

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/5/6 Part 2

Title: Intelligence, General Headquarters,
Mediterranean Expeditionary Force

September 1915



AWM4-1/5/6PART2

B10

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
			<p>APPENDICES TO INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR SEPTEMBER, 1915.</p> <hr/> <p>Maps taken into use during the month, Nos. 1 to 8. App. I.</p> <p>Distribution of Turkish Forces. App. II.</p> <p> a. on 17th September.</p> <p> b. on 30th September.</p> <p>List of prisoners captured.</p> <p> a. during the month of September by British.</p> <p> b. during the month of September by French.</p> <p> c. Since the commencement of operations. App. III.</p> <p>Translation of Turkish documents, Sept. 7th and Sept. 15th. App. IV.</p> <p>Notes on the Armenian Rising at JEBEL MUSA and the massacre at ZEITUN, Intell.</p> <p> Bulletin 27th September. App. V.</p> <p> Turkish Army Organisation, Intelligence Bulletin, 19th September. App. VI.</p>		

Handwritten initials

PROVISIONAL.
1:10,000.

105/6, B.

NOT TO BE CARRIED INTO ANY ATTACK

SQUARES 105 & 106.



SCALE - 1:10,000.

1 cm. = 100 Metres
6 in. = 1 Mile (approx)



REFERENCE

- Roads
- Tracks
- Watercourses
- Limits of fields
- Windmills
- Wells & Springs
- Houses & Buildings
- Scrub

NOTES

- (1) The framework of the Map is based on that of the Turkish 1:25,000 Map
- (2) The detail is taken from Aeroplane photographs.

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NOTES

- (1) Trenches based on information available up to Sept. 23rd 1915.
- (2) Reliance must not be placed on all Turkish trenches being shown.

REFERENCE

- British Trenches
- Turkish Trenches (Traversed)
- Turkish Trenches (Ordinary)
- Trenches (doubtful or under construction)

TRENCH DIAGRAM
SUVLA AREA
No. S. 5.
(PROVISIONAL)

NOTE: Trenches South of the line Chocolate Hill - W Hill are from photos taken 5th September
No new information is available about the trenches North of this line

REFERENCE
TRENCHES (FROM PHOTOGRAPHS)

SCALE: 220 YARDS = 1 INCH



Printing Section
GHQ MEF.
Sept. 7th 1915.

APPENDIX II. (a)

DISTRIBUTION OF TURKISH TROOPS.

17/9/15.

A. Dardanelles Area.

Peninsula Northern
Zone.

Div. 3. bis (one composite Regt.)
from Regts. 31,32,39.)
Div. 4. (10, 11, 12)
Div. 5. (13, 14, 15)
" 6. (16, 17, 18)
" 7. (19, 20, 21)
" 8. (22, 23) (24)+
" 9. (25, 26, 27)
" 11. (33, 126, 127)
" 12. (34, 35, 36)
" 14. (41)
" 16. (47, 48, 125)
" 19. (57, 72, 77)
" 26. (59, 76, 78) *

Regt. 64.

Peninsula Southern
Zone.

Div. 1. (70, 71, 124)
" 10. (28, 29, 30)
" 13. (4, 46, 60)
" 14. (42, 55)

Asiatic Side.

Div. 2.

Div. 24. (Regt.3)?

Keshan - Bulair.

Div. 15. (38, 45, 56)
" 24. (2, 58)
" 27. (79, 80, 81) e
" 25. (73, 74, 75)

* No contact, but Regt. 76 definitely reported by prisoners in
SUVLA area.

e Probably arrived by now in this area, but not certain.

+ The 24th Regt. may now have returned from Syria with the
Syrian troops. It was reported as having gone CONSTANTINOPLE
TO ADRIANOPLE in August.

B. Constantinople and Thrace.

Believed to be no regular formation, only depot troops and
Mustafiz.

C. Smyrna.

Div. 20. (61, 62, 63)
" (35?) (65, 66, 123) d

d Recently formed, composition still doubtful.

S.M.

D. Syria and Cilicia.

Southern Syria. Div. 23. (67, 68, 69)

(Homs Muretteb Div. * (A skeleton Div. reported to have no
Aleppo. (officers or formed regiments.

(Div. 42 ? (130, 131, 132) *

Adana. Div. 41[Ⓢ] ? (133)

* Very much below strength; composition and numbers somewhat
doubtful. Ill armed.

Ⓢ Apparently only one Regt. Ill armed.

E. Mesopotamia.

Five divisions formed on basis of original 35th and 38th
Divisions; composition and strength not known.

F. Caucasus.

IX A.C. (Div. 17. (49, 50, 51)
(Div. 28. (82, 83, 84)
(Div. 29. (85, 86, 87)

X A.C. (Div. 30. (88, 89, 90)
(Div. 31. (91, 92, 93)
(Div. 32. (94, 95, 96)

XI A.C. (Div. 18. (53, 98, 102)
(Div. 33. (52, 97, 99)
(Div. 34. (54, 100, 101)

3rd. Composite Division 7, 9, 44.

5th Composite Division 37, 40, 43.

Div. 36. (106, 107, 108)

Div. 37. (109, 110, 111)

One reserve Division (Composition unknown)

Independant and Gendarmerie Battalions, Kurds, Frontier Battalions,

8th Infantry Regt., 2nd Mush Regt., etc., etc.

^{much}
Very/mixed up.

L.M.

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Appendix II (C)

DISTRIBUTION OF TURKISH TROOPS.

30/9/10.

The following shows the changes which have taken place during the last 2 weeks:-

A. Dardanelles Area.

<u>Peninsula N. Zone.</u>		<u>Peninsula, S. Zone.</u>
Division 2. (1, 5)	(a)	Division 1 (70, 71, 124)
" 3. bis (31, 32, 39)	(b)	" 10. (28, 29, 30)
" 6. (16, 17, 18)		" 13. (4, 46, 60)
" 7. (19, 20, 21)		" 14. (41, 42, 55) (i)
" 8. (22, 23, 24)	(d)	
" 9. (25, 26, 27)		<u>Asiatic Side.</u> (k)
" 12. (34, 35, 36)		Division 2 (6th Regt.)
" 16. (47, 48, 125)		" 24 (2 and 3)
" 19. (57, 72, 64)	(e)	
" 26. (76, 78)	(f)	<u>Keshan - Bulair.</u>
Detached, at KABA TEPE Regt. 77	(g)	Division 15. (38, 45, 56)
<u>In reserve.</u>		" 24. (58)
Division 11 (33, 126, 127)	(h)	" 26. (59)
		" 25. (73, 74, 75)
		" (c) (4. (10, 11, 12)
		" (5. (13, 14, 15)

Notes.

- (a) These two regiments were brought over from CHANAK in August.
- (b) The number of battalions is still uncertain; a 32nd Regiment is reported as being sent from CONSTANTINOPLE 19th September, and it is probable that efforts are being made to bring the division up to establishment.
- (c) Divisions 4 and 5 are reported withdrawn. They may have been moved to the KESHAN - BULAIR Zone to be reformed, as they suffered very heavy losses.
- (d) The 24th Regiment has rejoined the 8th Division.
- (e) The 64th Regiment appears to be attached to the 19th Div.
- L. M.

- (f) The 59th Regiment has not yet^{been} reported on the Peninsula, and is probably still in the KESHAN - BULAIR area.
- (g) The 77th Regiment is at KABA TEPE apparently detached from the 19th Division.
- (h) The 11th Division is no longer in the first line.
- (i) The whole of the 41st Regiment is now in the Southern Zone. Prisoners state that the 14th Division is about to be relieved by another.
- (k) The composition of the force on the Asiatic side is doubtful. It was normally about 4 regiments. The 3rd Regiment is reported to have gone to CHANAK from HAIDAR PASHA, and another Arab regiment, which may be the 2nd, is reported to have crossed over from the Peninsula. Latest information gives the force on the Asiatic side as about 8,000.

B. Constantinople Area.

The 20th Division is arriving from SMYRNA. The arrival of Division 42 from N. SYRIA is doubtfully reported, and not yet confirmed.

The Turks are endeavouring to form 27 new battalions at CONSTANTINOPLE. With this year's recruits and the levies of ages 43 - 45, convalescents, etc., there are probably enough men available.

C. Smyrna Area.

The 27th Division has been brought to SMYRNA from SYRIA, replacing the 20th Division.

There is also a reserve division (Regts. 65, 66, 123)

General.

The Turks are reported to be trying to form four new Army Corps - 14, 15, 16, 17. These will presumably include the troops in KESHAN - BULAIR, CONSTANTINOPLE, and possibly SMYRNA. With the recent levies they should be able to collect the number of men

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- 3 -

required, but it is difficult to see how artillery, officers, rifles, etc., are to be provided for such a force.

S. M.

APPENDIX III.

a. List of prisoners captured during the month of September by British:-

1st. Regiment.	1.	52nd. Regiment.	1.
12th. "	2.	34th. "	2.
13th. "	1.	36th. "	2.
14th. "	1.	39th. "	1.
16th. "	2.	41st. "	1.
20th. "	1.	60th.. "	1.
22nd. "	1.	126th. "	1.
30th. "	1.	Gendarmeries	2.
			<hr/>
		Total	21.
			<hr/> <hr/>

b. List of prisoners captured during the month of September by French:-

42nd. Regiment 2. 55th. Regiment 2. = Total 4.

S. M.

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Appendix III. (continued.)

c. List of prisoners captured since the commencement of operations:-

1st Regiment	5.	39th Regiment	10.
5th Regiment	9.	41st Regiment	6.
6th Regiment	12.	42nd Regiment	8.
10th Regiment	252.	45th Regiment	60.
11th Regiment	138.	46th Regiment	19.
12th Regiment	6.	47th Regiment	124.
13th Regiment	18.	48th Regiment	12.
14th Regiment	415.	55th Regiment	2.
15th Regiment	172.	56th Regiment	139.
16th Regiment	58.	57th Regiment	35.
17th Regiment	9.	60th Regiment	1.
18th Regiment	18.	70th Regiment	3.
19th Regiment	256.	71st Regiment	1.
20th Regiment	175.	72nd Regiment	9.
21st Regiment	37.	75th Regiment	1.
22nd Regiment	19.	77th Regiment	1.
23rd Regiment	2.	125th Regiment	2.
25th Regiment	40.	126th Regiment	23.
26th Regiment	108.	127th Regiment	11.
27th Regiment	8.	Engineers	20.
30th Regiment	5.	Various	64.
31st Regiment	84.	Germans	8.
32nd Regiment	131.	Gendarmerie	32.
33rd Regiment	153.	Unclassified (captured by French)	450.
34th Regiment	16.		
36th Regiment	12.	Total	<u>3205.</u>
37th Regiment	1.		
38th Regiment	5.		

APPENDIX IV.

TRANSLATION OF TURKISH ORDER.

(Intelligence Bulletin, 7/9/15.)

To: Essad Pasha, Commanding the Third Army Corps. (Undated.)

Thanks for your war present. I have sent the machine gun and the leather case for the "Mauser". I am looking forward to many more presents, thanks to the indomitable keenness and valour of the 19th Division. The greatest present that you could send would be a telegram that they had completely wiped out the enemy in front of them. I am quite sure that by the grace of God they will succeed in doing this. But before ^{this} some "live presents" would be acceptable. This can be affected by night attacks carried out silently and cautiously.

(Signed) Enver, Commander-in-Chief.

To: O.C., 19th Division. (Undated.)

One of the enemy's machine guns taken by an assault carried out by the 57th and 64th Regiments during the action at ARI BURUN as well as some of the enemy's rifles taken by the 19th Division and troops attached to it were forwarded as a "war present" to the Commander-in-Chief. A copy of the above telegram received in acknowledgment has been written above. I am confident that the troops will vie with one another in accomplishing the Commander-in-Chief's special orders, with reference to the capture of prisoners.

I also feel sure that with the aid of the Almighty and the Spirit of the Prôphet we shall before long be able to send the looked-for telegram to the Commander-in-Chief to say that we have driven the enemy into the sea and cleared them out of our blessed country. And the victory is with God.

(Signed) Essad, Commanding 3rd Army Corps
and Northern Group. *S.M.*

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APPENDIX IV. (continued)

TRANSLATED TURKISH DOCUMENT.

Intelligence Bulletin, 15/9/15.

List of casualties (taken from journal of O.C. 14th Regiment).

May 1st to 32nd June.

	<u>Killed.</u>	<u>Wounded.</u>	<u>Missing.</u>
Officers.	1.	8.	
Men.	129.	805.	161.
	130.	813.	161.

3.19

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APPENDIX V.

Armenian Rising at JEBEL MUSA.

(Intelligence Bulletin, 27/9/15.)

The facts related below are a summary of the Armenian rising at JEBEL MUSA, the mountain commanding the Bay of ANTIOCH:-

It appears that the Armenians of the villages around the JEBEL received eviction orders on July 30th. Recent events elsewhere proved to them that eviction was generally accompanied by transference to foodless areas, separation from, and often seduction and rape of their women and children. They determined to resist the order and cling to their homes. A Turkish force of regular troops, between 1,000 and 2,000 strong thereupon was sent to attack these Armenians, whose numbers, men, women, children and aged amounted to some 5,000 souls.

The Armenian leader, previous to the attack had an interview with the French Admiral, begging him to embark the women and children and asking for 300 rifles, ammunition and 100 sacks of flour. If these were granted the men could hold out for a long time. On the 10th the French ship the "Desaix" observed the Turks attacking JEBEL MUSA, asked leave to bombard the Turkish position and wished to embark the women at once. On the 11th the Admiral wired that embarkation of all the Armenian men as well as women was necessary as they had ammunition for two days only. It appears, however, that while some 3,000 of the women folk &c. were embarked, the men remained fighting, and the unequal battle between 400 Armenians and 2,000 Turks continued throughout August up till the 10th of September, no quarter being given on either side.

The rising was caused by the general fear of massacre, by fiscal exactions, cattle thefts, the kidnapping of their women by Moslems and finally by the order to leave their villages. The total Armenian fighting force never exceeded 600 of whom about half had done their military service. Unfortunatelt they were armed some with Graz, some with Mauser rifles, some only with pistols or shot guns; and their

L. O. M.

3.16

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APPENDIX V. (continued.)

resistance was much weakened by having to use black powder which prevented ^{them} concealing their positions from the Turks.

The rising at JEBEL MUSA was not the work of FEDAIS, or the result of HINCHAK or other revolutionary propaganda, but the spontaneous decision of a terrorised and persecuted community to rebel, rather than be witnesses to the abduction of their women, the forced conversion to Islam of their children or themselves experience the recent fate of their people in other parts of Turkey.

The following incident is reported with reference to similar events at ZEITUN:-

About a month ago a German officer dressed himself as a British Officer and went to ZEITUN, where the Armenian inhabitants are said to be in touch with the British Government.

The German representing himself as from the British Authorities collected all the plans, signals, etc. and said the British were ready and that they were to act at the sign of the signal.

This German then got the Turkish troops together and after giving the supposed signal, attacked and killed all the male inhabitants, few escaping to the hills. Zeitun was pillaged; the women and children were taken on foot to KARAMAN and thence to KARA BOUNAR, where they were left to their fate.

J.M.

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APPENDIX VI.

(Intelligence Bulletin. 19/9/15.)

TURKISH ARMY ORGANISATION.

1. Shortly before the mobilization of 1914 the Ottoman Army had been reorganised in accordance with the changes necessitated by the events of the Balkan War. The principal changes adopted were:-
 - (a) Reduction of the number of units.
 - (b) Abolition of redif formations.
 - (c) Nizam Regiments in peace time to consist of 2 active and one cadre battalion.

2. In accordance with this scheme the country was divided into four Inspection Areas with H.Q. at CONSTANTINOPLE, ERINJAN, DAMASCUS and BAGHDAD.

The Army was organised in 13 Army Corps and 2 Independent Divisions. Some Corps consisted of 3 and some of 2 Divisions.

3. The First Inspection contained A.C. I to V inclusive, each with 3 divisions (1 - 15 inclusive.)

The Regiments composing these divisions were Nos. 1, 4 to 30 inclusive, 33 to 38 inclusive, 40 to 45 inclusive, 70, 71, 124, 126, 127.

The Second Inspection contained A.C. IX, X, XI, each of 3 divisions (17, 18, 28 to 34 inclusive.)

The Regiments composing these divisions were Nos. 49 to 54 inclusive, 82 to 102 inclusive.

The Third Inspection contained A.C. VI and VIII, each of 2 divisions (16, 25, 26, 27.)

The Regiments composing these divisions were Nos. 47 and 48, 73 to 81 inclusive and 125.

The Fourth Inspection contained A.C. XII and XIII, each of 2 divisions, (35 to 38 inclusive.)

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The Regiments composing these divisions were Nos. 103 to 114 inclusive.

The VII A.C. and two Independent Divisions amounted to 4 divisions (21, 22, 39, 40.)

The Regiments composing these divisions were Nos. 115 to 122, 128, 129, 130. (The 21st Division had only 2 Regiments.)

4. There were therefore in peace time 36 divisions numbered up to 40:- 19, 20, 23 and 24 were vacant numbers.

Those contained 107 regiments, numbered up to 130:- 2, 3, 31, 32, 39, 46, 55 to 69 inclusive and 123 were vacant numbers.

5. Since the outbreak of war new units have been formed which absorb the vacant numbers both divisional and regimental.

(a) Division 19 is on the Peninsula, Division 20 at SMYRNA, Division 23 in SYRIA and Division 24 at KESHAN.

(b) Many of the newly formed regiments have been at various times transferred from one division to another in accordance with the requirements of the situation and consequent on the formation of the following composite divisions in addition to those mentioned in (a):-

3rd (bis) Division which was at KUM KALE in April.

5th Composite Division composed of one regiment from each division of the V A.C., which was sent to the Caucasus.

A composite Division from the 1st Army Corps which was sent to MESOPOTAMIA in December, 1914, and has now ceased to exist.

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(c) As the result of these changes the newly formed regiments are now allotted as follows:-

Regts. 2, 3, 58 belong to the 24th Division.

Regts. 31,32,39, belong to the 3rd (bis) Division.

Regt. 46 and 60 belong to the 13th Division.

"	55	"	"	14th	"
"	56	"	"	15th	"
"	57	"	"	19th	"
"	59	"	"	26th	"
"	61,62,63	"	"	20th	"
"	64			Unallotted.	
"	65,66,123	"	"	SMYRNA Reserve Division. (No.35?) *	
"	67,68,69	"	"	23rd Division.	

(* The original 35th Division has been broken up.)

6. The Turks have therefore raised 22 new regular regiments since the outbreak of war, in addition to irregular formations, gendarmerie regiments etc., the majority of which are in the Caucasus.

7. (a) It is reported that two new divisions, Nos. 42 and 41, are being formed at ALEPPO and ADANA respectively.

The regimental numbers of these are believed to be:- for the 42nd Division Nos. 130, 131, 132; for the 41st Division Nos. 133, 134, 135.

(The 130th Regiment is believed to have been brought from the HEDJAZ to SYRIA.)

These two divisions are very weak; some of the units do not exist and they are armed with Snider or Remington rifles.

(b) The presence of a 141st Regiment has been reported from MESOPOTAMIA.

8. From the above it appears that the Turks, having filled up the vacant numbers of divisions and regiments which existed in their peace organisation, are giving numbers subsequent to 40 and 130 to the divisions and regiments respectively which they are now endeavouring to form. There are several divisions in MESOPOTAMIA and the Caucasus whose composition and numbers are not at present known, but it seems probable that as the result of the reorganisation there, instead of the divisional numbers which are already allotted being duplicated, they will be given numbers subsequent to 42.

*By Russell
H. Col. G.S.*

J. M.