

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/6/10 Part 3

Title: General Staff, General
Headquarters, Egyptian
Expeditionary Force

January 1917



AWM4-1/6/10PART3

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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G.S.O. G.H.Q. E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo	21.1.17	1945	Wire Chief London - <u>Evening report</u> All well - A.M. 1529	
	21.1.17	2111	Wire from Chief, London - 23624 It has been decided by the War Committee that gas shell may be employed against the Turks. None are available at present.	
	21.1.17	0240	Wire from Troopers - 28248 No machine guns are available in INDIA to equip the Calcutta Machine gun motor machine gun battery. Can they be equipped in EGYPT? Vickers guns will be sent as opportunity offers.	
	21.1.17	1105	Wire Troopers - A.M. 1526 This battery can be armed in EGYPT as stated in A.M. 1510 of 17.1.17.	
	21.1.17	1225	Wire from Chief, Salonika - G.472 In reply to a request to find a G.S. officer from the Army at SALONIKA as an instructor at the Staff School, MINA, a promise to endeavour to find such an officer was received. It was asked whether he would receive staff grading. Another officer is being found by the E.E.F. from the QMG's Branch. It appears that two instructors (the present establishment) is insufficient - Sanction for a further G.S. (a) and a further D.A.R.M.G. is therefore asked for from the War Office.	
	21.1.17	1945	Wire Troopers - A.M. 1528	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	21/17		<p>Letter to Middle East O.S. 2/58/2. B7c-</p> <p>The maintenance of the flooded areas, East of the Maritime Canal, is a source of considerable expense. It is hoped that artificial inundation may possibly be discontinued. It is therefore requested, that the R.F.C. should, for the information of the Engineer-in-Chief, arrange to have a set of photographs of these inundations taken, paying particular attention to the South western portion.</p>	
	21/17		<p>Letter to Eastern Force -</p> <p>The following increase in the establishment of M.C.O.'s for the HONG KONG & SINGAPORE battery has been twice considered put forward to the War Office -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Havildars - 4 Narks - 6 paid a/Narks - <p>It is not considered necessary for the Salutari to have the rank and pay of a Havildar Major.</p> <p>Endearments are being made to find Hindustani speaking Royal Artillery Sergeants, but there is little prospect of finding any.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	21.17.		<p>Letter to Eastern Force. G.S. 327/14.</p> <p>As a consequence of the Conference of Medical Officers, regarding mobile establishments of Field Ambulances, new draft establishments for the Anzac MFD Division, and 2 Mounted Brigade Field Ambulances are forwarded.</p> <p>It is understood that these Field Ambulances are at present working on the establishments shown in "Proposed Establishment of a Mounted Division etc with Camel Transport".</p> <p>It is requested that this office may be informed how far the present method employed is working, and whether it is considered advisable to proceed with the reorganisation as shown in the enclosed draft establishment.</p>	A.
	21.17.		<p>Letter to Commandant Staff School. M.I.N.A.</p> <p>A complete syllabus of outside lectures for the 1st Course at the Staff School, is forwarded.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	21.17		<p>On 21.17 information was received by the High Commissioner that H.H. EMIR ABDULLA, Commandant of the Sherif's North Eastern Army had brought off a successful emp. At 1335 on 19.1.17. at a place at a place two days distant from ABOU EL NA'AM, and N.E. of it, he took by surprise the Turkish commander ASHRAF BEY. ASHRAF BEY was going to HAIL on a mission carrying several messages; with him 34 prisoners, £20,000 in gold, camels, horses, a Shrapnel (machine?) gun, and a large quantity of ammunition were taken. ASHRAF BEY was probably going East to purchase supplies and camels.</p> <p>ABDULLA then continued to EL AIS, having crossed the railway line in rear of the Turkish forces, and camped there.</p> <p>ABDULLA had only 8 camels, and divided up the money amongst his men.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	22/1/17		<p><u>Raid on Siwa Oasis (Note by Oa)</u></p> <p>In view of the desirability of releasing as many troops as possible from the Western Frontier force for service in the Eastern Force, the question of a raid against SIWA oasis was raised. Such raid if successfully carried out would render exceedingly remote the likelihood of any attempt by the Senussi to approach the Nile Valley from the west and would accordingly justify the reduction of the garrisons throughout the Western Frontier Force.</p> <p>The Commander-in-Chief having decided that such a raid should be carried out with the special object of effecting the capture of Sayed Ahmed and of inflicting sak-lee as much loss as possible upon the remnant of his followers, the Director of Supplies and Transport was asked to estimate the number of transport camels required to supply and maintain the following force, operating at a distance of 200 miles from a base at <u>MERSA MATRUH</u>, it being understood that the troops would carry 5 days complete rations and that water for men and animals would be available at the necessary stages during the march.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Proposed Force.</u></p> <p>4 companies, Imperial Camel Corps (185 men and 215 camels each). 2 companies Bikanir Camel Corps (85 men and 96 camels each) 4 Light armoured motor batteries (approximately 120 men and 30 vehicles).</p> <p>The whole force to be under the command of Brigadier-General Hodgson, with specially selected staff.</p> <p>On going closely into the matter the Director of Supplies and Transport reported that the operation was impossible with camel transport unless an extensive system of depots at intervals of a day's march was arranged beforehand. The crux of the difficulty lies in the fact that the female camels available only carry loads of 250 lbs, i.e. each one would only carry sufficient forage for its own consumption on a 200 miles march. Under these circumstances the relay system necessary to permit of the operation being carried out would have required approximately 10,000 camels. It being quite impossible to devote such a number to this work an alternative scheme for the utilisation of Ford motor vans in lieu of camel transport was put forward.</p> <p>The proposed scheme consisted in forming a large depot 100 miles from the starting point, in which would accumulated all the supplies needed by the Column during the operation. This</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices										
			<p>depot would be established before the column left MERSA MATRUH and would be treated as a base from which it would be possible to operate with 35 supply cars, the scheme being worked out on the following basis:-</p> <table> <tr> <td>Load of a Ford van.</td> <td>1200 lbs.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weight of European day's ration.</td> <td>5 "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Day's forage for a camel.</td> <td>14 "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maximum distance to be covered by each car daily -</td> <td>100 miles</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5% of cars spare.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Instructions were given (20/1/17) that no more Ford vans were to be despatched eastwards from KANTARA pending further orders.</p> <p>A Conference was held at General Headquarters on 22/1/17 to discuss the whole question of the raid. Present :-</p> <p>Chief of the General Staff, General Officer Commanding, Western Frontier Force, Director of Supplies and Transport, Brigadier-General Hodgson, and the Officer Commanding Light Car Patrol.</p> <p>The composition of the proposed force was discussed and approved and it was clearly laid down that the operation should be directed only against the Oases of SIWA and GIRBA, and that special care should be taken to avoid damage to anything of a sacred character in these places. On no account should our troops enter or make any hostile demonstration against the oasis of JAGHBUB. As a result of the Conference, General Hodgson was instructed to prepare and submit, as early as possible, his proposed plan of operations, showing,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The general scheme. The approximate date on which the operation would commence. The approximate ^{date on which} he calculates SIWA would be reached. Detail arrangements for the supply of the forces during the operation. Medical arrangements proposed. 	Load of a Ford van.	1200 lbs.	Weight of European day's ration.	5 "	Day's forage for a camel.	14 "	Maximum distance to be covered by each car daily -	100 miles	5% of cars spare.		
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo	22.1.17	1743	Wire from Desert. Column H.I. 776.	
	22.1.17	1940	Wire Chief, London. A.M. 1530.	
	22.1.17	1015	Wire Eastern Force - 0957.	
	22.1.17	1454	Wire from Troopers - 28283.	
	22.1.17	2010	Wire Troopers - A.M. 1531.	
	22.1.17	1505	Wire from Genl Hoskins. DAR-ES-SALAMM G/44.	

No enemy aircraft activity today -

Evening report - All well -

The brigade and details at SUEZ, for RABEGH, need no longer be held in readiness to proceed overseas -

The establishment submitted for the Egyptian Labour Corps on 5.1.17. is approved - (This establishment dealt with ① Sub inspectors. ② Recruiting officers. ③ Branch Hdqrs. ④ Camp Hdqrs. ⑤ Distribution Camp, Canal Zone -)

It is requested that a decision may ^{now} be given concerning the proposed formation of one Railway Operating Division from the 53rd, 274th, and 276th, Railway Companies - (A.M. 14954: 10.1.17)

Weekly return of distribution of R.F.C. and R.N.A.S. in E. AFRICA.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	22.1.17.	2300.	Wire from General Baova. X 388. Account of fighting in MESOPOTAMIA from about 15.1.17. to 22.1.17.	B
	22.1.17.		Letter to Western Force - 1st Bikanir Camel Corps very shortly. In accordance with your request every effort is being made to find a further three interpreters.	
	22.1.17.		Letter to The Secretary War Office - G.S. 485. An establishment for the formation of a Gas Directorate at G.H.Q. is forwarded for sanction; also provisional gas establishments for brigades and divisions in this force. The establishment includes the necessary staff for the Central Gas School at Tel-el-Kebir, which is about to open. As the Chemical Adviser will often be away inspecting, and the school is isolated from all other formations, it is recommended that the Assistant Chemical Adviser may be granted the ^{temporary} rank of captain captain, for disciplinary purposes.	C

William Giff

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Cairo.	23.1.17	1865.	Wire from Desert Column - H.I. 779	No enemy aircraft activity today.
	23.1.17	2000	Wire Troopers - A.M. 1534 -	Evening report - All well.
	23.1.17	1920	Wire Chief London - A.M. 1533 -	The 42nd Divn has been selected for FRANCE. On what establishment should it proceed? There is no Train or D.A.C. in this division - It is hoped that Brigade Ammunition Columns may be retained - Presumably the Divisional Cavalry Squadron will not accompany the division.
	23.1.17	0457	from Wire Troopers. 28319.	The proposals for the staff of the Northern, & Southern Canal Sections, and administrative Commandants for Eastern Force are approved.
	23.1.17		Letter to Western Force. G.S. 2/28/11.	With reference to the proposed raid into SIWA, the following staff officers are placed at the disposal of C.O.C. Western Force - G.S. Capt J.A.H. Gammell, M.C. - R.A. (Chief Staff Officer) 2/Lt. (Temp. Captain) J.L. Benson, Shropshire Light Inf.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Administrative Staff.</u>	
	23.117.		<p>Letter to; Arms Western Force - <u>Intelligence</u>. G.S.Z. 28/11.</p> <p>Major A.B.P. Pereira. A.S.C. Capt. J.A. Agnew. Suffolk Yeomanry - Capt. L. Royle. M.C. R.F.C. (late Egyptian Coastguard Service) Capt. M. Macdonnell - G.H.Q. - G.S. 'I'</p> <p>The Column will be commanded by Lt Col. Hodgson.</p>	
			<p>Letter to; Delta District. G.S. 440.</p> <p>The anti-aircraft searchlights ^{at ABBASSIA and CAIRO} will remain under ^{ANA} G.O.C. Delta District. On receipt of the information as to where the control point of these lights is situated, the Director of Army Signals will arrange for direct communication between this Man and Hdqrs. Delta District.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo	24.1.17	1802	Wire from Desert Column H. I 780	Two hostile aeroplanes flew over EL ARISH and Kilo 141 this morning - No bombs were dropped.
	24.1.17	2030	Wire Chief, London A.M. 1535	<u>Evening report</u> - All well.
	24.1.17	0512	Wire from Troopers 28378	The proposal put forward for the granting of rank of Lt. Colonel to the C.O., and the addition of a major as 2nd in command of the an Imperial Camel Battalion is approved.
	24.1.17	2145	Wire from C.G.S. Delhi 5150	The 1/6 East Surrey Regt. will arrives at ADEN on 6.2.17. On arrival the 1/4 D.C.L.I. will embark in the same transport, "EGRA", for EGYPT.
	24.1.17	2200	Wire from Chief. Salonka G 501	Two suitable officers as instructors for the Staff School are available - One is a G.S.O.(2); one is a Brigade Major. Can a reply be given as to grading?

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G.S. '01 G.H.Q. E.E.F. 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24-17	2234	Wire from Troopers - 22253.	
			Although the Staff Course was delayed in starting, owing to two instructors going down in the "IVERNIA", the period may be extended to admit of four complete courses being carried out.	
	24-17	0705	Wire from Troopers 22222 22273.	
			In reply to this office *G.S. 429 of 5.117. it is requested as to how many beds there are in the Prisoners of War Hospital - ABBASSIA. *(War Establishment Submitted.)	
	24-17		<u>LANDING OF TROOPS at AKABA.</u>	
			Considering the question of landing of European troops at RABEGH to be definitely closed, the French Government offered assistance to the British Government in landing at AKABA - In a wire to Pearson, JEDDAH. The High Commissioner gives a definite decision on this question and states that the information must be handed on to Col. Brewand of the French Mission; To the following effect: - "In view of our present military commitments in SINAI and elsewhere, we cannot spare the troops and transport, which would be necessary to undertake operations against the HEDJAZ Railway. Plans to make more extended raids with aircraft on the Railway are being considered."	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24.1.17.		<p>Orders were given for 80 Camels to be lent to Western Force for the BAHARIA operations - 40 of these Camels have not yet been returned to the Imperial Camel Corps. ABBASSIA - This should now be done -</p>	
	24.1.17.		<p>Recently a hostile aeroplane, coming in from the sea, surprised the aerodrome at KANTARA. C.O.C. Middle East Brigade is anxious to know if the drifters lying off EL ARISH might be fitted with W/T sets, in order to give warning to the R.F.C. of the approach of hostile aircraft from the sea. It is believed that some of these drifters are equipped with W/T, but apparently the drifters off EL ARISH are not so equipped - It is pointed out to the Naval Commander-in-Chief that arrangements as above would be of great military value, and his opinion upon the feasibility of the suggestions is asked for -</p>	
	24.1.17.		<p>3 officers and 10 other ranks have been instructed to report Bureau to O.C. Naval Armoured Cars, ISMAILIA to complete the personnel for the Armoured Cars for the HEDJAZ.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	24.17		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force G.S. 438.</p> <p>It has been decided to attach Major J.V. MACARTNEY M.C. No. 158 Coy M.G. Corps. to Eastern Force Headquarters, for the purpose of assisting in the Training and Administration of Machine Gun units. His duties will be:-</p> <p>(a) <u>Administration</u>. to watch the interests of the M.G. Corps units and to advise the Administrative Staff on the following points -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Promotion of officers - (ii) Selection of officers for appointment to M.G. Corps. (iii) Selection of N.C.O.'s and men for appointment to the Cadet battalions, M.G. Corps. <p>(b.) Training and inspections -</p> <p>(c) Operations - To assist Divisional Commanders when required on the employment of machine guns tactically.</p> <p>A report on all M.G. units in Eastern Force, will be required on (a) Training (b) Administration (c) Transport.</p>	
	24.17		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force G.S. 438/1.</p> <p>Lt. Col. NISBET, M.G. CORPS, attached to G.H.Q. for special duty in connection with Machine Gunnery, will shortly visit</p>	103

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Hdqs. Eastern Force, with a view to discussing points concerning the administration and training of M.G. Corps units in Eastern Force. He also wishes to visit some of the units in the field, in order to get in touch with the local conditions.</p>	
	24.11		<p>Letter to; A.D.A.P.&S.S. Provisional sanction is given to the new establishment for the Army Printing & Stationery Dept, as forwarded to this office by A.D.A.P.&S.S.</p> <p>A draft application for this establishment should be forwarded to this office for transmission to the War Office for sanction.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo	25.17.	2000.	<p>Wire Troopers - A.M. 1539 -</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Evening report</u> - All well -</p>	
	25.17.		<p>Wire from H.M.S. Fox to Aden -</p> <p>A landing party from H.M.S. Fox and other ships of the RED SEA FLEET landed and took the town of WEJH on Jan. 23rd. 12 Tanks were killed and 55 captured, the remainder of the garrison retreating to an island force. Our casualties were one officer killed, one seaman wounded. The landing party disembarked the same evening.</p>	
	25.17.		<p>Wire Chief London - A.M. 1537.</p> <p>It is requested that sanction may be given for the formation of a 2nd MTD. DIVN. The brigades would be reorganised as under: -</p> <p>(i) <u>ANZAC MTD. DIVN.</u> - Consisting of 1 Yeomanry Bde - M.Z.M.R. Bde, and 2 A.L.H. Bdes.</p> <p>(ii) <u>IMPERIAL MTD. DIVN.</u> Consisting of 2 Yeomanry Bdes - and 2 A.L.H. Bdes. B. Genl. Hodgson G.O.C. 230th Bde. is recommended for the command of this Division.</p> <p>Staff and divisional troops can be found locally, except 1 Pack W/T Station, whose establishment should coincide with that of the ANZAC MTD. DIVN.</p>	

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	24.17.	0705.	Wire from Troopers. 28380.	
	25.17.	1135.	Wire from Troopers. A.M. 1536.	
	25.17.		Letter to D.C. Troops. G.S. 400. CYPRUS.	

The increase in the establishment of the HONG KONG & SINGAPORE BATTERY, which has been asked for in A.M. 1517 of 19.11.17, is not understood by the War Office.

Explanations have been given to the following effect: namely, that the establishment submitted for this battery in G.S. 223 of 10.11.16, was on a camel basis, and was not to be considered a permanent establishment. It was presumed that the increase requested in G.S. 223 of 9.9.16, was still under consideration at the War Office. As these European N.C.O.'s did not exist at that time, they were not shown on camel establishments. These N.C.O.'s are urgently needed and the request made in September still holds good.

It is noted that the R.G.A. detachment will remain at LARNACA. At present it is not possible to lend a gun for the defence of FAMA GUSTA, but it seems unlikely that the enemy will risk hitting their own men in the Prisoners of War Camp at that place, when such an excellent target as the W/T Station at LARNACA exists.

A motor cycle and sidecar is being despatched for the removal of the vital parts of the plant of the W/T Station, in case of necessity.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	25.1.17		<p><u>SIWA.</u></p> <p>Wire East Force - CA 263.</p> <p>The following units are required for Special Service on the WESTERN FRONT. Two Coys I.C.C., one section Hong Kong and Singapore Mountain Batty, (without camels), 16 O.R. - R.A.M.C. accustomed to camels. One Coy I.C.C. can be replaced by the middle of February. These units will be away from Eastern Force for about 6 weeks. Marching out-stalls should be wired to D.G.M.G. - G.H.Q. who will notify train timings.</p>	
	25.1.17		<p>Wire from Troopers. 28475.</p> <p>The 42nd Divn. will be prepared to embark at short notice - For detailed instructions as to establishments see appendix -</p>	A.
	25.1.17		<p>Wire Troopers - A.M. 1538.</p> <p><u>Weekly movement return:-</u></p> <p>811th Coy A.S.C. } allotted to Eastern Force 201st Siege Batty R.G.A. }</p> <p>2nd Loyalt. North Lanes. incorporated in E.E.F. and allotted to Delta District.</p>	
	25.1.17		<p>Wire from Troopers. # 28464.</p> <p>The proposal to form a Railway Operating Division of three Railway Companies is approved, but no guarantee can be given that 'A' men will be replaced, if transferred to bring this division up to strength, from other units -</p>	

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G.S. 01 G.H. 01 E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	25.1.17.		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force - F.S. 212.</p> <p>With reference to the question of the formation of a machine gun unit for the Imperial Camel Brigade, it has been decided to organise this unit as a Machine Gun Company, in order to avoid the difficulties entailed by transferring men from the Infantry to the Cavalry branch of this Corps; also reinforcements for the Infantry branch are more likely to be forthcoming than for the Cavalry branch.</p> <p>Two sections of the normal M.G. Coy is a suitable unit, as it allows one subsection (2 guns) for each battalion and one subsection in reserve.</p> <p>The personnel will be found from the M.G. Coy of the late 1st Dismounted Bde.</p> <p>The provisional establishment was forwarded as per appendix</p>	B
	25.1.17.		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force G.S. 485.</p> <p>A Central Gas School has been established at TEL-EL-KEBIR, under the Chemical Adviser, Maj. WYETH, M.C.</p> <p>Courses will be arranged at first for Divisional Gas Officers and Brigade Gas N.C.O's - on the completion of these two courses, Divisional Gas Schools will be established.</p> <p>A battalion Hdqrs will have one Gas N.C.O. as also will each company. These N.C.O's will be trained in the Divisional Gas Schools.</p> <p>Lectures on Gas and Smoke attacks will be given at the Central Gas School. For details see appendix -</p>	C

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C. S. O. - G. H. Q. - E. E. F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
Cairo	26.1.17.	1700	Wire from Desert Column - H.I. 747.	Two hostile aeroplanes flew over EL ARISH this morning. No bombs were dropped.	
	26.1.17.	1955	Wired Chief, London - A.M. 1541.	<u>Evening report</u> ; all well.	
	26.1.17.	1630	Wire from Eastern Force - G. B. E.G.S/181.	Nos. 4 and 9 Coys. Imperial Camel Corps have been detailed from Desert Column, and 16. O.R. 1/1 Welch F.A. have been made available - (for SIWA).	
	26.1.17.	0211.	Wire from Troopers. 28491.	It is hoped that 4,000 4.5" Lethal Shells will be sent on the next ship for Egypt.	
	26.1.17.	1930.	Wired Troopers. A.M. 1540.	<u>CONCENTRATION OF 42ND DIVN.</u> The necessary instructions for the concentration of the 42 nd Divn for embarkation have been issued. Preparations for despatch will be made as soon as possible, but it must be remembered that the division is at EL ARISH, and it must be relieved by means of a single line track. The division should be concentrated at ISMAILIA by Feb. 12 th , when the reorganisation	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>of the artillery will be taken in hand - The end of February would be convenient for the commencement of embarkation - Instructions are requested on the question of rifles - This division is armed with Mark VII VI and there are not sufficient Mark VII in the country to rearm it - The number of riding horses, and also the number of vehicles with the three Field Ambulances, and strengths will be cabled as soon as the information is to hand -</p>	
	26.1.17.	1800	<p>Wired Eastern Da 265. Inca.</p> <p>Troopers wire 28475 of 25.1.17. (in yesterday's war diary appendices) was repeated verbatim to Eastern Force, only the three concluding sentences being omitted - Instructions were issued for the concentration of the division at MOASCAR as soon as possible, where the reorganisation of the artillery in accordance with the wire from Troopers under discussion would take place -</p>	
	26.1.17.		<p>Letter to Eastern Western G.S. 161. Inca.</p> <p>A nominal roll of officers undergoing attachment to the staff should be rendered monthly, showing the date on which the attachment commenced, and the staff to which attached - Recommendations for officers who have completed their period of attachment, will be rendered as heretofore -</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	26.1.17		<p>War office approval for the Staffs of the Northern and Southern Canal sections, and the Administrative Commandants at KANTARA - ROMANI & MAHEMDIYA - BIR EL ABD - MAZAR & EL ARISH - as submitted by this office, has been obtained.</p>	
	26.1.17		<p>The proposal to increase the water storage at EL ARISH ^{gallon} has been approved by the Commander-in-Chief -</p> <p>The information should be given as to the exact location of these two reservoirs.</p>	
	26.1.17		<p>In view of the desirability of Concentrating all available troops in the Eastern Zone, a further reduction in the force allotted to the Western Zone is contemplated -</p> <p>No troops will be withdrawn from KHARGA or BAHARIA until the operations against SIWA are concluded. In order, however, to make these operations possible, troops must be withdrawn from DAKHLA, and the oasis will therefore be evacuated -</p> <p>Before, however, these plans are put into effect, it is desired that His Excellency's approval, in connection with the political situation may be communicated.</p> <p>The approval was subsequently received.</p>	

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G.S. 'O' - G.H.Q. - E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo-	27.1.17	2000	Wired Chief, AM 1544. London - <u>Evening report.</u> All well.	
	27.1.17	1356	Wire from Troopers - 28547. Rifles will not be taken by the 42nd Divn - sufficient for use against submarines (about 50 with 100 rounds per rifle) should be put on each transport.	
	27.1.17	1700	Wired Troopers. CMQT 2641. Approximate strength of 42nd Divn - including Casualty Clearing Station, officers 650; O.R. 15,450. Riding horses including officers chargers, 820.	
	27.1.17	1755	Wire from Troopers - 28556. 20,000 phosphorus grenades and 40,000 smoke candles will be despatched by the first available boat.	
	27.1.17	2000 1025	Wired Troopers. A.M. 1542. Amendments to G.S. 392 to Secretary War Office, (See Appendix B of 4.1.17)	A
	27.1.17	1205	Wired Troopers. A.M. 1543. Weekly R.F.C. return.	B

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	27.1.17		<p>Letter to, The Secretary G.S. 90. War Office-</p> <p>It has been found by practical experience that the present establishment, namely 10 officers and 144 other ranks, of a Machine Gun Company, is inadequate. There is no provision made for casualties, and a M.G. Coy has to make up deficiencies by attaching 30 or 40 other ranks from Infantry battalions, a mutually unsatisfactory arrangement.</p> <p>The proposal for the addition of 32 gunners and one driver is therefore submitted for War Office sanction.</p>	
	27.1.17		<p>Letter to, Eastern G.S. 216. Force-</p> <p>Two scales of equipment for the Royal Australian Naval Bridging Train were submitted to this office by Eastern Force on 14.1.17.</p> <p>Scale 'A' provided for one Maltese Medical Cart, one travelling kitchen, two water carts and two trestle (or G.S. limbered) waggons - Scale 'B' for the same number of vehicles, with the exception of a larger number of waggons, namely eight, in place of two in Scale 'A'.</p> <p>Scale 'A' has been selected, as this unit does not require a large number of vehicles for beach work, also the sandy</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	27.1.17		<p>nature of the country limits the use of any type of vehicle considerably -</p> <p>The tug "SAVOIA" and the whaleboat, cannot be allocated to this unit. When it is necessary for the R.A.N.B.T. to move by sea, arrangements will be made by the D.Q.M.G. G.H.Q.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>Further Note on Siwa operation</u>	
	27 th January 1917		<p>On 27th January, information was received from a reliable agent, who had reached SOLLUM from the oasis of SIWA that day, to the effect that an immediate evacuation of the oasis had been ordered by Idris and therefore had an important bearing on the proposed operation against SIWA.</p> <p>If this information was true it would seem in the highest degree unlikely that the enemy would afford any opportunity for effective action at SIWA by the force which it was originally proposed to employ, and which would not have been prepared to move against the oasis for at least three weeks.</p> <p>Under these circumstances a raid by motor-car was decided upon, and instructions given for it to be carried out forthwith, the following being the plan of operation :-</p> <p>The information received led to the belief that Sayed Ahmed might still be at SIWA with a small bodyguard, though he had announced his intention of leaving very shortly for JAGHBUB. The objects therefore of the raid were</p> <p>(a) To capture Sayed Ahmed and any of his followers who might be with him, and to verify the information received.</p> <p>(b) To reassure any loyal inhabitants who might have remained in the oasis.</p> <p>The force employed consisted of the Light Armoured Car Brigade under Major L.V. Ouston, D.S.O. Nos. 4, 5 and 6 Light Car Patrols under Major L. Partridge - the whole being under the command of Brigadier-General H.W. Hodgson, who took with him as special staff officer Captain J.A.H. Gammell, M.C. <i>have been</i></p> <p>Orders were given for the concentration of all units at MATRUH, the Light Armoured Car Brigade being ordered to prepare for instant action and to be self-contained for five days. Similar orders were given to the Officers Commanding Nos. 5 and 6 Light Car Patrols. <i>have been</i> 40 Ford vans were forwarded from ALEXANDRIA to MATRUH, where they were to be loaded with water and supplies for 5 days, and then to follow the fighting cars.</p> <p>Captain Royle, Egyptian Coastguard Service, who has an intimate knowledge of the country in which the operations would take place, accompanied General Hodgson.</p> <p>Information shewed that the line of retreat towards JAGHBUB must almost inevitably pass through the MUNASIB defile. The plan, therefore, was for the Light Armoured Car Brigade, (less 1 battery,) and 1 light car patrol, to proceed to GEBEL LAMLEZ, and from thence to hold the MUNASIB Pass and the springs in the vicinity.</p> <p>One Battery of the Light Armored Car Brigade and two Light Car Patrols were intended to</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>enter SIWA by a Pass known to Captain Royle, and to search that oasis and GURBAH, it being considered that, should any of the enemy be remaining in either of these oases, the sudden appearance of armoured cars would put them to flight and their line of retreat being cut off by the remainder of the force, no difficulty should be experienced in their capture.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Note by Oa.</i> <i>D.W. Williams</i> <i>Capt Gp</i></p>	

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G.S.O. G.H.Q. E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information		Remarks and references to Appendices	
Cairo	28.11.17	1705	Wire from Desert Column. H.I. 798.	Two enemy aeroplanes flew over EL ARISH today - No bombs were dropped.		
	28.11.17	2130	Wired Chief, London. A.M. 1545.	<u>Evening report.</u> All well.		
	28.11.17	1750	Wire from Eastern Force - E.C. 36.	1000 Egyptian Labour Corps can be maintained and protected by Desert Column for preliminary work on the EL ARISH - EL BURI section of the Railway.		
	28.11.17		Wired Eastern Force - Oa 268.	The march of about one hundred Indian troops from TOR and ABU ZENEINA to SUEZ is postponed for the present.		
	28.11.17	0910	Wire from Troopers. 28592.	R.F.C. in EGYPT will send six B.E. 2 machines and personnel to ADEN to form a flight.		
	28.11.17	2130	Wired Troopers. A.M. 1456.	In view of the instructions contained in the wire immediately above, it is requested that more aeroplanes should be despatched to EGYPT as there are no reserve machines in this country. In view of the success of the B.E. 12 machines at SALONIKA, it is requested that some of these machines may also be sent.		3

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	28.17	0249	Wire from Troopers. 28580.	
			The formation of a 2 nd Mounted division, with B ^r Esul Hodgson in Command, is approved.	
	28.17	2247	Wire from Troopers. 28568	
			The appointment of two additional instructors, graded as C.S.O(2) and D.A.Q.M.G., for the Staff School is approved.	
	28.17	0900	Wire from Troopers. 28593	
			The stores held in readiness for divisions held in readiness for INDIA may be utilised for the reorganisation of transport, but the stores should be replaced.	
	28.17	0930	Wire from Troopers. 28599	
			With reference to the formation of a Railway Operating Division, the following establishments have been adopted in FRANCE; - <u>Headquarters of a group of railway operating Coys</u> - one Lt. Col; one Captain; four clerks (one a Staff Sgt.); one Corporal; one 1/cpl.; 2 batmen; <u>Operating Company</u> ; - Two warrant officers class I; six Coy. Sgt. Majors; 16 Sergeants; 20 Corporals; 40 2 nd Corporals; Sappers, including 8 1/cpls, 180; Can these establishments be adopted? and will railway construction troops eventually be released for other theatres by this reorganisation.	30

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	28.17		<p>Wire from Naval C in C-E. Indies & Egypt -</p> <p><u>HEDJAZ.</u> Result of WEJH operations; - Enemy casualties; - 20 Killed and wounded - 50 Prisoners - 2 Guns - 400 Rifles -</p> <p>As a result of this success some of the leading Sheikhs are joining Feisal (The Sheriff's Son).</p>	
	28.17		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force - G.S. 2/58/2</p> <p>The expenditure of £584-0-0 on the repair of the portion of the road between ELSHATT RAILHEAD and GEBEL MURR, recently washed away by a spate, is sanctioned.</p>	
	28.17		<p>Letter to; Delta District. G.S. 507</p> <p>The results obtained by the N.C.O's and men of the Garrison battalions under Delta District, at the last course at the School of Instruction, ZEITOUN, were considerably below the average. A report should be rendered to this office on the present system obtaining in Garrison battalions</p>	

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G.S.O - G.H.Q - E.E.F.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	28.17		<p>for the individual instruction of officers and other ranks. In order to assist in this matter, arrangements will be made to allot a small proportion of vacancies to the Garrison battalions at all future Zeitoun courses.</p>	
	28.17		<p>Letter to; Western Force G.S. 82/4</p> <p>An inspection of the KHARGA OASIS area will be carried out by the Commander-in-Chief, leaving CAIRO on 1.2.17. and returning on 4.2.17.</p>	<p><i>Williamson</i> <i>Capt</i></p>

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G.S.O. - G.H.Q. - E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo	29.1.17	1725	Wire from Desert Column - H.I. 804.	No enemy activity today.
	29.1.17	1945	Wire, Chief, London - A.M. 1548.	<u>Evening report.</u> All well.
	29.1.17		Wire, School of Instruction - ZEITOUN. Bde. R.F.A. will rejoin their unit (54 th Divn) at MOASCAR forthwith. OAS 10.	The personnel of the 4.5" Howitzer section of "C" Battery, 271 st (This section was employed for instructional purposes at the School of Instruction at ZEITOUN. They now rejoin their unit, where they will draw fresh guns; their places at the School are being taken by Permanent "B" Gunners from the base -
	29.1.17	0855	Wire Troopers - A.M. 1547.	In consequence of the reorganisation of the artillery of the 42 nd Divn. there are 17 Officers Supernumerary - Should these proceed with the division to FRANCE?
	29.1.17		Wire Chief, Salomka.	War Office authority for me G.S.O.(2) for the Staff School has been obtained - A G.S.O.(2) should now be sent.
	29.1.17		Wire from Genl. Hoskins Dar-es-Salaam. E. AFRICA.	Weekly return of distribution of R.F.C. and R.N.A.S. in A.
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	29.1.17		<p>Letter to; Middle East Brigade R.E.C. G.S. 104/2.</p> <p>The question of detailing those drifters, which are fitted with W/T, for the work off EL ARISH, whereby warning might be given of the approach of hostile aircraft, has been submitted to the Naval Commander-in-Chief. It is regretted that arrangements cannot be made for this, as the drifters fitted with W/T are urgently required in connection with patrol work.</p>	
	29.1.17		<p>Letter to; Western Force - G.S. Z/28/10.</p> <p><u>REDUCTION OF TROOPS ON WESTERN FRONT.</u></p> <p>On the conclusion of the operations against SIWA, a further reduction of troops on the Western Front should be possible - ^{appear to}</p> <p>It would ^{inf.} be necessary to retain one brigade in the Coastal Section; but on the remainder of the front Camels, armoured cars, and light car patrols should suffice.</p> <p>It is therefore hoped that the 231st Inf. Brigade may be at transferred to the Eastern Front, where infantry are urgently needed.</p> <p>Suggestions for redistribution of forces on the above mentioned lines should be submitted to this office.</p>	

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C.S.O - G.H.Q. - E.E.F. 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	29.17		<p>Letter to Eastern Force - G.S. 2/66. A schedule dealing with the reorganisation of the artillery of the 42nd Division has been forwarded.</p>	B.
	29.17		<p>Letter to Eastern Force - G.S. 2/12. War Office sanction for the rank of Lieut. Colonel for the C.O. of an I.C.C. battalion, and the addition of Major as 2nd in command, has been obtained - It is requested that this office may be informed if Genl. Chauvel has yet obtained the sanction of the Australian Government for the same establishment for the Australian I.C.C. battalions, as it is desired to make the promotions of Imperial and Australian officers simultaneously.</p>	
	29.17		<p>Force order no. 27 Eastern Force - Br. Genl. Watson G.O.C. 20th Inf. Bde (Garwhal) assumed the duties of G.O.C. Northern Canal Section, in addition to his other duties, from 22.11.16.</p>	

O. Williams
Capt

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G.S.'O' - G.H.Q. - E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo.	30.1.17.	1721	Wire from Desert Column. H.I. 107.	
			Two hostile aeroplanes dropped bombs on EL ARISH today. Casualties; - 1 O.R. wounded, 2 horses and 2 mules killed, 3 mules wounded -	
	30.1.17.	2000	Wired Chief, London. A.M. 1552.	
			<u>Evening report.</u> All well -	
	30.1.17.		Wired Western Force - rep: Eastern Force - Oas II.	
			No. 10 Coy. I.C.C., on completion of concentration at OASIS JUNCTION, will proceed to Eastern Force. Western Force will wire marching out states, and Eastern Force place of detrainment direct to D.Q.M.G. - G.H.Q.	
	30.1.17.	0121	Wire from Troopers. 28659.	
			The offer of the Australian Government to provide a Field Ambulance for the Imperial Camel Brigade has been accepted - Mounted Field Ambulance, Part XI, is suggested as the establishment. The ambulance will be formed and equipped in EGYPT. The Australian Government have been asked to send the personnel to EGYPT as soon as possible -	
	30.1.17.	1550	Wired Chief, London. A.M. 1551.	
			From a Troopers wire saying that stores, equipment, and animals (hitherto kept in readiness for the possible move of two divisions from this country) might be used, but must be replaced, it would appear unnecessary, now that there will be only three divisions left in EGYPT. Moreover there are not	170

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	30.1.17		Sufficient A.S.C. personnel to raise two divisional trains to SALONIKA "3" establishment. Information on this point is requested -	
	30.1.17		Letter to; Eastern Force Western Force. G.S. 512. Reference the monthly returns by C.O's of N.C.O's and other ranks recommended for commissions, a report is desired from Brigade Commanders on the present position of units as regards N.C.O's, and whether the present system of sending these candidates home can be continued without seriously impairing the efficiency of units.	
	30.1.17		Letter to; Commandant School of Instruction. G.S. 486. = EITOVN. It is regretted that two Companies of the 229 th Bde. (Eastern Force) cannot be made available for the next Senior Officers Course, as suggested -	
			The suggestion that all adjutants of of the 229 th , 230 th , 231 st Inf. Bdes, should attend the next Senior Officers Course is concurred in -	
	30.1.17		Letter to; Eastern Force - G.S. 8/13. In accordance with a request from Eastern Force, steps will be taken to ensure the rapid return to their units of officers of the Desert Column, should a general action be impending.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	30.1.17.		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FORMATION OF SIGNAL SQUADRON FOR 2nd. MTD. DIVN.</u></p> <p>Letters were despatched to Eastern Force and Western Force with instructions for the formation of this unit - The formation will take place at ABBASSIA - The following units from Western Force will form part of the unit:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Westminster Dragoons Pack W/T Section - W.6. Wagon W/T Section - 1st Dismtd - Bde Signal Troop - 40 other ranks of W.F.F. Signal Coy - <p>The Squadron will be commanded by Maj. F.G. HILL. R.E.</p> <p>As much of the personnel and equipment of the Westminster Dragoons Pack W/T Section ^{as is required} will be sent to ISMATHIA, and will, with No. 10 Pack W/T Section, form "C" Troop of the Squadron - This troop will be formed by E.F.F. Signal O.C. E.F.F. Signal Coy under orders of the Director of Army Signals -</p> <p>The formation is to be proceeded with at once -</p>	
	30.1.17.		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>REDISTRIBUTION OF GARRISON BATTALIONS.</u></p> <p>Two Garrison battalions are now on their way to EGYPT, namely the 2/Gn/Northumberland Fusiliers and the 6/Gn/R. Welch Fusiliers - It has been decided to place two of the Garrison battalions at present in EGYPT at the disposal of Eastern Force - The 1/Gn/Devon. Regt and 2/Gn/R. Welch Fusiliers have been selected as the youngest and most serviceable -</p>	

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G.S. O. G.H. Q. E.E.F. 4

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>Letters have been despatched to Eastern Force, Delta District, Alexandria District, and Cyprus giving the details of the proposed redistribution -</p> <p>The 2/Bn/R. Welch Fusiliers } to Eastern Force - 1/Bn/Devon. Regt. } " " "</p> <p>2/Bn/Northumberland Fusiliers } to relieve the two battalions to 6/Bn/R. Welch Fusiliers } Eastern Force -</p> <p>1 Coy. 1/Bn/Royal Scots to reform unit at CYPRUS.</p> <p>Detachment 1/Bn/Liverpool Regt. at CYPRUS to reform unit at ALEXANDRIA.</p> <p>2 Coys 2/Bn/Chester Regt. from Delta District to reform unit at ALEXANDRIA.</p> <p>The effect of this redistribution is to call in detachments to their units - Delta District will lose about 350 men; but the removal of ^{many} prisoners from MAAZI and HELIOPOLIS to CYPRUS will be sufficient compensation -</p>	
				<p>O. Williams Capt G.S.</p> <p>129.</p>

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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G.S.O. - G.H.Q. - E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo	31.1.17.	1714	Wire from Desert Column H.I. 810.	No hostile aircraft activity today.
	31.1.17.	1945	Wire Chief, London - A.M. 1553	<u>Evening report</u> - All well.
	31.1.17.	1410	Wire from Britannia Isma'ia - 1020.	It is suggested that the Conference, previously suggested, on the Coastal Patrols of EGYPT, should take place on 5.2.17. and that the Director General of Coastguards should send a representative -
	31.1.17.	2303	Wire from Troopers. 22727.	Two Captains and eight Subalterns are required for the Trench Mortar Batteries of the 42nd Div. Any surplus to this number should remain in EGYPT.
	31.1.17.	0924	Wire from Ferron, Hong Kong. 832.	Shall another British officer be sent for the Hong Kong and Singapore Mountain Battery.
	31.1.17.	2110	Wire Troopers - A.M. 1554.	With reference to the question of inaugurating an aircraft factory at ALEXANDRIA, should the Navy now be consulted. If not, it is considered that G.O.C. Middle East Brigade should remember that the factory will eventually have to satisfy R.N.A.S. requirements.

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G.S.O. - G.H.Q. - E.E.F. 2

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	31.17		<p>Letter to the Secretary War Office - G.S. 2/33/1</p> <p>In accordance with instructions received from the War Office, the 42nd Division has been selected for FRANCE. Concentration is now being carried out as quickly as the single line of railway admit -</p> <p>The importance of strengthening our forces on the main theatre is realised to the full, but it is desired to point out once more, as in G.S. memorandum of 21.10.17, that in order to safeguard EGYPT, to hold EL ARISH, and to protect the canal, it is advisable to have five divisions in this country. Should the enemy mass troops in Southern PALESTINE, this force would be required as a minimum - At the present moment the situation is favourable; but it is hoped that it may not be necessary to withdraw another division - It might be necessary, then, to withdraw to BIR EL ABD, a procedure which would have unfortunate results in this country.</p>	
	31.27		<p>Letter to Eastern Force - G.S. 2/53/15</p> <p><u>MARCH FROM TOR & ABU ZENEIMA.</u></p> <p>The projected march from TOR and ABU ZENEIMA to SOEZ has been postponed for the present - At moment endeavours are being made to induce the Arabs to come in, give up their rifles, take an oath of loyalty, and receive 20 days food for themselves and their families in return - Both friendly, and, hitherto hostile, tribes are beginning to come in; should an armed force move through their country, the Arabs would not come in; and in all probability, would never come in -</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	31.1.17.		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force - G.S. 2/58/2.</p> <p>A suggestion was put forward by Eastern Force to discontinue the artificial inundations East of the Maritime Canal, on the ground that it was a source of unnecessary expense, now that Desert Column is a hundred miles East of the Canal. The proposal has been agreed to.</p>	
	31.1.17.		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force - G.S. 501.</p> <p>A copy of the order of battle for the reorganised ANZAC MTD. DIVN. and the new IMPERIAL MTD. DIVN was forwarded to Eastern Force. Details for the formation of a machine gun squadron, Field Squadron R.E., Signal Squadron, Hdqrs Divisional A.S.C., Field Ambulance, & Mobile Veterinary Section are given in the Appendix.</p>	A
	31.1.17.		<p>Letter to; Secretary War Office - G.S. 385.</p> <p>The following amendments are put forward for a Machine Gun Squadron were put forward for War Office sanction.</p> <p>The addition of one transport sergeant to Headquarters, and one of the four signallers to be a Corporal.</p>	
	31.1.17.		<p>Letter to; Eastern Force - G.S. 501/2.</p> <p>The Field Squadron for the Imperial Mounted Division will be organised on the establishment of that of the Anzac Mtd. Divn. It will be formed from the 6th and 7th Field Troops of the</p>	

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	30.1.17		6 th and 5 th Mtd Bdes (which will also find Hdqrs). The remaining two troops, subject to the approval of the Australian Government, will be formed from Australian and New Zealand personnel. Capt. MOORE R.E. will command the Squadron.	
	31.1.17		<p>Letters; Eastern G.S. A.S.S. Force - been arranged as follows:-</p> <p><u>First Course</u>; Monday 5.2.17. For Divisional Gas Officers and N.C.O's.</p> <p><u>Second Course</u>; Monday 19.2.17. For Divisional Gas Officers and N.C.O's.</p>	
	31.1.17		<p><u>FORCE ORDER NO 28.</u></p> <p><u>FORCE ORDER NO 29.</u></p>	B. C.
	31.1.17		The Command-in-Chief left Cairo at 0830 for KHARGA OASIS.	<p><i>Oldham</i> Capt</p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">130</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1917 Jan. 26		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOTES ON THE SHIPMENT AND LANDING OF SUPPLIES AND STORES AT EL ARISH.</u></p> <p>Negotiations were entered into with the P.N.T.O. and Vice Admiral Commanding-in-Chief early in November for the provision of suitable ships and surf boats for landing supplies, and, if occasion demanded, stores at EL ARISH. The Vice Admiral gave his consent to this proposal, but pointed out that it would be necessary that the coast should be swept for mines, and that it would probably be necessary for 48 hours to elapse-after the occupation of the town- before it would be safe for a ship to sail from PORT SAID.</p> <p>The first ship carrying the Beach Master and party, Military Landing Staff, and 400 tons of supplies; actually sailed at 2030 on 22nd December.</p> <p>It was realised from the outset that, as there exists at EL ARISH merely an open beach with no protection from the prevailing winter wind, that this source of supply must be regarded as subsidiary, and not as one to be depended upon for the maintenance of the force. Nevertheless, it has proved of considerable use during the period under review, viz., December 23rd to January 11th, although work was only possible for four whole working days, and partially for 8 days, a total amount of over 1400 tons was safely landed. Taking into consideration the fact that the boatmen and beach party were without much previous experience and frequently exposed to attack by hostile aircraft, this may be considered highly satisfactory, and indicates that, in the spring, when fine weather is the rule, a daily landing of 350 to 400 tons should be possible. There are at present two ships employed. These will, however, require supplementing, and the P.N.T.O. is now taking up this matter with the Admiralty.</p> <p>The Pier constructed by the Australian Bridging Train has, so far, not been utilised to any great extent, being adapted for landing from lighters rather than from surf boats. Lighters cannot be utilised at this time of the year owing to lack of anchorage.</p>	

*Notes by Q
over chairman
Capt G*

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1917.
January.
25th.

NOTES ON THE TACTICAL EMPLOYMENT OF
CAMELRY - ESPECIALLY WHEN ACTING IN
CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER MOUNTED TROOPS.

1. Experience gained in the recent operations of the Desert Column - notably at the actions at MAGDHABA on December 23rd, and at MAGRUNTEIN on January 9th - makes it possible to estimate, with a considerable degree of accuracy, the value of camelry in combined mounted operations.

2. The employment of the Imperial Camel Brigade in these actions has fully confirmed the view that, in desert operations, camelry would supply just that backing of mobile infantry which is so essential to successful cavalry tactics, and which it is often so difficult to provide.

3. The principal uses to which such a mobile infantry backing can be usefully put are as follows:-

- (a) The holding of defiles or of ground necessary to secure possible lines of retreat.
- (b) As a purely infantry addition to the strength of cavalry when pushing home a dismounted attack on immobile detachments.
- (c) As a pivot of manoeuvre when operating against mounted troops.
- (d) As march outposts to a mounted force.

4. In order to obtain the full value of camelry working in support of or in conjunction with cavalry, it is essential that Commanders should fully appreciate the peculiar advantages and limitations of the camel in his relation to the horse.

- (a) As regards the former, the main assets of the camel lie in his far greater endurance, in his higher degree of mobility in deep desert going, and his ability to undertake independent operations extending over four or even five days, self-supporting and self contained.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information						Remarks and references to Appendices			
			PARTICULARS OF LIGHT CAR PATROLS: THEIR FORMATION AND EMPLOYMENT.									
			<p>At the date when the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force took over from the Force in EGYPT there were a considerable number of hostile Arabs on the Western Frontier of EGYPT. The line of the frontier may be taken as approximately 500 miles in length.</p> <p>The adequate patrolling of such a line by cavalry or camelry would have entailed the employment of a very considerable force.</p> <p>During previous fighting on the Western Front excellent work had been done by motor cars, both armoured and unarmoured, Ford cars, owing to their lightness and general construction, being found peculiarly suitable to Desert conditions.</p> <p>With a view to releasing a certain number of troops and the undertaking of a more extended reconnaissances, a system of Light Car Patrols was established, the establishment being as shown.</p>									
			<i>Note: this is only a local establishment not officially sanctioned by HQ personnel being found by attachment from other units.</i>									
			Detail.	Officers.	S. Serjts & Serjts.	Rank & File	Artificers	TOTAL.	Remarks.	Detail.	Vehicles	Drivers.
			Captain, or Subaltern	1	-	-	-	1				
			Subaltern.	1	-	-	-	1		(3) Ford Cars	5	5
			Sergeant.	-	1	-	-	1		Depot Car.	1	1
			(1) Corporals.	-	-	2	-	2	(1) Trained Lewis Gunners.			
			(1) Privates	-	-	2	-	2				
			Batmen.	-	-	2	-	2				
			Cook.	-	-	1	-	1			6	6
			(2) M.T. Personnel for	-	1	-	1	2	(2) Provided with Cars.			
			(2) Drivers. (repairs)	-	-	6	-	6				
			Total patrol.	2	2	16	1	21		REMARKS. (3) Two cars, fitted with Box bodies and carry Lewis Machine Guns.		

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																				
			<p style="text-align: center;">Patrols were located at:-</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">No. 1.</td> <td>KHARGA.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nos 2 and 3.</td> <td>MINIA.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No. 4.</td> <td>EL AMRIA.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">In practice it was found that the best method of distributing the loads was as follows:-</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">No. 1 Car.</td> <td>2 Officers, native guide, food, petrol and water for No. 1 Car only.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nos. 2 and 4 Cars.</td> <td>3 Other ranks, one machine gun, 2000 rounds ammunition.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nos. 3 and 5 Cars.</td> <td>2 Other ranks, food, petrol and water for cars, Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No. 6 Car.</td> <td>In reserve at starting point or advanced base, with driver and gunner.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Larger patrols were considered undesirable for various reasons such as :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More delays for punctures. Visibility of a longer column. Carriage of more supplies by camels to advanced base, &c., <p style="text-align: center;">Extra Stores carried on the cars included such articles as:-</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">Field Telephone.</td> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">"Very" pistols.</td> <td>Hand grenades.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Night Lights.</td> <td>Signal Lamps.</td> <td>First Aid Bag.</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Large supplies of tyres, tubes, tools, &c.,</p> <p>In August 1916, the existing four Light Car Patrols were increased to six, the Patrols being equipped with 4 Maxim guns and the Lewis guns previously carried being withdrawn. In December a seventh Light Car Patrol was formed for duty on the Eastern Front. One of the difficulties which had to be surmounted in the use of motor cars in the Desert was the boiling of the water in the radiators. On the Western Front, this was obviated by leading a pipe from the top of the radiator to a petrol tin full of water carried under the driver's feet. By this means the steam in the radiators was condensed and the quantity of water required to be carried for replenishing the cars was very materially reduced. A car which has a serious breakdown in the desert has generally to be repaired on the spot, as a Ford car is incapable of towing another for any considerable distance in the desert owing to the fact that such towing must be done on the low speed; which would very /shortly</p>	No. 1.	KHARGA.	Nos 2 and 3.	MINIA.	No. 4.	EL AMRIA.	No. 1 Car.	2 Officers, native guide, food, petrol and water for No. 1 Car only.	Nos. 2 and 4 Cars.	3 Other ranks, one machine gun, 2000 rounds ammunition.	Nos. 3 and 5 Cars.	2 Other ranks, food, petrol and water for cars, Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5.	No. 6 Car.	In reserve at starting point or advanced base, with driver and gunner.	Field Telephone.	"Very" pistols.	Hand grenades.	Night Lights.	Signal Lamps.	First Aid Bag.	
No. 1.	KHARGA.																							
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			<p>shortly ruin the car. In one particular instance a car with a broken axle was successfully towed in a distance of 20 miles by 2 camels.</p> <p>In addition to purely military reconnaissance work as exemplified in the following typical report, the Light Car Patrols have rendered valuable service in the survey of EGYPT.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Report of Reconnaissance made by No. 5 Light Car Patrol, Dec 28 to Jan. 1st.</u></p> <p>28/12/16. I left MOGHARA on December 28th at 0730 with 2/Lt. Williams, 2/Lt. Tipper and PERSONNEL Nine N.C.O's and men, with 5 cars, rations water and petrol for 7 days. OBJECT. To repair and bring in a car left out 135 miles S.W. on Dec. 14th and to endeavour to fix various features of the escarpment between EL GATTARA and EL GARA.</p> <p>Route I followed my former route until 4 miles of LONE TREEDUMP, where I camped for the night. The evening was spent in taking observations to fix the longitude and latitude by theodolite and chronometer.</p> <p>29/12/16. Left Camp at 0730 and reached car at 0930. I left 2 cars and 5 men to repair car and still keeping to my former route, reached my most westerly point at 1300. As I considered that a better view of the escarpment could be obtained in a N.W. direction, I ran 7 miles on a bearing of 323.5 and camped. Two miles further back, we crossed an old caravan track (probably the one shown in all maps) but there was no evidence of it having been used for a long time. While Lieut. Williams was putting up the theodolite and measuring off a mile base, I ran on towards the escarpment another 7½ miles, passing another caravan route with no tracks on it. Beyond right up to the edge of the escarpment appeared to be impassable, Sabbakha over which no camel can travel. On my return to camp, I found that Lt. Williams had fixed all the chief points along the escarpment by theodolite, and I also took bearings on all points with prismatic compass.</p> <p>30/12/16. I took two cars at dawn and ran 5 miles further west in the direction of EL GARA, the going being quite good. I saw no tracks of any kind, and as the weather was very misty, I returned on my tracks to Lt. Williams, and then with the three cars, ran back to the broken down car on a bearing of 118° arriving there at 1300. All repairs having been completed, observations I ran back to my bivouac of 28/12/16 and camped. All observations were interrupted by clouds.</p> <p>31/12/16. Leaving camp at 0730 I took 4 cars and ran on a bearing of 274° to find a</p>	

Exhach
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 M.I. 4

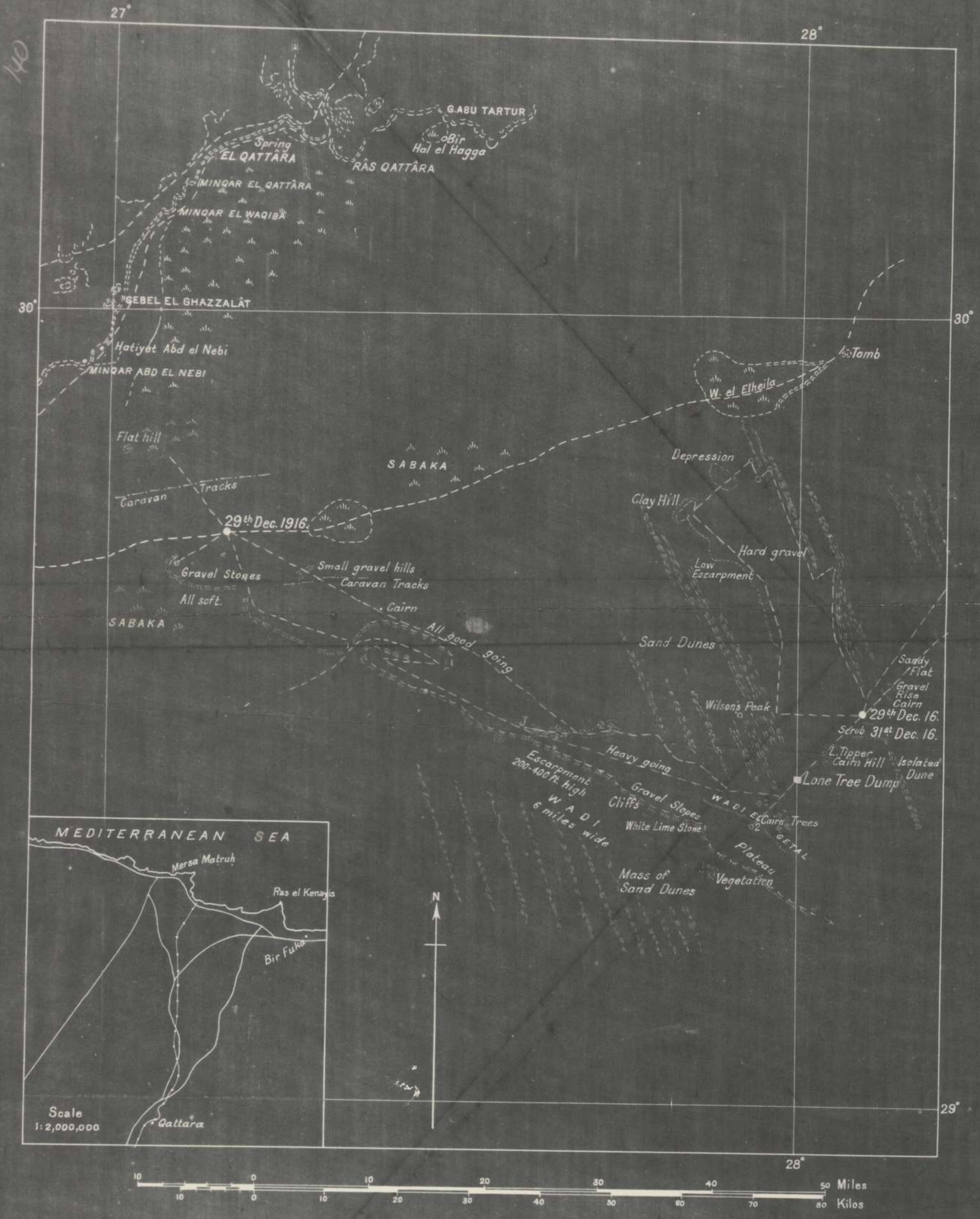
 H. H. M.

 M. A. T. C.

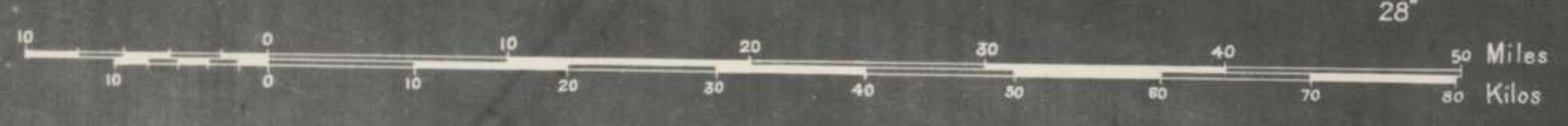
 3-3-17

 Map M. 17
 8-12-17

V. 1



Scale
1:2,000,000

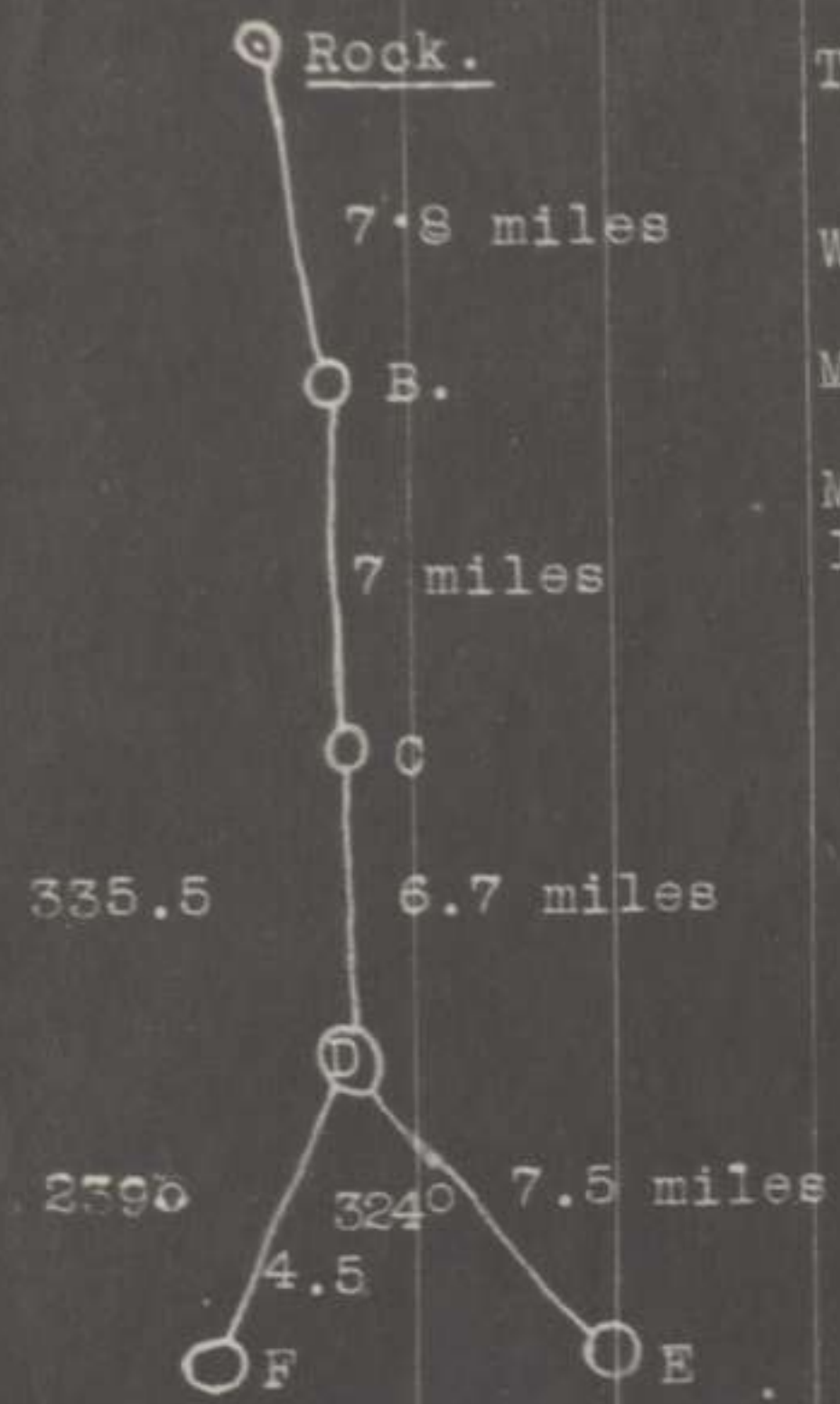


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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>way North of the dunes. After running 40 miles, I found that it was impossible, and returned to camp. Excellent observations were taken. Returned to MOGHARA in a sand storm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1/1/17</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOTES.</u></p> <p>OBSERVATIONS. 2/Lt. Williams took an immense amount of trouble and care with all his observations, sparing neither time or himself.</p> <p>TRACKS. There are no tracks of men or camels on this portion of the desert. If any convoys have come down from the North they must have kept along the top of the escarpment or right under it.</p> <p>WEATHER. The weather is now bitterly cold at night, and sand is blowing during the day.</p> <p>MAP and DATA Will follow.</p> <p>MOGHARA. (Signed) LLEWELLYN PARTRIDGE. Major. 1/1/17. O.C. Nos. 5 and 6 L.C.P.</p> <p><u>Dead reckoning from Isolated Rock shown in last reconnaissance i.e. 3rd reconnaissance.</u></p> <p>(B). is end of Wadi.</p> <p>(C). is Final Cairn on last reconnaissance.</p> <p>Bearing from Rock to C is not known but C is placed by a bearing on Cairn L of previous reconnaissance.</p> <p>(D). is Bivouac (2nd) 29/12/16.</p> <p>Observations for time and Lat and azimuths taken here. Prismatic bearings taken here are attached.</p> <p>(E). Furthest point reached to N.W..</p> <p>(F). A short run reaching to a bluff on the edge of Sabbakha. Prismatic bearings from F.</p>	



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1st Bivouac

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
274°	7.0		<u>Dead reckoning run on 31/12/16 from 1st Bivouac Northwards.</u>	
(G)			(G). is edge of a dune parallel with Wilsons Dune shown in previous reconnaissance, running 340°.	
5°	7.0		(G) to (H). skirts slight escarpment between which and dunes is considerable depression.	
(H)			(H) to (I). still skirting escarpment.	
345°	6.0		(J). Clay outcropping with some fossils Sabbakha country 2 miles to the N. End of Wilsons dune about 5 miles away at a bearing of 287°	
(I)			(J) to (K). crosses a depression and reaches a dune at (K).	
314°	8.6		(K) to (L). down side of dune (L) is end of this dune.	
(J)			(M) is side of a large dune ending 2 miles N. of (M).	
60°	7.0		(M) to (N). down side of this dune ending at (N).	
(K)			(O). side of another dune, down which we ran 9 miles in a bearing of 180° for 6 miles and 160° for 3 miles, reaching old tracks, point N. on 2nd reconnaissance S. end of this dune.	
160°	2.0			
(L)				
120°	1.0			
(M)				
160°	10.5			
(N)				
60°	2.0			
(O)				
180°	9.0			
(P)				
160°				

<u>Prismatic bearings from (D).</u>		
To final Cairn previous reconnaissance	156°	.0
Northernmost Ghazalet.	324°	.0
Southernmost "	321°	.1'
Small conical hill.	326°	.0
Promontory of escarpment.	315°	.5'
" "	314°	.0
Pronounced promontory.	304	.5' * note below.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>QUR EL LEBEN ? 3 hills (N. Hill. 288° .3'</p> <p>(S. Hill. 287° .5'</p> <p>Promontories. 303° .1'</p> <p>301° .9' escarpment appears to trend W. from here.</p> <p>Towards QATTARA high hill. 354° .9'</p> <p>" " 90° .2'</p> <p>flat hill. 10° .0'</p> <p>Promontory pointing E. 10° .7'</p> <p>Very big hill. 11° .7'</p> <p>Promontories. 1. 12° .4'</p> <p>2. 14° .8'</p> <p>3. 15° .5'</p> <p>4. 16° .7'</p> <p>5. 26° .2'</p> <p>Massive hill on top of escarpment 4° .6'</p> <p>Knoll 310° .0'</p> <p>* <u>NOTE.</u> Escarpment runs back some distance here and is much higher towards QATTARA than towards GARA.</p> <p><u>Bearings from</u> (F.)</p> <p>Knoll. 340° .0'</p> <p>Final Cairn. 118° .5'</p> <p>N. GHAZALET. 336° .0'</p> <p>S. " 333° .5'</p>	
				<p><i>Note by Oa.</i></p> <p><i>Williamson</i></p> <p><i>Capt G.</i></p>

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place Date Hour

DELAY ACTION FUZES FOR AIRCRAFT BOMBS AND METHOD OF ADAPTING 4.5-inch HOWITZER SHELLS FOR USE AS AIRCRAFT PROJECTILES.

About the beginning of November last, owing to the situation, it became increasingly important that a delay action fuze should be provided whereby a pilot could descend to an extremely low height in order to attack aeroplane sheds, buildings, hostile Headquarters, and railway bridges with accuracy. Although experiments had been made in England, none had arrived in this country. Instructions were therefore issued to the Officer Commanding, the 5th Wing, Royal Flying Corps, to carry out some experiments. Eventually a T.&P. fuze No. 82 was altered in accordance with the attached appendix, so that on being released the weight of the shell extracted the safety pin which was attached to the bomb rack and so started the fuze working. The delay of the fuze was 40 seconds. This, however, was not quite satisfactory, as it made it possible for the pin to be withdrawn should the pilot have a forced landing shortly after leaving the ground involving possibly wrecking his machine. Consequently, a further safety device was provided by which the pin itself was not engaged until the lever which released the bomb was pulled. This arrangement worked perfectly. In January, owing to the shortage of bombs in this country, it was decided to apply this method to the 4.5-inch Howitzer shell, which it was found would be of a suitable size for the 20-lb. bomb rack. In order to attach the shell to the bomb rack, an iron band with an eye is fixed round the body of the shell. This method has also been found to work perfectly. The great advantage of the H.E. 4.5-inch Howitzer Shell is that it can be dropped from a low height on account of the delay action; it consequently does not bury itself, and bursts on the surface, the pieces of shell scattering in all directions.

← For Technical details see appendix -

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

G.S.O. - G.H.Q. - E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SUMMARY OF WAR DIARY FOR JANUARY 1917</u></p> <p><u>OPERATIONS</u></p> <p>(a) <u>Eastern Force</u></p> <p>(i) <u>Operations at RAPA.</u> At 1600 on 9.1.17 a force composed of A & N.Z. MTA Divn, I.C.C. Bde, 5th MTA Bde under G.O.C. Desert Column moved out ^{from EL ARISH} for EL MAGRUNTEIN, 2 miles S.W. of RAPA, where the enemy was entrenched. The attack was launched at 0700 on 10.1.17. The position was carried by 1700, at which time touch was effected with an enemy relief column from SHELLAL. This column was held and driven off. In all the Turks lost about 500 killed and wounded, and 1600 prisoners were captured; material, 4 mountain guns and 6 machine guns - Desert Column casualties, officers (killed, wounded) 3 - 31 other ranks. 68 - 384 - and 1 missing. The prisoners and as much material as possible were evacuated from the battlefield and the Column retired on EL ARISH, arriving there on 11.1.17.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Aircraft operations.</u> Enemy aircraft have not been very active - If a hostile aeroplane has dropped bombs, instant retaliation, on as large a scale as possible, has been carried out.</p> <p>(iii) <u>Railway.</u> The KANTARA railway reached EL ARISH on 4.1.17. about 10 days earlier than was anticipated - During the remainder of the month, the Station with sidings etc. has been in course of construction.</p> <p>(iv) <u>ENTRENCHED CAMP at EL ARISH.</u> Work on the defences of EL ARISH has been commenced.</p> <p>(v) <u>Reservoirs.</u> It has been decided to construct two 250,000 gallon concrete reservoirs at EL ARISH. The site has been chosen, but work has not yet commenced.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	31.17		<p>(vi) <u>TOR and ABU ZENEIMA.</u> A reduction in the garrisons of these two places has been decided upon - About 100 men are to be withdrawn - It was decided later that the Column should march to SUEZ; this, however, has been postponed for the present for political reasons.</p> <p>(b) <u>WESTERN FORCE.</u></p> <p>(i) <u>Raid on SIWA.</u> A raid on SIWA has been contemplated for some time - It was eventually decided to undertake this operation with a column of about 500 men with a high proportion of armoured cars and motor transport vehicles - While preparations were being made, news was received from an agent that the Senussi arabs there were becoming restless and were preparing to evacuate the Oasis - It was then decided to send a flying column of armoured cars to endeavour to forestall the Senussi - This column has started.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Guards at ASWAN, NAQIYAH, and ESNA.</u> These guards have been withdrawn during the month - Plans are being formulated whereby reductions of troops may be effected, and released for service on the Eastern Front.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C.211

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>(C) <u>HEDJAZ.</u> At the beginning of the month a force of one Inf. Brigade and details, about 4,700 men, were under orders to embark for RABEGH. Before actually sailing, authority was requested from War Office for the move. Authority was not given as the Sherif declined to submit an autograph letter asking for Christian troops. Moreover he had made no proclamation to the Moslem world explaining the reasons for the demand. The War Council decided that no troops were to be sent until these two conditions have been fulfilled. The Sherif agreed to this, but did not carry out either of the conditions, if he decides at any future date to do so, he will probably be too late. In view of this fact, the question of sending British troops to the HEDJAZ is considered closed.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Capture of Ashraf Bey.</u> On 19.1.17. H.H. Abdulla, one of the Sherif's sons, captured Ashraf Bey, a dangerous Turk, and £20,000 in gold.</p> <p>(iii) <u>Capture of WEJH.</u> On 23.1.17. Landing parties from ships of the Red Sea patrol, in conjunction with Faisal captured WEJH.</p> <p>(D) <u>MISCELLANEOUS.</u></p> <p>(i) <u>The 42nd Division</u> is in process of concentration at ISMAILIA with a view to embarkation, during February, for FRANCE.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Acroplane Bombs.</u> A dangerous shortage has occurred during the month. To meet this shortage, a certain number of bombs were lent to the R.F.C. by the R.N.A.S. also 4.5" howitzer shells with a 4 second time fuse have been employed.</p>	

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G.S.'O' - G.H.Q. - E.E.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices		
			<p><u>ORGANISATION.</u></p> <p>(i) <u>Administrative Commandants.</u> Provisional establishments for administrative Commandants in Eastern Force have been sanctioned by the War Office.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Staffs for (Northern Canal Section) (Southern Canal Section).</u> Provisional establishments for these have been sanctioned by the War Office.</p> <p>(iii) <u>G.H.Q. Establishment.</u> A provisional establishment showing all the officers of the G.M. Co's directorates, also of D.M.S. and P.M.'s directorates on the establishment of G.H.Q. has been submitted to the War Office. Sanction has not yet been received.</p> <p>(iv) <u>Egyptian Labour Corps.</u> An establishment, entailing an increase, for this Corps has been sanctioned by the War Office. The Corps now numbers 50,000.</p> <p>(v) <u>Military Police.</u> An increase in the establishment of military police has been sanctioned by the War Office. This is necessitated by the lengthening of the S. of C. to EL ARISH. The work of the police in the Canal Zone is also heavy.</p> <p>(vi) <u>Signal Establishment.</u> An increase in the establishment of signal units in Eastern Force, particularly in Desert Column, has been necessitated; principally on account of the need for visual signalling.</p> <p>(vii) <u>Imperial Canal Brigade.</u> Auxiliary units for this brigade as under: -</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <p><u>Formed.</u></p> <p>Signal Section.</p> <p>Field Troop.</p> <p>Supply Detach.</p> <p>Field Ambulance</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> <p><u>In process of formation:</u></p> <p>Mechanics Company.</p> <p>Signal Section</p> <p>Ammunition Column</p> <p>Ammunition Column.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Formed.</u></p> <p>Signal Section.</p> <p>Field Troop.</p> <p>Supply Detach.</p> <p>Field Ambulance</p>	<p><u>In process of formation:</u></p> <p>Mechanics Company.</p> <p>Signal Section</p> <p>Ammunition Column</p> <p>Ammunition Column.</p>	
<p><u>Formed.</u></p> <p>Signal Section.</p> <p>Field Troop.</p> <p>Supply Detach.</p> <p>Field Ambulance</p>	<p><u>In process of formation:</u></p> <p>Mechanics Company.</p> <p>Signal Section</p> <p>Ammunition Column</p> <p>Ammunition Column.</p>					

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	31.17		<p>(viii) <u>Officer for Machine Gun Administration</u>. A second officer, to assist the M.G. officer attached to G.H.Q. in the administration and training of M.G. units, has been appointed.</p> <p>(ix) <u>Renaming of dismounted brigades</u>. These brigades, having been reorganised as Infantry, have been numbered as infantry brigades. The Yeomanry regiments of these brigades have been affiliated to the two regiments of their respective districts.</p> <p>(x) <u>Reorganisation of transport on a wheeled basis</u>. The approach of the KANTARA Railway to Southern PALESTINE, and the likelihood of operations being undertaken in cultivated country, has opened up the question of wheeled transport versus Camel transport. It has eventually been decided to retain 1st line transport on a camel basis and reorganise trains on a wheeled basis.</p> <p><u>TROOP MOVEMENTS.</u></p> <p>(i) 54th Div. from SOUTHERN CANAL SECTION to MOASCAR. en route for ROMANI</p> <p>(ii) Struck off strength of E.E.F. No. 18 Stationary Hospital to SALONIKA.</p> <p>(iii) Incorporated in E.E.F. 811th Coy. A.S.C. M.T. and to Eastern Force - 201st Siege Battery. R.C.F. and to Eastern Force - 2/Loyal North Lancs. and to Delta District.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>TRAINING.</u></p> <p>(i) <u>Staff School.</u> A school for prospective Staff officers has been inaugurated at MINA. The staff, at first, consisted of Commandant, one G.S.O(2), and one D.A.A. & Q.M.G. This has been increased by one G.S.O(2) and one D.A.A. & Q.M.G. The school takes 15 officers from the E.E.F. and 15 from the Army in SALONIKA. The course last 5 weeks.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Gas School.</u> A central Gas School has been organised at TEL-EL-KETBIR. Courses for Divisional Gas officers and N.C.O.'s have not started during the month, but will do so early in February. The instruction to be given chiefly concerns anti gas measures, but training will be given in the use of smoke candles and phosphorus grenades for offensive operations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">J.C. Williams Capt. G.S.</p>	