

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

New Zealand Units

Item number: 35/1/32

Title: Headquarters New Zealand Mounted
Rifles Brigade

December 1917



AWM4-35/1/32

WAR DIARY

N.Z. MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
JAFFA	1917 Dec	1st	The Brigade was bivouaced at JAFFA. The Brigade stood to arms at 0400 and at 0700 were ordered to stand down and remain in Divisional Reserve.	
		2nd	The Brigade stood to arms at 0400 and at 0700 were ordered to stand down and remain in Divisional Reserve.	
		3rd	The Brigade stood to arms at 0400 and at 0700 were ordered to stand down and remain in Divisional Reserve.	
		4th	The Brigade stood to arms at 0400 and at 0700 were ordered to stand down. The Brigade was ordered to relieve the I.C.C., Brigade who were holding the line EL YEHUDIYEH exclusive to Point 265 inclusive. The line was divided into two Sectors - Wellington Mtd Rifles with 4 Machine Guns attached holding from EL YEHUDIYEH to Square O.23.D inclusive - Canterbury Mounted Rifles with 4 Machine Guns attached holding fom O.23.B. inclusive - Point 265 inclusive. Auckland Mtd. Rifles and Machine Gun Squadron (less 8 guns) in Reserve.	

(Sgd) S.C. NICHOLLS, Major
Brigade Major.

Reference Map PALESTINE 1/63360

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WAR DIARY

N.Z. MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
	1917			
IBN IBRAK	Dec.,	4th	continued. The brigade left bivouac at 1600 and at 0015 on the 5th the line was taken over from the I.C.C., Brigade.	
		5th	The Brigade stood to arms at 0400 and at 0630, no movement of the enemy being observed, the Brigade was ordered to stand down. Enemy commenced to shell our trenches with 4.2 and 77 M.M. Guns at 0930 but did little damage. Owing to heavy rain - which commenced at 1900 - work was not carried on with the trenches during the night. Enemy sniped intermittently during the night.	
		6th	Enemy shelled our line intermittently all day but no movement of enemy troops was observed.	
		7th	Very quiet day - only a few shells being fired by enemy. Intermittent rifle fire from enemy along the whole line, during night.	
		8th	Enemy fired about 60 shells (77 M.M.) during the day but did no damage. No movement of enemy troops observed.	

(Sgd) S.C. NICHOLLS, Major,
Brigade Major.

WAR DIARY.

New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
1917				
IBN IBRAK	Dec 9th		No movement of enemy troops observed. Very quiet day. Owing to sandy nature of the ground and heavy rain - sandbags being unobtainable - trenches were maintained with great difficulty.	
	10th		The Brigade was ordered to detail one troop as Body Guard to G.O.C., XXIst Corps on his official entry into JERUSALEM. The troop was commanded by 2/Lieut. C.J.HARRIS, Canterbury Mounted Rifles - and was composed of 1 Sergeant and 10 men A.M.R.- 9 men C.M.R. - 1 Sergeant and 9 men W.M.R.- 3 men Machine Gun Squadron - 1 man Signal Troop. Orders were received that the line would be taken over by the 162nd Brigade and that after relief the Brigade would withdraw to AYUN KARA. The relief was effected by 2030. The Brigade - less Auckland Mounted Rifles - arrived in new bivouac at AYUN KARA at 2400. The Auckland Mounted Rifles were ordered to proceed to JAFFA and come under orders of the 52nd Division.	
AYUN KARA	11th		The Brigade remained in bivouac.	

(Sgd) S.C. NICHOLLS, Major.
Brigade Major.

Reference Map PALESTINE 1/63360.
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WAR DIARY.

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES REGIMENT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
	1917			
AYUN KARA	Dec	12th	The Wellington Mounted Rifles were ordered to relieve one Regiment 1st L.H. Bgde and come under orders of 54th Division. Regiment left bivouac at 0913 arriving at new bivouac at BEIT DEJAN at 1200.	
		13th	Owing to the difficulty of supply Brigade was ordered to move to new bivouac in the vicinity of ESDUD. The Brigade - less Auckland and Wellington Mounted Rifles Regts. - left AYUN KARA at 1000 arriving in new bivouac at 1500.	
ESDUD		14th	Brigade remained in bivouac.	
		15th	Brigade remained in bivouac.	
		16/17th	Brigade remained in bivouac.	
		18th	The Auckland Mtd. Rif. attached 52nd Div. were ordered to relieve the 162nd Bde on the line leaves - sq. Z.29.c. exclusive - to SHEIKH ABD EN NEBY inclusive. Relief was effected by 2000.	
		19th	Regimental training commenced. Syllabus including musketry, Hotchkiss Gun, Gas, Bombing and Signalling instruction.	

(Sgd) S.C. NICHOLLS, Major,
Brigade Major.

Reference Map PALESTINE 1/63360.

Sheets 13 and 16.

WAR DIARY.

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
	1917			
ESDUD	Dec	20/24th	Regimental training continued. Auckland and Wellington Mounted Rifles Regts., were ordered to rejoin the Brigade at ESDUD. Regiments withdrew and bivouaced for the night at WADI HANEIN.	
		25th	Auckland and Wellington Mounted Rifles Regts., rejoined Brigade at ESDUD.	
		26/31st	Regimental training continued.	

(Sgd) S.C. NICHOLLS, Major.
Brigade Major

N.Z.M.R. Brigade.

Reference Map PALESTINE 1/63360
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