

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/2/2

Title: 2nd Infantry Brigade

October 1914 - January 1915




AWM4-23/2/2

187

War Diary - 2nd Infantry Bde. 1st Aust. Divⁿ

Ba. No. 1

Date. 1914	Place and Time.			Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Oct. 21	Melb.	3pm	Arrived (Transport A3) with Div. Hq. Bde of 5 th B ⁿ sailed from Port Melb. 6 th & 7 th B ⁿ sailed in "Horotata" on 18 th , 8 th B ⁿ on 20 th .	
26	Albany	8am	Arrived in port at Albany.	
Nov 1	"	1pm	Transferred A' Coy 6 th B ⁿ to "Omrah" left Albany	
15	Colombo	8am	Arrived Outer Harbor Colombo	
17	"	4pm	Sailed from Colombo	
25	Aden	10am	Arrived Aden	
26	"	6am	Sailed from Aden	
30	Suez	8am	Arrived. Entered Canal 3.30pm	
Dec 1	A Said	7am	" A Said	
2	"	4pm	Sailed from A Said	
3	Alexandria	8am	Arrived Inner Harbor for Assembly	

Date.	Place and Time.	Disembarkation - arrival at Cairo	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
December 1	Camp Pyramids	5 th B ⁿ A Coy from Suez	
3	"	" 3 Coy from Alexandria B.H.G. detail	
4	"	" 4 " " "	
5	"	6 th B ⁿ 7 " " "	
7	"	" 1 " " " (from Omrah)	
"	"	Horses 5 th B ⁿ , 7 th B ⁿ , 8 th B ⁿ	
6	"	7 th B ⁿ complete Horses 6 th B ⁿ	
8	"	8 th B ⁿ " "	
10	"	Transport for Brigade	HOL
12 & 15	"	Training in marching, handling of arms etc under Coy Cols	HOL
16	"	Company Training began. See Bde order 90	
17	"	Major Villiers - Stunt reported for duty	HOL

MENA CAMP

3

Date.	Place and Time.			Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1915				
Dec 16	Mena	til 8.30am	Fog interferes with training	
17 18		10am	Foggy ^{morning} reduces extent of view. No arrangements having been made by A.S.C & shoe repairing brigade horses' forges tools etc were borrowed from 2 nd F.A. Bde. & shoeing commenced today. About 20 horses had had their shoes removed, hoops pared & shoes replaced cold during the week.	H/C
20			Received 100 wrought iron for anvil	H/C
22			One forge allowed for a half day daily to shoe transport horses, but as shoes or nails available.	H/C
			Coy training revised.	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 26	Mena	Coy training in pairs of companies.	Bde orders
5		Outposts, night outposts, night movement	App B-5
5 Jan.		to take up positions.	G.
6 Jan		This phase lasted 8 days	B.Os 90, 94.
5		Movement. Protection in march	See 3
12 Jan		Van guards, advanced guards, v.g. versus v.g	Bo, A.8, A.13, A.16
15 Jan		rear guards	A 23 A 24
8 Jan		Route march 11 1/2 miles with other units	90L
11 Jan.		Night march of Bde with transport.	Bde O. A.13
		Musketry at 30 ⁺ range commenced — —	App H-5
		field firing range constructed about 4 miles	
		from camp. A field firing range adjoins	
		the 30 ⁺ range. Accommodation in	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		provided for 60 men to fire at one time at 300', 25 men simultaneously at 200', 300' and collective fire under section commands. Firing at 300' began this day	Woe
Jan 18.	Mena	Musketry on field firing range commenced	
Jan 23	Mena	Brigade route march repeated without other units	
		Deficiency in clothing, boots, equipment, is interfering with training. Large number of men sick both in hospital and 'off duty' in the lines.	Woe
Jan 25		Coffee bars have been opened in batt's messing huts. A percentage of takings goes to regt funds	

6

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Jan 25	Mena	<p>Approval has been given for the return to Australia of certain details - medically unfit and others.</p> <p>Great difficulty has been experienced in water supply of the brigade. The water seldom reaches the 8th Bⁿ - generally the supply stops at the 5th Bⁿ. Men fill their water bottles overnight as best they can - generally at 3rd or 4th Bⁿ. Water for horses away from camp all day is taken out in water carts. This generally requires 3 - sometimes 4 horses per cart on account of heavy sand.</p> <p>Until more men have qualified in Table B, firing at field firing range is suspended.</p>	

30

HOL

HOL

2 INF BDE

OCT 14 TO JAN 15