

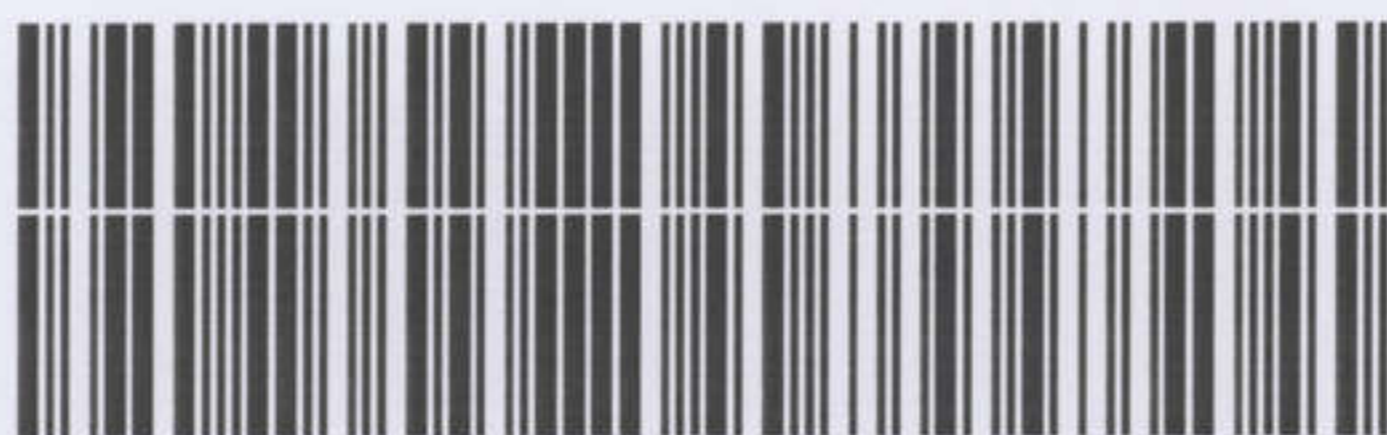
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

New Zealand Units

**Item number:** 35/1/35

**Title:** Headquarters New Zealand Mounted  
Rifles Brigade

March 1918



AWM4-35/1/35

WAR DIARY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
				REFERENCE MAPS
AYUN KARA	1st		The Brigade (less Auckland M.R. and 1 Section M.G. Sqdn) was bivouacked at AYUN KARA. The Auckland M.R. and 1 Section M.G. Sqdn. were attached to 60th Division and were bivouacked in the JORDAN VALLEY.	PALESTINE 1/63,360 Sheets 13-16-17 18-AMMAN & ES SALT
	2nd		The Brigade (less Auckland M.R. & 1 Section M.G. Sqdn) was inspected by the G.O.C. Anzac Mtd Division.	
	3rd 12th		Regimental training continued. All ranks received instruction in Dismounted Attack, Hotchkiss Gun, Musketry, Squadron Drill, and Bombing.	
	13th		The Brigade (less Auckland M.R. & 1 Section M.G. Squadron) left bivouac at AYUN KARA at 1000 to move to BETHLEHEM via JUNCTION STATION. The Brigade arrived at JUNCTION STATION at 1500 where they bivouacked the night.	
JUNCTION STATION	14th) 15th)		The Brigade remained in bivouac at JUNCTION STATION.	
ZAKARIYA	16th		The Brigade left bivouac at JUNCTION STATION at 0830 and arrived at ZAKARIYA at 1330, where they bivouacked the night.	
BETHLEHEM	17th		The Brigade left ZAKARIYA at 0830 and arrived in bivouac at BETHLEHEM at 1500.	
	18th		THE Brigade received orders to move to TALET ED DUMM N.Z.M.R. Order No 39 Marked "A" attached. N.Z.M.R. Brigade Order re operations to be carried out EAST of the JORDAN marked "B" attached. Owing to the state of the weather the move from BETHLEHEM to TALET ED DUMM was postponed for fortyeight hours.	
	19th		The Brigade remained in bivouac.	
TALET ED DUMM	20th		The Brigade moved from BETHLEHEM to TALET ED DUMM N.Z.M.R. Brigade Order No 41 marked "C" attached. The Brigade left bivouac at BETHLEHEM at 1800 arriving in bivouac at TALET ED DUMM at 0030.	
	21st		The Brigade remained in bivouac at TALET ED DUMM.	

WAR DIARY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
	March			REFERENCE MAPS PALESTINE 1/63,360 Sheets 18 & AMMAN
TELET ED DUMM		22nd	The Brigade remained in bivouac at TALET ED DUMM.	
		23rd	The Brigade (less Auckland M.R. & 1 Sect. M.G. Sqn) was bivouacked at TALET ED DUMM. The Auckland M.R. & 1 Section M.G. Sqn. were in the JORDAN VALLEY operating with the 60th Division. At 1700 orders were received that the Brigade was to be prepared to move at short notice. At 1830 Orders were received that the Brigade would concentrate in the vicinity of KASR HAJLA as soon as possible. The Brigade left TALET ED DUMM at 1920 and at 2400 were concentrated at HASR HAJLA.	
KASR HAJLA		24th	At 0130 the Brigade was ordered to cross the River JORDAN by the Pontoon Bridge at HAJLA and join the Auckland M.R. who were on the EAST bank of the JORDAN operating with the 60th Division. The role of the Brigade was in accordance with N.Z.M.R. Brigade Order No 40 marked "B" attached. At 0920 orders were received from the 181st Infantry Brigade that the attack on the line TEL EL MUSTA-EL HAUD would begin at once and asking that the N.Z.M.R. Brigade would co-operate on the right. Orders were issued at once to attack on the line JOFET DERBASI-MAKRED DERBASI-Pt 730. Canterbury M.R. with four machine guns attacked to attack on the line DERBASI INCLUSIVE. Wellington M.R. with four Machine guns attacked to attack on the line JOFET DERBASI-MAKRED DERBASI Inclusive. Pt 730 inclusive. Hong Kong Battery was ordered to move forward and support the attack. Auckland M.R. and Machine Gun Sqn. (less two Sections) remaining in reserve. Both Regiments pushed forward and at 1135 were in possession of the above line, the enemy retiring in the direction of ES SALT, three Turkish prisoners being captured. Wellington M.R. also assisted one Battalion 181st Inf. Bde., in the capture of three mountain guns.	
N ABBADE			At 1500 the Brigade moved forward by Road No 4 in the direction of AMMAN. At 1800 the Brigade arrived in Sq 127.V.7.b. and bivouacked the night. An outpost line was established on the line Sq.V.15.a., V.9.a., V.2.a. AIN KHALIFE.	

WAR DIARY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE

Place	Date Hour 1918	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
	March		REFERENCE MAP PALESTINE Sheet -AMMAN
AIN ABBADE	25th	<p>At 0830 the march was continued without opposition and the Brigade was concentrated at crossroads one mile EAST of ES SIR at 1330. Two Turkish Officers and 88 O/Rs were captured at AIN ES SIR, our casualties Nil. Patrols were immediately sent forward in the direction of ES SALT, AMMAN &amp; RUJM EL MADOWERA but no enemy troops were encountered. An outpost line was established for the night on the line Pt 3255 DH HAMAR-DEIR GHADAR ABDUN KUSH BKT UMM AMUD. At 2100 a patrol of six Germans approached our line and was captured. At 2200 one German scout approached our lines and was captured, these being the only enemy troops seen.</p>	1/63,360
ES SIR	26th	<p>The Brigade was joined by the remainder of the Anzac Mtd Division at 0800 At 1130 an enemy patrol of three Cavalry approached our lines, two being killed and one wounded and captured; their horses being killed. Further patrols were sent out during the day but only small parties in the vicinity of AMMAN were seen. At 1700 orders were received that a small party under an Officer was to be sent forward during the night to the Railway SOUTH of AMMAN to destroy sufficient rails to cause a temporary isolation of the place. The party left bivouac at 2100 returning at 0300 on the 27th four lengths of rails were destroyed.</p>	
	27th	<p>Orders were received that AMMAN was to be attacked with a view to destroying the Railway, The N.Z.M.R. Bde, was ordered to move by road from AIN ES SIR through KUSH and get into a position to attack AMMAN from the SOUTH on the frontage of AMMAN RAILWAY STATION-AMMAN. The I.C.C. Brigade was ordered to follow the N.Z.M.R. Bde. and get into position to attack AMMAN from the WEST. The 2nd L.H. Brigade to march via EL FUHEIS road and attack AMMAN from the NORTH. The Brigade left bivouac at 0800, Auckland M.R. and 1 Section M.G. Squadron forming advance Guard. The advance was continued and at 1100 the Brigade was in position as follows:- Auckland M.R. Sq. 142.H.6.b. to 142.Y.9.c. connecting with the Canterbury M.R. on the left who were holding the line 142.Y.22.a. to 142.Y.9.c. connecting with the I.C.C. Brigade on the left; Brigade Headquarters being established in 142.Y.26.c. The Advanced Guard came under very heavy Machine Gun and Artillery fire about Sq Y.16.a.</p>	

WAR DIARY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and References to Appendices
Sq.142.Y.26.c.	1918	March 27th (continued)	<p>Wellington M.R.were detailed as escort to demolition party who were ordered to move to vicinity of KISSAR STATION and commence to destroy the Railway at once. Six Turkish Officers and 48 O/Rs were captured in the vicinity of KISSAR STATION our casualties being Nil.</p> <p>At 1825 the enemy delivered a strong counter attack on the right of the Canterbury M.R. and succeeded in gaining the ridge but were immediately driven off, the line being re-established. At 2030 orders were received that the attack would cease and a strong line established for the night on the present line.</p> <p>Outpost line was established for the night 27/28th on the line Sq.142.Z.20.c.inclusive to Y.9.c.inclusive.Auckland M.R.holding from Z.20.c.inclusive to Y.22.b.inclusive.Wgton M.R.holding from Y.22b.exclusive to Y.16.b.inclusive.Canterbury M.R.holding from Y.16.b.exclusive to Y.9.b.inclusive.connecting with the I.C.C.Brigade on the left.</p>	REFERENCE MA PALESTINE 1/63.360 Sheet AMMAN
		28th	<p>The advance was continued on the 28th at 0630 and at 0920 the enemy having been heavily reinforced, the Brigade was again held up.</p> <p>Artillery assistance was asked for and one Section Hong Kong Battery was ordered to come under orders of G.O.C.Brigade but did not arrive until 1415.</p> <p>The 4th Battalion I.C.C.Brigade, who were covering demolition party from the SOUTH, were also ordered to come under orders of G.O.C.Brigade.</p> <p>At 1100 the enemy heavily counter attacked 4th Battn.I.C.C.Brigade and reached bombing distance but were driven off.</p> <p>At 1130 orders were received that Infantry and Artillery reinforcements had arrived and that a general advance would be made beginning at 1300.</p> <p>3039 was strongly held by enemy and Machine Guns covered all approaches.</p> <p>At 1410 artillery assistance was again asked for to destroy enemy Machine Guns but was not available.</p> <p>At 1415 One Section Hong Kong Battery arrived and was immediately ordered into action to shell enemy on hill 3039.</p> <p>At 1600 Auckland M.R. and 4th Battn I.C.C.Brigade had advanced their line 500 yards where they were again held up by Machine Gun fire.</p> <p>At 1830 orders were received that a strong defensive line was to be taken up on the line already held with a view to renewing the attack on the 29th.</p>	

WAR DIARY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	REMARKS AND References to Appendices
444	1918			
Sq.142.Y.26.c	March	29th	<p>The Brigade remained in the same position as on the 28th. At 1800 orders were received that AMMAN was to be attacked during the night 29/30 troops to leave position of deployment at 0200 with following objectives:-</p> <p>N.Z.M.R.Bde.with 4th Battn I.C.C.Bde.attached,3039. I.C.C.Bde.(less 4th Battn.)EASTERN edge of spur on their immediate front overlooking AMMAN from the WEST.</p> <p>181st Inf.Bde.group,Two righthCoys.-end of Citadel spur,remainder EASTERN BANK of WADI AMMAN. Orders issued for the attack marked "D" attached,</p> <p>The position held by the enemy was a very strong one.It was somewhat in the shape of a shamrock,the stem representing the ridge leading to the main and strongest position. A,(which consisted of two trenches in tiers dominating the approach along the ridge) with a third trench on higher ground behind that and a fourth position,300 yards further back,on the NORTHERN point of the Hill.</p> <p>Approaching A on either flank were sub-sidiary positions,B &amp; C,covering the advance along the ridge. See sketch marked "E" attached.</p> <p>A consultation was held by the B.G.C. with O S C Units and the necessity was formed of concentrating the attack swiftly and silently on the main,or A position,passing through B and C positions,merely detaching two small parties to keep them occupied, in order,first,to gain all possible advantage of surprise,and second,relying on the capture of the main,or A position,cutting off B.&amp;C.Parties and compelling their subsequent surrender. This worked out according to plan.</p> <p>After the capture of A the Turks in B,1 Off.28 O/Rs and 4 Machine Guns,were captured without a shot,and in C,12 O/Rs with 1 Machine Gun,surrendered.</p>	<p>REFERENCE MAPS PALESTINE 1/63,360 Sheet AMMAN.</p>
		30th	<p>The advance commenced at 0200 and at 0415 the final objective,Hill 3039,had been captured,Captures include 3 Officers,50 O/Rs,5 Machine Guns.</p> <p>At 0755 one Troop was withdrawn from Canterbury M.R.and one Troop from Wellington M.R. to come into Brigade Reserve.At 0920 the enemy was seenmassing on the N.E.slopes of 3039 ready to deliver a counter attack.Artillery assistance was asked for but was not available. Only four rounds were available for Section of Hong Kong Battery attached to Brigade.</p>	

WAR DIARY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
	1918			
Sq. 142.Y.26.c	March 30th	(continued)	<p>At 0930 the enemy delivered a very strong counter attack against hill 3039 reaching within ten yards of our line. The N.Z.M.R.Bde. and 4th Battn. I.C.C.Bde. brilliantly counter attacked and with rifle and Machine Gun fire (no Artillery support being available) drove the enemy back over the crest of line inflicting very heavy casualties.</p> <p>At 1200 information was received that the right of the 181st Inf Bde. had gained their objective-CITADEL HILL. The enemy commenced to vigorously shell our position on 3039 with three batteries and at 1600 a very determined counter attack was again delivered on our right. One troop from Brigade Reserve was immediately thrown in against enemy's left and the attack was beaten off with rifle and machine gun fire. the enemy reaching to within about fifty yards of our line.</p> <p>At 1740 orders were received that the Bde. would withdraw as soon as it was dark and move to a bivouac site about cross roads, one mile EAST of ES SIR. At 1845 orders were issued that the Bde. would move as soon as the wounded had been evacuated. There were no facilities for evacuating wounded, all wounded having to be carried on blankets for a distance of one mile and then off horseback, a further ten miles, and it was not until 2330 that all wounded had been evacuated. At 2400 the withdrawal was commenced, Canterbury M.R. forming the rearguard. The withdrawal was carried out without opposition, the Bde, arriving in bivouac at 0400 on 31st.</p>	<p>REFERENCE MAP PALESTINE 1/63,360 Sheet AMMAN</p>
ES SIR	31st		<p>At 0400 orders were received that the Bde. would hold an outpost line on the line Road No 3 ABDUN KUSR Sq. R.29.a. inclusive. Canterbury M.R. were detailed and were in position on the above line at 0500. At 1500 patrols reported enemy advancing on the left flank from the vicinity of ES SALT road. Auckland M.R. and one Sect. M.G. Bdn. were immediately ordered to move forward and support Canterbury M.R. The enemy advanced to within 1500 yards of our line but did not press the attack. An outpost line was established for the night 31st/1st on the line DH. HAMAR. Pt 3255-DIER GU- ABDUN KUSR-BKT UMM AMUD, connecting with the 181st Infantry Brigade on the left.</p>	
	April 1st		<p>At 0030 orders were received that as soon as the camels had cleared the Pass the 181st Inf. Bde. would withdraw and march as far as Sq. V.5. central, where a position would be taken up covering Road 4.</p> <p>The N.Z.M.R.Bde. was ordered to follow the 181st Inf Bde, and act as rearguard. At 0300 Wellington M.R. were ordered to move out and take up a position to cover the withdrawal of Auckland M.R. and Canterbury M.R. and act as rearguard to the Force. There was considerable difficulty in getting the camels through ES SIR and it was not until 0700 that the Brigade entered the village.</p>	

- (1) The Brigadd group(less Auckland M.R. and 1 Sub-Sect.M.G.Sqdn)will move from present bivouac today, March 18th and march to a bivouac site at TALET ED DUMM.
- (2) The Brigade will pass Starting Point-JERUSALEM-HEBRON road opposite M.R Ambulancelines-at 1715 in order of march as follows:-

Brigade Headquarters  
 Signal Troop  
 Wellington M.R.(less 1 Troop)  
 Machine Gun Squadron(less 1 Sub-Section)  
 Canterbury M.R.  
 Somerset Battery,  
 Field Troop,  
 M.Z.Mounted Field Ambulance.  
 No 2 Mobile Vet.Section.  
 Brigade Transport.

(3) SUPPLIES

- (a) The Brigade will move from BETHLEHEM area carrying the following ration on the horse.

Unconsumed portion of days ration,plus one days rations and forage plus iron ration for man and horse.

- (b) When the Brigade moves from TALET ED DUMM it will take three days supplies for man and horse which will be carried as follows:-

Unconsumed portion,plus iron ration,on man and horse.Two days mobile rations on camel echlon.

(4) WATER

No troops are to water at BETHANY.Drinking water will be drawn at TALET ED DUMM from tanks on JERICHO road,Square G.10.b.Horses will water at the mill G.4.a.under instructions to be issued later.

(5) TRANSPORT

G.S.Wagons will report to Units as follows,and must be loaded and returned to Brigade Trahsport Lines not later than 1600.

Brigade Headquarters	-1 G.S.Wagon & 1 Limber
Signal Troop & Ordnance	-1 Limber
Canterbury M.R.	-5 G.S.Wagons
Wellington.M.R.	-5 G.S.Wagons
Machine Gun Squadrom	-1 G.S.Wagon & 2 Limbers

Wellington M.R.will detail one troop to march with and be under orders of Brigade Transport Officer.

- (6) Acknowledge.

S.C.Nicholls Major  
 Brigade Major  
N.Z.M.R.Brigade

Issued at 1200.

Copy Nb	1	to	A.M.R.	9	to	Brigade Transport
	2		C.M.R.	10		G.O.C.
	3		W.M.R.	11		Somerset Battery
	4		M.G.Sqdn.	12		No 2 Mobile Vet Section
	5		N.Z.M.F.A.	13		War Diary
	6		Signal Troop	14		do
	7		Field Tr	15		do
	8		A.D.C.	16		file
				17		D.H.Q.



REFERENCE MAPS-PALESTINE, 1/63, 360 Sheets 18-AMMAN Sheet  
ES SALT composite

18th March 1918

(1) INFORMATION

- (a) Information as regards the enemy will be issued ~~xxxx~~separately.  
 n As the general goodwill and assistance of the inhabitants EAST of the JORDAN is of first importance, all ranks must be warned to treat them with the greatest consideration. All payments are to be made in cash and all friction is to strictly avoided. It must be remembered that these natives are of a very different class to those hitherto met with.
- (b) A force consisting of the 60th Division A.&.N.Z.Mtd Divn. and Imperial Camel Force will cross the JORDAN, and advance on ES SALT and AMMAN with a view to destroying the railway.
- (c) The operations of the 60th Divn are as follows:-  
 I. To force crossings of the JORDAN and form bridgeheads at MAKHADET Hajla and EL GHORANIYEH as soon after dusk as possible on March 19th/20th.  
 II. To sieze the foothills on the line TEL EL MUSTA-EL HAUD.  
 III. To follow the Mounted troops to ES SALT, or, if the mounted troops cannot get through, to fight its way to ES SALT and secure the place.
- (d) Under cover of the bridgeheads, the building of bridges at MAKHADET HAGLA & EL GHORANIYEH is being carried out.

(2) INSTRUCTIONS

- (a) From 1800 on the noight 19/20th onwards the A.&.N.Z.Mtd Divn. and Imperial Camel Brigade will be ready to move at one hours notice to the JORDAN by the EKTEIF road. The N.Z.M.R.Bde. will be leading.  
 Order of March:- Advanced Guard. Wellington M.R. & 1 Sect. M.G. Sqdn.

Main Body.

Brigade Headquarters  
 Signal Troop  
 Auckland M.R.  
 One Section Machine Gun Squadron.  
 Canterbury M.R.  
 Machine Gun Squadron (less 2 Sections)  
 Mounted Field Ambulance.  
 Field Troop.

(b) March to the top of the plateau

As soon as the first bridge is completed the N.Z.M.R.Bde. will cross ~~th~~ the river JORDAN and move rapidly to the foothills about SHUNET NIMRIM. On arrival at SHUNET NIMRIM the Auckland M.R. plus 1 Sect M.G. Sqdn., will be detached and will move as quickly as possible by road 5 (main road to ES SALT) with the object of preventing the road being blown up, and to seize ES SALT by a coup-de-main. This advance must be made with the utmost vigour and determination, and the objective gained as soon as possible.

As soon as the Auckland M.R. have been relieved by the Infantry they ~~wt~~ will withdraw without firther orders and rejoin the Brigade in the vicinity of AMMAN, moving via EL FUHEIS-BKT UMM AMUD.

(c) The remainder of the Brigade will move by road 4 and gain the plateau as quickly as possible.

(d) The 2nd L.H.Bde. will cross the JORDAN and march by Road No 2.

(e) Divisional Headquarters, 1st L.H.Bde. and Imperial Camel Corps Bde. & 18th Brigade R.H.A. will cross and march by road no 3.

(f) All columns will gain the plateau as soon as possible.

(g) Forty men with twenty picks and shovels will be detailed by Canterbury M.R. and Wellington M.R. to report to C.C. Advanced Guards to take in hand at once any road repairing required so as not to delay the march of the column

(h) Immediately the plateau is gained the object will be:-

- i. To get into communication at once with the troops marching up to the plateau on the right and left.
- ii- If any body of troops on the right or left in encountering oppositio to assist in taking the enemy in flank.

- (j) ADVANCE ON AMMAN As soon as the plateau is gained by all three columns the advance on AMMAN will begin. The N.Z.M.R. (less Auckland M.R. & 1 Sect. M.G. Sqn) and two Sqdns. Canterbury M.R. will move by the shortest route directing its march NORTH of AMMAN. Canterbury M.R. will detach 1 Sqn. to move (with a party carrying ~~xx~~ explosives) with all speed to a point on the railway about five miles NORTH of AMMAN and will at once cut the Railway by destroying some lengths of rail at this point.
- (k) The centre column will move direct on AMMAN by road No 3
- (l) The 2nd L.H. Bde will direct its march on EL YADUDE.
- (m) As soon as AMMAN is occupied the C.R.E., A.&N.Z. Mtd Divn. assisted by the C.R.E., Imperial Camel Bde. will take in hand the destruction of the railway under special instructions.
- (3) (DETACHMENTS Canterbury M.R. will detail one Sqn. which will be employed at TEL ES SULTAN at 0800 on March 20th. O.C. Sqn. detailed will report to B.G.C., 179th Inf Bde. in the WADI NUBIMEH at Sq. L. 3. d. at 0800 on March 20th. This Sqn will subsequently be attached to 181st Brigade Group on the arrival of that Bde, on the line WADI ABU TARRA and remain with it.
- (4) CONCEALMENT OF TROOPS No fires will be lit or bivouac or tent erected by ~~any~~ day by Units on arrival in the JERICHO Plain and it is of the utmost importance to conceal the concentration of troops there, and prevent leakage of information.
- (5) GRAZING No grazing of animals will take place in the JORDAN Valley owing to the danger of Surra and of Poinonous grass.
- (6) LINE OF SUPPLY Line of supply will Road No 3.
- (7) HOSTILE AEROPLANES. In the event of a hostile aeroplane approaching troops concentrated on the JERICHO Plain everyone will remain still and not look up. There is to be no rifle fire. Machine and Hotchkiss Guns will be detailed to open fire on any hostile aeroplanes which fly low over troops.
- (8) Ackno wledge.

S.C. Nicholls Major  
 Brigade Major,  
N.Z.M.R. Brigade

Copy No 1 to A.M.R.  
 2 C.M.R.  
 3 W.M.R.  
 4 M.G. Sqn.  
 5 N.Z.M.F.A.  
 6 Field Troop  
 7 A.D.C.  
 8

Copy No 9 to Brigade Transport  
 10 G.O.C.  
 11 Somerset Battery  
 12 No 2 Mobile Vet Sec  
 13 War Diary  
 14 Do  
 15 Do  
 16 File  
 17 D.H.Q.

ROADS EAST OF JORDAN WILL BE NUMBERED AS FOLLOWS

- No 1 Road GHORANIYEH bridge to MAAIN via BUTMET HALHUL 127 Q.11.d.  
WADI EL JORKEE 127.T.20 WADI GHUEIR 128 B.9.b WADI AMR  
128 B.23.b from thence tracks S.to ZERKA and S.E. to MAAIN.
- No 2 Road GHORANIYEH bridge to MADEBA via BUTMET HALHUL 127.Q.11.d.  
WADI KEFREIN 127.R.27.d., WADI HESBAN 127.R.36.c., RUJM EL  
BENAT 127 Z.28.a..b.d., 142.F.25.d.KABR ABDALLA 143.O.8.a.
- No 3 Road. 127.Z.11.c.via AIN ET TERKI X.24.c., to WADI HESBAN 142.c.33.b.
- No 3b Road AIN EL KEHR 142.C.15.d. to WADI HESBAN 142.C.27.d.and thence to  
SOUTH to Motor Road.
- No 4 Road GHORANIYEH bridge to AMMAN via metal road to wooden bridge 127.V.  
24.b.up WADI JERIA to 127.U.18.a., thence to 127.V.11.d.,  
up WADI SIR to AIN ES SIR 142.S.6.d. thence EAST.
- No 4b Road AIN ET THOGRA 127.N.15.a.to metal road 127.L.25.b.
- No 4a Road 127.V.18.a. to EL FUHEIS 142.Q.20.via AIN ET THOGRA 127.N. 16.a.
- No 5 Road GHORANIYEH Bridge to ES SALT.via wooden bridge 127.P.24.b. up  
WADI SHAIB.
- No 6 Road GHORANIYEH brodge to ES SALT.Via WADI MEIDAN(ARSENIYET)
- No 7 Road UMM ES SHERT. (127.F.1.b.( to ES SALT.

S.C.Nicholls Major  
Brigade Major  
N.Z.M.R.BRIGADE

18th March 1918

A.M.R.  
 C.M.R.  
 W.M.R.  
 M.G.Sqdn.  
 SOMERSET BATTERY  
FILE

EM/14  
 18/3/1918

Following is an estimate of enemy forces EAST OF JORDAN on 17/3/18

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>RIFLES</u>	<u>SABRES</u>	<u>M.Gs.</u>	<u>AUTOMATIC R RIFLES</u>
11th Divn. (2 Regts-33&127)	AMMAN	1800	100	36	-
48th Divn. 4 Bns 2 & 3/150 Regts 1 & 3 153	AMMAN) KUTRANI)	856	100	24	+
1 Bn. 146 Regt	KUTRANI	400	50	8	-
803rd German (11th Div)	JAUF ED DERWISH area	400	50	8	20
126 Regt (11th Div)	do	900	-	18	-
7th Cav Regt.	KERAK area	-	400	8	-
Mule Mtd. Inf. Btn.	JAUF ED DERWISH	500	-	4	-
<u>TOTALS</u>		4,850	650	102	20

ARTILLERY

KUTRANI-KERAK-TAFILAH-area

1 Battery 3rd Cavalry Division with 7th Regt.  
 2 Guns with Mule M.I. Battn.  
 2 Batteries 48th Arty Regt.  
 1 German Battery  
 1 Heavy Gun. Total 13/17 Guns

AMMAN

11th Divn. Artillery--16 Guns?

S.C. Nicholls Major  
 Brigade Major  
N.Z.M.R. BRIGADE

REFERENCE MAPS- PALESTINE 1/63,360 Sheets Nos 17 & 18 20th March 1918

Reference Operation Order No 30 Para 1:-

- (1) The N.Z.M.R. Bde. Group (less Auckland M.R. & 1 Sub-Sect. M.G. Sqdn) will move from present bivouac today, and march to bivouac site at TALET ED DUMM.

Reference Operation Order No 39 para 2:-

- (2) The Brigade will pass the starting point at 1800 in order of march as follows:-

Brigade Headquarters  
Signal Troop  
Wellington M.R. (less 1 Troop)  
Machine Gun Squadron (less 1 Sub-Section)  
Canterbury M.R.  
Somerset Battery  
Field Troop  
N.Z. Mounted Field Ambulance.  
All First Line Camels.

Reference Operation Order No 39 para 5:-

- (3) Half Limbers will march with Units. No G.S. Wagons will be taken.

(4) RE-DISTRIBUTION OF CAMELS

Owing to 10 Baggage and 2 Cacolet Camels having died on march and cannot be replaced the distribution is as follows:-

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>BAGGAGE</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>TECHNICAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Brigade Headquarters	-	1	7	8
Signal Troop	-	1	7	8
No 2 Mob. Vet Sect.	-	1	3	4
M.G. Squadron	8	16	34	48
Auckland M.R.	12	14	26	54
Canterbury M.R.	12	14	26	54
Wellington M.R.	12	14	26	54
Mtd. Field Ambulance.	36	10	24	70
Field Troop	-	2	19	21
Somerset Battery.	4	4	2	10

Camels will be drawn from Camel Lines by Units at 1800 and will be loaded & returned to Camel lines not later than 1830. Camels allotted to Mobile Vet Set will remain with them.

On arrival at JERUSALEM camels from N.A.C. and all first line camels will be grouped and will pass the starting point JAFFA GAYR at 2150. Auckland M.R. Canterbury M.R., Wellington M.R., and Mounted Field Ambulance will each hand over to Camel Transport Officer 1 Camel and 2 Fantasses for water for native drivers.

- (5) DUMPS Any heavy Baggage, i.e., Tents, Typewriters, etc, will be left on Bde Dump situated at present Brigade Transport Lines, under Unit Guards.

- (6) Acknowledge.

S.C. Nicholls Major  
Brigade Major  
N.Z.M.R. BRIGADE

Issued at 1000

Copy No 1 to A.M.R. 2 to C.M.R. 3 to W.M.R. 4 to M.G. Sqdn. 5 to M.F.A.  
6 to Sig Troop. 7 to 8 A.D.C. 9 G.O.C. 10 Vet Sec  
11 Bde Tpt. 12 Som Bty. 13/15 War Diary 16 File. 17 B.H.Q. 18 O/C%  
Camels.

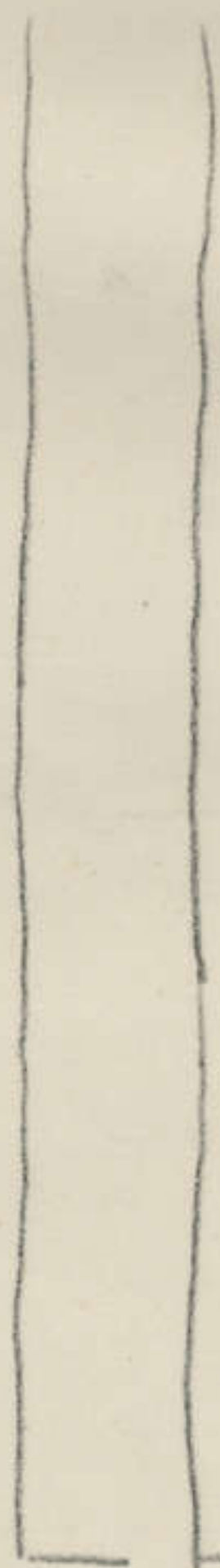
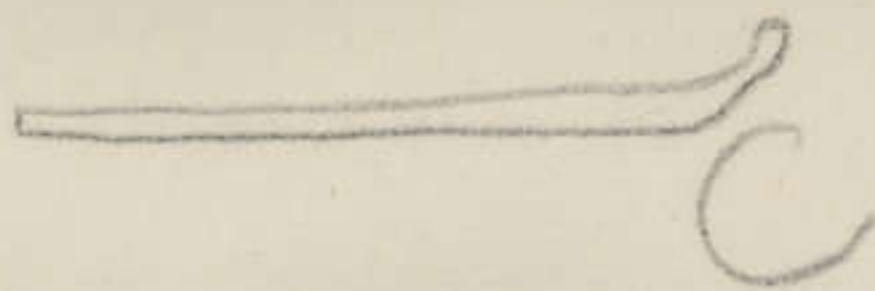
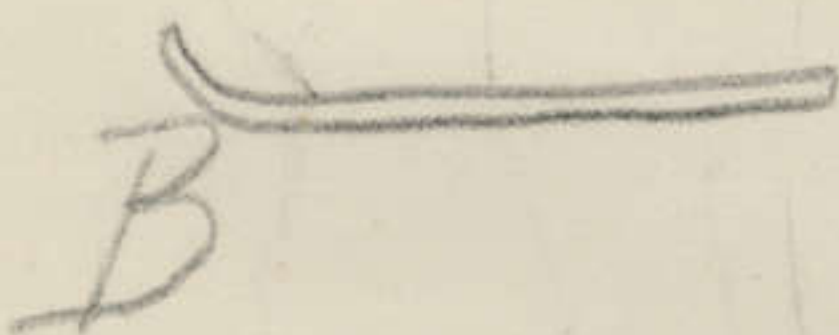
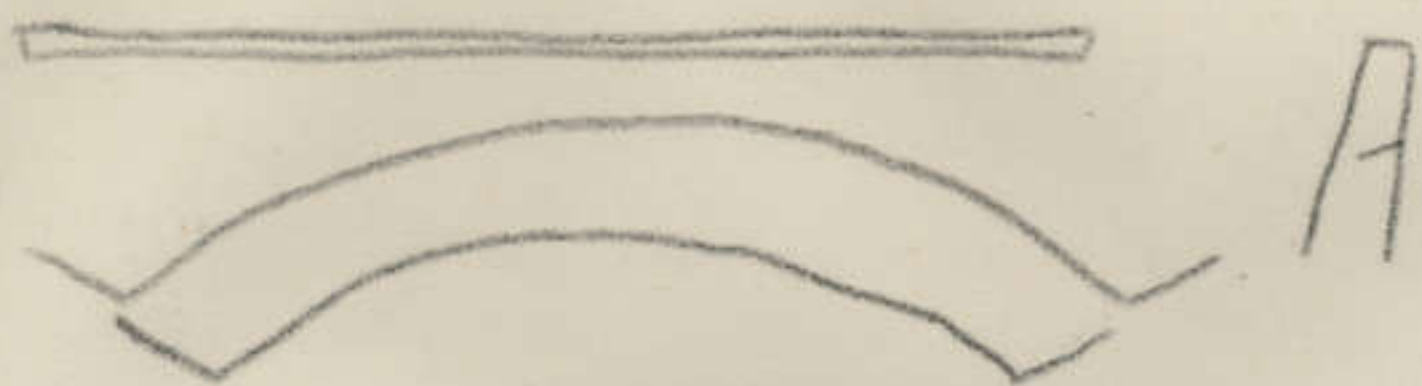
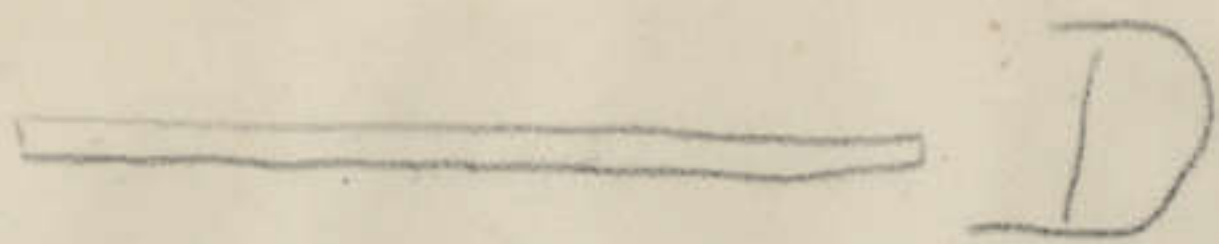
COPY OF WIRE ADDRESSED TO AUCKLAND M.R. CANTERBURY M.R. WELLINGTON M.  
R. N.Z.MTD FIELD AMBULANCE? HONG KONG BATTERY. N.Z. FIELD TROOP. SIGNAL TROOP.  
AN BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.

From N.Z.M.R. Bde.  
Date 29th March 1918  
Time 2220  
No EM/173

"AMMAN will be attacked tonight aaa The hour the troops will move off to "  
"attack from position of deployment is 0200 on the 30th March aaa Place "  
"of deployment present line held by A.M.R. and 4th Batt I.C.C. Bde aaa "  
"Final objective is hill 3039 aaa. On reaching the Final objective all "  
"Units will at once reorganise and strengthen positions aaa Reconnaissances "  
"for a further advance after dawn will be made and preparations for "  
"Artillery support for this advance aaa Troops available for this advance "  
"are A.M.R. less 1 troop W.M.R. less 2 troops & 2 Sqdns, C.M.R. less 1 Sqdn "  
"and 4th Batt I.C.C. Bde less 30 men aaa Advance will be made in two lines "  
"A.M.R. & 4th Batt I.C.C. Bde forming 1st line & C.M.R. & W.M.R. the 2nd line "  
"1st object will be the 1st Trench System aaa 2nd Objective 2nd Trench ~~xxx~~ "  
"system; final objective third trench system aaa Lines will move off at "  
"100 yds distance aaa As soon as 1st line has gained the 1st objective "  
"C.M.R. & W.M.R. will push forward and advance on the 2nd objective aaa "  
"As soon as the 2nd objective is made good the A.M.R. & 4th Batt I.C.C. "  
"Bde will move forward and make good the final objective aaa C.M.R. & W "  
"M.R. will push forward and help the A.M.R. & 4th Batt. to strengthen the "  
"final objective aaa Machine Guns will be at once pushed forward and be "  
"in position as soon as possible ready to meet any counter attack de- "  
"livered by the enemy aaa As soon as each line reaches its objective it "  
"will at once send messengers back to B.H.Q. that same has been made "  
"good aaa Position of B.H.Q. will be present A.M.R. H.Q. aaa C.M.R. will "  
"detail three troops to attack enemy position about Square Y.17.a. aaa "  
"Advance against this point will be made at 0200 aaa No firing must take "  
"place until the final objective has been reached, and after this only to "  
"meet a counter attack aaa A.M.R. will detail one troop to remain in "  
"position covering right flank aaa 4th Batt I.C.C. Bde will detail 30 men "  
"to act as Bde. reserve & will remain at their present H.Q. aaa W.M.R. "  
"will detail two troops to hold present position & to occupy Wadi guard- "  
"ing left flank of attacking force aaa Hong Kong Battery will remain in "  
"present position ready to open fire but will not fire without orders "  
"from B.H.Q. aaa W.M.R. will be responsible for their protection aaa All "  
"horses, packs and camels will remain fully saddled aaa Colonel M'Carroll "  
"will be in charge of first line & Col Acton-Adams of 2nd line aaa The "  
"utmost silence must be kept & every effort made to effect a surprise "  
"aaa W.M.R. will give copy of order to Hong Kong Battery." "

(Signed) S.C.P. Nicholls Major  
Brigade Major,  
N.Z.M.R. BRIGADE.

"E"



LINE OF DEPLOYMENT