

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/4/12 Part 6

Title: General Staff, General
Headquarters, Mediterranean
Expeditionary Force

March 1916



AWM4-1/4/12PART6

SECRET

1/349

From Chief, Egyptforce.

To Chief, London.

Agot B



A.M. 318.

25/3/18.

Desp. 1550.

Birdwood wishes to proceed to LONDON with White to discuss with you the question of his charter with Australian Government as he is not in agreement with my views which I sent you by last mail in my G.S. 113/11. I have granted permission as his Headquarters is proceeding to FRANCE shortly, and he can rejoin there.

Copies to :-

O.
O.(b)
G.-in-C.
G.S.S.
A.
A.M.S.

Filed G.S. 113/11.
" G.S. Cables.

11/350

W.P.

SECRET

M.P.H.C.



From:- Chief, Egyptforce.
To:- Sirdar.

No. A.M. 318.

25/3/16.

Desp. 1605.

In continuation of my A.M. 301 cipher, I have appointed Captain Mitchell R.N. to organize arrangements for patrolling ASSUAN - WADI HALFA reach. He is now engaged in finding out how many boats are available and in making arrangements for fitting them with guns and manning them with naval ratings. I know Mitchell can be relied on to push on preparations with the utmost rapidity and thoroughness. I will keep you informed as to how he is getting on.

Copies to :- C.
O(b).
C-in-C.
C.S.S.
I.
A.
Q.

Filed C.S. 2/28/1.
" C.S. Cables.

//35/

SECRET



W.R.
M

M.H.D.

From:- G.H.Q.
To:- (West Force.
(Communications.

O.A. 214.

25/3/16.

Desp. 1820.

Concentrate South African Brigade at
ALEXANDRIA as soon as possible.
Addressed West Force repeated Communications.

Copies to :-- O.
O(b).
C.G.S.
A.
Q.

Filed G.S.Z/45.
" G.S.Cables.

SECRET

G.S. 2/45.

No.

Date

G.H.Q. - MEH

357

25th March, 1915

General Officer Commanding,
Western Frontier Force.

In confirmation of wire No. O.A. 214., please arrange for the South African Infantry Brigade to be concentrated at ALEXANDRIA as soon as possible.

The South African Field Ambulance now at MEH will accompany the Brigade when it leaves EGYPT.

Sgt C. P. Dawnay
for Lt. Col. ...

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :- Q.
A.

SECRET

1/353



W.F.

9⁵ March, 6

Inspector General Of Communications.

Instructions have been issued to General Officer Commanding Western Force to concentrate the South African Brigade at ALEXANDRIA as soon as possible.

The South African Field Ambulance, now at MEK, will accompany the South African Brigade when it leaves EGYPT.

Sgt A.P. Dawson

for Lt Col. h

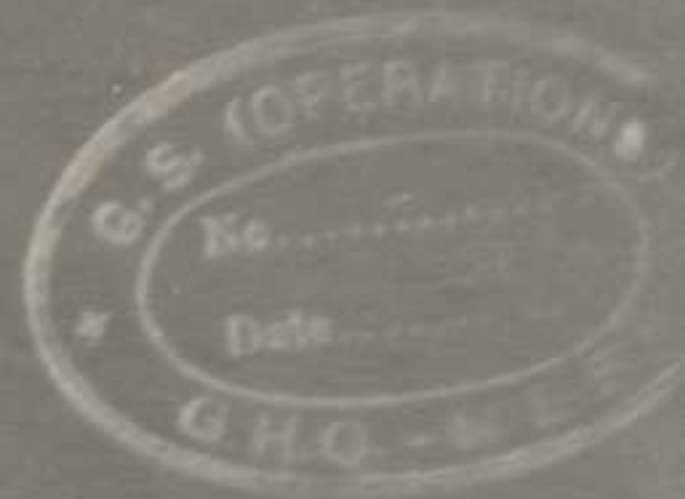
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :-

- A.
- Q.

SECRET

1/354



From:- Chief, Egyptforce.

To:- Chief, London.

A.M. 319.

25/3/16.

Desp. 1940.

Evening Report. Ref. my A.M. 248 of
11th. A patrol sent out by ANZAC to reconnoitre
water supply at MOYA HARAB establishes that there
are over 100,000 gallons in the cisterns but that
it is very difficult of access. The cisterns are
cut into limestone rock at foot of cliffs.

Copies to :-
O.
O(b).
C-in-C.
C.G.S.
I.
A.
Q.
M.G.R.A.
E-in-C.
D.A.S.

Filed G.S. Z/29.
" G.S.Cables.

W.D.

SECRET

1/355

G.S. Z.45.

Apppt F



General Officer Commanding,

1st A. & N.Z. Army Corps.
2nd

It has been decided that the New Zealand Division will follow the 1st Australian Division to FRANCE.

Instructions regarding the departure of this Division will be sent to you in due course.

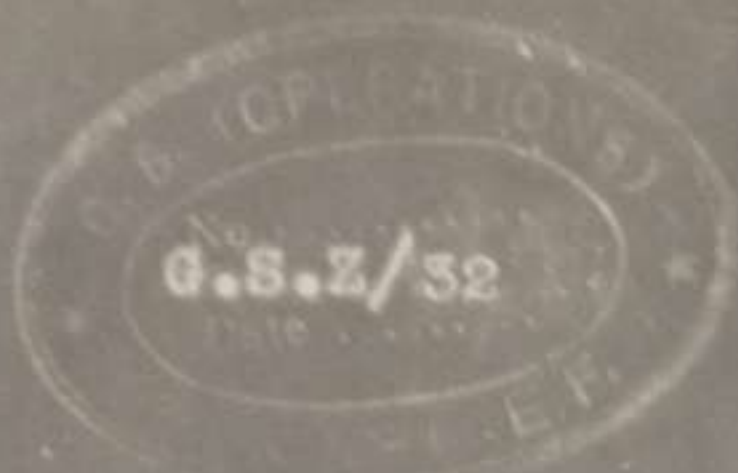
It is improbable that the embarkation will commence before April 5th.

(sd) P. P. Dawson
for Lt Col G. H.

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

G. H. Q.
25th March, 1918.

copy 159



W.D.

SECRET

1/356

Appt G.

Vice Admiral,
Naval Commander-in-Chief,
East Indies.

25th March, 1916.

Sir,

I have made a full enquiry into the question of patrolling the coast westward to SOLLUM.

I find that horses are unsuitable for the work and owing to a shortage of camels I regret to say that I am at present unable to undertake this duty.

I intend, however, as soon as camels are available, to arrange for the patrolling of the coast 25 miles to the East and West of both MERSAH MATRUH and SOLLUM. These patrols will stop gun and supply running but the assistance of Naval patrols will still be required to prevent submarines shelling our posts along the coast, and to protect supply ships proceeding to MERSAH MATRUH and SOLLUM.

I will inform you as soon as the camel patrols at these two places have been organized.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

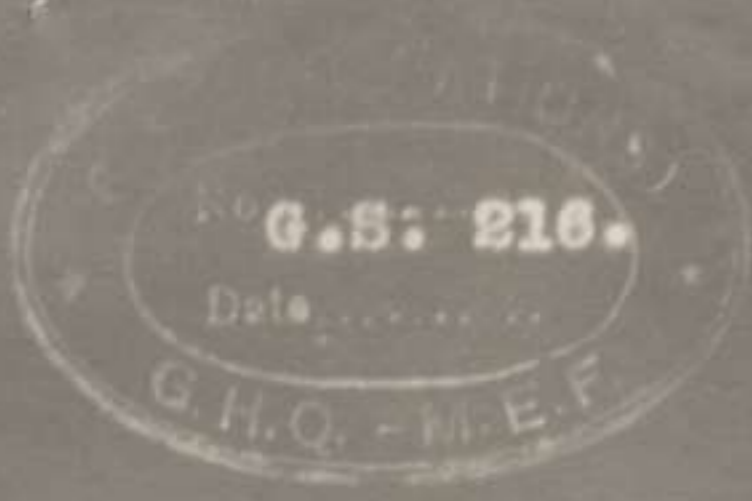
Your obedient Servant,

(sd) H. Lydenbell Major Gen
for Col

Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1/357

W-R



Ampt H

25th March, 6

General Officer Commanding,
A. & N. Z. Forces.

Referring to your 136/136, dated 20/3/16., it has been decided after full consideration, not to transfer the Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train to the Navy.

In these circumstances, and as you are not in favour of the disbandment of the unit, I think it is desirable that it should continue, as at present, part of the land forces, an employment in which it has already proved its value both on the Peninsula and in Egypt.

(Signature) C. P. Dawney
Re. A. & N. Z.

for
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1/357



Appx 5

25th March, 1916

General Officer Commanding,
9th. Army Corps.

Attached letter has been received from the
Egyptian Army.

Please say whether you desire to keep any
of the articles mentioned.

Sgt C. P. Dawson
Lt. Col. G.S.

for
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1/359

War Office, Egyptian Army,

CAIRO.

22nd. March, 1916.

E/Local/2962.

General Headquarters,

Mediterranean Expeditionary Force.

Ismailia.

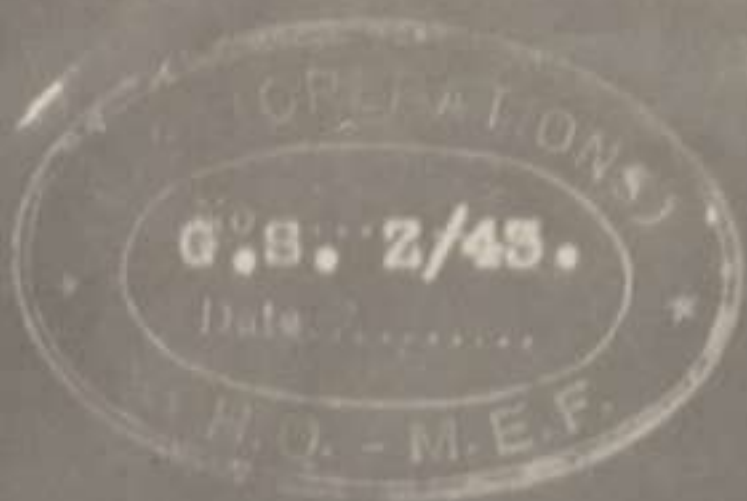
On relief of the 2nd Battalion Egyptian Army at TOR and ABU ZENIEMA, by the 14th. Sikhs, a quantity of Guns, Ammunition, Grenades Etc., was handed over to the relieving unit as per list attached.

Will you kindly inform me whether it is desired that these articles remain on loan to the British Army for the present, as, in the event of this course being undesirable, it is requested that the above-mentioned guns etc., may returned to the E.A. Ordnance Dept., Citadel, Cairo.

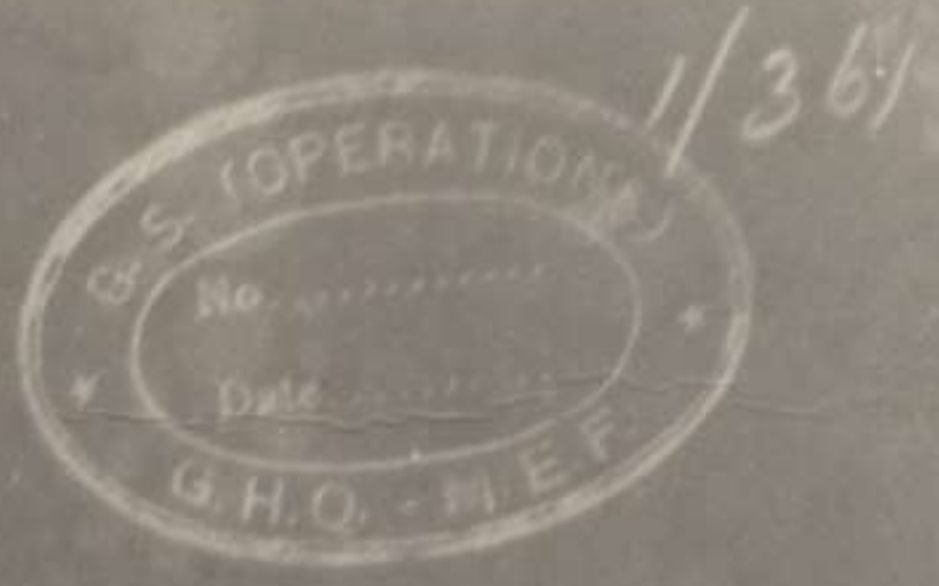
(Sd) C.C.Godwin, Captain,
General Staff Officer,
Egyptian Army.

1/360

- 2 Howitzer Guns Mark II.
- 2 Brushes for Guns.
- 2 Big Iron for cleaning Guns.
- 2 Small Iron for cleaning Guns.
- 2 Tai Guns.
- 2 Needles for Guns.
- 103 Boxes for Guns Ammunition, and other things.
- 985 Complete full Garland.
- 989 Detonator No. 6.
- 7 Dummy Bombs.
- 1045 Hunt Cartridge No. 12.
- 1941 Powder No. 3.
- 1922 Powder No. 2.
- 993 Moving for Bomb.
- 50 Wire hand for Bomb.
- 4 Broken Dummy Bombs.



Handwritten initials and scribbles
SECRET
Appet K



25 March, 6

Officer Commanding,
5th Wing,
Royal Flying Corps.

The Commander-in-Chief is extremely gratified at the results of the air raid carried out yesterday at EL HASSANA.

The officers did their work with the dash and skill for which the Royal Flying Corps has made itself so famous. The Commander-in-Chief fully realises the long and careful preparation of machines which is necessary before a raid of this kind can be undertaken, and he wishes particularly to express his appreciation of the excellent work done by the non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Flying Corps in connection with this raid.

Will you please convey to all concerned the contents of this memorandum.

Signature: Major-General A. Lynden Bell

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1/362

SECRET

From:- War Office,
To:- G.M.Q.

M.H.A

14795.cipher. S.D.S.

25/5/16.
26/5/16.

Desp. 1045.
Recd. 0605.
Decd. 0625.

Your G.M.Q.T. 298.

Can the embarkation of the New Zealand Division be expedited by leaving some of the details of equipment required to be completed on arrival in FRANCE? If so, please report full particulars. It is most important to expedite the arrival of the Division in FRANCE, and also to avoid keeping ships waiting empty.

Copies to :- G for action.
C-in-C.
G.C.S.
O.
O(b).
A.

*- 2 cables
2/49*

1/263

W.D.



From:- Chief, Egyptforce.

To:- War Office,

Mypt B.

A.M. 320.

26/3/16.

Desp. 1005.

Your 14674. cipher D.S.D. dated 22nd.

Progress in formation of Brigade Machine Gun Companies up to date is as stated in my A.M. 162, February 22nd., except 42nd Division, not yet complete in equipment or personnel. Formation of Machine Gun Companies for 53rd and 54th Divisions and for each dismounted Brigade is in hand and personnel is under training. Progress, however, depends on rate of delivery of Lewis Guns. The 10th., 27th., and 28th. are training Lewis Gun personnel, and when the Lewis Guns become available, Brigade Machine Gun Companies will be formed.

Copies to :- O.
 O(b).
 C.G.S.
 A.
 Q.
 D.O.S.

Filed G.S.90.
 " G.S.Cables.

1/364

DD

Mypot C



From: G. H. Q.
To: A. H. Q. SALONICA.

A.M. 322. 26/3/16. Desp. 1205.

Do not understand your QA 438 regarding pack transport.
No change in policy as regards offensive is contemplated. What
is your object in this correspondence with War Office?

Copies to:-

- O.
- O(b).
- C.G.S.
- Q.

Filed G.S. 132.
" G.S. Cables.

W.D



App 74 D

From
Chief, Egyptforce.
To
Troopers, London.

A.M.325.

26/3/16.

Desp. 1225.

Have found it necessary to establish one small Advanced Base Depot at SALONICA consequent on withdrawal of Divisional Base Depots to ALEXANDRIA. Establishment, one Commanding Officer, one Acting Adjutant, one acting Sergeant Major, one acting Quartermaster sergeant and one clerk. Organisation three companies each consisting of one company commander, one company quartermaster sergeant and one H.C.O. Covering authority requested.

Copies to:-

- O.
- O(b).
- C.G.S.
- A.

Filed G.S. 181.
" G.S. Cables.

1/366

WH

SECRET



From Chief, Egyptforce.

App+E

To Troopers.

A.M. 324.

26/3/16.

Desp. 2135.

After despatch of guns mentioned in your 14648 cipher S.D.2 there will be no more 6 inch howitzers in this country. Also there will be practically no H.E. for 18 pounders and 4.5 howitzers in EGYPT after supply demanded from INDIA has been met. SALONIKA has only 10 % H.E. for 18 pounders and 65 % for 4.5". This merely for your information as I do not think either 6" howitzers or H.E. are required in EGYPT at present.

Copies to :-

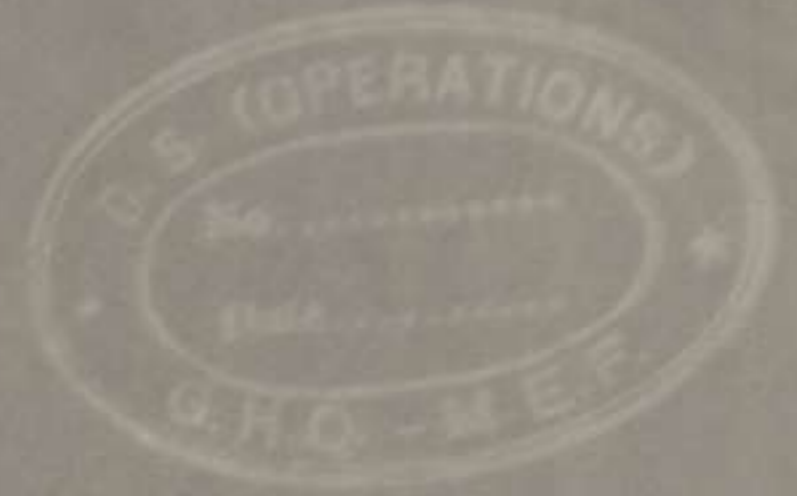
- O.
- O.(b)
- G.S.
- M.G.R.A.
- Q.

Filed G.S. 224.
 " G.S. Cables.

SECRET

26th March 1916.

G.O.O.,

9th Army Corps.
-----

In accordance with instructions received from the War Office, preparations are being made to re-equip the 42nd Division including 3rd Dismounted Brigade, on the following scale, in case it should be found necessary to send them out of Egypt :-

- (a) Transport will be on scale laid down in Salonika War Establishments No.3 except that no Small Arm Ammunition Section of Ammunition Columns for Infantry Brigades will be required.
 - (b) 18-pounder Brigades will be as laid down in War Establishments Part VIII, as amended by Army Order dated 1st November 1915 page 6. The Howitzer Brigade (5" Howitzers) will be as laid down in Part VIII unamended page 33.
 - (c) Field Ambulances will be as in War Establishments Part VIII as amended by Army Order dated 1st November 1915 page 27.
2. 42nd Divisional Train less Supply details would accompany the Division. As this train is detached it would be organized under G.H.Q. orders.
 3. No Pioneer Battalion would accompany the Division.
 4. Ordnance personnel would accompany the Division.

(Sgd.) A.Lynden-Bell,

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :-

Q.
M.G.R.A.
A.

SECRET

26th March 1916.



G.O.C.,
9th Army Corps.

In accordance with instructions received from War Office, preparations are being made to equip the following units with Horse Transport, in case it should be necessary to send them outside Egypt :-

- 9th Army Corps Headquarters Signal Co.
- FF and HH Cable Sections.
- W5 Wagon Wireless Telegraph Section.

The personnel of the Wireless Section is at present at Salonika, and instructions are being issued to send it to Egypt.

The vehicles and equipment of the unit are in the Signal Depot at Alexandria.

(Sgd.) A.Lynden-Bell,
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :-

- Q.
- D.A.S.
- A.

SECRET

26th March 1916.

G.O.C.,
15th Army Corps.



In accordance with instructions received from the War Office, preparations are being made to re-equip the 11th Division on the following scale, in case it should be found necessary to send it out of Egypt :-

(a) Transport will be on scale laid down in Salonika War Establishments No.3, except that no Small Arm Ammunition Sections of Ammunition Columns for Infantry Brigades will be required.

(b) 18-pounder Brigades will be as laid down in War Establishments Part VIII, as amended by Army Order dated 1st November 1915 page 6.

The Howitzer Brigade (5" Howitzers) will be as laid down in War Establishments Part VIII unamended page 33.

The personnel and animals of the 3 18-pdr. Batteries set free will be employed to provide personnel and animals for the Howitzer Brigade.

(c) Field Ambulances as in War Establishments Part VIII as amended by Army Order dated 1st November 1915, page 27.

2. The Supply details of the train at present with the Division would not accompany the Division.
3. Ordnance personnel would accompany the Division.

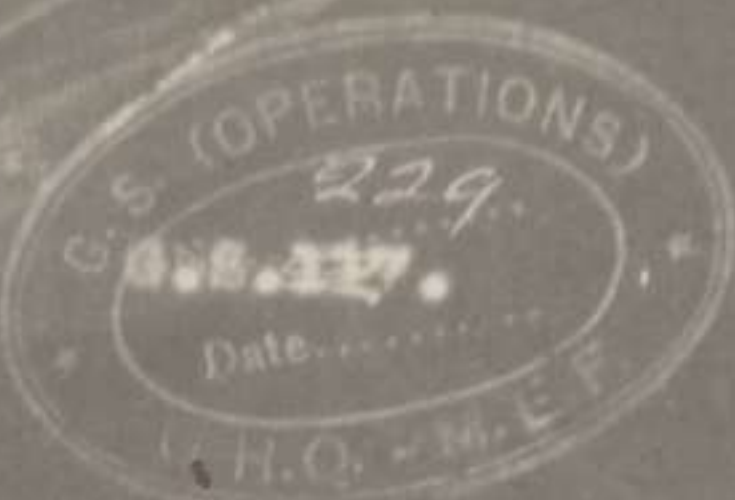
(Sgd.) A.Lynden-Bell,

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :-

Q.
M.G.R.A.
A.

1/370



W.D.

App G.

The Secretary,
War Office, London, S.W.

[Signature]
March, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to request that sanction be given for an establishment of additional Military Foot Police and Military Mounted Police for duty in connection with the control of Military passenger traffic by train and road between the various stations on the Suez Canal. At present many thousands of natives are employed in the Canal Zone and there is a great number of camel convoys on the move in addition to ordinary military traffic: the Egyptian Civil Police, efficiently as they deal with natives, cannot adequately deal with the military traffic and the large force of natives working for military purposes which now exists. I have therefore provisionally sanctioned an additional establishment of -

Staff Sergeants and Sergeants.

Other Ranks.

5
2

60
20

M.F.P.
M.M.P.

and request that this may be confirmed. I propose to call this force "Suez Canal Military Police".

I have the honour to be,

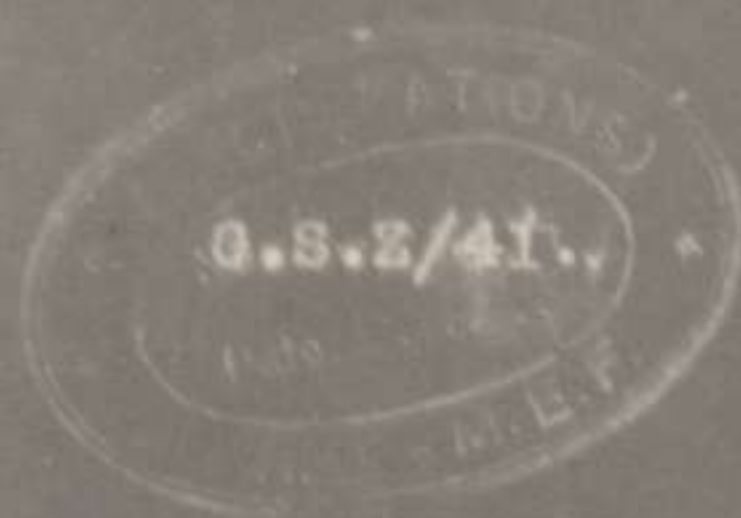
Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature: G. A. Lynden Bell]

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copy to A.



WR

1/371

SECRET

Murray H

His Excellency The Sirdar,

KHARTOUM.

26th March, 1916.

Sir,

I should be glad if you would kindly allow me to retain the services of No. 1 Squadron, Egyptian Army Cavalry at DEIRUT, and also the detachment of the 6th. Regiment of the Egyptian Army at ASSUAN.

I understand that Sir John Maxwell agreed with you to despatch a brigade of British infantry to KHARTOUM, and if you wish me to send it, I will of course do my best to comply with your wishes. At the same time I earnestly hope that the necessity for sending more British troops to KHARTOUM may not arise, as owing to the number of troops withdrawn from EGYPT to FRANCE, the force under my command is at present only just large enough to carry out its functions.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(sd) A. J. Murray

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

W.D.
Appx J.
D.Q.M.G.



In view of the very great use which the Ford cars have proved for patrol work and other work of similar nature in the Western Desert, I am very anxious to collect as many of these cars as can possibly be spared from other duties with a view to forming a Light Car Scout Corps.

Judging by the appearance of the front gate, G.H.Q. could certainly dispense with the use of these Ford cars or most of them, and I imagine that the same is true of other staffs. Possibly you also know of Ford cars being used on other than staff duties, which could also be replaced by some other type, or could be made available by more rigid economy of cars.

Please let me have your views as soon as possible; what I should like would be from 30 to 40 cars.

(Incl) *A.R.B.*

26.3.16.

C. G. S.

W.A

Appendix

1/373

From. War Office.
To. G.H.Q. Egyptforce.



4111 S.D. 2. (Code)

28/3/16.

27-3-16

Despd. 1615.

Recd. 0615.

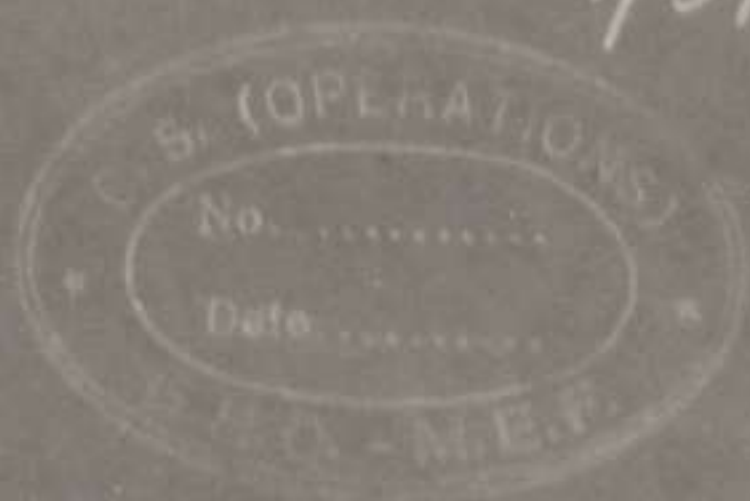
Dec' 0700.

Your AM. 317. My telegram No. 2892 dated
25th February, authorized one A.D.M.S. for sanitary duties
for each Corps Headquarters. Medforce.

Copies to :--

- C.
- " O(b).
- C.G.S.
- A.
- D.M.S.
- Filed G.S. 27/45/1.
- " G.S. Cables.

1/374



W 9

From G.H.Q. Egyptforce.

To War Office.

A.M. 327.

26/3/18.

Desp. 1115.

Your 4111 code S.D.S.

Regret our A.M. 317 was not clear. Our query is whether a Deputy Director of Medical Services is allowed for Corps Headquarters in addition to Medical Officer and A.D.M.S. for sanitary duties.

Copies to :-

- O.
- O.(b)
- G.S.S.
- A.
- D.M.S.

Filed G.S. 45/1.
" G.S. Cables.

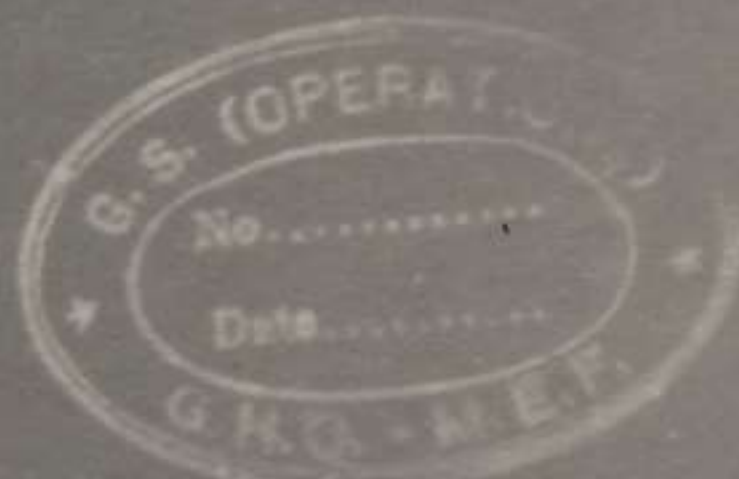
WA
From:- Egyptforce.
To:- A.H.Q., SALONICA.

A.M. 538. 27/3/16. Desp. 1940.

Your G.B.511.cipher. Regret demands for other theatres preclude compliance your request for another reserve park. Consider you are sufficiently mobile now to undertake any operations applicable to policy laid down.

Copies to :- O.
O(b).
C.G.S.
A.
Q.

Filed G.S. 182.
" G.S.Cables.



WA
From:- A.H.Q., SALONICA.
To:- G.H.Q., Egyptforce.

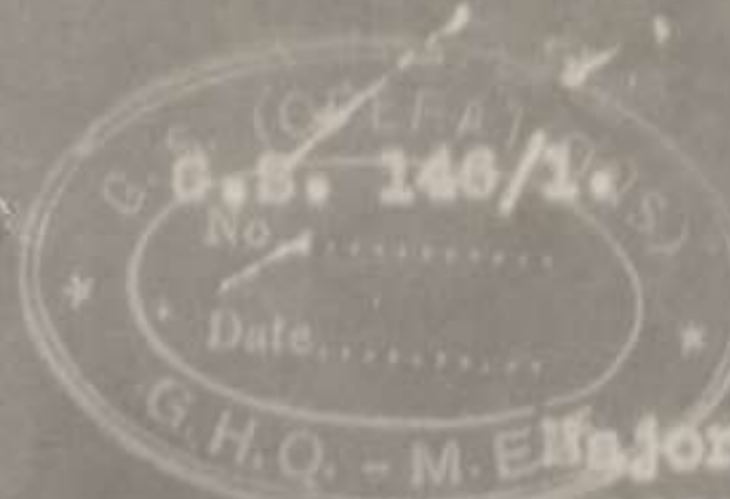
G.A. 465.cipher. 27/3/16. Desp. 1925.
Recd. 1620.
Decd. 2105.

Your A.M. 322. My Q.A. 438 was solely in reply to Chief, London, No. 13714 repeated G.H.Q., M.E.F. This cable directed me to be prepared to undertake minor operations and to inform Chief of steps taken to render mobile such troops as would be required.

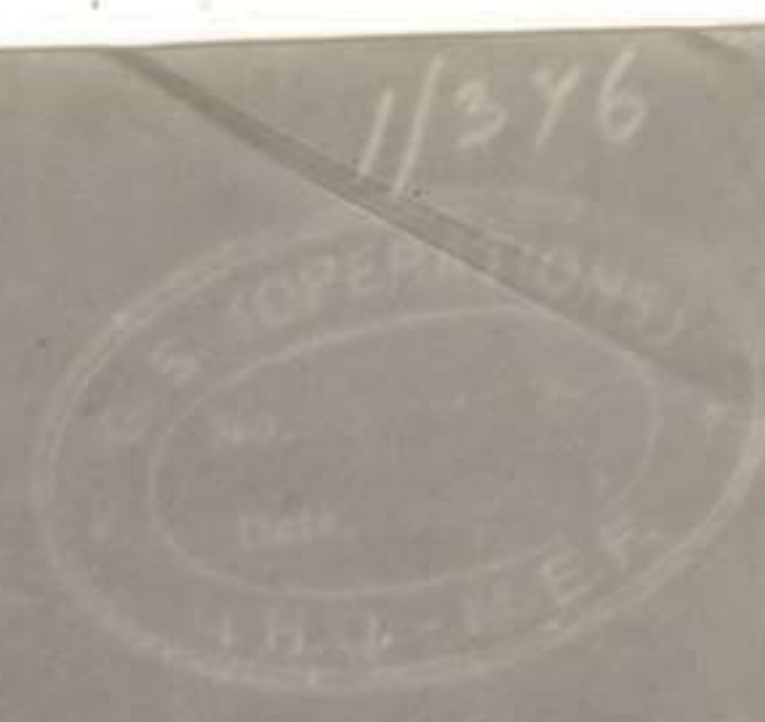
Copies to :- O.
O(b).
C.G.S.
Q.

Filed G.S. 182.
" G.S.Cables.





W.S.A.



Major-General W. A. Watson, C.B., C.I.E.

1. You are appointed General Officer Commanding, DELTA District, and Commander of the L. of C. Defences of the EGYPT Force.

Your area will include the provinces of BEHEIRA, GHARBIA, DAQAHL, SHARQIA, MENUFIA, and QALIUBIA, except ALEXANDRIA, PORT SAID, SUEZ, MOASCAR and TEL EL KEBIR. In the SHARQIA province your area will extend to, but will not include, the MARITIME CANAL.

2. As General Officer Commanding DELTA District, you will be specially responsible for the CAIRO Defence Scheme, for the adoption of immediate measures for the suppression of disturbances in CAIRO and elsewhere within your area, and for the preservation of order generally. Your duties in this capacity will include also all the functions which would normally be exercised by an Administrative Commandant, DELTA (see Field Service Regulations, Part II, Chapter III, Section 12).

3. As Commander L. of C. Defences you will be solely responsible to the Commander-in-Chief for the tactical security of the Lines of Communication, including all personnel, animals and material comprised therein throughout your area (see also Field Service Regulations, Part II, Chapter III, Section 10).

In this capacity you will be under the Command of the Inspector General of Communications for the purposes of administration only.

4. Your staff will consist of :-

- 1 A.D.C.
 - 1 G.S.O.1.
 - 1 G.S.O.3.
 - 1 A.A.& Q.M.G.
 - ~~1 D.A.A.& Q.M.G.~~
 - 1 A.D.M.S.
 - 1 A.D.O.S.
- 1 P.R.M.

11377

Your Headquarters will be in CAIRO.

5. The following troops are placed under your command :-

- (a). Troops in CAIRO District, viz.:-
 2nd Garrison Battalion Cheshire Regt.
 1st Garrison Battalion Devonshire Regt.
 2nd Battalion the Rifle Brigade.
- (b) 20th Battalion The Rifle Brigade (with three detachments) (at ABBASSIA)
- (c) 1st Garrison Battalion Royal Irish Regiment. (at BENHA)
- (d) 21st Garrison Battalion The Rifle Brigade (at DAMANHOUR) (with detachment at HOSH ISA).
- (e) Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade.
- (f) 19th Battalion The Rifle Brigade } ISMAILIA.
 1st Garrison Bn. Essex Regiment. }
 2nd Garrison Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers (ZAGAZIG and BELBEIS).
- (g) All L.of C. and other administrative units within the area named in paragraph 1.

6149
88.7
27/76

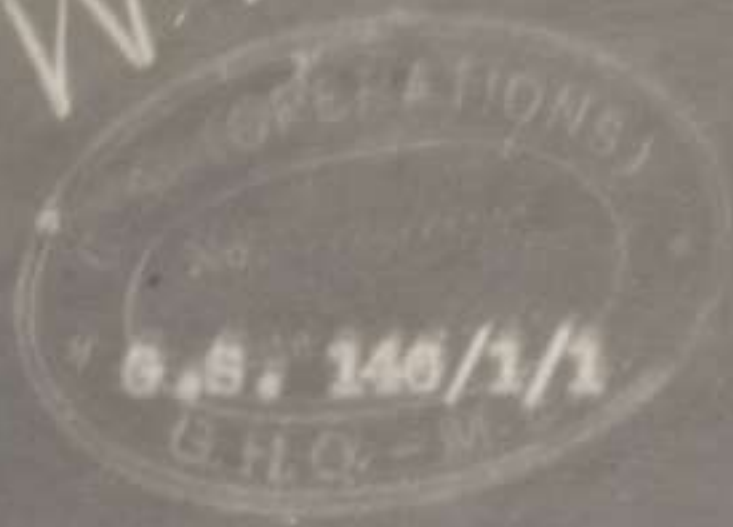
(sd) Sydney Bell

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :- A.
Q.
A.M.S.
M.G.R.A.
E-in-C.
D.A.S.

V.V.D.

11378



27th March, 1918

Major-General W. A. Watson, C.B., C.I.E.

With reference to your letter of March 25th., raising certain points in connection with my draft instructions G.S. 146/1, the answers to your queries are as follows :-

(1) In matters of discipline you will be responsible to the Inspector General of Communications alone, who is responsible to the Commander-in-Chief for the administration of all matters in the whole area of the L. of G. Defences and ALEXANDRIA District.

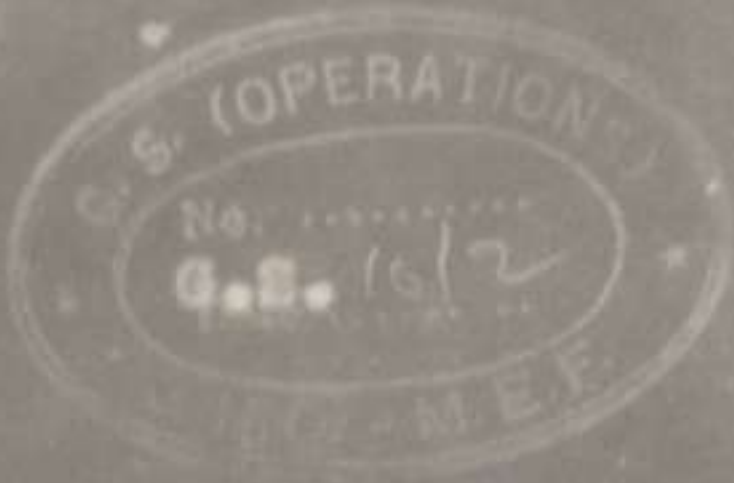
(2) With regard to the administration of martial law, Field Service Regulations Part II, Chapter III, Section 10 gives a clear interpretation of your duties.

(3) The primary responsibility for the safety of the Sultan rests with the ^{O.C.DET.} Egyptian Army at CAIRO or wherever he may be residing, in co-operation with the Civil Police authorities, but any Defence Scheme would, of course, deal with action to be taken to safeguard the Sultan's person in the event of any disaffection among his bodyguard.

(4) There is no reason why the military police should not co-operate with the Civil Police under ^{HARVEY} Repkinen Pasha. My instructions G.S. 146/1 show that an Assistant Provost Marshal is allowed for your staff. These instructions also show the staff allotted to you.

Edw. A. Symonds Bell

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.



W D

1/379

27th March, 1916

Inspector General of Communications.

1. The Lines of Communication will be included within the following area :-

The provinces of BEHEIRA, GHARBIA, DAQAHL, SHARQIA (up to, but not including, the Maritime Canal, and excluding MOASCAR and TEL EL KEBIR), MENUPIA and QALIUBIA.

The MARIOUT District will cease to be within the Lines of Communication area, and will be in the area of command of the Western Frontier Force.

2. Brig-General R. C. Boyle will continue to act as Administrative Commandant, ALEXANDRIA, and as Commander, Lines of Communication Defences, ALEXANDRIA. He will be responsible for the ALEXANDRIA Defence Scheme, for the adoption of immediate measures for the suppression of disturbances, and for the preservation of order generally in ALEXANDRIA.

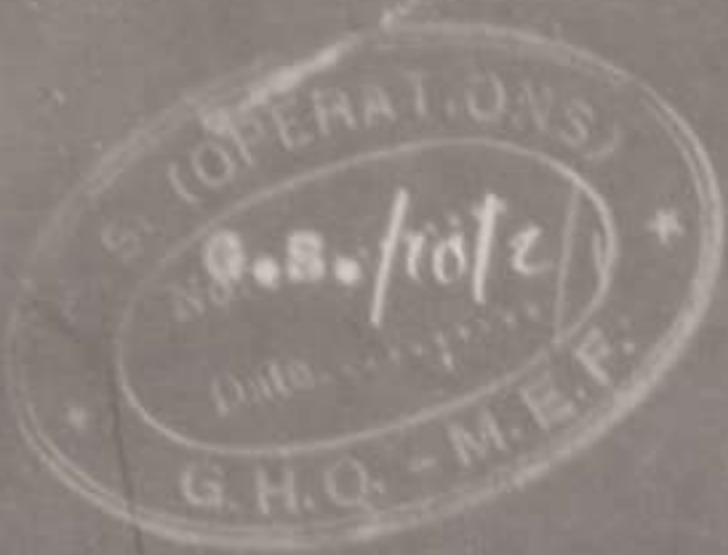
3. The existing system will continue unchanged as regards the Defence and Administration of PORT SAID and SUEZ.

4. Major-General W. A. Watson, C.B., C.I.E., has been appointed General Officer Commanding CAIRO District and Commander of the Lines of Communication Defences, Egypt Force. A copy of the instructions given to Major-General Watson is forwarded herewith for your information.

W. A. Watson

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

A
Q
AMS
MGR
DA
EIN



W 90

1/380

27th March, 1916

General Officer Commanding,
Western Frontier Force.

The MARIOUT District will cease to be within the area of the Lines of Communication, and will become part of the area of command of the Western Frontier Force.

The troops at present in this district, viz.:-

1/2nd County of London Yeomanry.

2nd Garrison Battalion, King's Own Liverpool Regt.

2 Armoured Cars.

will form part of your command.

Colonel Pitt is appointed O.C. MARIOUT District, with command, subject to any alteration in the disposition of your troops, of the above units.

Col A. Lynden Ball

A.
G.
AMS.
NIGRA
E in C
DAS

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

SECRET

1/381

G.S.Z.34/3.

Approved

29th March, 1918

General Officer Commanding,
15th Army Corps.

In reply to your G.S of 25th March. Your proposal to station the 2nd Australian Light Horse Brigade at SALHIA is agreed to. The 2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps have been notified accordingly.

(sd) D.K. Bernard
Capt for

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

W.A.
SECRET

1/302

G.S.Z.34/2.

27th March, 1916

General Officer Commanding,
2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps.

Reference G.S. Z.34/2 of 22nd March.

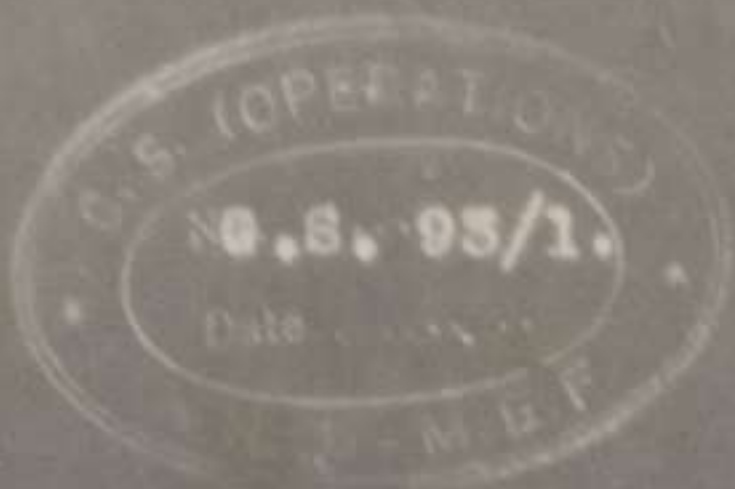
General Officer Commanding, 15th Army Corps,
proposes to station the 2nd Australian Light Horse Brigade
at SALHIA until the Public Works Department are in a position
to provide more water. This has been agreed to.

Please make the necessary arrangements for the
move with the General Officer Commanding, 15th Army Corps.

(sd) D.K. Bernardy
Capt

for
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copy to Q.



W.R.D.

11383

Appt E.

27th March, 6

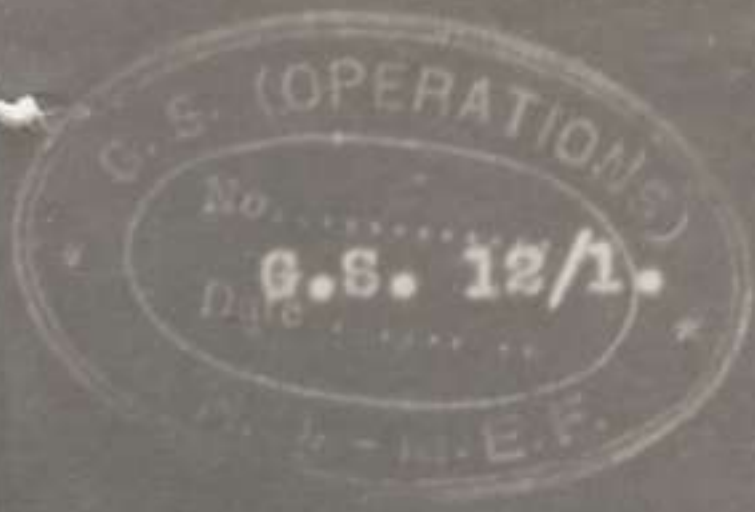
Lt.-General Sir W.R. Birdwood, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., etc.

It has been suggested that, as the Trains belonging to the Australian and New Zealand Mounted Brigades (vide pages. 73 - 77 War Establishments, Australian Imperial Forces) are not required under present conditions, it might be better to abolish them and adopt the normal transport organisation of a Mounted Brigade (namely, to have 1st Line Transport for baggage, etc., the supplies being carried in a Supply Column), and that the personnel thus released should be diverted to the Trains now in process of formation for the 4th and 5th Australian Divisions, particularly the former, the 5th Division, it is understood, being practically complete.

Would you kindly let me have your remarks on this suggestion ?

Sgt. A. P. Dawson
R. Col.
for

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.



W.D.

1/354

Apppt. F.

The Secretary,
War Office, London, S.W.

24 March, 1916.

Sir,

In view of the time and attention that it is now possible to devote to military training in this force, I have the honour to request that a supply of all documents and pamphlets likely to be of use should be sent for distribution among the various units. Demands have been received for the following publications, among others. :-
"Notes from the Front", No.C.D.S.98/2 January 16, "Artillery Notes No.2 Field Artillery Ammunition". No.C.D.S.74 O.B./367 "Training and Employment of Grenadiers" and especially "Impressions and Reflections of a French Company Commander regarding the Attack". The original supply of the last named is practically exhausted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Sgt. A. Hyndes Bell
cas m.c.
fa

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

W.R.

SECRET

11/386

From Chief, London. *Appt A*
To Chief Egyptforce.

14830 cipher S.D.S.

27/3/16.
28/3/18.

Desp. 1610.
Recd. 0615.
Decd. 0630.

Your G.M.Q.T.1609. Your programme of shipments and date of embarkation. New Zealand Division will not be altered. Unless you are already committed to the exchange of rifle with 11th Division the New Zealand Division will be re-armed with short rifle on arrival inward France. Its present rifles can be retained in Egypt if desired otherwise they will be brought to France. Please telegraph your decision. All other requirements in regard to equipment should be completed in Egypt in accordance with instructions already issued.

Copies to:-

- Q. for action.
- G.S.S.
- O.
- O(b).

- Filed 'Q' Cables.
- " G.S. Z.45.
- " G.S. Z.49.

TOP SECRET

11386

N.O.



From Troopers.
To G. H. Q.

Appt B

14863 cipher D.S.D.

27/3/16.
28/3/16.

Desp. 2205.
Recd. 0613.
Decd. 0635.

Your M.S.797.

It is desirable that names of staff officers likely to be available Headquarter Staff should be wired as soon as possible in order that they may be noted for vacancies which otherwise would be filled from other sources.

Copies to:-

- A.M.S. for action.
- G-in-C.
- C.G.S.
- A.
- O.
- Q.

Filed M.S. Cables.

W-2
From:- Chief, Egyptforce.
To:- Chief, London.

SECRET

A.M. 331.

23/3/18.

Deep. 2130

Evening Report.

Two agents have reported seeing an aeroplane flying at BIR SABA.

Copies to :-
O.
O(b).
C-in-C.
G.C.S.
I.
A.
Q.
M.G.R.A.
E in C.
D.A.S.

Filed 2/29.
" G.S.Cables.



Companies, four have already been formed by the Force in Egypt. These Camel Companies consist of 5 officers, 159 other ranks, 151 riding camels (including 12 spare) and 9 transport camels. I suggest that we should follow an identical organisation in forming any further Companies. These Companies have a 5-days radius of action and are completely self-supporting within that limit.

5. The above estimate of our requirements was based on the following distribution.

<u>SOLLUM.</u>	One Company. (already there).
<u>MERSA MATRUH.</u>	One Company. (under orders to go).
<u>HAMMAM.</u>	One Company. (For patrol to MOGHARA; will be available shortly).
<u>WADI MATRUN.</u>	One Company. (Bikanir Camel Corps already there).
<u>BAHARIA.</u>	One Company. (To be formed).
<u>ASSIUT.</u>	One Company. (Already there.).
<u>KHARGA.</u>	One Company. (To be formed)

/QATIA

NTD

mp+c

11384

From:- Chief, Egyptforce.

To:- Chief, London.

SECRET

A.M. 331.

28/3/16.

Desp. 2150.

Evening Report.

Two agents have reported seeing an aeroplane
flying at BIR SABA.

Copies to :-
O.
O(b).
C-in-C.
C.G.S.
I.
A.
Q.
M.G.R.A.
E in C.
D.A.S.

Filed 2/29.
" C.S. Cables.

W.S. (OPERATIONS)

11582

WQ

Approved

212

C. G. S.

1. In accordance with your instructions I have taken up the whole question of our requirements in respect of Camel Corps and of the methods by which we can provide them.
2. In view of the necessity for maintaining a force which can carry out patrols in the desert and have a reasonable radius of action without requiring transport, I suggest that we ought to make provision for a minimum of ten Imperial Camel Companies (in addition to the three Bikanir Camel Companies which already exist). Of the ten Imperial Camel Companies, four have already been formed by the Force in Egypt. These Camel Companies consist of 5 officers, 159 other ranks, 151 riding camels (including 12 spare) and 9 transport camels. I suggest that we should follow an identical organisation in forming any further Companies. These Companies have a 5-days radius of action and are completely self-supporting within that limit.

3. The above estimate of our requirements was based on the following distribution.

<u>SOLLUM.</u>	One Company. (already there).
<u>MERSA MATRUH.</u>	One Company. (under orders to go).
<u>HAMMAM.</u>	One Company. (For patrol to MOGHARA; will be available shortly).
<u>WADI NATRUN.</u>	One Company. (Bikanir Camel Corps already there).
<u>BAHARIA.</u>	One Company. (To be formed).
<u>ASSIUT.</u>	One Company. (Already there.).
<u>KHARGA.</u>	One Company. (To be formed)

/QATIA

11389

<u>QATIA District.</u>	Two Companies.	(To be formed).
<u>No. 2 Section, Canal Defences.</u>	Two Companies.	(One Company Bikanir Camel Corps already available; one Company Imperial Camel Corps to be formed).
<u>No. 1 Section, Canal Defences.</u>	Two Companies.	(One Company Bikanir Camel Corps already available; one Company Imperial Camel Corps to be formed.)

4. The above distribution will provide a satisfactory chain of camel patrols through the Western Theatre. Two new Companies required ^{on} ~~for~~ this side, for the BAHARIA and KHARGA oases will be absolutely essential to accompany any forces which it might be proposed to send to those oases.

In the Eastern Theatre two Companies seem essential for the QATIA District. In Nos. 1 and 2 Sections of the Canal Defences, the two existing Bikanir Camel Companies will be by no means sufficient if any threat should be made by the enemy against the Canal. One more Company has therefore been allowed for for each of these sections. They will form a most valuable part of the section Mobile Columns, a duty for which the Bikanir Camel Companies are not available owing to their dispersion on patrol duty along the whole front.

No provision has been made for a Company in the PAYUM or for a reserve Company at present, since I understand you wish to keep our immediate requirements down to a minimum.

5. I had a long consultation with Major Smith, at present in command of the Camel Corps School at ABBASSIA. This officer has great experience in training and command of Camel Corps and also of their organisation and equipment. He also has great knowledge of the camel itself and has selected the riding camels for the existing Imperial Camel Corps Companies.

The Camel Corps School under his command can turn out, with its present staff, two trained Companies per month,

/contin

1/390

counting from the date on which the necessary personnel, animal and equipment are collected at the School.

6. As regards the provision of the necessary personnel for the six new companies which it is proposed to form, about 30 officers and 840 men will be required. I suggest that the officers could readily be found from the dismounted Yeomanry units which at present contain a disproportionately large number of officers in view of their strength. These officers would, moreover, be of excellent class and most suitable.

As regards the other ranks, the number required, distributed over the whole Egyptian Expeditionary Force, is not large enough to be likely to present any difficulty.

As regards the provision of camels, you will notice that practically no expense will be involved beyond what has already been incurred.

The D.Q.M.G. has some ^{Egyptian} 1200 transport camels in the Eastern Defence Area. He estimates his total requirements eventually as being not likely to exceed 700. There are 600 camels in the Western Defence Area. Of these General Malcolm considers that not more than 500 are likely to be required at any one time, even having in view the requirements for expeditions to BAHARIA and KHARGHA. There are also 200 camels in reserve depots.

There is therefore a considerable surplus in respect of transport camels at the moment. From among the whole available transport camels Major Smith is confident that he can find 1200 camels suitable for riding. This will mount the six new Camel Corps Companies and provide a small reserve for the whole corps.

The D.Q.M.G. has therefore given Major Smith leave to round the transport corps and earmark riding camels up to the number of 1200. When these are taken away there will still be a considerable surplus of transport camels, so that no additi

/expense

11391

expense^{is} involved.

7. As regards the provision of equipment, the question is one almost entirely of saddles and fantasses. I understand that the fantass question is not likely to cause any difficulty. The only difficulty as regards the provision of saddles is that it will take some considerable time to make saddles for six Companies. Major Smith informs me, however, that he can collect a large number of saddles by local purchase up the Nile. These saddles would probably be somewhat light and would have to be exchanged later as the output of saddles manufactured in CAIRO became available. The additional expense involved would, however, be small, and the value of getting the Camel Corps equipped to take the field ^{as} earlier ^{as possible} would seem far to outweigh some minor additional expense in this one respect.

8. If you agree to the formation of the new Companies being proceeded with at once, everything is now in train. Major Smith can start on Tuesday to collect the camels. He will forward his recommendations as to local purchase of a certain number of the necessary saddles. We will take up the question of the collection of personnel immediately. The Camel Corps School at ABBASSIA can take in one new company as soon as the one which is now ready for service there is ordered to MERSA MATRUH; and a second new Company can be accommodated there very shortly afterwards. Major Smith would like the services, as second in command, of Major G. J. Brownlow, Rifle Brigade, at present believed to be at home convalescent after a wound, as he is an experienced camel corps officer; I suggest that we should ask the War Office for him. The Camel Corps School requires a Quartermaster who, however,

/13

1/392

is already provided for in the establishment. The School, if made up in this way, will require no further extension to enable it to start at once on the formation and training of new companies.

(Signature)

"O".

26/3/16.

Lieut-Colonel,
G.S.

A.

Q.

Please see attached paper re formation of 6 additional Camel Corps Companies. Will A. please say how it is suggested that the personnel should be found. The Commander-in-Chief does not wish, as a general rule, to draw officers from Dismounted Yeomanry units unless these units have officers supernumary to establishment (see W.E., Dismounted Brigade). He has no objection, however, to our obtaining officers from Mounted Yeomanry units, or from any other available source. We shall have to be prepared to release all almost of the Australian personnel with the 4 existing Imperial Camel Corps Companies - at any rate the officers.

Will A., please, also wire asking if Major G.J. Brownlow, R.B. (see para.8 of paper) can be sent out for the Camel Corps?

(Signature)

G.S.(O)
28/3/16.

Lieut.-Colonel,
G.S.

SECRET

1/393

G.S. 2/48.

20th March, 1918

MM E.

General Officer Commanding,
15th Army Corps.

With reference to your G.S. of the 25th March, the general policy laid down by the Commander-in-Chief with regard to the QATIA district is that the enemy, if he should advance along the northern SINAI coast, will be met and fought east of QATIA. It is not intended to fight a mere delaying action in that district as a preliminary to a main action along the line of the Canal Defences.

The occupation of the QATIA district is intended to be permanent, while the question of an advance yet further east is at present under consideration. The road shown hereupon be proceeded with

(sd) A. Lynden Bell

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

SECRET

11394

W.D.
G.S. 3/45.

MPF

28th March, 6

General Officer Commanding,
9th Army Corps.

With reference to your O/177/3 of the 25th March, the Commander-in-Chief fully endorses your view that Lieut.-Colonel Pearson, 23rd Sikh Pioneers, showed great lack of enterprise and initiative in not taking more energetic measures to bring in the aeroplane which his column was sent out to recover on the 13th inst. It appears that the loss of this aeroplane might have been avoided.

The Commander-in-Chief wishes that Lieut.-Colonel Pearson should be informed accordingly.

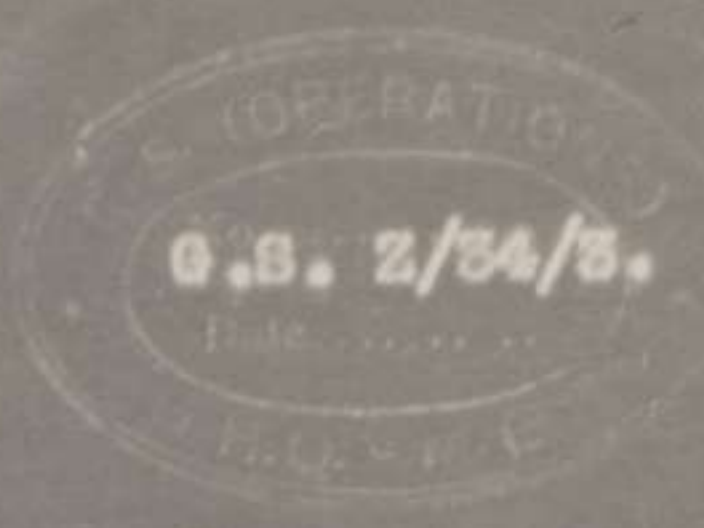
(5a) A. Lynden Bell

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

W.D.

SECRET

1/396



Appt G

28th March, 1918

General Officer Commanding,
15th Army Corps.

The Commander-in-Chief has considered your report of a reconnaissance from FORT MUFARRIJ to MAHAMDIYA, in the light of which he has decided that an extension of the 2'6" railway is not to be proceeded with. For the present, however, the existing portion of the line will not be removed.

(sd) atynder beal

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1/396

W.D.

Kypot H.

28

March 6



Administrative Commandant,
ISMAILIA.

Orders have been sent to the General Officers Commanding 9th Corps and 15th Corps to send the Stokes Gun batteries under their commands to ISMAILIA as soon as possible, with all personnel, guns, equipment and tents. In each Corps there are two batteries of 8 guns each. These batteries will come under your command at ISMAILIA and camps will be allocated to them at your discretion. The strength of the batteries and the time of their arrival will be notified to you direct by the Corps concerned. Please report to G.H.Q. when all have arrived, giving the strength and designation of the various units.

[Handwritten signature]

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to:-

- Q.
- A.
- M.G.R.A.

1/397

W.D.



Appx A



From:- Govr. General, KHARTOUM.

To:- General Sir A. Murray.

299 cipher, 29th.

29/3/16.

Desp. 1250.

Recd. 1530.

Decd. 1550.

It would of the greatest help to me if you could spare a flight of aeroplanes for our operations in DARFUR. I realise that you must require all you have in EGYPT for your Forces, ^{in the Field} but I am inclined to think that aeroplane reconnaissances in the neighbourhood of EL FASHER would have such far-reaching effects that they might largely influence the duration of the Sultan's resistance and tend to dissipate the Alliances with the independent Western States which I know he is endeavouring to bring about.

Copies to :- O for action.

O(b).

G-in-C.

C.G.S.

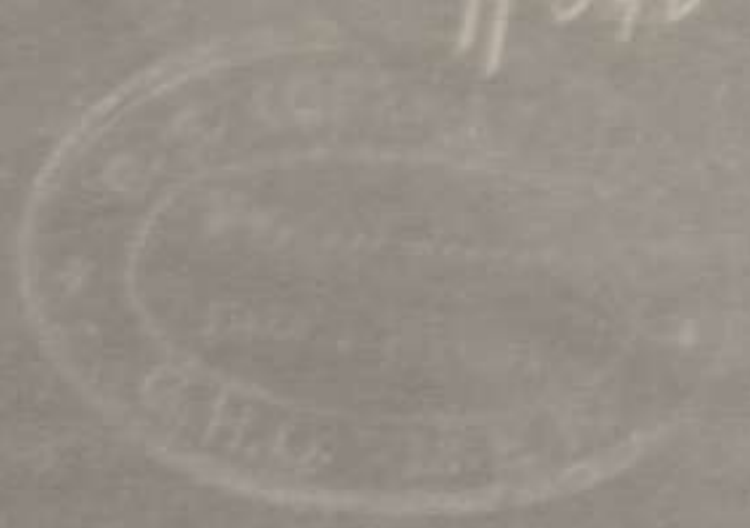
I.

Filed G.S. Z/41.

" G.S.Cables.



11396



W.D.

Appt B

From. Troopers.

To. G.H.Q. (repeated A.H.Q. Salonika).

14898 Cipher. S.D.2.

29/3/16.

Despd. 1530.
Recd. 2130.
Decd. 2135.

In reply to telegram X. 410 from Salonika asking for travelling workshop of Anti-Aircraft sections, answer has been sent that travelling workshop cannot be provided and that repairs should be executed under local arrangements by employment of personnel now with the force.

Copies to V--

- O.
- O(b).
- G.G.S.
- M.G.R.A.
- Q.

Filed G.S. 89.
" G.S. Cables.

W.D.
11399
G.S. 2.52/1.

General Officer Commanding,
15th Army Corps.

As it will probably be some little time before the 11th Division can be equipped with the 5th Howitzers belonging to the 1/4th Lowland Brigade, and in order to allow training to be proceeded with, you should arrange with the General Officer Commanding, 2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps, to take over as soon as possible four 5th Howitzers which the 2nd Australian Division has been using for drill purposes. The General Officer Commanding, 2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps, has been warned to be ready to hand over these howitzers.

(ca) G. H. Dawson
R. H. G.
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :-

G.
M.G.R.A.

W.D. 11450
G.S. Z.52.

SECRET

29th March 1918

General Officer Commanding,
15th Army Corps.

In continuation of G.S. Z.52/S. *of 26th March* The howitzer
equipment belonging to the 1/4th Lowland Howitzer Brigade,
52nd Division, will be handed over to the 11th Division
to equip the Howitzer Brigade mentioned in para. 1 (b).

(sd) G. P. Dawney
for Abol
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to:-

Q.
M.G.R.A.

W. D.
1/401
G.S.Z.52/2.

29th March, 1918

General Officer Commanding,
2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps.

General Officer Commanding, 15th Army Corps, has been instructed to arrange with you to take over ^{for a short time} the four 5" howitzers lately used by the 2nd Australian Division for drill purposes. These howitzers are required by the 15th Army Corps in order that they may train some personnel of the 11th Division, pending the arrival of their own equipment.

(9a) G. P. Downey
for
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to:-

Q.
M.G.R.A.

W.D.
Applied
1/402
Officer Commanding, 5th Wing,
Royal Flying Corps.

The attached copy of a letter is forwarded
for your information with regard to your No. 77 of the
27th March.

(od) O.K. Bernard
Capt
for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

29th March, 1916.

General Officer Commanding.

9th Army Corps.
2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps.
15th Army Corps.

With reference to Royal Flying Corps wireless operators attached to Army Corps, the Officer Commanding 5th Wing represents the great difficulty experienced by these men owing to their inability to ride. Wireless operators are frequently called upon to accompany mobile columns in the desert, which they can only do on horseback, and it is therefore of importance that they should possess at least some knowledge of equitation. Please arrange therefore that all Royal Flying Corps wireless operators employed with your Army Corps may be attached to a mounted unit for such time as may be necessary to carry out the requisite training in this respect.

(sd) G.P. Dawnay
for H. B. B. B.
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copy to R.F.C.

11404

G.S. 223

Date

W.F. E

29th March, 6

General Officer Commanding,

9th Army Corps.
2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps.
15th Army Corps.

Attached report from O.C. Berks Battery R.H.A., regarding camel draught for artillery, is forwarded for your information.

Please arrange for further experiments of this nature to be carried out with

4th ANZAC - 1 section of 18-pounders
15th A.C. - 1 Battery of 18-pounders and 1-60 pounder.

When its equipment with camel draught has been completed, the ^{section} battery should be tested against a similar unit drawn by horses, with a view to ascertaining whether it is desirable to employ camel drawn artillery in the mobile columns to be furnished from each section.

Edw. D. Lynden Bell

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1/405

17. 3. 16.

Headquarters,
Cairo.

773

I beg to report that I have inspected the camels in draught now in training at the School of Instruction, ZEITOUN, and have taken them out about 9 miles into the desert to test them over rough ground.

The team consisted of six camels - ride lead and ride centre ridden by drivers.

They were hooked into an 18-pdr. limbered empty wagon, 2 gunners on the limber, and 2 on the body.

The harness is not yet satisfactory. I understand the weight of the pole supporting bar should not come on the neck of the animal which it does at present. Also camels will not take breeching, there is therefore nothing to hold back the vehicle going down a slope or pulling up. I think this could be done by a strap attached to the pole supporting bar and passing round the back of the camel's hump.

The camels appeared to be fairly handy but very slow. They do not like going up a steep rise and are inclined to lie down; drivers must be handy with their whips and be constantly at them.

Teams will work much better when the drivers understand their animals- also the drivers should be taught how to encourage them by voice.

I consider the pedrail is far the best/s and tyre I have seen. We have experimented with several different kinds, both on the Canal and in Arabia. It is very handy to put on or take off, and in my opinion very satisfactory. Some of the links were faulty and broke, but this can be remedied. Owing to the pedrail the brake has to be removed from the vehicle, therefore there is nothing to prevent the carriage from running on top of the wheelers when going down a steep gradient. The gunners could be dismounted and hold back with drag ropes but this is a slow

process.

I consider a battery with camels would march at about 2½ miles an hour. Coming into action and going out of action would be slow.

It takes some time for the men to get accustomed to camels; they find no difficulty in riding them, but they are nervous of handling them at first.

I do not consider that four camels would be sufficient for the draught in heavy sand. In my opinion camel draught has no advantage over horse draught, except over a waterless desert in which case I would strongly recommend it.

With regard to the brake. A band brake might be constructed which would serve the purpose.

(Sgd) C. Gosset Mayall,
Major.

1/1st Berks R. H. A.

1/407



Appx A

From : Troopess
To : G.H.Q.

14905 cipher S.D.2.

29/3/18. Deep. 1705.
30/3/18. Recd. 0810.
Decd. 0820.

As the Ordnance Base Depot under your Inspector-General of Communications has to provide for other forces besides those actually in Egypt, it is considered essential that it should be under a senior officer. If you concur, Brigadier-General Jackson will be retained as D.O.S. of that Depot, while Brigadier-General Perry remains as D.O.S. at your headquarters.

O.
O(b).
C.S.S.
Q.
A.
A.M.S.

G.S. 10/2.
G.S. 11/1.
G.S. Cables.

1/400

W.D.



From Troopers.

Apppt B

To G. H. Q.

4287 S.D.S. (code).

29/3/16.
30/3/16.

Desp. 2140.
Recd. 0639.
Decd. 0900.

Your A.M. 327.

Medical establishments with Headquarters of Army Corps :- One D.D.M.S., one D.A.D.M.S., in addition to an A.D.M.S. sanitary duties specially allowed for Corps Headquarters EGYPT; SALONIKA; D.A.D.M.S. performs duties of Medical Officer to the Headquarters.

Copies to :-

- O.
- O.(b)
- G.S.S.
- A.
- D.M.S.
- A.M.S.

Filed G.S. 45/1.
" G.S. 11.
" G.S. Cables.

1409

SECRET

W P

App C

From:- Sir A. Murray,
To:- Govr. General, KHARTOUM.

A.M. 336. 30/5/15. Desp. 0810.

Your 299 cipher.

I am badly off for machines myself, but in view of what you say I am prepared to lend you 2 machines for one month, after which I earnestly hope you will return them. I will send an officer to KHARTOUM to-morrow to select landing ground and I hope that every assistance may be given him in the shape of labour in order to expedite the construction of sheds, without which, machines will not last.

Copies to :- O.
 O(b).
 C-in-C.
 C.G.S.
 I.

Filed G.S.Z/41.
 " G.S.Cables.



W.P.

1/410

SECRET



Approved

From G.G.S.
To A.H.Q. SALONICA.

A.M. 336. 30/3/16. Desp. 1200.

Personal for General Howell.

Demands which should be referred here are constantly being made on the War Office, apparently by your Administrative Staff, for stores, equipment, etc. see for example your Y.410. It would greatly help us if you would insist on everyone complying with Commander-in-Chief's order contained in his O.617 of 14th December and A.M. 111 of 12th February.

Copies to :-

- G.G.S.
- O.
- O.(b)
- C.
- A.

Filed G.S. 2/6.
G.S. Cables.

W.R.

11411

SECRET

From- Chief, Egyptforce.

To:- Chief, London.

Ampt E

A.M. 339.

30/3/16.

Desp. 1500.

Communications ABBEVILLE has wired Communications
 CAIRO begins :- Z.Q.715 - 38, 27th March, Casualty
 Clearing Station shown in Battle Order 31st Division not
 yet arrived, when may we expect ? ends. This Casualty
 Clearing Station not shown in our Battle Order and was
 not sent. See your 16553 cipher S.D.2. of 23rd February
 in which only L.of G. units asked for were 5 Depot Units
 of Supply, one Field Bakery and one Field Butchery. Only
 Casualty Clearing Station sent with Divisions to FRANCE
 was that with 1st Australian Division specially asked for
 in your 13997 cipher of 2nd March.

Copies to :- O.
 O(b).
 C.S.S.
 Q.
 A.
 Filed C.S. Z/49.
 " G.S.Cables.

RECEIVED
 No.
 Date.....
 G.H.Q. - M.E.F.

1/412

W.R.

SECRET

C.S. OPERATION
No.
Date
G.H.Q. - M.E.F.

From
G. H. Q. Egyptforce.

To
Troopers.

Appt F.

A.M. 540.

50/5/16.

Desp. 1520.

Your 15088 cipher S.D.S.

1st Australian Division ceases to belong to E.E.F.
Headquarters A. & N.Z. Forces ceases to exist, A. & N.Z.
Provisional Formations become 2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps
composed of 4th and 5th Australian Divisions, 'D'
Squadron, Herts. Yeomanry, Divisional Cavalry 15th
Division; and Indian Mule Corps Train cease to belong to
E.E.F. 38th Anti-aircraft section becomes part of E.E.F.
and 58th and 60th Heavy Batteries cease to belong.
14th Siege Battery joins 24th Siege Brigade, concentrating
for FRANCE, replacing 43rd Siege Battery which remains.

Copies to:-

- O.
- O(b).
- C.G.S.
- A.
- I.
- Q.
- M.G.R.A.
- E-in-C.
- D.A.S.
- A.M.S.

Filed G.S. 189.
* G.S. Cables.

1/413

WAD

Appt G

SECRET

From:- Eypforce.

To:- Chief, London.

A.M. 341.

30/3/18.

Desp. 1850.

Evening Report. Chief gone to visit
WADI NATRUH front returning Saturday.

- Copies to :-
- C.
 - O(b).
 - C-in-C.
 - C.G.S.
 - I.
 - A.M.S.
 - A.
 - Q.
 - M.G.R.A.
 - E-in-C.
 - D.A.S.

Filed G.S. Z/29.
" G.S.Cables.



G.S. 129.



Appt H

30 March, 1916

General Officer Commanding,
Southern Force.

Your S.F./662/A. dated 26th. inst. With reference to the formation of the 2nd Dismounted Brigade, in accordance with Force ^{Order} No. 7 dated February 4th., this office was quite unaware that the amalgamation of the Highland and South Western Dismounted Brigades had hitherto been deferred, apparently as the result of instructions issued by the Force in Egypt.

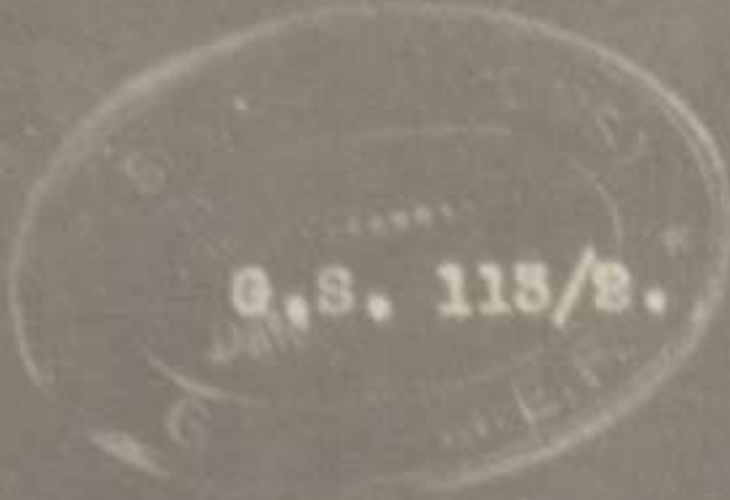
This postponement cannot any longer be sanctioned, and the 2nd Dismounted Brigade will be formed forthwith, in accordance with the provisional War Establishments for a Dismounted Brigade issued under this office No. G.S. 129/1, of February 2nd. The equipment of the brigade will be adjusted to the scale of Mobilisation Store Tables (A.F.'s G.1093 - 174, 175 and 176,) as amended to agree with the approved establishment, (vide D.C.S., M.E.F., minute O.C./2727 forwarded to the D.A.D.O.S., Southern Force on February 11th. 1916.)

Orders as regards the disposal of surplus Commander and Staff will be issued in due course.

Copies a and

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1/415



W.D.

30th March, 6

Appx J

Headquarters,
Australian Imperial Forces.
CAIRO.

With reference to para. 6 of Australian and New Zealand Forces circular memorandum No. 22 dated 3rd March, it is noticed that there is an intention of forming another squadron for the 4th A.I.L.H. Regt.

Unfortunately no horses are available for this new squadron, nor is there any prospect of their being forthcoming later on. It is presumed, therefore, under these circumstances, that it will not be desirable to bring this new squadron into existence.

(Sgd) A. Lynden Bell

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

G.S. 2/34/1.
/E.
/S.

WZ

1/416



SECRET

Appx K

General Officer Commanding,

9th, 2nd A. & N.Z., 15th Army Corps.

It has been decided that all guns and wheeled vehicles forming part of the Mobile Columns in each section, also of the "surplus" forces to be held available to operate at half a day's march from road and rail-heads (vide G.S. 2.34 of 6th March and 18th March) shall be fitted with sand tyres. Please submit detailed demands to the D.O.S., G.H.Q., as early as possible.

In view of the considerable demand involved and the difficulty of supply on a large scale, it is most important that the number of wheeled vehicles allotted to these forces should be restricted to the absolute minimum essential to meet requirements.

Geo C R Dawson

*Lt. Col,
G.S.*

for

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

G. H. Q.
30.3.16.

Copies to:-

- M.G.R.A.
- Q.
- E-in-C.
- D.A.S.

SECRET



APHA

From:- A.H.Q. SALONICA.

To:- G.H.Q.

G.C. 69. cipher

30/3/16.
31/3/16.

Desp. 2345.
Recd. 0830.
Decd. 0845.

Your A.M.37. January 21st.

Progress on defences, roads, piers and hospitals satisfactory. Railway extensions which are urgently required held up owing to non receipt of rails.

- Copies to :-
- O.
 - O(b).
 - C.G.S.
 - Q.
 - E-in-C.
 - A.

Filed G.S. 2/6.
" G.S. Cables.

1/4/18
(OPENED)
No.
Date.....
G.H.Q. - M.E.F.

17/14 B

From G.H.Q.

To I.G.C.

O.B. 278.

31/3/18.

Desp. 1010.

Following staff has been allotted for Administrative Commandant, ALEXANDRIA :- G.S.O. 3rd grade, D.A.A. & Q.M.G., Staff Captains 2, special appointments, O.C. reinforcements graded as A.A. & Q.M.G., Staff Captain and A.P.M. Propose for appointment O.C. reinforcements either Colonel Sir H.G. Dixon or Brevet Colonel A.V. Payne. Recommend the former, but please wire if you concur. Consider that senior combatant officers can perform the duties of section commander ALEXANDRIA, and that either Dixon or Payne and one Staff Captain should be notified to War Office as redundant. Copy of telegrams to War Office dealing with this and other establishments being sent you.

Copies to :-

- G.(b)
- G.S.O.
- A.
- Q.
- A.M.S.

Filed G.S. 11/1.
" G.S. Cables.

11419

Appx C



W.D.

From

Chief, Egyptforce.

To

Chief, London.

A.M.343.

31/3/18.

Desp. 1060.

Your 14408 cipher of 15th March.

Consequent on reorganisation of this command, following is establishment G.H.Q. and I.G.C. proposed for sanction:-

G.H.Q. 1st Echelon. G.S. branch as in your telegram, one of the 5 G.S.O. 3rd Grade to be Censor. Attached General Staff as in your telegram except that 1 special service officer graded as G.S.O.3 is required and only 1 officer for censor duties instead of 2. A.G.'s Branch, Q.M.G.'s branch and special appointments as in your telegram with addition of Naval Adviser. Suggest grading Press Officers as Staff Lieutenants first class. Personal appointments as in your telegram with A.D.G. to G.G.S. in addition. Attached to Headquarters as in your telegram with Staff Officer to Engineer-in-Chief in addition. This last appointment previously sanctioned and very necessary. G.H.Q. 2nd Echelon and special appointments as in your telegram. Headquarters Administrative Services and Departments. Director Army Signals urgently required and am very anxious to retain present holder of that appointment, and he must be a Brigadier-General in view of fact that he will be in charge of signals and telegraphs throughout EGYPT. If this sanctioned only 1 D.D.A.S. required and A.D.A.S.. With regard to other departments a considerable addition to your draft establishment appears to be necessary. There is not only G.H.Q. at ISMAILIA to be considered, but the necessities of CAIRO, PORT SAID, SUEZ, CAIRO and the DELTA, ALEXANDRIA and the whole service of the Western Frontier Force, and in fact the whole of EGYPT, ^{also} must be taken into account. My D.Q.M.G. and I.G.C. have gone into this matter very carefully

with a view to utmost economy consistent with efficiency, and agree that, though in the future further reduction may be possible, at present the requirements are as follows :-

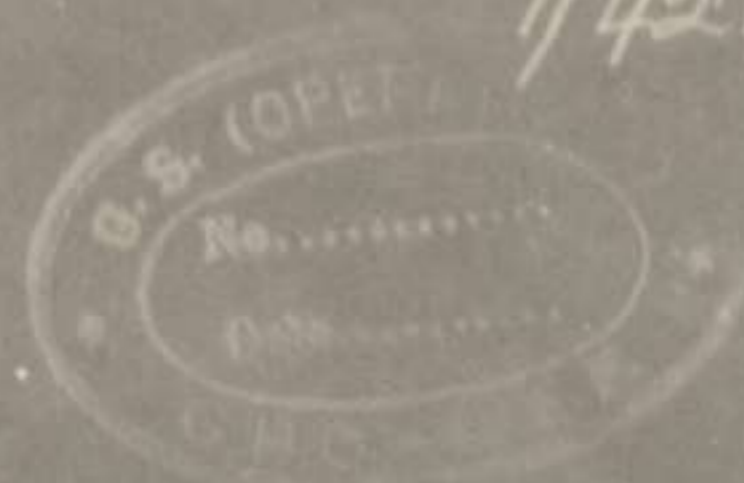
Director of Supply & Transport, Deputy Directors 3, Assistant Directors 3, Deputy Assistant Directors 3. Director Ordnance Services, Deputy Directors 1, Assistant Directors 2, Chief Inspector Ordnance Machinery. Reference your 14905 cipher, the requirements of ALEXANDRIA Ordnance Base Depot are not included and will be submitted separately. Director of Works, Deputy Director, Assistant Directors 2, Deputy Assistant Director. Three Staff Officers (Captains) also required for Works Department. Director of Remounts, Deputy Director, Assistant Directors 2, Deputy Assistant Director. Director Medical Services, Deputy Director, Assistant Directors 3, including one for Egyptian Hospital Services in view of very large number of natives employed, Deputy Assistant Directors 2. Director of Railways, Deputy Director, Assistant Directors 2. Director Veterinary Services, Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Deputy Assistant Director. Director Army Postal Services, Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Deputy Assistant Directors 3, Paymaster-in-Chief, Command Paymaster, Financial Adviser and Assistant. Deputy Judge Advocate General. Principal Chaplain and Assistant. G.H.Q. 3rd Echelon as in your telegram. Total officers 1st Echelon 52, 2nd Echelon 7, Headquarters Administrative Service and Departments 61, 3rd Echelon 14. Headquarters I.G.C. Same reasons apply in asking for increase at any rate for the present. Headquarters, Inspector General Communications; A and Q. Branches, A.A.G., D.A.A.G., Staff Captain, A.Q.M.G., D.A.Q.M.G.'s 2. Attached for cipher work 2 officers; special appointments, A.P.M., Camp Commandant, A.D.C. to I.G.C., total officers 12.

Copies to :-

O.	Q.	D.A.S.
O(b).	I.	I.G.C.
C-in-C.	A.M.S.	
C.G.S.	M.G.R.A.	Filed G.S. 11/1.
A.	E-in-C.	" G.S. Cables.

W-R
From:- Chief, Egypt Force.

To:- Chief, London.



A.M. 344.

31/3/18.

Desp. 1200.

Reference my A.M. 343. In consequence of the re-organisation of this command I have appointed Major-General W. A. Watson, Commander of the L.of C. Defences for this force. He will be responsible for the DELTA Defences and CAIRO Defence Scheme and for the administration of martial law. His H.Q. will be in CAIRO and he will supersede the former G.O.C. CAIRO District. Brig-General R. C. Boyle will continue to act as Base Commandant, ALEXANDRIA, and will also become commander L.of C. Defences ALEXANDRIA. Both these officers will come under I.G.C. for administrative matters. Do not propose to change administrative and embarkation staffs at PORT SAID and SUEZ, nor embarkation staff ALEXANDRIA. Am appointing Administrative Commandant, ISMAILIA. Following establishments therefore require sanction :- DELTA District and L.of C. Defences Egyptian Expeditionary Force; Headquarters, G.O.C., A.D.C., to G.O.C; General Staff, G.S.O.1., ^{ST. GRADE} and G.S.O.3rd grade; A & Q Branches, A.A.& Q.M.G., D.A.A.G, D.A.Q.M.G.; Administrative Services and Departments, A.D.M.S. 1, D.A.D.M.S. 1, A.D.O.S. 1; Special Appointment, A.P.M. ALEXANDRIA District: Headquarters, G.O.C. Brigadier-General; General Staff, G.S.O.3rd grade; A & Q Branches, D.A.A.& Q.M.G., Staff Captains 2, Special Appointments, O.C.Re-inforcements graded as A.A.& Q.M.G., Staff Captain and A.P.M.; Administrative Services and Departments, A.D.M.S. 3, D.A.D.M.S. 2, A.D.O.S. 1. Administrative Commandant, ISMAILIA, Lt-Colonel with Staff Captain. Further, as I consider the efficient training of re-inforcements especially for Australian and New Zealand Units a matter of the utmost importance, I propose to concentrate all of these at TEL EL KEBIR and to create a training centre there for them. The Australasian troops will continue to be

/administered

administered as regards organisation by the Headquarters of their respective forces, but I wish to put the training under a small special staff provisionally constituted as follows :- G.O.C., Major-General, A.D.C. to G.O.C., G.S.C.1st grade, G.S.C.3rd grade, D.A.A. & Q.M.G., D.A.Q.M.G., A.P.M. Presume you will also sanction this establishment which I consider essential.

Copies to :- G.
G(b).
G-in-C.
G.G.S.
A.
Q.
A.M.S.
I.G.C.

Filed G.S.10/3.
" G.S.11/1.
" G.S.Cables.

1/423

WR
R

Approved



From
Chief, Egyptforce.
To
Troopers, London.

A.M.345. 31/3/16. Desp. 1255.

Your 13088 cipher S.D.2.
By A.M. 340 of yesterday, units ceasing to belong
E.E.F., Indian Mule Corps Train included in error.
Please amend accordingly.

Copies to:-

- O.
- O(b).
- C.G.S.
- A.
- Q.
- A.M.S.

Filed G.S. 169.
" G.S. Cables.

1424

N.D.

SECRET

C.S. (OPERATIONS)
No.
Date.
SECRET

URGENT.

MME

From. Governor General, Khartoum.
To. Egyptforce.

312 Cipher.

31/3/16.

Despd. 1220.
Recd. 1425.

(* C.I. 81. 30/3/16 . Noted). My telegram to Sir. A. Murray was as follows:-- Message begins:--
" Your kind help in this matter greatly appreciated. On arrival of Officer in Khartoum will send him with all speed to the front to consult with Commander of DARFUR Expeditionary Force " Message ends.

Copies to :--

- O.
- O(b).
- E-in-C.
- G.S.S.

Filed. G.S. Z/41.
" G.S. Cables.

* Refers to use of ciphers.

SECRET

1/425

From

Chief, Egyptforce.

To

Chief, London.



A.M. 346.

31/3/16.

Desp. 1945.

Evening report. A very reliable agent returned from DAMASCUS reports whole Syrian Army gone north. At DAMASCUS about 6,000 infantry reported. At JERUSALEM only 2,000 infantry. A local agent saw Germans estimated at 500 at KHAN YUNUS flying black, white and red flag, and describes a wireless telegraph station erected at that place.

Copies to:-

O.
O(b).
C-in-C.
C.G.S.
A.M.S.
A.
Q.
M.G.R.A.
E-in-C.
D.A.S.

Filed G.S. Z.29.
" G.S. Cables.

426

RECEIVED



...this report
...should
...reference
...Australian
...telegraph
...Divisions and

From Troopers.
To G. H. Q.

14120 cipher S.D.2.

6/3/18.
7/3/18.

Desp. 2325.
Recd. 0615.
Decd. 0645.

Please wire exact distribution of all armoured
car units both with Naval and Military under your command.

Copies to :-

- O. for action.
- O.(b)
- C.C.S.
- A.
- Q.

Filed G.S. 28.
" G.S. Cables.