

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

Signals

Item number: 22/23/9

Title: 5th Signal Troop

March 1919



AWM4-22/23/9

C O N F I D E N T I A L .



Original

5TH. SIGNAL TROOP. AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS.

W A R D I A R Y

for month of MARCH 1919.

Compiled by:

Officer Commanding:



Robert H. M. Douglas Lieut

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Confidential - Original

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.

Vol IX Page I

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Baalbek 11/3/19. Syria	1/3/19.	1600	Handed over existing telephone lines to relieving unit - (36 th Jacobs Horse) Indian Cavalry.	
	2/3/19	0630	all preparations made for move at 0630. 2 nd inst. At 0630 Bde (less 14 th Regt) moved & halting for 1 hour, at noon, reached SHTORA at 1545, 2.5 miles. Telephone to SAADYAH signal office from 1630 - 0700 3/3/19. Horses very fresh & going well. At 0630	
	3/3/19	0730	Moved from SHTORA, for AIN SOFAR, 15 miles distant & on W side of Lebanon mountains. Very heavy climb for about 12 miles to top of range. All transport travelled in rear, whole of column was bivouaced at 1530. Passed through small snow storm on top of range.	
	4/3/19		All ranks billeted for night. Communication to Beirut. 20 miles by motor cycle. Heavy rain & hail storms set in & continued through night. At 0715 moved at 0715, through a blinding snow storm, with heavy dowfalls of hail, which lasted for upwards of an hour. Getting lower down to sea level, this ceased off, & was replaced by heavy rain which lasted all day.	
Beirut Syria	5/3/19	0900	Reached bivouac on heights about 3 miles south of Beirut about 1430, but tents could not be erected, owing to the heavy gale which was blowing at the time. Bde Hqs & Signals moved nearer to Beirut & camped in pine woods. 4 th Cavalry Division Signals laid telephone line, & communication established at 1500. Weather still unsettled At 0830	
	6/3/19	0830	All horse & mules under 15 years were handed over to 40 th Remount Depot Beirut -	



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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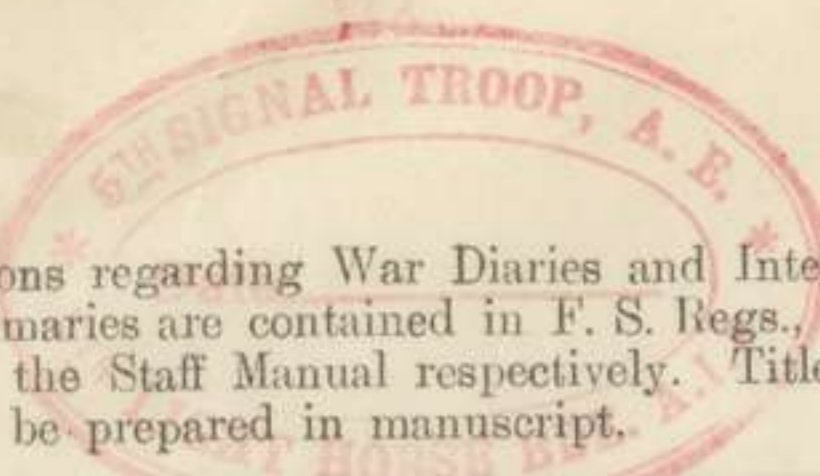
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Vol IX Page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bierut Syria	7/3/19	-	Handed over to 40 th Remounts on the 6 th . Prides 19. Draught 4, mules 2. 1 horse over 15 years destroyed. Other	
	8/3/19	-	Instructions received to prepare all equipment, vouchers for handing to Ordnance, retaining personal equipment, camp equipment etc. Other	
	9/3/19	-	Leave granted to Bierut up to 20% of present strength of unit.	
	10/3/19	-	Inspected by Genl Chauvel, who wished us good bye. Other	
	11/3/19	-	Nil Other	
	12/3/19	-	Weather very fine. swarms Other	
	17	-	Telephone lines laid to 12 th A.L.H. Regt & to Aust Divnl Train who marched in on 10 th inst.	
	13 th /18	-	All Saddlery, technical equipment etc handed into Ordnance Bierut. Enough technical equipment retained to maintain communication when Brigade reaches Mouscar. Other	
	19 th	-	Route marches, swimming parades, & physical exercises Other	
	20 th	-	Three motor cycles handed over to 4 th Signal Squadron, 4 th Cavalry Divn	
	21 st	-	Instruction to Army Aus div. Two others to be handed over retained till last day of Bier staying at Bierut.	
	21 st	-	One machine retained to take to Egypt. Other	
	21 st	-	Nil. Other	
	21 st	-	Instructions received Bal march to quay morning 23 rd , & embark for Egypt. Other	



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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Beirut Syria	22/3/19		Nil <u>MA</u>	
	23/3/19		Reveille at 0500. Marched out of bivouac at 0800 to quay at Beirut arriving at 0945, & embarked on Troop Ship "ELLINGA". All personal kit & camp equipment being carried. Sailed at 1500, sea very calm. <u>MA</u>	
Port Said	24/3/19		Reached Port Said at 0900, & berthed in harbour about 0945. Ship was unloaded during day, & stores loaded into trucks for transport to Moascar. Troops not to go off till 25 th . <u>MA</u>	
MOASCAR	25/3/19		Left Port Said in Troop train at 0945 & reached Moascar about noon. Marched to camp, tents were already pitched & midday meal awaiting troops. <u>MA</u>	
	26/3/19		Lines (telephone) already laid to Aust Divnl H.Q. Signals, a sounder instrument being added, superimposed on telephone lines. Indent submitted to Chief Signal Officer A.I.F. EGYPT for stores for re-equipping unit for service, if necessary, in Egypt. Also list forwarded to BTR for horses & transport required. <u>MA</u>	
	27/3		Nil <u>MA</u>	
	28/3		Indent for two motor cycles, from M. T. Depot Ismailia. <u>MA</u>	
	29/3/19		Nil <u>MA</u>	

Voluntarily done all night
31/3/19 O/C 5th Signal Troop AE W