

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

Formation Headquarters

**Item number:** 1/6/11 Part 3

**Title:** General Staff, General  
Headquarters, Egyptian  
Expeditionary Force

February 1917



AWM4-1/6/11PART3

SECRET.

From:- Chief, Egyptforce.

To:- Chief, LONDON.

A.M.1557 cipher

1/2/17.

Desp. 1530.

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KANTARA East Railway: monthly report.

Railhead now at Kilo. 156, nine kilometres of main line track having been laid. Have removed aerodrome siding from MUSTASIG to Kilo 143. Following also removed:- temporary sidings at Kilos 128 and 131½; and temporary station for dealing with supplies at Kilo 152. Have completed bulk of the work at EL ARISH Station. Following laid down for traffic, together with turning triangle for engines:- 4 loops, 3 dead ends and gathering lines. Have provided sidings for hospital train, supplies ammunition and R.E.Stores. An ordnance depot siding and tracks for locomotives are in progress. Water supply arrangements are in progress at MAZAR and EL ARISH and are complete at EL ABD. Rolling stock has been increased by 48 trucks.. The railway has carried 78100 tons of traffic over an engine mileage of 74,000 in 5 weeks.

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Copies to:- O  
O(a)  
O(b)  
C.in C.  
C.G.2.  
Q  
E.in C.  
Field:- G.S. Z/31  
G.S. Cables  
W.D.

From:- Eypforce, Cairo.

To:- Troopers, London.

A.W.1563

2/2/17.

desp 2135.

Your 28580, cipher, S.D. 2. of Jan. 27th.

Following will be Order of Battle Mounted Divisions:-

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.

1st Light Horse Brigade.  
 2nd Lieut Horse Brigade.  
 N.Z. Mounted Rifle Brigade.  
 22nd Mounted Brigade.  
 One Signal Troop and one Machine Gun Squadron  
 per Brigade.

With undermentioned exceptions, Divisional Troops as  
 in last Order of Battle:-

1/1 South Midland Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance  
 replaced 3rd L.E. Field Ambulance.  
 3/1 South Midland Mobile Veterinary Section  
 replaces 8th Australian Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 Australian and N.Z. Mounted Division Sanitary  
 Section should be added.  
 H.Q. Divisional A.S.C. and Depot Units of Supply  
 will not be shown.

IMPERIAL MOUNTED DIVISION.

3rd Light Horse Brigade.  
 4th Light Horse Brigade.  
 5th Mounted Brigade.  
 6th Mounted Brigade.  
 One Signal Troop and One Machine Gun Squadron  
 per Brigade.

Following Divisional Troops:-

Notts and Berks Batteries, R.H.A.  
 "A" and "B" Batteries, H.A.C.  
 Imperial Mounted Division Field Squadron.  
 Imperial Mounted Division Signal Squadron.  
 3rd and 4th Light Horse Field Ambulance.  
 1/2nd S. Midland Mtd. Bde. Field Ambulance.  
 1/1st N. Midland Mtd. Bde. Field Ambulance.  
 8th and 9th Australian Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 4/1st South Midland Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 3/1st North Midland Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 No. 41 Sanitary Section.

Formation of following new units is hereby entailed:-

4th Light Horse Brigade.  
 4th Light Horse Brigade Signal Troop.

4th

4th Australian Machine Gun Squadron.  
 4th Light Horse Field Ambulance.  
 Divisional Field Squadron.  
 Divisional Signal Squadron.  
 9th Australian Mobile Veterinary Section.

As regards 4th Light Horse Brigade, it will consist of following Regiments: 4th, 11th and 12th Light Horse.

As regards Field Squadron, we are forming Headquarters and 2 troops from Nos. 6 and 7 Field Troops, remaining 2 troops from Australian personnel.

As regards Signal Squadron, we will eventually form "B" Troop from Australian personnel, remainder from British Signal units.

Remaining units as follows, will be formed from Australian personnel, for which Commonwealth Government is being requested to grant authority:-

* Not	*4th Light Horse Signal Troop.
included	4th Light Horse Machine Gun Squadron.
in copy	4th Light Horse Field Ambulance.
to W.O.	9th Australian Mobile Veterinary Section.

Reference your 28789 S.D. 2. of 1/2/17, will send by next mail complete revised Order of Battle.

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

Filed:- G.S.501.  
 G.S.Cables.  
 W.D.

SECRET.

From: Eypforce.  
To: Troopers.  
A.M. 1564 cipher.

3/1/17.

Desp. 1230.

Your 21158 and 23226 cipher A.O. 1. R.F.C. weekly returns.

(a) MESOPOTAMIA. 18.  
EAST AFRICA. 9.  
SALONIKA. 33. Includes 6 balloon pilots.  
EGYPT.  
X Aircraft Depot. 1  
20th Reserve Wing. 40  
5th Wing. 32 Includes 5 pilots in ARABIA.

(b) MESOPOTAMIA. 1  
EAST AFRICA. 6  
SALONIKA. 9  
EGYPT.  
X Aircraft Depot. Nil.  
20th Reserve Wing. 5  
5th Wing. 2

(c) MESOPOTAMIA.

	<u>Service-able.</u>	<u>Unservice-able.</u>	<u>Not Erected.</u>
B.E.2.c.	10	14	nil
Henri Farman	1	3	nil
Martinsyde	5	1	2

EAST AFRICA.

B.E.2.c. & E.	10	nil	7
Henri Farman	3	nil	3

SALONIKA.

B.E.2.c.	12	2	nil
B.E.12.	9	3	nil
Bristol Scout.	3	3	nil
Armstrong W.	13	4	nil
One Spencer balloon serviceable.		3 uninflated.	
One Caoqnet " "		3 " "	

EGYPT.

<u>X Aircraft Depot.</u>			
B.E.2.c. & E.	nil	2	1
Avro	1	6	nil
Bristol Scout.	nil	nil	5
M. Farman.	nil	2	5
Martinsyde.	nil	nil	1

20th Reserve Wing.

B.E.2.c. & E.	16	4	nil
Bristol Scouts.	2	1	nil
M. Farman	19	5	2
Avro.	12	1	nil
Curtiss.	2	1	nil
Martinsyde	nil	1	nil

EGYPT (contd.)5th Wing.

	<u>Service- able.</u>	<u>Unservice- able.</u>	<u>Not Erected.</u>
B.E.2.c.& E.	23(a)	13	3
Bristol Scouts.	3	8	nil
Martinsyde	6	3	1
De Havilland	nil	1	nil

(a) Includes 5 machines on expedition in ARABIA.

Copies to:-

O.            Filed G.S. 104/3.  
 O(a)        "        G.S. Cables.  
 O(b)        W.D.  
 C.G.S.  
 I.  
 A.  
 Q.

From: General BASRA.

To: Eypforce, SUEZ.

9/362 (decode) 4th

4/2/17  
5/2/17

Desp. 1645.  
Recd. 0950.

During the past week enemy has been driven out of all his positions on right bank of TIGRIS to the east of HAI and we have advanced 700 yards on front of 600 yards to the west of HAI capturing four lines of the enemy trenches inflicting heavy loss upon him and taking about 170 prisoners. Raids made upon enemy's communications by our cavalry, enemy's ships between IMAM MAHDI and BGHAILAH being shelled with good results. In retaliation for recent thefts by Arabs of animals and rifles from our lines, cavalry division also made raid bringing in over 1000 cattle and sheep, 60 tons of grain. Several enemy pontoons sunk by our artillery near mouth of HAI.

One of our aeroplanes shot down Fokker February 1st, machine crashing to the ground from a height of 7000 feet.

Copies to:-  
O  
O(a)  
O(b)  
C.in C.  
C.G.S.  
I.  
A.  
Q.  
M.G.R.A.  
E.in C.  
D.A.S.  
A.M.S.  
R.F.C.  
Filed:-  
G.S. Z/65.  
G.S. Cables.  
W.D.

From: General Hoskins, DAR-ES-SALAAM.

To: Egypforce, SUEZ.

G.117 (decode)

8/2/17

Desp. 1600.

Recd. 1802.

Distribution of Flying Corps February 3rd.

Headquarters of R.N.A.S. DAR-ES-SALAAM.

Aircraft and stores have been handed over to Flying  
Corps squadron awaiting passage to ENGLAND.

Military Wing R.F.C.

Headquarters	MOROGORO.
'A' Flight	ALTIRINGA.
'B' Flight	TULO.
'G' Flight	KILWA.
Aircraft Park	DAR-ES-SALAAM.

Copies to:-  
 O  
 O(a)  
 O(b)  
 C.G.S.  
 I  
 R.F.C.  
 Filed:-  
 G.S. Z/64  
 G.S. Cables.  
 W.D.



From:- Chief, Eypforce.

To:- General BASRA, /Britforce SALONIKA.  
repeated

A.M.1584 cipher

10/2/17

Desp.1715.

An operation against the main force of the SENUSSI, located recently in SIWA and neighbouring oases, has just been brought to a successful conclusion. Our force, consisting entirely of armoured cars, after a dash across the desert of nearly 200 miles, found some 800 of the enemy in a well defended position. An action ensued which lasted 20 hours when the enemy fled during the night. As a portion of our forces cut off his retreat he was compelled to go south into the waterless desert, where it was impossible for the cars to pursue him owing to high sand dunes. We burned the enemy's camp, with a large amount of ammunition and stores, and captured a machine gun and 200 rifles, the enemy losses amounted to at least 200 killed and wounded and included 5 Turkish officers. We had very few casualties in our own force.

Copies to:- C.G.S.

O

O(a)

O(b)

Filed: G.S. 2/28/11

G.S. Cables.

W.D.

SECRET.

FORCE ORDER No.30.

by

GENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD MURRAY, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.

Commander-in-Chief, Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

11th February 1917.

Reference Map Scale 1/250,000.

1. (a) In future the western boundary of Eastern Force will be a line running from SUEZ inclusive west of the Sweetwater Canal as far as MAHSAMA, and thence via the PORT SAID branch of the Sweetwater Canal to PORT SAID inclusive. The area to the west of this boundary hitherto included in SHARQIA Province will henceforward form part of the DELTA District command.

(b) The reorganization indicated above is for administrative purposes, and in no way modifies the boundaries of what is known as the "Canal Zone".

2. The garrisons in the area to be transferred at ZAGAZIG, BILBEIS, SALHIA and TEL EL KEBIR will be found from the 1st Garrison Battalion of the Warwickshire Regiment, which will be placed under the orders of the General Officer Commanding, DELTA District for this purpose.

3. The duties of Officer Commanding, Royal Engineers, and adviser to the General Officer Commanding, Southern Canal Section, will devolve on the officer hitherto performing the duties of Assistant Director of Works, SHARQIA Province. The administration of Works in that portion of the SHARQIA Province which is transferred to the DELTA District command will be dealt with by the Commander, Royal Engineers, CAIRO, under the orders of the General Officer Commanding, DELTA District.

4. The appointment of General Officer Commanding, SHARQIA Province will cease to exist.

5. The above reorganization will take effect from midnight 11th-12th February 1917.

(Sgd.) A. Lynden Bell.

Major-General,

Chief of the General Staff.

Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Issued to:-

C.in C.	D.A.P.S.
C.G.S.	Commd. Paymaster.
"O"	Principal Chaplain.
"I"	A.A.G., 3rd Echelon.
"A"	G.O.C., Eastern Force.
"Q"	" Western Force.
M.G.R.A.	" Delta District.
E.in C.	" R.F.C.
D.A.S.	" Imp. Camel Corps.
A.M.S.	" Alexandria District.
D.S.T.	Commdt. Imp.Sch.of Instr.
D.O.S.	O.C., Bikanir Camel Corps.
D.M.S.	V.A., E.I.& E.
D.V.S.	G.S.O.l, Naval, ISMAILIA.
D.R.	D.O.B.D., Alexandria.
D.of W.	W.D.

SECRET.FORCE ORDER No.31.  
byGENERAL SIR ARCHIBALD MURRAY, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.  
Commander-in-Chief, Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

General Headquarters.

12th February, 1917.

1. The Mounted Troops in the Egyptian Expeditionary Force will be reorganised in two mounted divisions as under - (Authority War Office telegram No.28580 cipher (S.D.2.) of 27/1/17) :-

A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION.

1st Aust. Light Horse Brigade.  
2nd Aust. Light Horse Brigade.  
New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade.  
22nd Mounted Brigade.

Divisional Troops.

Headquarters, A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.  
Leicester Battery, R.H.A.  
Somerset Battery, R.H.A.  
Inverness Battery, R.H.A.  
Ayr Battery, R.H.A.  
A. & N.Z. Mtd.Div. Field Squadron.  
A. & N.Z. Mtd.Div. Signal Squadron.  
1st Light Horse Field Ambulance.  
2nd Light Horse Field Ambulance.  
N.Z.M.R.Bde. Field Ambulance.  
1/1st N.Midland Mtd.Bde. Field Amb.  
6th Aust. Mobile Veterinary Section.  
7th Aust. Mobile Veterinary Section.  
No.2 N.Z. Mobile Veterinary Section.  
3/1st N.Midland Mobile Veterinary Section.  
A. & N.Z. Mtd.Div. Sanitary Section.

IMPERIAL MOUNTED DIVISION.

3rd Aust. Light Horse Brigade.  
\*4th Aust. Light Horse Brigade.  
5th Mounted Brigade.  
6th Mounted Brigade.

(\* Units marked with an asterisk are at present in process of formation).

IMPERIAL MOUNTED DIVISION (Continued).Divisional Troops.

Headquarters, Imperial Mounted Division.  
 Notts. Battery, R.H.A.  
 Berks. Battery, R.H.A.  
 "A" Battery, H.A.C.  
 "B" Battery, H.A.C.  
 \* Imperial Mtd.Div. Field Squadron.  
 \* Imperial Mtd.Div. Signal Squadron.  
 3rd Light Horse Field Ambulance.  
 \* 4th Light Horse Field Ambulance.  
 1/2nd S.Midland Mtd.Bde. Field Ambulance.  
 1/1st S.Midland Mtd.Bde. Field Ambulance.  
 8th Australian Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 \* 9th Australian Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 4/1st S.Midland Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 3/1st S.Midland Mobile Veterinary Section.  
 No.31 Sanitary Section.

(\* Units marked with an asterisk are at present in process of formation.)

2. Major-General Sir H.G. Chauvel, K.C.M.G., C.B., will retain command of the A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.

Brigadier-General H.W. Hodgson, C.M.G., M.V.O., is appointed to command the Imperial Mounted Division with effect from 8/2/1917, with temporary rank of Major-General while so employed.

3. The Imperial Mounted Division is allotted on formation to Eastern Force.

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

## Issued to:-

C. in C.	D.A.P.S.
C.G.S.	Command Paymr.
"O"	Principal Chaplain.
"I"	A.A.G., 3rd Echelon.
"A"	G.O.C., Eastern Force.
"Q"	" Western Force.
M.G.R.A.	" Delta District.
E. in C.	" R.F.C.
D.A.S.	" Imp. Camel Corps.
A.M.S.	" Alexandria District.
D.S.T.	Commdt. Imp. Sch. of Instr.
D.O.S.	O.C., Bikanir Camel Corps.
D.M.S.	V.A., E.I. & E.
D.V.S.	G.S.O.l. Naval, ISMAILIA.
D.R.	D.O.B.D., Alexandria.
D. of W.	W.D.

From:- Chief, Egyptforce.  
 To:- Troopers, LONDON.  
 A.M.1605 cipher. 17/2/17 Desp. 1115.

Your 21158 and 23226 cipher A.O.1. R.F.C.

Weekly returns:-

(a)	<u>MESOPOTAMIA.</u>	19		
	<u>EAST AFRICA.</u>	10		
	<u>SALONIKA.</u>	46	includes 16 balloon pilots.	
	<u>EGYPT.</u>			
	X Aircraft Depot	1		
	20th Reserve Wing	43		
	5th Wing	32	includes 7 pilots in ARABIA.	
(b)	<u>MESOPOTAMIA.</u>	1		
	<u>EAST AFRICA.</u>	3		
	<u>SALONIKA.</u>	5		
	<u>EGYPT.</u>			
	X Aircraft Depot	Nil		
	20th Reserve Wing	6		
	5th Wing	4		
(c)	<u>MESOPOTAMIA.</u>		<u>Serviceable.</u>	<u>Unservice- able.</u>
	<u>B.E.2.C.</u>	13		10
	H.Farman	nil		4
	Martinsyde	5		1
	<u>EAST AFRICA.</u>			
	<u>B.E.2.C.&amp; E.</u>	15		1
	H.Farman	3		nil
	<u>SALONIKA.</u>			
	<u>B.E.2.C.</u>	12		2
	<u>B.E.12.</u>	8		4
	Bristol Scout.	-		6
	Armstrong W.	9		6
	De Havilland	nil		nil
	Spencer Balloons uninflated	4.		
	Cacquot Balloons "	3.	serviceable 1.	
	<u>EGYPT.</u>			
	<u>X Aircraft Depot.</u>			
	<u>B.E.2.C.</u>	nil		6
	Avro	nil		5
	Bristol Scouts	nil		nil
	M.Farman	1		7
	Martinsyde	1		nil
	Armstrong W.	nil		nil
	<u>20th Reserve Wing.</u>			
	<u>B.E.2.C.&amp; E.</u>	9		11
	Bristol Scout.	2		nil
	M. Farman	23		4
	Avro	10		5
	Curtiss	1		2
	Martinsyde	nil		1
	<u>5th Wing.</u>			
	<u>B.E.2.C.&amp; E.</u>	25(a)		10
	Martinsyde	4		6
	De Havilland	nil		1
	Bristol Scout	2		9

(a) includes 5 on expedition in ARABIA.

Copies to:-	O	Filed:-	G.S.104/3
	O(a)		G.S. Cables
	O(b)		W.D.
	C.G.S.		C.O.
	I		
	A		
	Q		

SECRET.

From: Chief, Egyptforce.

To: Chief, London.

A.M. 1618 cipher. 19/2/17.

Desp. 2145.

Evening Report. Information having been received that small posts had been re-established by the enemy at KASSANA and NEKHL, a combined operation has been carried out with complete success by mobile columns converging from the north on HASSANA and from the west on NEKHL. The advance was so timed that the Northern Column, which started from EL ARISH on the 15th, and the two Southern Columns, which started from SERAPEUM and SUEZ respectively on the 14th, all reached their destinations simultaneously at daybreak yesterday.

The enemy was taken by surprise at HASSANA and the post of three officers and twenty-one soldiers captured.

The garrison at NEKHL was composed of about 100 cavalry. We took eleven prisoners, also a field gun, 250 rounds of gun ammunition, 8,000 rounds S.A.A., besides a quantity of stores and explosives and a number of rifles. The remainder of the force retreated by the waterless road to AKABA. We had no casualties amongst our own troops.

Apart from the destruction of these two Turkish posts in the Peninsula, the additional proof of the great mobility of our troops in the desert furnished by this operation will produce a valuable moral effect upon the Arabs.

Copies to:- O. C.in C. A. E.in C. I.M.A.  
 O(a) C.G.S. Q. D.A.S. F.M.A.  
 O(b) I. M.G.R.A. A.M.S.  
 Filed - G.S.Z/29.  
 G.S.Cables.  
 W.D. C.O.

The Commandant,  
Imperial School of Instruction,  
ZEITOUN.

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With reference to your I.S.5204, dated Feb.5th, your suggestion for extending the course of instruction for mounted troops from three to seven weeks is approved, and the date on which this change will take place will be notified later. The number of candidates attending each of these courses will be 60 junior officers and 20 senior N.C.Os.

It is regretted that it will not be possible for candidates to bring their own chargers and grooms with them to the School of Instruction.

The syllabus outlined in the last paragraph of your letter is approved, and with reference to the tactical schemes mentioned for the last fortnight of the course attention should be paid to instruction in the following subjects:-

1. Instruction and practice in night marches and night advances, and in reading of the stars.
2. Reconnaissance and patrols.
3. Protection on the move and at rest.
4. Action of mounted rifles against cavalry.
5. Escorts to convoys, etc.
6. Tactics of Hotchkiss Rifles and Machine Guns.
7. Dismounted attack and defence of positions and localities.
8. Seizing and holding ground on a broad front in front of or in the flank of infantry.
9. Co-operation with infantry in battle. Pursuit.
10. Elementary topography and map reading.

(Sgd.) G.F. PERKINS,  
Major G.S.  
for Lieut.Colonel,  
General Staff.

G.H.Q., E.E.F.  
19.2.17.





G.S. 534.

25th February 1917.

General Officer Commanding,  
 Eastern Force.  
 -----

In view of forthcoming operations, it is considered that some alteration in the existing arrangements for the storage of artillery ammunition would seem to be required. The following proposals are therefore notified for your information:-

(1) All ammunition dumps in the Southern and Northern Canal Sections to be abolished.

(2) All artillery units employed on the Canal or for Lines of Communication defence in these areas should keep only the ammunition normally carried in the batteries. 18-pdr only are affected and this represents 176 rounds per gun.

(3) The Ordnance Depots to hold for these guns the ammunition represented by their Brigade Ammunition Column, which are otherwise employed, viz., 76 rounds per gun.

(4) All guns in or near the area of probable operations to have the allowance previously laid down, namely,

18-pr.....	1000	rounds
4.5-inch Howitzer.....	800	"
60-pdr.....	500	"
6-inch Howitzer.....	600	"
8-inch.....	400	"
13-pdr A.A. ....	500	"
2.75 (Mountain Artillery).....	1000	"

Enc: (5) Ammunition statement marked 'Z' attached shows the quantity of ammunition to be maintained:-

- (i) In unit charge, vide column 3 and G.S.476 of 27/1/17.
- (ii) In Ordnance charge, vide column 4.

As the ammunition is not at present distributed in these proportions - vide columns 5 and 6 - adjustment will be required.

(6)

(6) 4,000 rounds 6-pdr are being sent to EL ARISH for units, equipment and reserve.

Will you please forward your remarks on these proposals to General Headquarters as early as possible ?

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

Copy to Q.

EL ARISH.

'Z'

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Nature.	Guns.	Scale with Units.	Scale A.O.D. EL ARISH.	With units of Desert Column, including dumps at EL ARISH and MAZAR.	With D.A.C. ROMANI. EL ABD.	Total Columns 5 and 6.	Col. 7 from Col. 3.	Amounts to be moved from KANTARA to EL ARISH.	No. of 10-ton trucks.
13-pdr.	8	x 280 = 2240	x 220 = 1760	3416	-	3416	1176	Col. 4-Col. 8 580	1
18-pdr R.H.A.	48	x 363 = 17424	x 637 = 30576						
	32	x 306 = $\frac{9792}{27216}$	x 694 = $\frac{22208}{52784}$	36610	9898	43508	16292	36492	46
4.5" How.	24	x 244 = 5856	x 556 = 13344	5677	859	6536	680	12664	28
60-pdr.	12	x 160 = 1920	x 340 = 4080	1388	256	1644	276	4356	18
6" How.	2	x 208 = 416	x 392 = 784	-	-	-	-	1200	6
8" How.	2	x 180 = 360	x 220 = 440	-	-	-	-	800	8
S.A.A.								10,000,000	40

147 trucks

G.S.236.

25th February 1917.

Officer Commanding,  
A. & N.Z.T.C. & D. Camp,  
MOASCAR.  
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1. With reference to your letter No.12/275 of 12th February, the scheme for combined training at MOASCAR of Australians and of New Zealanders has been very carefully considered, and has also been submitted to General Chauvel and General Chayter for their remarks. In the light of the considerations put forward by General Chauvel, which were concurred in by General Chayter, it has been decided that, while every sympathy is felt for your desire to make the training at Moascar as efficient as possible, approval cannot be given to a scheme of training which removes all responsibility for the training of their regiments from the Commanding Officers and officers detailed to assist them.

2. It is considered, therefore, that the training at MOASCAR should be carried out on the following lines:-

(a) Men of each training unit should be graded according to their military knowledge by the Commanding Officers Training Regiments, and divided into squads accordingly.

(b) The syllabus for each training unit should be drawn up weekly in advance by the Officer Commanding that unit, and submitted for approval to you. You will satisfy yourself that it is suitable for the various grades, that ranges, etc. are available, and that the syllabus is being properly carried out. It will also be for you to allot training areas, ranges, etc.

(c) All instruction, except in the case of courses for officers and N.C.Os. will be carried out by the officers and N.C.Os. of the units concerned, under the supervision of the instructional staff of the Depot, who will be

detailed

detailed for this purpose by you.

(d) Special courses will be held for officers and N.C.Os. in various subjects as may be required. These should not be in any way confused with the courses at ZEITOUN, and no certificates should be issued.

(e) Guards and fatigues should be found from those who are furthest advanced in their training.

(f) When squads in any one grade are small, or in the case of casuals for some special exercises, there will be no objection to the combination of Australian and New Zealand troops into single squads in order to save instructors, but the general principle should be that the officers of the training cadres train their own men.

A copy of this letter is being sent to General Chauvel and General Chaytor.

(Sgd.) A. Lynden Bell.  
Major-General,  
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