policed watering area.	way
HOMS	3.11.18	—	Patrolled town and watering area. New order that every N.C.O or man with a party visiting town be in possession of a pass, pass to show the name of the officer in charge.	way
HOMS	4.11.18	—	Policed town and watering area.	way
HOMS	5.11.18	—	Policed town and watering areas until midday. Division left 5 th Pds moving out at 1500 for TRIPOLI, police marched with bivouac party arriving bivouac area 1700. Division arrived 2300. No water on road. Capt MULLINER stayed HOMS during absence of A.P.M., DESCORPS.	App B way
TELKALE	6.11.18	—	Left bivouac at 0600 in advance of the column. Left police to superintend watering at JISRA ASWAD, and proceeded to camp at TELKALE arriving 1300. Police on drinking water reservoir, and horse watering area. Complaint by inhabitant of TABOVB that soldiers had smashed doors and windows. Upon investigation nothing was found broken.	way
NAHR AARKA	7.11.18	—	Left 0600 ahead of column. Left police at NAHR KEBIR to superintend watering proceeded to NAHR AARKA, bivouac area at 1400. Superintended watering. Capt MULLINER arrived from HOMS by lorry.	way
MEDJELAYA	8.11.18	—	Left camp 0530 and left police for watering at BEDAWI. Left two police at junction of HOMS-TRIPOLI and ZGARTA-TRIPOLI roads to direct column. Arrived MEDJELAYA 1200. Police on watering and in MEDJELAYA village. Visited D.A.R.M. 7 th DIVISION at EL MINA re policing of TRIPOLI.	way
MEDJELAYA	9.11.18	—	Left police under 2/Lt SANDERS took over duties in TRIPOLI. Same facilities for visiting TRIPOLI as in force at HOMS. Policed water areas.	App C way
MEDJELAYA	10.11.18	—	Watering areas policed. Traffic control post and patrols in town. (TRIPOLI). 10 reinforcements for police arrived by sea from EGYPT.	way
"	11.11.18	—	Duties as for 10 th . Instructions given no civilian to ride on Govt. vehicles unless with pass from G.O.C. Police instructed accordingly.	way
"	12.11.18	—	Duties as for 10 th . News received about 1800 that Germany had been granted armistice Great excitement in town. No trouble was experienced however.	way

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)



Army Form C. 2118.

E11/9

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REF. MAP. 1/250.000.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MEDJELAYA	13.11.18	-	Policed water areas, patrol in ZGARTA. TRAFFIC control and patrols in TRIPOLI, Saw S.M.T.O. TRIPOLI re. transport of civilians and reinforcements on lorries.	way
"	14.11.18	-	Changed bazaar patrol (TRIPOLI) to mounted patrol on TRIPOLI - ELMINA road. Saw President of Municipality, ZGARTA and arranged that wreck be not sold to troops.	way
"	15.11.18	-	Police in TRIPOLI turned out on occasion of visit of G.O.C. Sherouffian army. Stronger patrol in ZGARTA in conjunction with civil police. Watery area policed. Barbours shops marked out of bounds owing to TYPHUS.	way
"	16.11.18	-	Saw Pass. Com. TRIPOLI to have cafes closed. This was not done but Military Governor made proclamation forbidding civilians selling wreck to troops. Issued 50 passes for olive pickers	way
"	17.11.18	-	Duties as usual. TRIPOLI detachment patrolled KOURE at night owing to complaints by inhabitants regarding Australian soldiers. Visited neighboring villages at night but saw no troops.	way
"	18.11.18	-	Duties as usual. Olive picking permitted in groves where troops are camped.	way
"	19.11.18	-	Duties as usual. Raided ZGARTA took names of several soldiers but they were reinforcements who had arrived in the morning.	way
"	20.11.18	-	Visited ZGARTA and watery areas. Everything satisfactory. Usual duties	way
"	21.11.18	-	Duties as before. Village patrols, watery supervised and traffic and patrols in TRIPOLI.	way
"	22.11.18	-	2 political prisoners arrived from ALEPPO and detained under guard at police quarters TRIPOLI to await boat for the South. Arrested natives with Govt. horses.	way
"	23.11.18	-	Arranged with D.A.P.M., 7 th Div. for two of the E.M.P to be attached to Div to look after civilians who were undergoing hard labor on the roads for military offences. 4 th Pds moved to new camp, no damage done to olive trees.	way
"	24.11.18	-	Visited E.S.O. MINA to complete arrangements for embarking 2 Political prisoners. Returned Govt. clothing confiscated from natives to Ordnance. Raided brothels at EL MINA at night, no arrests.	way
"	25.11.18	-	Usual duties. Political prisoners embarked S.S. ABBASSIA. Wrote Pass Com. TRIPOLI about Oran not having notices showing locked compartment on legal pass.	way
"	26.11.18	-	Golden and Egyptian A.S.C driver arrested trying to sell captured Turkish ponies in TRIPOLI.	way
"	27.11.18	-	Arranged that civil police ZGARTA make special effort to apprehend civilians selling wreck to troops.	way
"	28.11.18	-	Usual duties. Four M.M.P returned to DESCORPS to be replaced by AUS. PROV. CORPS. Two army horses found in town taken to Mobile Vets.	way
"	29.11.18	-	Summary of evidence taken on this case of 'Intent to Kill Govt. Horses'.	way
"	30.11.18	-	Visited around Supply Depot at MINA. Everything satisfactory. Reinforcements arrived for police from EGYPT.	way

W. J. Williams Capt
D.A.C.M.
Aust. Prov. Corps



WAR DIARY

E 11/1

OF

Deputy Assistant Provost Marshal, Aus. Mtd. Div..

FOR

November 1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|------|--|
| "A." | Requesting of H O M S. |
| "B." | Extracts from, and Move Tables attached to Aus. Mtd. Div. Operation Order No. 36.. |
| "b" | Policing of TRIPOLI. |
| "D." | Working of Divisional Area, MEDJELAYA. |

W. J. L. Carr
D. P. M.
Aus. Mtd. Div.

Appendix 'A'

THE PALAESTINA BANK

Requisition of H.O.M.S.



F11/2

Arriving at H.O.M.S. the morning of 1/11/18, a police patrol of four was posted in the town about 0900. This was necessary as it was feared that troops would probably damage property in the endeavour to obtain fuel. Though the town was rigidly 'Out of Bounds', waggons had to go in town to obtain fodder. In order to more completely preserve order a request was drawn from the Brigades, two troops by day and one troop at night from 1700 to 2200. A standing fixed post was placed on each of two roads leading into the town from the North, the troops being camped North of the town. Two moving patrols patrolled the outskirts of the town, one taking the Northern and the other taking the Southern portion and meeting at the Eastern and Western extremities. This guarded against soldiers entering town other than by the main road, and also embraced the Wassah Area. Two dismounted patrols worked the bazaars. On 2/1/18 permission was given for parties of 10 opranks in the charge of an officer to visit town for the purchase of supplies, and on 3/1/18 each man had to carry a pass which also showed name of the officer in charge. Two police patrols were also maintained. The behaviour of the troops was good but one or two minor complaints being made. All wine shops were marked with 'Out of Bounds' notices. But four charges were made whilst the Division was encamped, three being 'Out of Bounds' in a brothel. The permitting of parties to visit the town under an officer probably prevented many breaches of orders.

L. J. Williams Capt

Highway (part)

necessary as it was feared that...
 damage property in the endeavor to obtain fuel. Through
 the town was rapidly. Out of Beemah, weapons had to
 be in town to obtain fuel. In order to more
 completely previous order a request was drawn from
 the Brigades, two troops by day and one troop at
 night from 1700 to 2200. A ~~request~~ ^{request} ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~drawn~~ ^{drawn} ~~into~~ ^{into} the
 were placed on each of two roads leading into the
 town from the North, the troops being camped North
 of the town. Two more troops patrolled the
 outskirts of the town, one taking the Northern and
 the other taking the Eastern portion and meeting
 at the Eastern and Western extremities. This
 guarded against enemies entering town other than
 by the main road, and also embraced the Waseel area.
 Two demarcated posts marked the borders. On
 2/11/1948 permission was given for parties of 10 or more
 in the charge of an officer to visit town for the
 purchase of supplies, and on 3/1/1948 each man had
 to carry a pass which also showed name of the
 officer in charge. Two police posts were also maintained
 the behavior of the troops were good but one or two
 minor complaints being made. All minor shops were marked
 with 'Out of Beemah' notices. But few shops were being
 made which the Bureau was encouraged, these being
 'Out of Beemah' in a method. The permitting of parties
 to visit the town under an officer probably prevented
 many breaches of order.

DEUTSCHE PALÄSTINA-BANK
 BERLIN - HAMBURG

EXTRACTS FROM

Indist B.

AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION

OPERATION ORDER No. 36. DTD. 4-11-18.



E11/3

MAP. 1/250,000.

- (3) Stages, hours of starting etc. are detailed in move order attached.
- (4) 5th Cavalry Division Supplies are being maintained with great difficulty by lorries. All Unit Commanders will issue orders to ensure that, during the march to TRIPOLI, all troops immediately clear the road for all motor lorries, single or in convoy, proceeding either Eastwards or Westwards.
- (6) Field Troops and military police will be sent on ahead daily to watering areas.

W. J. L. Lant

مرفوضاً: لا

(b) Field troops and military police will be sent on ahead daily to watering areas.

(c) 5th Cavalry Division supplies are being moved to ensure that, during the march to TRIPOLI, all troops immediately ahead the road for all motor vehicles, single or in convoys, proceeding with Eastwards or Westwards.

DEUTSCHE PALÄSTINA-BANK

BERLIN - HAMBURG

BEIRUT - DAMASKUS - HAIFA - JAFFA - JERUSALEM - TRIPOLI (SYRIEN)

MOVE TABLE attached to AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION OPERATION ORDER No. 36.

E11/4

STAGE	FORMATION	STARTING POINT	HOUR OF STARTING	DATE	HALTING PLACE.	WATER.
First	4th.L.H.Bde.	HOMS Ration Dump.	1800	Nov.5.	About N of UMM HARLEIN	Before marching.
-do-	Div.Troops Column.	-do-	1845	-do-	-do-	-do-
-do-	Group No.2.	-do-	1800	Nov.6.	-do-	-do-
Second.	4th.L.H.Bde.	Opposite Head of Bivouac.	0600	Nov.6.	TEL KALE STA.	JISR ASWAD (mid-day and evening)
-do-	Div.Troops Column.	-do-	0630	-do-	-do-	-do-
-do-	Group No.2.	-do-	0600	Nov.7.	-do-	-do-
Third.	Div.Troops Column.	-do-	0630	Nov.7.	TEL HABESH STA.	mid-day NAHR KEBIR, evening NAHR AKKAR.
-do-	4th.L.H.Bde.	-do-	0730	-do-	-do-	-do-
-do-	Group No.2.	-do-	0630	Nov.8.	-do-	-do-
Fourth.	Div.Troops Column.	-do-	Instruc- tions later.	Nov.8.	Near TRIPOLI.	Instructions later.
-do-	4th.L.H.Bde.	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-	-do-
-do-	Group No.2.	-do-	-do-	Nov.9.	-do-	-do-



W. J. Williams Capt

E11/5

Appendix 2



Policing of TRIPOLI.

First police under Lt Sanders took over duty in town this morning following the arrival of Division at MEDJELAYA. A traffic control post was made at the junction of the ZGARTHA and HOMS roads, and patrols worked the bazaar. There was also a detachment of the 7th (Indian) Division police stationed in TRIPOLI. Similar facilities to those at HOMS were given to the troops here. A few complaints were made by inhabitants in the first week relative to the mis-behaviour of Australians. The French Military Governor himself complained that some Australians were in the ladies compartment on the TRIPOLI - EL MINA tram. Upon investigation I found that no notices were posted on the trams either regarding the fare, or as to the portion reserved for ladies. There were no compartments on the trams whatsoever. Of complaints made, there were very few, which, upon investigation proved to have reasonable grounds on which to base the complaint. Instances occurred of natives complaining and when told to go to a certain place to identify the culprit, or that the complaint be investigated, they failed to appear. A proclamation was made by the Military Governor forbidding the sale of alcohol to troops, but a considerable quantity is being obtained by the soldiers from natives. I have been unable to apprehend any of these offenders. Various arrests of natives in the possession of Govt. property have been made and they have resulted in the offenders being imprisoned. Every assistance is given by the Civil Police in these cases. A soldier was arrested trying to sell two captured Turkish ponies, and is to undergo trial by F.G.C.M. Notwithstanding the complaints by the local inhabitants I am of the opinion that the Australian soldier is conducting himself in a proper manner when in TRIPOLI. I raided the brothels at EL MINA on three occasions but made no arrests.

L. J. Williams Coyt

2. 2. 1941

ZGARTH and HOMS roads, and patrol worked the verges. There were also a detachment of the 1st (Indian) Division stationed in TRIPOLI. Under direction to those at HOMS were given to the Troop Area. A few complaints were made by inhabitants in the Area were relative to the misbehaviour of Arabians. The French Military Governor himself complained that some Arabians were in the Bedouin compartment on the TRIPOLI - EL MINA train. Upon investigation I found that no notice was paid on the train either regarding the fact, or as to the person involved for Bedouin. There were no compartments on the train where Arabians were. Of complaints made, there were very few, which, upon investigation, proved to have reasonable grounds on which to base the complaint. Instances occurred of nature complaining and when told to go to a certain place to identify the culprit, or that the complaint be investigated, they failed to appear. A proclamation was made by the Military Governor forbidding the sale of alcohol to troops, but a considerable quantity is being obtained by the soldiers from native. I have from words to apprehend any of these offenders. No one aware of nature in the possession of food, property, have been made and they have remained in the offenders being imprisoned. Every assistance is given by the Civil Police in these cases. A report was received trying to sell two captured Turkish rifles and to undergo trial by F.G.C.M. Misunderstanding the complaints by the local inhabitants I am of the opinion that the Arabians rather is conducting himself in a proper manner when in TRIPOLI. I visited the barracks at EL MINA on three occasions but made no arrests.

DEUTSCHE PALÄSTINA-BANK

BERLIN - HAMBURG

BEIRUT - DAMASCUS - HAIFA - TEL-AVIV

E11/5



Policy of Divisional Area.

I

On arrival at MEJDELYH I rode round the Div Area and found the following patrols were required
ZGARTA, horse watering area, and Village, also Brigade Areas 3rd + 4th Bde.

MEJDELYH horse watering area, Drinking water area, Village, and Div Troops area.

The patrols were detailed, and the work is being carried out satisfactory

II

Olive Picking

As the Division is camped in the Olive Groves and it is now the olive season, it was necessary to come to some arrangement for the picking, as natives were being kept out of the camps.

I interviewed the President of Municipality ZGARTA and arranged that passes should be issued to olive pickers, Attached Specimen.

The system is working well.

III

Drach selling

Both ZGARTA and MEJDELYH was placed "Out of Bounds" to all ranks except when on duty. (Duty includes the purchasing of Mess stores and requisites) when they have to be in possession of a pass signed by their C.O. After a few days it was found that soldiers were being supplied with Drach.

I interviewed the President of ZGARTA and the MUKHTAR of MEJDELYH on the subject and they issued orders to the inhabitants that they must cease to supply soldiers with intoxicating drinks, or they would be severely dealt with. The sale of drinks still continued, and as the inhabitants got to know my police they were unable to trace the offenders. However with the help of a Trooper (who was not a member of the police) we were able to get 4 offenders in ZGARTA. I then interviewed the President and he informed me that he had no power to deal with them.

To Government
Police

I had them arrested and handed over to the Military Governor TRIPOLI to be dealt with. He placed them in the TRIPOLI Gaol. The MUKHTAR of MEJDELYH gave me the names of 4 offenders in his village. I had them arrested, and they are also in the Gaol. I have good reasons to expect the practise will now cease.

E 11/7

PERMANENT PASS

Specimen

NAME _____ and 4 others

The above mentioned have permission to enter the Olive Grove
of No. _____ to pick olives, but for no
other purpose.

President of Municipality

Cast.

Zgarka

18/11/18



D. A. P. N.
Aust. Mtd. Div.