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Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

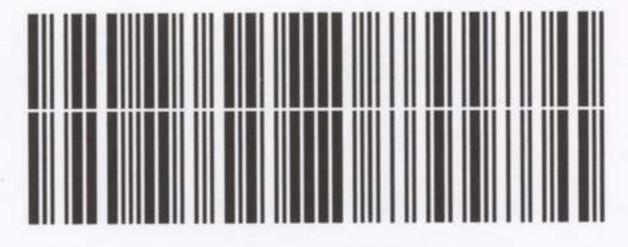
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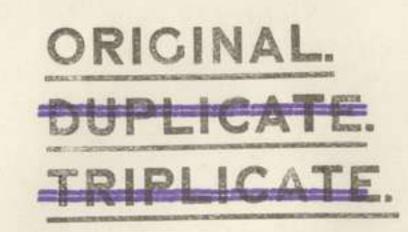
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January 1917



AWM4-3/8/6





Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

EGYPTIAN SECTION, AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

FOR

JANUARY . 1917.

VOLUME

Signature of Officer compiling

Signature of Officer Commanding.

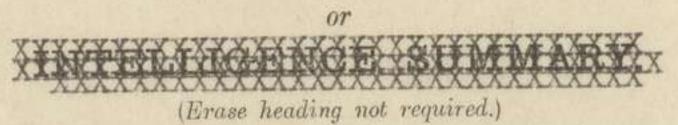
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C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps A. P. M. A. I. F. in Egypt

RCDIG1003566 AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

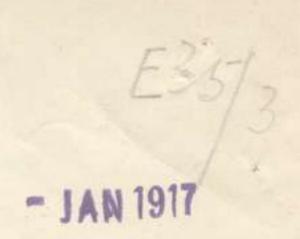
lace	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo.	I- I- I	7.	Duties as in December 1916. Captain A.F. JORDAN left Cairo for Anzac Mounted Division on 3I-12-16. Lieutenant E.D?GRIGSON takes charge of Cairo Detachment during his absence.
	4- I- I	7.	Lieutenant L. LAWRENCE marched out to Moascar for temporary duty.
	IO-I-		As it has been found that some men are in the habit of breaking off from patrols during the return of the patrol to barracks, orders have been issued that N.C.Os. in charge of patrols are to furnish Nominal Rolls certifying that all men on the patrol have returned to barracks.
	II-I-		Two men on special duty at a concert at the Anzac Hostel. No trouble occurred. Considerable trouble has been caused lately by hospital patients from the I4th A2G.H. frequenting the Bars and drinking shops in the Ezbekieh District, which are Out of Bounds, especially the Belgian Bar. Lieut. Grigson interviewed the O.C. I4th A.H. H. and complained about this, with Belgian Bar. Lieut. Grigson interviewed the O.C. I4th A.H. H. and complained about this, with the result that the latter agreed to have patients' passes stamped to the effect that the places in question are Out of Bounds, so that there can be no excuse for similar breaches of discipline in the future.
			Up to the 6th Inst. patroks were kept very busy in the Ezbekieh District, and many arrests were made for the offences of "Absence" and "Out of Bounds". After that date, however, wet weather set in and consequently things were considerably quieter.
Moasca	c. 12-		Lieutenant L. LAWRENCE takes over command of the Moascar Detachment from Liet R.A. ADAMS. A copy of orders issued by him regarding Routine and Discripline, both in the Detachment and in the Field Punishment Compound is attached as Appendix I. to this volume.
			Escort of I officer, 2 N.C.Os. and 20 other ranks on duty at Cairo Station in connection with the entraining of invalids for Australia. For duties see entry for 22-9-16.
Mo ascar	.24-I.		If other ranks taken on strength of the Corps from the Training Regiments at Moascar and transferred to the Cairo Detachment for training in police work.
ST ED S	25-I.	-I7.	The Main and Bridge Guards at the A.&. N. Z. T. C. &. D. C. Moascar were taken our from the Anzac Provost Corps by the troops at the Training Centre.

P. S. Regs., Part II.
tively. Title pages.



Volume 6.

Place Da	ate	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo. Co	25-I	- I7. nued.	attached as Appendix II. to this Volume. This arrangement will come into force from 2-2-I7. Copy of Routine Orders by Major General Sir HG.CHAUVEL, K.C.M.G., C.B., G.O.C., A.I.F. IN EGYPT dealing withthe Establishment of the Anzac Provost Corps and promotions of officers therein, also orders by the C.O. regarding promotions in the ranks to complete that Establishment, attached a Appendix III. to this Volume.	
	30 -	I-17.	Extract from Section Order No 78. "TRESS. The only authorised cap that is allowed to be worn after the stipulated hour of I700 "TRESS. The only authorised cap that is allowed to be worn after the stipulated hour of I700 "is the issued Field Cap will not be worn by N.O.O.S. or men. Action will be taken with soldiers "pattern of Field Cap will not be worn by N.O.O.S. or men. Action will be taken with soldiers "found walking about in Cairo with unauthorised headdress for being improperly dressed. Report on work done by police of Anzac Mounted Division during the month is attached as Appendix 4. to this Volume. Report on work done by the Field Troop during the Month. Appendix Y. Summary of Disposition of the Strength of the Corps as at I5-I-I7, is attached as Appendix VI. Summary of Arrests and Charges by the Cairo, Heliopolis and Moascar Detachment is attached as Appendix VII. From this it will the seen that practically the whole of the offences come under one or other of the following five headings: Absence, Out of Bounds, Drunkengess, Failing to Salute and Being Improperly Dressed. Thus while the number of charges for these offences is rather unusualy large, cases of a more serious nature are so few as to be practically negligable.	THE WAR STAND THE STAND OF THE



OF

EGYPTIAN SECTION, AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

FOR

JANUARY. 1917. 191

LIST OF APPENDICES.

Subject. No. Report on Moascar Detachment. I. Letter re escorting of time expired prisoners II. to Details. Orders re Establishment of the Corps and III. Promotions of Officers. Report on Anzac Mounted Division Police. IV. Report on Field Troop. V. Disposition of strength of the Corps. VI. summary of Arrests and Charges. VII.

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps



Volume 6. Appendix I.

will be prepared i	Hour	ectively. Title pages Original. (Erase heading not required.) Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ascar.		DUTIES OF THE MOASCAR DETACHMENT OF THE ANZAC PROVOST CORPS. JANUARY 1916.	
		The duties of the Moascar Betachment of the Corps are as follows:- I. N.C.O. and 6 men. I. N.C.O. and 3 men. I. N.C.O. and 2 men.	
		I. Various methads of working the Compound Guard were tried and eventually the following system was adopted:— The Guard of I. N.C.O. and 6 men mounts at I800 daily for a I2 hours town of duty. Of this number I. N.C.O. and 3 men remain on duty during the day on the Look- out Platform in the Compound. Orders for these Guards are as follows:— (a). NIGHT COMPOUND GUARD. I. The Guard will consist of 6 men, mounting at I800 daily for a I2 hours tour of duty. I. The Guard will be two posts, No I post from isit West Corner to the East Corner by way of the North and East sides of the Compound. No 2 post from the West Corner to the East Corner, by way of the West and South sides of the Compound. 3. Sentries will patrol their beats in a smart and soldierlike manner. 4. Sentries will not leave their post until properly relieved. 5. Sentries will challenge all persons approaching their posts between Retreat and Reveille. 6. Sentries will take charge of all Government Property in the vic inity of their posts. 7. Sentries will permit no unauthorised person to approach the enclosure. 8. Sentries will immediately report to the Gommander of the Guard any unusual occurrence. 8. Sentries will immediately report to the Gommander of the Guard any unusual occurrence. 10. Proper compliments will be paid to all officers. 11. From the hour of 2100 sentries will call the half hours, No I at once reporting if all is not well. 12. The vicinity of the Guard tent will be thoroughly cleansed before the Guard is dismounted, amd marched off.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

RCDIG1003566

Volume 6. Appendix I.

WAR DIARY

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Confidential. Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages

(Erase heading not required.) Original. will be prepared in manuscript. Page 2. Remarks and references to Summary of Events and Information Hour Place Date Appendices Absolute silence must be maintained at allhours. (b) DAY GUARD ON LOOK-OUT STAGE. The Guard will consist of I N.C.O. and 3 men, to be detailed from the previous night guard. The Guard will mount at 0600 and dismount at 1730, or when relieved by the Night Guard. POST. Lookout Stage in the F. P. Compound. 4. The N.C.O. in charge of the Guard will be held personally responsible that each sentry is properly posted, and relieved evry two hours. 5. The N.C.O. 1/c Guard will red out duties individually to each member of the Guard before mounting. 6. The sentry will check and report to the N.C.O. i/c Guard, and the latter to the N.C.O. i/c Compound, any breach of the following Compoung rules: -7. Sentries must at al times be on the alert. Prisoners are not permitted to:-Smoke, or have pipes, matches, tobacco or cigarettes or like material in their possession. 2. Talk, sing, whistle or make any indecent act or gesture. Have any reading material, writing material, (with the exception of safe custody and F:P. men on Sunday afternoons.) playing cards or other like material in their possession. To approach the wires of the Field Punishment Compound, unless on some specified duty. Wash or dry clothing, except on such days as may be laid down by the Governor. 500 No unauthorised person is permitted to approach the Compound. The sentry will not leave his post until properly relieved. at this data is attached. A plan of the F.P. Compound at this cate is attached, after the variety Take place with the attacked to a fate with the deary 2 & 1. As these two Guards were taken over by the Training Centre on 25-I-I7. We are not concerned with the duties performed by them. The Bridge Guard was again taken over by the Anzac Provost Corp. at a later date under a new system, particulars of which will be shewn in due course. 4. The duties of the Canteen Guard are to regulate traffic and preserve order in the Canteens during the hours in which they are open for business. 5. The duties of the Aerodrome patrol are to prevent unauthorised persons from trespassing on these landship regree unde off the the P. F. Figs Cy 18/14.

Volume 6. Appendix I.

Page 3.

Original

APPENDIX II. TO VOLUME 6. OF WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIANPROVOST CORPS. MONTH OF JANUARY 1917.

Letter re Time-expired Prisoners.

Military Governor, Citadel Military Prison Cairo.

D. 92. 25-I-I7.

I received a request from the A.P.MW Kantara to furnish an escort for a

discharged prisoner of the I2th L.H.Regt sent to him by you.

I shall be glad if, for the future, wheb any members of the A.I.F. are dued for discharge, and the Regiments have not made arrandements to take delivery, if you will notify my O.C. Detachment, Cairo, at Kasr el Nil, who will take over and dispose of prisoners Time expired.

TheCorps telephone number at Kasr el Nil is 2889, and it will save consider;

ble amount of trouble.

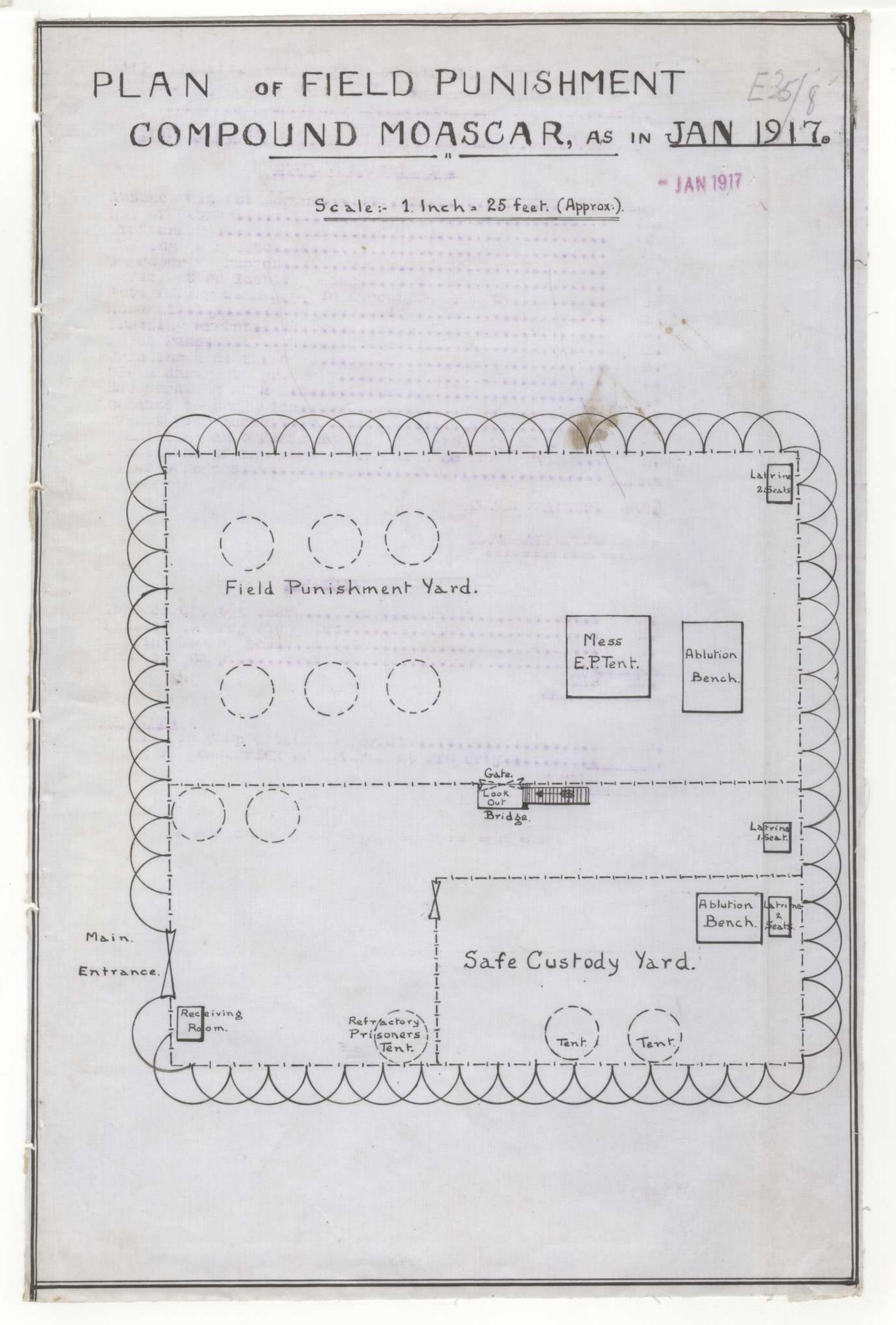
Detail Camp at Moascar.



Sd A.F. JORDAN Capt,
A.P.M. A.&.N.Z.M.DIV. and
C.O. Egyptian Section, AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORBS

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provest Corps

- JAN 1917



APPENDIX III. TO VOLUME 6 OF WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS. MONTH OF JANUARY 1918.

Original

EXTRACT FROM ROUTINE ORDER NO 3 BY Major General Sir H.G. CHAUVEL, K.C.M.G., C.B., G.O.C., A.&.N.Z.MID DIVISION.

PROVISIONAL ESTABLISHMENT, ANZAC PROVOST CORPS, EGYPTIAN SECTION. Anzac Provost Corps, Egyptian Section.

All Temporary Ranks keld by Corporals of the Military Police With Headquarters, Division and Brigades, are permitted to be keld whilst those at present holding same are so employed. Whilst those at present holding same are so employed. Corporal will be made above the number laid down herein.

With reference to the above, the following notice was published by the C.O., Egyptian Section Anzac Provost Corps, in Section Order No 181 of 2-2-17.:
Egyptian Section Anzac Provost Corps, in Section Order No 181 of 2-2-17.:
Egyptian Section Anzac Provost Corps, in Section Order No 181 of 2-2-17.:
Egyptian Section Anzac Provost Corps, in Section Order No 181 of 2-2-17.:
With reference to the attached Edtablishment. There are a number of promotions to be no made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made, and all such will be awarded to the most zealous and soldierly members of the made and

EXTRACT FROM LIST NO 8 OF APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS ETC IBSUED BY G.O.C. A.&.N.Z.MTD DIV.

Tobe ASSISTANT PROVOST MARSHAL.

Capt. A.F. Jordan, A.P.C., vice Major J.H. Bisdee V.C. 12th L.H. Regt. (To Regimental duty.) in addition to duties as C.O. Anzac Provost Corps, Date 3-1-17.

To be LIEUTENANTS.

2nd Lieut P.J.Martin.

2nd Lieut P.J.Martin.

2nd Lieut L.Lawrence.

2nd Lieut L.Lawrence.



- JAN 1917 535/4

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INFANTRY SECT.	2.	-	_	1.	-	1.	1.	6.	-	-	7.	-	-	84.	14.	_	_	-	Additional Establish. (AMD.RO.5-10.14-3-17.)
	7.	1	1	1	1.	1.	2.	17.	1.	1.	16.	1.	139.	84.	273	167.	2.	169.	
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	7.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	2,	17.	1.	1.	16.	1.	139.	84.	273	167	2.	169.	
MO	UNTEI	SECT	[• (a	}-	Incl	udes	A.P	M. A.					Control of the Contro		THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	S will		k as R	·S·M·

(c). 50% of Other Ranks on Div & Bde HQRS may be granted temp. rank of Corporal whilst so employed.

(d). Staff Sergeant and Orderly Room Corporal at Moascar for Field Punishment Compound.

INFANTRY SECTION. (e).Staff Sergeant and Orderly Room Corporal for Cairo Detachments.

JAN. 1917 CORPS

JAN. 1917 CORPS

TUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps

JAN 1917

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

APPENDIX IV. TO VOLUME 6. OF WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS. JANUARY 1917.

Report on work done by police of Anzac Mounted Division during the month.

The Division was stationed at El Arish. The usual police duties were performed. The following is an extract from the report by Capt. A.J.Jordan, A.P.M., Anzac Mtd Division to A.P.M. Desert Column, for the week ending 4-1-16.

"Major J.H.BISDEE V.C., having returned to his unit, I took over the duties of A.P.M. on the 31st December 1916.

"The week has been principally taken up with a tour of inspection round the various Brigades in the Division, and I have "personally inspected all the police with the exception of those on the 2nd L.H.Brigade, who are at present back at "Hassaniya. The whole of the police are working satisfactorily.

"With regard to the destruction of trees, crops etc. This has now practically ceased, and no cases of this

"offence have been brought up.

"some difficulty arose earlier in the week with the natives who work on the railway, and it was found that the "area in which they were working was in a most insanitary condition. The officer in charge of each party was interviewed "and proper latrines were built, with the result that the trouble has now ceased.

"Police still patrol the beach to prevent gallpping of horses along the sand, but very few cases of this are

"to be seen now.

"The 1st Imperial Camel Brigade have now appointed 1 N.C.O. and 9 men to act as police for their own Brigade, and it is my intention to inspect them on first available opportunity."

On the night of the 8th January the Division moved out to the attack on RAFA. Police performed the usual duties of directing and regulating traffic, collecting stragglers and protecting the property of civilian inhabitants. On the capture of the position, ally ranks were fully employed in collecting and disarming the prisoners, and assisting in escorting them back to El Arish.

On arrival there the same procedure was adopted as with the prisoners captured at Maghdaba (See report for December 1916.) except that, whereas the Maghdaba prisoners were dealt with in the yard of the Military Governor's offices in El Arish, these were kept in a specially erected wire compound about half a mile outside the town. The work was completed by midday on the 11th. The following is the total of prisoners dealt with:-

Unwounded Prisoners. 8

Admitted to Hospital. 9

TOTALS. 38. 1. 1541. 1580.

s Includes 1 German Officer and 12 German N.C.Os. Machine gunners.

e Includes I German Officer and 1 German machine gunner.

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provest Corps
A. P. M. ... A. I. F. in Egypt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

JAN, 1917

APPENDIX IV to Volume 6 of War Diary of Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps. Page 2.

with reference to the Provisional Establishment of the Corps. (Appendix III. to this volume.) G.O.C.
Anzac Mtd Division approves of 50% of Divisional and Brigade Police being granted the rank Temporary zer Corporal

from 25-1- 17., whilst so employed.

On January 17th a special patrol of one man from the 3rs L.H. and N.Z.M.R. Brigades was instituted at Kilo 152 station for the purpose of preventing troops from scattering empty tins and other rubbish about the station area and enforcing sanitary regulations generally. Hours from 0700 to 1230 and from 130 to 1800 daily. These Brigade also supply police on the canteen at MA'ASAID during hours of business.

on the same date captain Jordan was relieved by Lieut R.A. ADAMS as he had to proceed to Cairo on business

connected with the Corps. He returned on the 22nd.

The following is an extract form report by Captain Jordan for week ending 26-1-17.

"During my absence Lieut Adams carried on the duties, and visited evry Brigade in the Division, and he sreports that all Brigade police a e performing their duties satisfactorily. During the week in all 24 prisoners of war were evacuated.

"Since my return I have again visited the Brigades, finding all correct, but have had occasion to commun-

"icate with the Administrative Commandant on one or two matters, viz-

"1. The practice of natives of the Labour Corps, working on the railway, using the trench along the beach

"as a latrine, and I have requested that suitable latrines be dug for their use.

"2. The practice of officers using the E.E.F. canteen out of the hours allotted to them, which inconveniences

"the canteen people very much.

"Other than this there is nothing of importance to report."

Discipline in the Division during the month has been good. No offences of a serious nature occurred, either during or after the occupation of El Arish, and the few cases of destruction of timber etc., for firewood, have been caused more through ignorance of the orders than with any intention of committing an offence.

The health of the Detachment has been good, but the horses have suffered considerably from exposure as the

weather has been continually cold and wet.

JAN. 1917 GORESTRALIAN PROVOST CORP.

C. O. Formilian Spelling Anstralian Proposet Comes

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps A. P. M. A. I. F. in Egypt - JAN 1917

APPENDIX V. TO VOLUME 6. OF WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

JANUARY 1917.

Report on the work done by the Field Troop during the month of January 1917.

on the 8th January 1917 we received instructions to move out from El Arish, and the next morning the attack on RAFA was made. My troop was attached to the 1st A.L.H.Regiment, which was the first regiment to enter Palestine.

A very severe days fighting took place. My troop went into action on the left of the 1st L.H.Regiment at about 0800, attacking position C5. At about 1300, before that position was carried, I received orders to retire and take up an advanced position on the right of the regiment to cover the retreat of a squadron of the 3rd L.H. Regiment which had advanced too farm and which was in need of support. This duty was successfully accomplished, and the final bayonet charge, which carried the whole position, and in which my troop participated, took place at about 1815. After assisting in the collection of prisoners and abandoned material, we marched back to El Arish, halting at SHEIK ZOWALID for water and rations and a few hours of much needed rest. The casualties sustained by my troop during the action were one man, No 503 L/Cpl WALLER, killed, and one man severely wounded.

On arrival at El Arish the Regiment to which I was attached was at one sent out to the Outpost Line at EL BURJ. During our stay there numerous patrols were carried out passed SHEIK ZOWAIID to RAFA, and on several

occasions a few prisoners were captured.

At the end of January, owing to the Brigade to which I was attached going into reserve, my troop was

posted to the 7th A.L.H.Regiment, which was then at MA 'ASAID.

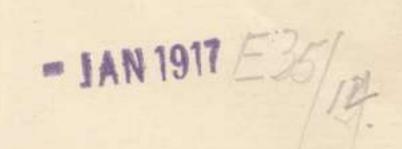
After the battle of Rafa, the personnel of the troop was gradually changed by withdrawing the men in batches of from six to ten, and replacing them with men from Moascar and Cairo.

JAN. 1917 CORPS

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps
A. P. M. A. I. F. in gypt

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JAN 1917



APPENDIX VI. TO WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIANNSECTION, AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

Disposition of strength of the Corps as at 15-1-17.

	Infa	ntry.	LeHee				
	orrs.	Q.Rs.	Offs.	O.Rs.	TOTAL		
Cairo	2.	65.		18.	2.	83 .	
Heliopolis	-	13.	1.	19.	1.	32.	
Moascar	1.	11.	1.	43.	2.	54.	
Port Said	-	7.	-	3.	-	10.	
Brigade Police	-	6.	1.	32.	1.	38.	
Field Troop	-	2.	1.	27.	1.	29.	
Hospital	-	4.	-	6.	-	10.	
Ein Shems(Att.C.T.C.)	-	-	-	1.	-	1.	
TOTALS	3.	108.	4.	149.	7.	257.	

Criquial.

JAN. 1917 CORPS

. C. Egypunn coolon, Australian rovost Corps
A. P. M. A. I. F. in Egypt

APPENDIX VII. TO WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS. VOLUME 6, JANUARY 1917.

SUMMARY OF ARRESTS AND CHARGES FOR MONTH OF JANUARY	1917.
CAIRO & HELIOPOLIS.	JAN 1917
Absence without leave	166.
Drunkenness	49.
Failing to salutes	.91.
Improperly Dressed	18.
Deficient of Identity Disc.	lle
Interfering with M.P. in execution of duty	l.
Breaking arrestassessessessessessessessessessessessesse	3.
False Pass	1.
Greating a disturbance	
Wiful damage to property	1.
MASQUETEGING AS & Wedgessessessessessessessessessessesses	le
Overstaying Leave	5.
Committing an offence against the property of an	3.
inhabitant of the country in which he was serving	1.
Minor Offences	10
TOTAL CHARGES.	438.
TOTAL ARRESTS.	325.
HOASCAR	
Absence without leave	2.
Meglect to prejudice ets:	2.
Falling to salutessessessessessessessessessessessesses	18.
Breaking Camp	-
TOTAL	800
NATIVES	
Hawking in Camp without a permit	23.
Tours of the benefit of Government BlebelfAssesses	24.

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provest Corps.
A. P. M. A. I. F. in Egypt

