

AWM4

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/65/4

Title: 48th Infantry Battalion

May 1916



AWM4-23/65/4

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.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

RECEIVED
Army Form C. 2118
18 JUN. 1916
D.A.G., 3rd. Echelon

1916

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HABIETA WEST.	24/16	0900.	<p>The Battalion moved out and occupied the front line trenches on 5th inst. line held being L1CC to L3H. A Coy took over L1CC + D C Coy L1G. B Coy L1H. L3A. L3B. D Coy L3D. L3H. Battalion HQs and Details camped in rear of L1G. Five trenches are being cleaned out existing works improved, and wire entanglements constructed.</p> <p>During the past week work has progressed quite favourably. The weather has been exceedingly hot, and the water supply limited. The health of the Battalion is good, save the 8th inst Major Drayton had the misfortune to be kicked by one of the horses and had to be removed to hospital. Lieut Glockett accidentally shot himself through the hand, it is only a slight wound and he should soon return to duty. The men all seem to be in good spirits, and there is very little crime. During the week all men in excess of Establishment were returned to Tel. el. Kahir.</p> <p>The 48th Batt moved from HABIETA at 0900 this morning. The trenches being taken over by the 51st Batt. I think the experience gained by the men during their occupation of the trenches has been very useful indeed. Their health has been good, and their spirits excellent.</p>	
"	14/16 15/16 16/16	?		
RAILHEAD HABIETA SERAPOUW	19/16	16/16		

A. L. Pearce
Co 48th Batt

WAR DIARY

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SERAPCHAN	27 5 16		<p>moved from RAILHEAD. to STAGING Camp SERAPCHAN on 24th May the Battalion took part in night operations held by 4th DIVISION on nights of 24th and 25th. The bearing of the men was excellent.</p> <p>Inspected by the C-in-C this afternoon. Men were very steady on Parade. The Equipping of the Battalion is nearly completed.</p> <p>Battalion under orders to Embark Embark for ALEXANDRIA.</p> <p>THURSDAY NIGHT. 10.30 pm. Day spent in inspections. Men are fairly well clothed and Equipped. The health and spirits of the men are very good indeed. The Battalion is 11 "Elves" over strength. These will be sent to Tel el Kebir. to join 7th Mountain Battalion.</p> <p>Attached are "New Orders".</p>	
"	29 5 16			
"	30 5 16			

R. L. Leone
Lt Col
Co 48th Pa

1. The Commanding Officer expects Company Commanders and Platoon commanders to assist him in every way possible to ensure that this Battalion leaves Egypt as completely equipped as circumstances permit, and that all orders re entrainment and embarkation are carried out with expedition and attention to detail.
2. Information has been received that the weight of baggage to be taken by Officers will be as detailed in Field Service Pocket Book (30lbs) and that it may include the 100lbs left at the Base. Any baggage beyond this amount must be got rid of before the move.
A representative from Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son is now at 4th. Div. H. Qs., and Officers should advise Adjutant by 1800 Sunday 28th. inst., re the amount of baggage which they wish Messrs. Cook & Son to take over, when arrangements will be made for transport.
3. No cameras are allowed to be taken:
All cameras must be sent away before the move either personally or with the assistance of Messrs. Cook & Son.
A certificate will be rendered by each C. C. Coy by noon on 30th. inst., that no cameras are in possession of Officers or other ranks in their Company or attached Headquarter's details.
4. Officers' chargers, with saddlery and harness, will accompany the Battalion
5. Officers must not take any kit other than that laid down in F. S. Pocket Book as:

- (1) Field Kit.
- (2) Base Kit.

The weights laid down therein must not be exceeded.

All ranks will embark in Khaki drill clothing and Australian pattern hats. Drill clothing will be collected before arrival at port of disembarkation and packed in kit bags. Service dress clothing will be taken packed in kit bags.

6. All kit bags which are not clearly and correctly marked must be marked at once.

B. B. Leane

Capt.
Adjutant 48th. Battalion.

MOVE OF 4th. DIVISION.Serapeum East.
30/5/16.48th. Battalion Order No. 3.

1. In anticipation of our early departure the following action will be taken:-
2. All black kit bags will be at once packed ready for transit. No man is to take more than ONE kit bag.
It is to be most distinctly understood that the Kit bags being taken on board ship will not be allowed to be landed, but will be handed over to ships authorities on board (after being packed with khaki drill suits) to bring back to Egypt.
The men must therefore land with only what they can carry, and may have to carry for some miles to Camp.
3. At 0630 Company Commanders will inspect the contents of every kit bag, and at the conclusion of the inspection will render a certificate to Adjutant that no kit bag contains any explosive or combustible matter.
4. As soon as kit bags are inspected they will be at once stacked at the South end of Company lines in one tidy dump.
Each Company will at once post a Guard of 1. N.C.O. and 3 men over its own dump. This Guard is responsible that no kit bags are in any way interfered with by any person whatever.
5. This work should be completed by 0730.
6. The time remaining before breakfast will be occupied in thoroughly cleaning up Company lines; nothing is to be left in the Company lines except tentage and what will be actually carried on the man, including oil sheet and one blanket.
All spare equipment and clothing etc must be referred to O.C. Coy, who will give instructions as to its disposal.
Capt. B... ~~Capt. Jilley~~ is detailed as Entraining Officer, and will report to Adjutant for Orders at 0900 tomorrow.
8. (a) O.C. "A" Coy will detail a Baggage Guard of 1. Officer, 3 N.C.O.'s and 30 men to hold itself in readiness to move at any time.
(b) O.C. "B" Coy will detail 1. N.C.O. and 3. men to report to Transport Officer when required.
9. Troops will embark in Khaki drill and felt hats. Khaki will be worn on board ship, serge clothing being put in kit bags.
Before disembarking, serge clothing will be put on and Khaki packed in kit bags for return to Egypt.

B. B. Leane
Capt.
Adjutant 48th. Battalion.

MOVE OF 4th. DIVISION.

SERAPEUM.

31/5/16.

48th. Battalion Order No. 3.

1. (a). The following Advance party is detailed, and will hold itself in readiness to entrain at short notice:

A/Quartermaster	Capt. O. Jilley.
A/Adjutant.	Lieut. Carter.
Advance Guard.	3 N.C.O's & 18 men from "D" Coy.
- (b) Order No. 3, para. 7. For Capt. Jilley read Capt. Bush.
2. The journey to port of embarkation will be made in two flights as per attached schedule. Dates and times of entraining will be notified later. Troops must be at entraining point 30 minutes before time of entraining.
3. Officers' baggage is to be stacked at Q.M.'s store by 0830 tomorrow.
4. All baggage, stores etc not carried on the man must be at No. 8 dump by 1000 tomorrow.
- 5.6 Companies will parade in fatigue dress at 0530 tomorrow and march to 48th. Battalion dump (No. 8) (which will be pointed out on arrival at new siding West of Canal by Capt. Bush) each man carrying a kit bag. These will be stacked at the dump, and left under a guard of 1 N.C.O & 15 men, to be supplied from Baggage Guard detailed in Order No. 2., para. 8.
- 6.6 The Baggage Guard detailed in Order No. 2., para. 8 (less 1 N.C.O & 15 men) will report to Adjutant at 0600 tomorrow.
7. "C" Coy will detail a working party of 1 Officer 3 N.C.O's and 30 men. The Officer to report to Adjutant at 0600 tomorrow
8. Every man will carry 120 rounds ammunition, filled water bottle, 34 hrs. tinned ration, and unexpired portion of day's ration, on entraining; also one blanket and waterproof sheet, banderole style, flap of pack fastened over top of roll. All mess tins will be carried outside pack, fastened square on top of pack.
9. Coy. Officers will arrange to carefully check every man both at entraining and at embarkation to ensure that all are present and that no men of other Units embark with the Battalion. Checked nominal rolls will be handed to Adjutant immediately after each company has embarked.
10. O's. C. Coys will inspect the packs and haversacks of every man immediately before marching off; to ascertain that no bombs or explosives of any kind are carried. Certificates that this has been done to be handed to Adjutant at first opportunity after embarkation.
11. The following are detailed as Regimental Police and will act as such until further orders, and will travel in No. 1 train.

No. 3035. Sgt. Rose. C.R. "C" Coy.	No. 1821. L/Cpl. Sheppard. V. "D" Coy.
" 3153. Pte. Connor. A. E. "A" Coy.	" 2787. Pte. Clemow. A.G. "
" 4024. " Whitting. W.A. "	" 1754. " Bradford. J. "
" 4308. " Mannix. J.W. "	" 3049. " Ashby. A.V. "C" Coy.
" 2369. " Meyer. F.G. "S" Coy.	" 3223. " Rinehart. A.S. "
" 1875. " Wrighton. T. "B" Coy.	" 4171. " McArthur. C.N. "A" Coy
" 94. " Reynolds. H.N. "	
" 2415. " Springbett. R.V. "	

These police will report to Lieut. Whittle on arrival at entraining point Serapeum.

O.C. "C" Coy will detail 1 Officer, 1 N.C.O. and 12 other ranks to act as police on No. 2 train; for the journey only.

The duty of these police is to see that no men leave the train at any stopping place unless orders are given to disentrain.
12. The Officer in charge Baggage Guard will detail parties to proceed with every train by which 48th. Battalion baggage is sent, the numbers being in proportion to the quantity of baggage. On arrival at detraining station these guards will at once proceed to baggage wagons to carefully guard baggage. They are responsible that no baggage is lost or in any way tampered with, and that no explosives of any kind are introduced into the baggage, from the time of receiving at No. 8 dump to the time of baggage entering ship's hold. It must be carefully guarded the whole time.

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5.16

BATTALION ORDER NO. 3. CONTINUED.

13. O.C. "B" Coy (for No. 1 train) and O.C. "D" Coy (for No. 2 train) will each detail a party of 1 Officer, 3 N.C.O.'s and 30 men to alight as soon as train arrives at detraining station, and commence unloading the baggage and vehicles from the trucks.
14. No. animals will be taken on board.

B. J. Leane

Capt.
Adjutant 48th. Battalion.

APPENDIX

SCHEDULE OF ALLOTMENTS TO TRAINS (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION)

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To Accompany Move Order No. 3.31/5/16.

<u>1st. TRAIN.</u>	<u>Detail.</u>	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>O/Ranks.</u>	
<u>Headquarters.</u>	Officers & Staff.	4.	6	
	Transport Section.		3.	
	Batmen.		5.	
	Signallers.		17.	
	Stretcher Bearers.		16.	
	M.O's Orderlies.		8.	
	A.M.C. Attached.	1.	5.	
	M.G. Section.	1.	30.	
	"A" Company.	4.	304.	
	"B" "	5.	306.	
	"C" "		4.	
	"D" "		3.	
		<hr/>		
		15.	501.	15.501.
		<hr/>		
<u>2nd. TRAIN.</u>				
<u>Headquarters.</u>	Pioneers.		11.	
	"A" Coy.	1	16.	
	"B" Coy.		14.	
	"C" Coy.	5.	216.	
	"D" Coy.	4.	196.	
		<hr/>		
		10.	453.	19.453.
		<hr/>		
	Advance Parties:	3.	31.	
	With Bde. Headquarters:	1.	1.	
	Transport Section:	1.	11.	
	Transport Guard:(to join Coy before sailing)		3.	
		<hr/>		
		5.	36.	5.36.
		<hr/>		
			<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>30.-890.</u>

B.B. Leane
Capt.
Adjutant 4th. Battalion.

48th. Battalion Order No.4.

- 58 T
1. (a). At 1430 today Companies will parade in full marching order and fall in in mass on Battalion Parade Ground. Rifles will be piled and equipment dumped in neat lines. Companies will then return to the lines, and prepare to strike camp.
 - (b) All tents will be struck on whistle signal from orderly Officer at 1500. They will be correctly folded and stowed in tent bags, and stacked by Companies 30 yards to North of Company Mess Huts. The whole Battalion Area is to be thoroughly cleaned up. Duty Coy ("A") will detail a party of 1 N.C.O. and 30 men to report to Orderly Officer for cleaning up Battalion Area other than Coy lines at 1530.
 2. Midday and tea meal will be eaten in Mess Sheds. Immediately after tea meal all mess huts, cookhouses etc will be thoroughly cleaned up. The ground of the mess huts is to be raked over.
 3. The Battalion will parade at 1830 and will march to Bivouac on West side of Canal. Parade States to Adjutant on arrival.
 4. Entrainment will be carried out by order, and no man must leave the train again except under the orders or with the permission of an Officer.
 5. Men are to be warned that they must not ride on the steps of carriages, or clamber on to the roof etc. They are also to be warned that several serious accidents have been caused through men leaning out of carriage windows and colliding with telegraph or signal posts.
 6. No man is to enter into conversation with any stranger, native or otherwise.
 7. On arrival at detraining station troops will wait for orders before detraining. The detraining will then be carried out as ~~fast~~ quickly and quietly as possible. Each Coy forming up in two ranks facing the train and about four paces from it.
 8. As soon as detraining is complete, the police already detailed will proceed through the train to ascertain that, nothing is left behind. The Officer in charge will report "all clear" to O.C. Train.
 9. Company Officers will carefully check all men marching on to boat to ensure that no unauthorised persons embark.
 10. On embarkation troops will be at once marched to their messes; on arrival there they will place their kits in the racks over mess tables and hang their equipment on the hooks provided for that purpose.
 11. No man will be allowed to leave the ship except on duty, and on no account whatever will any Officer or man be permitted to leave the wharf.
 12. Men are to be warned beforehand that no meals will be issued on board ship until evening meal on June 2nd.
 13. Company Orderly N.C.O.'s will report to R.S.M. on board ship immediately after embarkation to receive orders.
 14. Company Officers are to personally satisfy themselves of the proper allotment of their men to berths and messes, and that the arms and accoutrements are properly disposed of.
 15. The Commander of each Company is to be present at the first issue of bedding and will be responsible for the amount taken over by him.
 16. A list of utensils issued to each mess will be checked by the N.C.O. in charge on arrival at his mess, and he will sign a receipt which will be given up by the orderly man at the first issue of rations.

B. B. Leane
Capt.
Adjutant 48th. Battalion.