

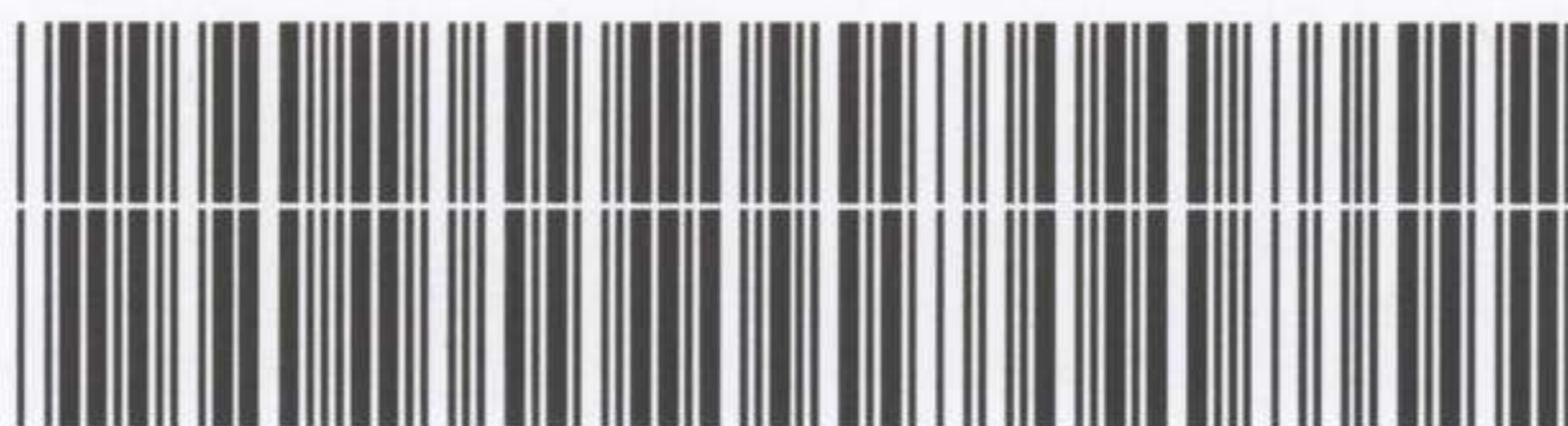
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Machine Guns

**Item number:** 24/26/4

**Title:** 16th Machine Gun Squadron,  
Imperial Mounted Division

June 1917



AWM4-24/26/4

Volume No. 11

# EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

## WAR DIARY.

Unit

*16<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Squadron*

*Imperial War Di.*

From

*1 6 17*

To

*30 6 17*

JUN 1917

*R65  
pp 1-15*

Confidential.

# JUN 1917

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War Diary.

of

16<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Squadron.

Volume 4.

From June 1<sup>st</sup> 1917.

To June 30<sup>th</sup> 1917.

Reference Maps.

Rafa sheet.

1:25,000.

Beersheba sheet.

1:25,000.

W. Herbert

Capt.

16<sup>th</sup> M.G. Sqn.

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	7/6/17		<p>Volume no. 78.</p> <p>The Gloucester, Warwick &amp; Kent's gun sections occupied pt 750 - MAALAGA - RASHID-BEK - 690 and along 700 contour to E of KHOR-EL-AURAM, covering reconnaissance by 4.00, EAST FORCE + DESERT COLUMN from ESSANI - LARHLEILAT.</p> <p>On completion of the reconnaissance the Brigade withdrew + arrived at bivouac at 10.00.</p> <p>There were no casualties.</p> <p>Some good machine gun positions were reconnoitred by 7<sup>th</sup> + 2<sup>nd</sup> 1/2 in vicinity of ESSANI and towards the outpost line.</p> <p>2 OR to hospital.</p>	
	2/6/17		<p>Working party to <sup>EL</sup>-GHABI</p> <p>2 OR to hospital</p> <p>1 OR from hospital</p>	
	3/6/17		<p>Working party to GHABI to continue defence works.</p> <p>to hospital. 2 OR to United Kingdom for admission to a Unit</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL-EL-KARRA	4/6/17		<p>Orders having been received<sup>2</sup> to reduce the dump at R.A.F.A. the 2<sup>nd</sup> proceeded there. All ordnance stores not required, returned to ordnance.</p> <p>2 ORs to Hospital</p> <p>3 reinforcements taken on to strength.</p> <p>All men at Details R.A.F.A. ordered to rejoin the Squadron.</p> <p>Lieut. E. B. W. Hunt, of 16<sup>th</sup> Machine gun Squadron details, rejoined the Squadron.</p> <p>1 OR to hospital</p> <p>1 OR from hospital</p> <p>2 ORs returned to duty &amp; on to strength.</p> <p>1 Far Sgt 1 Sd cpl 1 SS &amp; 1 Pte reinforcements on to strength.</p> <p>Working party to GHABI.</p> <p>1 Sgt returned to duty and on to strength.</p>	
	5/4/17			
	6/6/17			
	7/6/17			

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks reference Appendix
TEL-EL-FARA	8/6/17		<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>1 O.R. to hospital</p> <p>3 O.Rs returned to duty and on to strength.</p> <p>3 O.Rs left for United Kingdom for admission to a Cadet Unit.</p>	
	9/4/17		<p>4 O.Rs. to hospital.</p> <p>1 O.R. returned to hospital.</p> <p>1 O.R. left for United Kingdom for admission to a Cadet Unit.</p>	
	10/6/17		<p>2 O.Rs from hospital.</p>	
	11/6/17		<p>1 O.R. from hospital</p> <p>1 O.R. from base + on to strength.</p> <p>2 O.Rs. left for United Kingdom for admission to a Cadet Unit.</p>	
	12/6/17		<p>Major G. N. Horlich proceeded to hospital</p> <p>Capt. E. J. O. Herbert assumed command of the Squadron</p> <p>2 Lt A. C. Byard rejoined the Squadron from hospital</p> <p>1 O.R. from hospital</p>	
	13/6/17		<p>3 O.Rs from hospital</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks reference Appendix
TEL-EL-FARA	17/17		<p>The Glasgow section under 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. P. P. Pather, 19 00 re-joined the Squadron from the Warwick Coy.</p> <p>The Clerks section, under 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. F. H. Burton, 21 00 re-joined the Squadron from the Warwick Coy.</p> <p>1 O.R. to hospital.</p> <p>2 O.R. returned from hospital.</p> <p>Course of instruction for No. 1 commenced by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. F. W. Mace.</p> <p>2 O.R. to hospital.</p> <p>1 O.R. to hospital.</p> <p>The Brigade took over the duties of outpost Brigade from the 3<sup>rd</sup> A.L.H. Bge at 19 00.</p> <p>1 O.R. to hospital.</p> <p>2 O.R. returned to duty + on to strength.</p> <p>Reveille 02 45 Stand to arms, at 03.30 all horses saddled up.</p>	
	16/17			
	17/17			
	18/17			
	19/17			

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## OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL-EL-FARH	19/4/17		<p><sup>5</sup> up. pack on but not loaded. Horses fed, 03.30.</p> <p>All clear reported 05.30</p> <p>2 O.R. from hospital.</p>	
	cont			
	20/4/17		<p>Stand to, 03.30. all clear report 04.30<sup>45</sup></p> <p>Squadron parade mounted, on 'all clear' signal coming through.</p>	
	21/4/17		<p>Stand to 03.30 + on 'all clear' signal coming through at 04.45</p> <p>the squadron turned out mounted for drill under section arrangements.</p> <p>1 O.R. returned to duty + on 16 strength</p> <p>1 O.R. from hospital.</p>	
	22/4/17		<p>Stand to at 03.30.</p> <p>Squadron paraded at 09.30 for disinfection at Kuram. It returned at 14.00.</p>	

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# WAR DIARY

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## or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & references Appendix
EL-EL-FARA	22/4/17		<p style="text-align: center;">6.</p> <p>The 16th N. G. Bn received orders to detail 1 section of M.G.'s to proceed to GOZ-EL-GELEIB - HQ of outpost line, held by 2 regts of Gloucestershire Yeo.</p> <p>The original object in view was to proceed thence to Hill 550, S.W. of ABU-SHAWISH from which position it was intended to bring indirect fire to bear on the reverse slope of Hill 630, where it was known a standing patrol of the enemy was located.</p> <p>The section detailed was the Westminster section under a Lt F.W. Nace, 1902, &amp; it reported to Major G.E. Turner, 7th N.G. Bn at GOZ-EL-GELEIB. at 1710.</p> <p>In the meantime, Hill 550 was reported as being occupied by the enemy, and on this information being received Major Turner moved to a point on the 500 contour line E of Hill 550.</p> <p>From this position at 1700 Major G.E. Turner detailed 1 troop (less Glover's gun &amp; personnel) to take Hill 550.</p> <p>M.G. section to follow &amp; take up suitable positions when this</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks references Appendix
TEL-EL-FARA 27/11 cont.			<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>this had been effected. 1 troop was detailed to be in support at above mentioned point on contour line.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 100px;"> <p>Hill 620. (ultimate objective)</p> <p>Support Troop</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <p>Hill 550. 120 gun position.</p> <p>Hill C. 11 H. 1 Troop A.S.M. 2nd Position. 2nd gun position.</p> <p>Hill B.</p> <p>Hill A Lead Horses.</p> <p>direction of attack.</p> </div>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TELETYPE	27/1/17 cont.		<p style="text-align: center;">§.</p> <p>Hill 550 is as indicated above. There is a nullah formation between Hills A-B. Also a depression - run from Hill B to Hill C.</p> <p>The attacking troop dismounted in nullah, but was unable to advance further than crest of Hill B, owing to enemy rifle fire coming from direction of Hill C, about 300 yards distant.</p> <p>The 2 Blys were brought into action just beneath crest of Hill B, &amp; this immediately silenced enemy fire from direction of Hill C. - enemy snipers retiring from this position. At the same time, intermittent rifle fire was opened at long range from Hill 630.</p> <p>At this juncture, enemy artillery opened on our left flank from the NORTH and 2 or 3 shells (small HE) were seen to fall in the vicinity of IFTEIS.</p> <p>It would appear that this fire was directed against a</p>	

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OR  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks reference Appendix
TEL-EL-FARA	22/6/17 cont.		<p>at section of Glaston 400 which had been detached as a flank guard <sup>9</sup> that more probably at 9. r loop had lines <del>and</del> of extreme range &amp; shells were fired due to the NORTH. <del>and</del> As a result of this fire the lead horses of <del>the flank guard</del> <sup>the flank guard</sup> stampeded. <del>It is possible that some of the</del> <del>were out of range of the</del></p> <p>As the result of my fire, the Glaston troop took crest of hill C and my <del>s</del> were then brought into position on its right flank and brought to bear on the crest &amp; reverse slope of hill 630.</p> <p>My fire silenced all fire from Hill 630, which had been going on intermittently ever since troop first came into action.</p> <p>The moral effect on the enemy caused by this my fire which amounted to 5.00 rounds was <del>very</del> <sup>very</sup> definitely apparent.</p> <p>I.O.R. returned to duty <del>on</del> <sup>to</sup> strength.</p> <p>Stand to 03.30</p> <p>On "all clear" report coming at 04.30, the squadron paraded mounted under section arrangement, for drill.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks & references Appendix

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & references Appendix
TEUGLE CAMP	27/4/17		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>10.</u></p> <p>10.R to hospital.  10.R to United Kingdom for admission to a Cadet Unit.  10.R returned to duty - on to strength.  235676 Pte Fletcher to be s/p/s/p unpaid</p>	
	24/4/17		<p>Stand to 03.30  "all clear" report received at 04.45</p>	
	29/4/17		<p>Stand to cancelled.  Reveille 04.30.  Squadron paraded mounted for drill at 05.30.  2<sup>nd</sup> Lt H. F. Kendrick and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt A. Halliday were detailed as gallopers during Bge operations  2<sup>nd</sup> Lt F.W. Mace &amp; Westminster section returned from the Outpost line and Lt Mace handed in the following report  <del>4 Machine guns with the outpost during the period June 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup></del>  <del>On the morning of June 25<sup>th</sup> the two machine gun sections will fire on a stone hut held by the Turks, bearing 359°</del></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11/5/17</p>

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL-FARA	29/17		<p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>Report on long range firing of <u>Morshure</u> guns of the 16<sup>th</sup> Machine gun Bn.</p> <p><u>Situation</u> Working parties of the enemy and patrols were known to be in the habit of occupying spot level 630 - the WADI-IMLEIN - KH. ERK.</p> <p>The instructions to the G. M. G. section was to find positions from which long range fire could be brought to bear on these working parties and patrols and by this means clear the front &amp; enable our reconnoitering patrols to go forward.</p> <p>On June 23<sup>rd</sup> Machine guns provided to kill 510, opened <sup>fire</sup> on stone hut held by enemy, bearing 359° range 2000.</p> <p>Fire observed 50 yds short of target and elevation increased to 2900.</p> <p>Fire observed to strike all round the target - enemy eventually evacuated the building and our patrols were enabled to go forward.</p> <p>Guns were subsequently laid on WADI-IMLEIN, range 2000, observation was not possible from gun position but it was reported from a forward position that shots were striking in the WADI.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks References Append
TEL-EL-FARA	29/17		<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p><u>Continuation of report.</u></p> <p>Subsequently guns proceeded to post No. 5 at a point S of <u>V</u> in "cultivation," fire was opened on a small working party of the enemy <del>was</del> near junction of WADI-IMLEIH &amp; WADI-SHARIA bearing 15°, range 2800. Fire observed 100 yds shot, elevation increased to 2900, when fire observed easily from gun positions, striking ground all round enemy party. They retired at once into WADI-IMLEIH and fire was directed into WADI-IMLEIH and observed striking ground on both banks.</p> <p><u>24/17</u> Guns taken to No. 5 post referred to above and fire opened on same target with similar results. Working party dispersed immediately, bullets began to drop in their vicinity. The moral effect of this long range fire was very obvious. The enemy on all occasions retiring from it.</p> <p>Observation was easily obtained through planes but No. 1 could not observe their own fire. Bursts of 30 to 50 rounds were fired &amp; some of fire were clearly marked.</p>	<p>20/17</p>

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks  
References  
Appendix

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
TEL-EL-FARA	25/4/17		<p>observation. At 1500 to 2000, observation of fire was easy without glasses was obtained and enemy sought out by the No. 1. This long range fire appeared fully to justify the ammunition expended. No casualties.</p> <p>End of 2 Lt Mace's report.</p> <p>1 O.R. to hospital.</p>
	26/4/17		<p>The Glasgow section under 2 Lt P.H. Parke, &amp; the Hunt section under 2 Lt G. Burton paraded in the morning under section arrangements and proceeded to Y &amp; Z sections respectively at the GHABI works &amp; took over the work on the M.G. emplacements.</p> <p>The Wandich section, under 2 Lt H.H. Halliday was detailed in the evening to proceed with Worcester to SHALLUF</p> <p>This force to guard 2 British aeroplanes which had been abandoned by their pilots.</p> <p>1 to hospital 2 returned on to strength. 1 on to strength 39 drivers on to strength.</p>



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# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2115

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks reference Appendix
TEL-EL-FARRA	27/6/17		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>1st</u></p> <p>The glosed section, under 2 Lt A.B. Byard proceeded to the GHABI works and took over the m g emplacements in the x redoubt.</p> <p>The Warwick section returned to bivouac, the aeroplanes having been found the same morning intact. They reported that they had been in action.</p> <p>Working party of 20 men proceeded mounted to the 6th Bge camp &amp; erected 10 tents, these to be dug in.</p> <p>Work begun on Tuesday.</p> <p>Working party, composed of new draft reinforcements, again proceeded to 6th Bge camp, and work on this continued.</p> <p>Tc Squadron inspected the GHABI works.</p> <p>1 O.R. to Hospital.</p> <p>16 of the driver reinforcements paraded for Riding school at 07.00.</p> <p>1 O.R. to Hospital.</p> <p>1 O.R. to Hospital.</p> <p>2 Lt R.H. Halliday, 2 Lt H.T. Kendrick, 2 Lt A.B. Byard with 2 sappers and Lt Col Palmer proceeded to Tel-el-Farra for a course on the Victoria Gun.</p>	
	28/6/17			
	29/6/17			
	30/6/17			

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End of Volume IV

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