

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/63/3

Title: 46th Infantry Battalion

April 1916



AWM4-23/63/3

WAR DIARY

46th Battalion, A. I. F.

Army Form C. 2118.

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

~~X INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL-EL-KEBIR.	March 27th to Apr 2nd.		<p>Battalion as part of 12th Brigade proceeded by march to SERAPEUM.</p> <p>(Original of above written on same sheet as entries for March and filed with colume for that month).</p>	

46TH BATTALION A.I.F.
WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Remarks and
references to
Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAGHAMA	29th		Marched resumed 0600 to MOASCAR (8 miles).	
MOASCAR	30th 30th		March resumed 0615 to SERAPEUM where Battalion occupied new Camp	
			<p><u>NOTES ON MARCH</u> - Weather - Hot. Water - Scarce. Surface of Ground - Very deep sand. Above was largely responsible for the considerable number of men who fell out, as as on 30th when the weather was cooler abundant supply of water available and the going better only 6 men fell out as against over 100 on the 2 previous days. Other causes were bad fitting equipment and boots, lack of March discipline, and efficient supervision by Platoon Commanders and N.C.Os and lack of training in marching with full pack and ammunition. A very necessary point to be noted was that it is absolutely necessary for every man to discipline himself with regard to economising water and rations. The greatest number of men fell out on the 29th. This was chiefly owing to the fact that the majority of men had drunk all their water and eaten their rations during and after the long march on 28th and therefore were obliged to march on 29th with empty water bottles and empty stomachs.</p>	
SERAPEUM	31st April		255 Other Ranks transferred from 1st Australian Division	
	1		191 Other Ranks joined from 2nd Training Battalion.	
	3/9		Training continued (App 1c).	
	5		Marched to new camp RAILHEAD (5 miles). March satisfactorily performed attention having been given to points noticed on march TEL-EL-KEBIR -- SERAPEUM.	
	10/16		Training continued (App 1d). Great attention being paid to training of Signallers, Grenadiers &c. and to Musketry of which a course was commenced. During the week a class for instruction of N.C.Os. was held under Major A.K.DENHAM and Captain F.M. COUCHMAN. This class proved a great success, much useful knowledge was obtained and great credit is due to above mentioned Officers.	
	17/22		Orders received to occupy Front Line Trenches on 18th cancelled and altered to 21st.	
	18		Brigade inspected by Corps Commander (Lieutenant General SIR ALEXANDER GODLEY).	
	19		Training and Musketry continued.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SERAPEUM RAILHEAD	April			
	20		81 Other Ranks joined Battalion from 8th Training Battalion.	
	21		Battalion marched to ROADHEAD where Headquarters were established and occupied Front Line of Trenches as follows - "A" Company 60 - 62; "B" Company 52 - 59; "C" Company 1 - 5; "D" Company 6 - 9. Battalion came under orders of Brigadier General ANTHILL G.O.C. 3rd Light Horse Brigade Commanding Front Line.	App 4
	22/27		Occupied in completing and strengthening defences.	
	27		News received of attack by Turks and German-Austrian Troops on posts at KATIA on April 23rd	
	29		Orders received to hand over posts 52 - 62 to 4th Pioneer Battalion and occupy posts 1 - 9.	
	30		Above move carried out. Battalion Headquarters moved to Post No 7. "A" Company occupied posts 1 - 3; "B" In reserve Post No 7; "C" post 5 - 6; "D" Posts 7 - 9.	
	May 1 /7		Continuation of work of clearing and strengthening defences.	
	2		Headquarter camp placed in state of defence.	
	5		Posts 1 - 5 handed over to 48th Battalion. New distribution as follows - "A" Coy Post 8; "B" Coy Post 6; as Battalion Reserve; "C" Coy Post 7; "D" Coy Post 9. Urgent orders received to push on work on the trenches in anticipation of possible attack on May 12th.	
7		Brigadier General ANTHILL inspected the position and directed various additions and alterations.		
8		Lieutenant General SIR A. GODLEY G.O.C. 2nd ANZAC CORPS inspected line held by Battalion. He expressed his satisfaction.		
10		4 Machine Guns under 2nd Lieutenant GRIEVSON 12th M.G. Company placed placed under orders of O.C. Battalion and posted.		

12th INFANTRY BRIGADE

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING 46th BATTALION APRIL 10th to APRIL 13th

DATE	0600 - 0800	0930 - 1100	1600 - 1800
APRIL 10th	Artillery Formations Infantry in Attack Infantry Training Sec 88	Rifle Exercises Bayonet Fighting Bombing	Extended order drill Fire control Fire Discipline "D" Coy Night Outposts Infantry Training Sec 107 " " " 108 " " " 111 " " " 116
APRIL 11th	M A R C H T O C A N A L - to include Artillery Formations & March Discipline.		
APRIL 12th	Outposts by day Infantry Training 147-157	Musketry Company Drill	"B" Night Outposts Advanced Guards
APRIL 13th	Infantry in Battle Infantry Training 114-120	Bombing Bayonet Fighting	Inter-communication and passing of orders "C" Coy Night Outposts
APRIL 14th	Outposts by day Infantry Training 114-120	Guards and sentries Rifle Exercises	Rear Guards Flank Guards "A" Coy Night Outposts
APRIL 15th	Battalion drill Battalion in Attack Infantry Training 121-124	Musketry Bayonet Fighting	H a l f H o l i d a y.

APPENDIX

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----- MONTHLY NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS -----

APPENDIX

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----- Month ending 30th April 1916 -----

Lieut Col	Lee G.T.	Commanding Officer
Major	Denham H.K.	2nd in Command
Captain	Davidson W.R.	Adjutant
"	Couttie V.J.G.	Quartermaster
Captain	Edgley J.	
"	Clark G.H.	
"	Waine E.J.	
"	Kimber L.J.	
"	Couchman F.M.	
"	Brooks W.C.	
Lieutenant	Moorehouse L/J/	In Hospital
2nd "	Purnell F.O.	
" "	Harrington A.	
" "	McPherson J.J.	
" "	Davis H.S.	
" "	Simonsen P.W.	
" "	Cunningham R.	
" "	Milne G.E.	
" "	Craig L.C.A.	
" "	Forest H.G.	
" "	Bull L.	
" "	Payne D.B.	
" "	Syme W.A.	
" "	Cornwall E. McI	
" "	Hall J.K.	
" "	McEgan W.	
Captain	Browning D. de C.	Medical Officer.

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Strength of Officers = 26