

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/48/1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 4th
Australian Division

March - April 1916



AWM4-1/48/1

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

GENERAL STAFF 4th Div. A.I.F.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			Opened at TEL-EL-KEBIR on March 26 1916	
TEL EL KEBIR, Maro	26th		4th Division (less Div. Arty, Div. Train and Cyclist Coy. moved to SERAPEUM, Orders received	App. I
	to		" issued	" II
April 2nd.			Summarised statement re march.	"III
SERAPEUM.	March 28th.		G.O.C. 4th Division. took over command of "A" Subsection of No. 2 Section, Canal Defences.	
(Original of above written on same sheet as entries for beginning of April 1916 and filed with volume for that month).				

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

General Staff 4th Div. AIF.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL KEBIR	May 26 th to April 2 nd	-	Opened at TEL EL KEBIR on March 26 1916. 4 th Division (less Div. Art'y, Div. Train and Cyclist Coy) moved to SERAPEUM. Orders received issued	App I " II " III
SERAPEUM	Mar 28		Summarised statement re march G.O.C. 4 th Div. took over Command of "A" Subsection of No 2 Section, Canal Defences	
"	April 2 nd		29 th Coy 5 th Div Train arrived for duty	
"	April 4 th 5 th		Div. Artillery arrived from TEL EL KEBIR by rail.	
"	April 4 th		1 Bty 12 th moved to RAILHEAD and took up duty as Infantry Outpost Troops	
"	" 5 th		Orders received issued	App IV V VI VII VIII
"	" 5 th		Sketch showing distribution of Troops at date	
"	" 5 th		Memoranda reference works to be constructed	
"	" 5 th		Table showing Troops in Command at date	

William, Maj.
F.S.

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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Scrapum	4/4/16		Movement of 12 th Inf. Brigade to ROADHEAD.	App IX
	8. 4. 16		Inspection of Artillery and Light Horse Camps, & Bridgehead wards and Camps close to E. Bank by Corps Commander.	
"	10/4/16		Ayrshire Battalion withdrawn and sent to Kantara.	
			Camel, Train and wireless section passed through front line on reconnaissance	
	12/4/16		Party second bombing course reported ZEITOUN.	
	11/4/16		Reconnaissance Party commanded by Major Scott. Inspected by G.O.C. and left ROADHEAD. 1345. Complete RECONNAISSANCE REPORT. APP X.	
	16/4/16		Great damage done front line, by Khamsen. 4 th M.V.S. moved to Railroad	
	19/4/16		Inspection Bridgehead defences & Scrapum by C-in-C.	
	20/4/16		Inspection of H. & revision at ordnance training by C-in-C	



or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Lerpum	18/4/16		Inspection of 12 th Inf. Brigade (less 47 th Bn) and Major Lewis-Jones Party at RAILHEAD. By Corps Commandant	
	20/4/16		Work of repairing trenches from damage on 16/4/16. Complete	
	24/4/16		In consequence of information received re enemy attack on N. of line troops in front line stood to arms 0415 to surprise Amersham Battery Arrived. Sent to RAILHEAD Camp.	
	25/4/16		Angels Day Anniversary. Church Parade held in morning	
			Swimming Carnival for Divisional Championships in the afternoon.	
			Special Reconnaissance Patrol under Capt Hendley 10 th L. B. passed through front line 1645.	
	26/4/16		Report from Patrol from MUH SHEIB, begin to enemy in light, water found returning. Party returned RAILHEAD. 1800.	
	28/4/16		15 th Bn. relieved 16 th Bn. Inner Line.	
			Divisional Training. (First day).	



Copy No. 16

ARMY CORPS ORDER No. 1

By
 Lieutenant-General Sir A. J. GODLEY, K.C.B. K.C.M.G.,
 Commanding 2nd Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

Headquarters,
 Ismailia,
 24.3.1916.

- 4.6
- MOVEMENT. 1. The 4th and 5th Australian Divisions (less troops already despatched) will move to the Canal in accordance with the attached march table.
- COMPOSITION OF FLIGHTS 2. The detail of troops composing each flight ~~will~~ ^{need} not be strictly adhered to; it has been made out as a guide to the services which will be required as troops arrive.
3. Sufficient artillery details of the 5th Division must accompany the second flight to take over the guns and artillery material of the 2nd Australian and New Zealand Divisions (in the case of the latter, 2 batteries 18-pdr Q.F. and 1 battery 4.5" Howitzer)
- TIME TABLE 3. Marches must be completed within the periods specified.
- TRANSPORT 4. Four troops of 250 camels each are available for transport of flights on the march. They will work in accordance with the graph attached.
- TENTS. 5. Tents will not be carried.
- BAGGAGE. 6. Officers kits, cooking pots and two blankets per man will be carried by camels. Surplus baggage will be moved by ordinary train under divisional arrangements, application being made to the R.T.O., Tel-el-Kebir. 4 trucks per diem can be made available.
- ROUTES. 7. The routes will be reconnoitred and bivouac areas selected at Mahsara and Moascar. The bivouac area at Mahsara should be close to the railway station, that at Moascar will be selected by the staff of the New Zealand Division.
- WATER. 8. The E.C.R.E. will arrange for the daily supply of 4600 gallons of water at Mahsara station in portable tanks, except on the 30th instant.
- SUPPLY. 9. The 4th Division will arrange to open a temporary supply depot at Mahsara station and will detail a permanent party to issue water. Rations at Moascar will be drawn from the existing supply depot.
- One days iron ration will be carried in bulk on camels as a reserve.
- ACCOMMODATION AND DISTRIBUTION 10. Troops on arrival at Serapeum and Ferry Post respectively will be accommodated in the staging Camp and will be moved thence to their permanent positions under divisional arrangements in accordance with the scheme of distribution issued to divisional commanders.

ARTILLERY,
4th
DIVISION.

11. The artillery personnel of the 4th Division will be moved at a later date by rail to Serapeum, except one brigade detailed in march table, which will march to Moascar to take over a portion of the guns and artillery material of the New Zealand Division (i.e., 2 batteries 18-pdr Q.F. and 1 battery 4.5" Howitzer)

ORDINARY AND
SPECIAL
TRAINS.

12. Divisional Commanders are authorised to move small details by ordinary train in consultation with R.T.O. Special trains are not to be applied for.

COMMAND AND
SECTIONS OF
DEFENCE.

13. The 4th and 5th Divisions will be stationed in, and charged with the occupation of "A" and "E" Subsections of No. 2 Section, Canal Defences, respectively.

On arrival, G.O.'s C. Divisions will assume command of the above subsections.

C. W. GLENN,

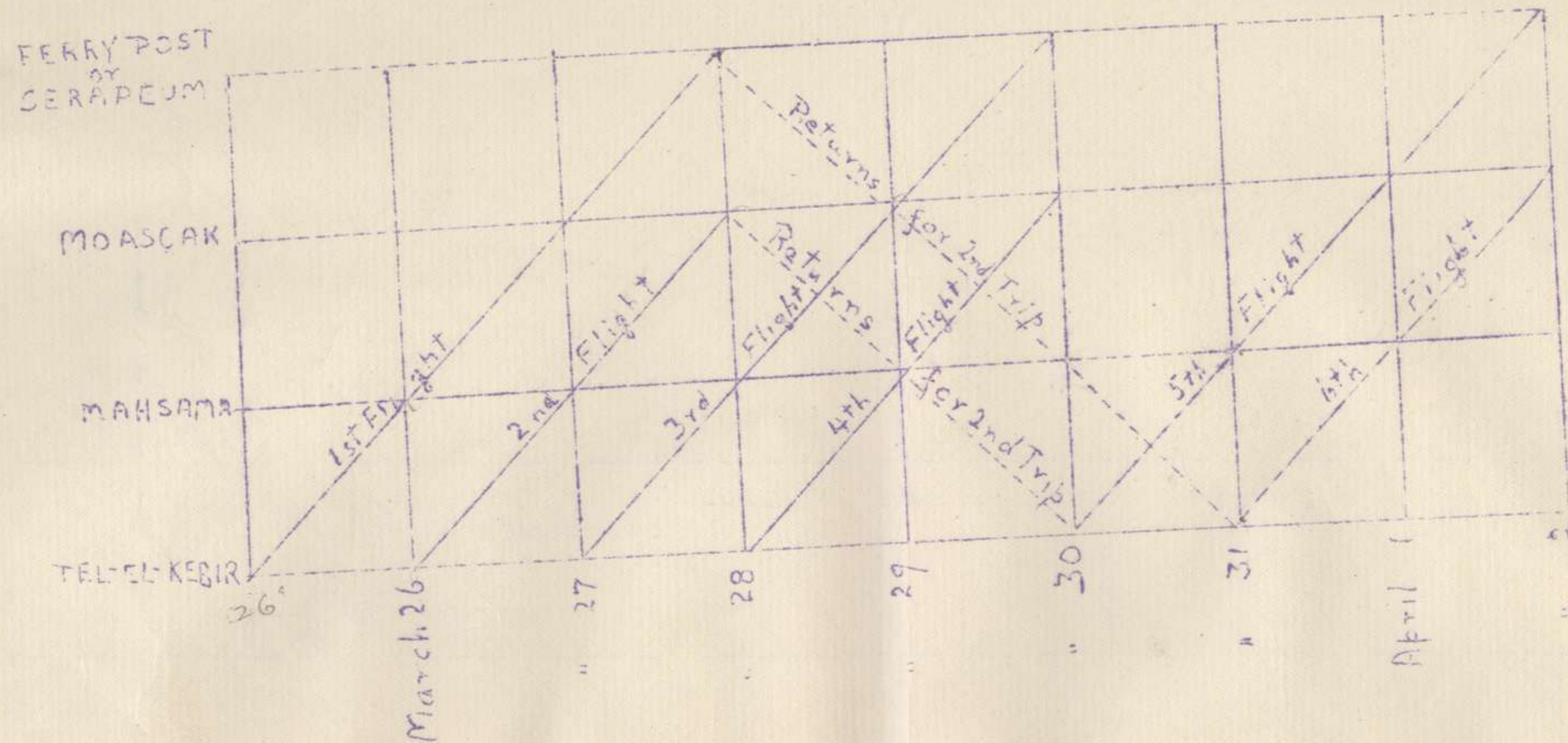
Brig.-General,
General Staff,

2nd A. & H. 2. Army Corps.

<u>Copy No.</u>	<u>Issued to</u>
1	War Diary
2	C.S. File
3	A.D.C. to G.O.C.
4	B.G.R.A.
5	B.C.R.E.
6	"A"
7	"Q"
8	D.D.M.S.
9	A/AIF
10	G.H.Q., E.E.F.
11	1st ANZAC
12	9th Corps
13	15th Corps
14	S.N.O., 2nd Squadron, R.M.
15	M.G. i/c L. of C. Defences
16)	4th Australian Division
17)	
18)	5th Australian Division
19)	
20	New Zealand Division
21	Anzac Mounted Division
22	N.Z.M.R. Brigade
23	R.A.N. Bridging Train
24	O.C., A.C. Signals.
25 - 30	Retained.

Move of 4th and 5th Australian Divns.
 Graph showing movement of Camel Transport

Note From Moascar to Ferry Post wheeled transport will be provided.



Appendix No 1

MOVE OF 4th AND 5th AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONS.

Flight	Divn	Troops	Leave Tel-el- Kebir Date.	Leave Mahsama Date.	Leave Moascar Date.	Arrive Scrapeum or Ferry Post Date	Remarks.
1st	4th	One Infantry Bde (less 1 battalion) Divisional Headquarters do Signal Coy 2 Cos. Engineers (less 2 Sections) 1 Field Ambulance Sanitary Section A.S.C. Details	26th	27th	28th	Scrapeum 28th	
2nd	5th	One Infantry Bde Divisional Headquarters do Signal Co. 2 Coys. Engineers (less 2 Sections) 1 Field Ambulance 1 brigade Artillery per- sonnel. Sanitary Section A.S.C. Details	27th	28th	29th	Ferry Post 29th	Camel transport to Moas- car, thence wheeled to Ferry Post
3rd	4th	One Infantry Bde Artillery personnel for N.Z. guns A.S.C. details 1 Field Ambulance 1 Co. Engineers	28th	29th	30th	Scrapeum 30th	

Appendix No. I

42 230
4th 5th 6th

Flight	Divn.	Troops	Leave Tel-el- Kebir Date.	Leave Mahsana Date.	Leave Moascar Date.	Arrive Serapeum or Ferry Post Date.	Remarks.
4th	5th	One Infantry Bde. 1 Field Ambulance 2 brigades Artillery per- sonnel A.S.C. Details	29th	30th	31st	Ferry Post 31st	Camel transport to Moas- car, thence wheeled to Ferry Post
5th	4th	One Infantry Bde Pioneer Battalion 1 Field Ambulance A.S.C. Details	30th 31st	1st	2nd	Serapeum 2nd	
6th	5th	Pioneer Battalion 1 Coy. Engineers 1 brigade Artillery per- sonnel 1 Field Ambulance A.S.C. Details.	1st	2nd	3rd	Ferry Post 3rd	Camel transport to Moas- car, thence wheeled to Ferry Post

Appendix No. I

4-11
Appendix No. II
7
30
-----4th DIVISION-----

PRELIMINARY OPERATION ORDER.

Tel-el-Kobir,
24/3/16.

The 4th Division will move to the SERAPEUM Section of the CANAL in three flights, on Sunday 26th instant, Tuesday 28th instant, and Friday 31st instant.

(2) The 1st Flight will consist of :--

- 4th Infantry Brigade (less 16th Battalion).
- 4th Field Co., (less 2 sections already at Serapeum).
- 4th Field Ambulance.
- 4th Pioneer Battalion.

The 2nd Flight will consist of :--

- 12th Infantry Brigade.
- 12th Field Co.
- 12th Field Ambulance.
- 4th Signal Company.
- 4th Sanitary Section.
- Divisional M. M. Police.

The 3rd Flight will consist of :--

- 13th Infantry Brigade.
- 13th Field Company.
- 13th Field Ambulance.
- 4th Divisional Mounted Troops.

(3) 250 camels will be allotted for each flight for baggage, in addition

each flight will be allotted 4 railway trucks.

It is probable that the above will be unable to carry all the baggage of units; should this be the case the baggage left behind should be collected into battalion, engineer and medical unit dumps under a reliable N.C.O., 2 storemen being left for each company, An Officer being left behind in charge of each Infantry Brigade, Engineer and Medical dumps.

(4) Orders will be issued later regarding the disposal of Campequipment.

24/3/1916.

- Third " " " " " " " "*

Lieut-Colonel,

G.S. 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

OPERATION ORDER, No. 1.

TEL-EL-KEBIR,
26th March, 1916.

- (1). The Division will move to SERAPEUM in three Flights on 26th, 28th and 31st March, as mentioned in Preliminary Operation Order of 24th inst.
The 4th Sanitary Section will move with the 1st Flight and not as previously ordered.
Artillery personnel for New Zealand Guns at MOASCAR will accompany 3rd Flight.
- (2). The G. O. C. 4th Brigade will command the 1st Flight.
The G. O. C. 12th Brigade will command the 2nd Flight.
The G. O. C. 13th Brigade will command the 3rd Flight.
- (3). G.O. Flights will be responsible for all arrangements in connection with the march, and will forward a copy of their Operation Orders to Divisional Headquarters.
- (4). One troop of 250 camels is available for each Flight. The distribution of these to units will be made by Divisional Headquarters. G.O. Units will arrange for them to be conducted to their camps on the day of departure.
One third of 1st Line Transport 4th Brigade will be at disposal of G.O. each Flight.
- (5). Officers kits, cooking pots, 2 blankets per man, and one day's iron ration in bulk will be carried on camels. Surplus baggage will be moved by train under arrangements to be made by R.T.O., Tel-el-Kebir. For this purpose 4 trucks per diem are available. G.O. Flights will arrange for the distribution and loading of this rail transport in communication with R.T.O.
Men's kit bags and surplus stores will be stored in dumps in dining huts of 4th Infantry Brigade, as described in para 3 Preliminary Order of 24th instant.
G.O.C. 4th Infantry Brigade will detail a Field Officer to command the Divisional details left at Tel-el-Kebir; the latter will arrange to move the surplus baggage to SERAPEUM as soon as possible. The name of Officer selected to be communicated to Divisional H.Q.
- (6). No tents will be carried.
- (7). No S.A.A. will be carried for Machine Guns.
- (8). A temporary Supply Depot has been opened at MAHSAMA. Rations at MOASCAR will be drawn from the existing Supply Depot.
- (9). A supply of water at the rate of 4600 gallons a day in portable tanks will be arranged at MAHSAMA station. A permanent water party has been arranged to handle this water; this party will proceed to SERAPEUM by rail after the departure of the 3rd Flight 5th Division.
- (10). The bivouac at MAHSAMA will be pointed out to columns on arrival by a representative of Divisional Staff - An advanced party has been sent on to arrange latrines.
The bivouac at MOASCAR will be pointed out by the NEW ZEALAND Division.
As these bivouac areas and latrines will be used by a succession of units the greatest care is to be taken to prevent the ground from becoming fouled, and that latrines are left in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (11). Divisional Headquarters will close at TEL-EL-KEBIR at 0900 on 28th instant, and will open on West bank of the Canal at SERAPEUM about midday 28th instant.

G.S.
Lieut-Colonel.
G.S. 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

App II

4.14

Page 2.

4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION ----- OPERATION ORDER No. 1, 25th March, 1916.

<u>Copy No.</u>	<u>1,</u>	<u>Issued to</u>	<u>G. O. C.</u>
"	2,	"	G. S. O. 1.
"	3,	"	Q.
"	4,	"	4th Divisional Artillery.
"	5,	"	4th Infantry Brigade.
"	6,	"	12th " "
"	7,	"	13th " "
"	8,	"	4th Field Ambulance.
"	9,	"	12th " "
"	10,	"	13th " "
"	11,	"	A. D. M. S.
"	12,	"	Sanitary Section.
"	13,	"	Signals.
"	14,	"	4th Division Engineers.
"	15,	"	4th Pioneer Battalion.
"	16,	"	R. T. O.
"	17,	"	4th Division Cavalry.
"	18,	"	O.C. Camel Corps.
"	19,	"	O.C. Supplies.

20
21

D.G. & M.G. 4th Div Engineer
2nd Engineer.

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442/3552
4-15
AUSTRALIAN
IMPERIAL FORCE

APR 4 1916
4th Infantry Brigade.

Appendix No. 11
First Flight *App III*
FOURTH AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE. 11
HEADQUARTERS.

SERAPEUM, 112 23
3rd. April, 1916.



Headquarters,

4th. Australian Division,

Replying to G 4/57 of 3rd. April 1916, following is
brief report on conduct of the march of FIRST FLIGHT, Fourth
Division, from TEL-EL-KEBIR to SERAPEUM.

1. MARCH ORDER : - Copy of Operation Order No. 1 was furnished prior to the commencement of the move. The orders for subsequent days differed only in alternating the order of march of Units, and alterations of times as set out hereunder. It is desired to point out that the starting hour each day was controlled by the necessity to get the Camel Train off ahead of the Troops. The troops could not march until the camels were loaded and the bivouacs cleared, and it was found impracticable to load camels before break of day at 4.55 a.m. The starting hour was intentionally made one hour later on the first day, to ensure proper distribution of all loads between camels and horse teams, most of the personnel having had no previous experience of loading.
2. FIRST DAY
 - March : - TEL-EL-KEBIR to MAHSAMA : 13½ miles, close to, north of, and parallel to railway.
 - Halts : - Ten minutes in each hour, and a three hour halt near QUASSASSIN from 1200 to 1500.
 - Times : - Head left TEL-EL-KEBIR 0700 - rear reached MAHSAMA 1620.
 - Weather :- High sun temperature, tempered by strong cool breeze from North East.
 - March Very good, but some units had waterbottles empty before noon. This was corrected on subsequent days.
 - Discipline:-
 - Straggling:- 14 men fell out, of whom two came on by train, and four were sent to hospital (for all causes) remainder joining up same day.
 - General : - Easy grades, good marching surface.
3. SECOND DAY
 - March : - MAHSAMA to MOASCAR, 17 miles by route taken, which was from MAHSAMA on a bearing of 60° (60 degrees), passing around the North of the oases in square B.5. on Map ISMAILIA 1:100000; thence direct to MOASCAR.

Requid sent on 4.4.16 File

4-16

App III

3. SECOND DAY (Contd.)

Halts :- Usual hourly halts, and three hour halt in Eastern Oasis (above referred to) from 1100 to 1400.

Times :- Head left MAHSAMA 0600 - Rear ~~reached~~ MOASCAR 1720

Weather :- Dense fog until 0900 - then till 1500 high sun temperature - light variable winds.

March Discipline: Excellent until about 1600 - When the camps at MOASCAR came in sight, men began to fall out, complaining of feet and chafing.

Straggling :- 132 men fell out, of whom nine were sent on by train and five were sent to hospital for all causes, remainder joined up before dark.

General :- Good going all the way, except for two miles of very heavy sand, encountered between 1400 and 1500, east of place of midday halt.

4. THIRD DAY

March :- MOASCAR to SERAPEUM (East) Camp. - 12½ miles, - along SUBZSweet water Canal.

Halts :- Usual hourly halts, and one hour halt between 1100 and 1200, about one mile north of SERAPEUM West. The halt was made short so as to get the troops quickly away from the insects infesting the Canal.

Times :- Head left MOASCAR 0600 - Rear reached SERAPEUM CAMP 1420.

Weather :- Hot, light warm southerly wind, but as the march was practically in a defile nearly all the way, and the dust hung heavily, the conditions were very trying; high wet bulb temperature; flies and mosquitos very bad.

March Discipline: Good until midday halt - After resuming march at 1200 very bad. As on day before, the sight of the objective (pitched camps) seemed to cause many men to relax further effort to keep up with the column.

Straggling :- 460 men fell out, of whom 42 came on by train or boat, and five were sent to hospital from all causes, - remainder had all joined up well before sunset, most of them before 1500 -

General :- Hard going, heavy on man and beast, much dust.

5. REMARKS : - The transport, both camel and horse, was particularly well handled by the officers respectively placed in charge of same. All waterproof sheets, blankets, etc were ready unloaded and sorted out in each unit's bivouac, before the troops arrived. Wheeled transport, including travelling kitchens, marched in, in no case more than fifteen minutes after the troops. Horses were fed and watered at midday each day. No accident to any vehicle or harness. No loss of baggage. One horse over-fatigued- but now well- six others slightly chafed. Only five camels out of 250 developed sore backs.

App III

5. REMARKS (Contd.)

It is considered that the weather or length of the marches had very little to do with the straggling but that most of it was due to bad care of feet, and new or ill fitting boots, causing blistering; - also to chafing due to the ill-fit in many cases of recently issued khaki drill trousers. Much also is still to be learned in the proper fitting and carrying of packs. All ranks except duty details, had at least 12 hours complete rest on each of the two nights of open air bivouac. The column carried on, satisfactorily, on all three days, with the water carried in waterbottles together with the seven water carts, which latter marched with the troops and not with the wheeled transport. The number of men sent to hospital for all causes is well below the normal daily evacuations for sickness.

John Monash

BRIG-GENL.
Commdg. FIRST FLIGHT, 4th. AUST. DIV.

*For numbers who free out
see tabular statement
attached.*

2nd Flight
 Moved in five stages on 4/18

1st Stage TEL EL HEBIR - KASSASSIN - 9 m. 1525 to 2005 - 27th
 2nd " KASSASSIN - MAHSAMA - 5 m. 0545 - 0745 - 28th
 3rd " MAHSAMA - 4 m. NE. of ABU SUNEIR STN. 9 m. 1525 - 1945 - 28th
 4th " - MOASCAR 7 m. 0545 - 0825 - 29th
 5th " MOASCAR - SERAPEUM 12 m. 0545 - 1130 - 30th

Halts - 5 minutes at end of first 1/2 hour.
 10 " before each clock hour.
 except last stage when 1/2 hour was given in which to fill bottles from water carts.

Route and weather.

1st Stage - Cool breeze - hard desert.
 2 " - Cool morning - desert sandy.
 3 " - Very hot. oppressive.
 4 " - " " " soft drift sand.
 5 " - Dull until 0930 when sun came out then hot until 1130 when sand storm began.

For numbers who fell out see
 tabular statement attached.

4-19

Appendix No. III



3rd Night

Hour of Start. —

TEL EL KEBIR	31.3.16	0600
MAHSAMA	1. 4.16	0600
MOASCAR	2. 4.16	0600

Hour of Arrival —

MAHSAMA	31.3.16	1145
MOASCAR	1. 4.16	1500
SERAPEUM	2. 4.16	1245

Halts —

5 minutes after first $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
 10 " before each clock hour. Till
 0900 when halt was increased
 to 30 minutes.

Subsequent halts —

1st day	0955	— 1000
	1050	— 1100
2nd day	1010	— 1020
	1050	— 1300
	1350	— 1400
3rd day	0950	— 1000
	1050	— 1145
	1205	— 1215

Weather Conditions —

1st day — Good — Cool breeze
 2nd " — Warm but cool breeze part time
 3rd " — Good — Cool breeze.

Route —

1st day Canal road N of Sweetwater
 Canal
 2nd day " " "
 3rd day " " E of SWEETWATER CANAL

Transport —

Camel via desert N. of TEL EL KEBIR
 to MOASCAR. Wheeled transport
 followed Brigade.

13th Field Coy moved independently by
 raft to MOASCAR and thence
 by road preceding the Brigade.
 Water — Rubber carts (4) sent out to meet from
 MOASCAR and SERAPEUM.

4-20

Headquarters,

4th. Australian Division.

4th. April 1916.

(a) Numbers who did not march in with Brigades.

	<u>4th. Brigade</u>	<u>12th. Brigade</u>	<u>13th. Brigade</u>
1st. Day	14	37*	15
2nd. " z	132	187*	18
3rd. "	460	2	1
Total.	606	226	34

(b) Numbers who fell out but who marched in same day
 (after Brigade arrived).

	<u>4th. Brigade</u>	<u>12th. Brigade</u>	<u>13th. Brigade</u>
1st. Day	8	22*	8
2nd. Day	128	165*	5
3rd. Day	411	2	-
Total.	547	189	13

(c) Numbers who fell out but who came in train or boat.

	<u>4th. Brigade</u>	<u>12th. Brigade</u>	<u>13th. Brigade</u>
1st. Day	2	-	4
2nd. Day	9	1	13
3rd. Day	42	131 ø	1
Total.	53	132	18

(d) Numbers admitted to Hospital.

	<u>4th. Brigade</u>	<u>12th. Brigade</u>	<u>13th. Brigade</u>
1st. Day	4	17	3
2nd. Day	5	25	-
3rd. Day	5	7	-
Total	14	49	3

APP III



-2-

- * Includes rear parties left to clean Camp site.
- Ø Sick and men unfit to march, travelled by Hospital barge.

Major.
G.S. 4th. Australian Division.

SECRET.

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Headquarters,
Ismailia,
23rd March, 1918.

General Staff Circular No. 1.

The following instructions are issued consequent upon the change in the allotment of troops to No. 2 Section Canal Defences.

Action by
the
enemy.

1. It is considered impossible for the enemy, during the summer to undertake an invasion of Egypt on a great scale, but it may be possible for him to move 40,000 or 50,000 troops across the Sinai Peninsula during the next few months.

Warning of such a movement may be anticipated with confidence.

Front Line.
(outposts)

2. It has consequently been decided that the front line of works commenced with a view to meeting a heavy attack during the winter is to be looked upon and occupied as an outpost line, no more, and no less. The force occupying it will be reduced to a minimum.

The role of the outpost troops is to deal with enemy mounted patrols and protect works which have been constructed. The latter will form the line of resistance for the outposts. The defences at selected points occupied by picquets will be suitably strengthened.

Action in
case of
attack.

3. The remainder of the troops allotted to the various sections and subsections will be disposed so that in case of warning of attack they can move forward at short notice and meet the enemy in or within 3 or 5 miles East of the front line using the defences prepared merely as pivots to manoeuvre.

Mobility.

4. The mobile action of the forces allotted to sections can best be secured by the completion of roads, railways and water supplies constructed to serve the front line. Their completion on the original scheme will therefore be pushed on with, and they will be kept in order.

4-23
Works
and
trenches.

2.

App IV



8. (a) The works in the front line have in certain cases not been started and gaps exist in the line in consequence, which it was intended to fill. G.O.Cs Subsections will arrange to construct works on the sites originally selected so as to provide a fire trench on the whole front, sited in accordance with the original design. A 4' 6" trench will suffice, traffic and support trenches and dugouts will not be constructed except at points selected for occupation by outposts. The fire trench will be covered by wire entanglement as originally intended.

Trenches will be kept reasonably clear of sand so that they could rapidly be prepared for occupation. In the event of temporary abandonment of any works arrangements will be made to mark their position by posts which would show above the sand should they be filled in.

All record plans of works must be carefully guarded and maintained to date to facilitate handing over at short notice.

(b) The construction of works on the intermediate line will not be proceeded with pending further orders.

(c) The works on the inner line, bridgeheads and canal posts will be completed and maintained in an efficient condition.

(d) Emplacements for guns in selected positions will be prepared and may be temporarily occupied by guns for registration and practice. Not more than the strength of one brigade in each section will be retained in emplacements and their horses must be kept at hand.

Distribut-
ion of
troops.

8. The general scheme for distribution of troops in each subsection is shown in the attached schedule. Minor modifications may be made by Divisional Commanders.

The mobile column shown in "A" Subsection will be furnished with camel transport under arrangements to be made by G.O.C., to give it a radius of action of 3 days' march.

App IV



4-24

3.

Camel Transport.

7. Camel transport employed on works can be used by Divisional Commanders in connection with all movements of troops.

Engineering Works.

8. Divisional Commanders are responsible for all works being carried out in their area including those that are being executed by personnel provided by Director of Works.

Mounted Troops.

9. The New Zealand Mounted Rifle Brigade at present holding the front line in "B" Subsection will be relieved at an early date for employment elsewhere by a regiment from the 3rd Light Horse Bde.. The 3rd Light Horse Bde will come under the orders of the G.O.C., "A" Subsection for tactical purposes, but for administrative purposes will continue to form part of the ANZAC Mounted Division. *(less one Regt in "B" subsection)*

ANZAC Mounted Division.

10. The ANZAC Mounted Division (less the 3rd Light Horse Brigade) while still in No. 2 Section area will form a Corps Reserve.

Other Corps troops will come under the orders of Divisional Commanders when actually stationed in the areas comprised in "A" and "B" subsections.

11. G.O.Cs 4th and 5th Divisions will take over the command of "A" and "B" Subsections respectively from the G.O.C., *Anzac Mounted* ~~Light Horse~~ Division and New Zealand Division as soon as they have established their headquarters in the areas allotted to them.

Training.

12. All troops except those actually occupying the outpost line and on patrol, should be employed at training, construction of defence works is to be considered as training.

4th Anzac Div. Colours 1
5th " " " " 2
Anzac Mt. Div. " 3
Bd. Lt. " " 4
Bd. Lt. " " 5
Reb. Div. " 6-10

C. Brown

Brig.-General
General Staff,
2nd A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

NO. 2 SECTION.

Proposed distribution of troops.

"B" SUBSECTION. (5th Division)

Out Posts.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Squadron.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Battalion.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Squadron.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Battalion.

Reserve:- 1 Regiment (less two $\frac{1}{2}$ Squadrons)

"A" SUBSECTION. (4th Division)

Out Posts.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Squadron.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Battalion.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Squadron.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Battalion.

Reserve:- 1 Regiment (less two $\frac{1}{2}$ Squadrons)

Station. Railhead, about 6 miles out.

Functions. (a) Furnishes reliefs of outposts.
(b) Reinforces outposts.
(c) Advanced guard of counter attacks.
(d) Furnishes Artillery to support front line.
(e) Musketry and training.

Troops.
1 Bde Artillery.
2 Coys Engineers.
1 Inf. Bde. (less two $\frac{1}{2}$ battalions.)
1 Field Ambulance.
Det. Bikanir Camel Corps.

Station. Railhead, about 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles out.

Functions. As in "B" subsection.

Troops.
Mtd Bde (less "2 Regts")
1 Bde Artillery.
2 Coys Engineers.
1 Inf. Bde (less two half battalions)
1 Field Ambulance.

Mobile Column (To be formed)
1 troop Div. Cavalry.
1 Sect. Field Arty.
1 det. Engineers.
1 W/T Sect. (Army Troops)
1 Inf. Bde (less 2 Bns)
Det. Bikanir Camel Corps.
2 Sect Field Ambulance.

"SURPLUS" TROOPS.

Station. Ferry Post East.

Functions. (a) Find canal patrol, bridge head and post garrisons.
(b) Available for counter attack.
(c) Training.

Troops.
1 Sqdn Div. Mtd troops.
3 Bdes artillery
1 Co. Engineers.
2 Inf. Bdes.
Pioneer Bn.
Cyclist Co.
2 Field Ambulances.
A.S.C & details.

"SURPLUS" TROOPS.

Station. Serapeum.

Functions. As in "B" subsection.

Troops.
1 Div. Sqdn (less 1 troop)
3 Bdes Art. (less 1 sect.)
1 Co. Engineers (less detachment)
1 Inf. Bde.
2 Bns.
Pioneer Bn.
Cyclist Co.
2 Field Ambulances. (less 2 sections)
A.S.C. & details.

4.26

1785-15-4

FORM.

C.M. Form A. 39.
Army Form C. 2121.

MESSAGE AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code.....m	Words	Charge	This Message is on a/c of: <i>CHIT</i>	Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instruction:		Sent			Date.....
.....		At.....m			From.....
.....		To.....			By.....
.....		By.....		(Signature of "Franking Officer")	

TO	12 th	Inf. Bde	
	3 rd	L.H. Bde	
	Q		

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
G 2	1 st		

12th Inf Bde will move two half battalions to First Line as soon after dawn on 4th April as possible AAA the troops to bivouac at Railhead on night 3rd/4th April AAA The following will be taken tents 150 shovels per half battalion 120 rounds SAA on man one days work ration per man in bulk AAA AA + Q M 9 will arrange details regarding water supplies and transport AAA The 2 half battalions will be on a point of about 8 miles and it is left to Brigadier to decide whether half battalions are drawn from same battalions Addressed 12th Inf Bde repeated 3rd L.H. Bde Further details regarding ports to be taken over will be forwarded later

From	4 th Bde		
Place			
Time			

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.

(Z)

Censor.

Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

Prefix *1111* Code *1111* m. Words *1111* Charge *1111*

Office of Origin & Service Instructions. *1111*

This message is on a/c of: *1111* Recd. at *0855* m.

Date *3/4/16* Service. *1111*

From *1111*

By *1111* (Signature of "Franking Officer")

Sent. *1111*

At *1111* m.

To *1111*

By *1111*

TO *1111*

* Sender's Number. *BM 460* Day of Month. *3rd* In reply to Number. *Ga 70*

AAA 2 30

Reference para 3
C 18 and suggest my Squadron
at 62 handing over 14. *1111*
taking this number from
infantry at Railhead and
Please notify if you connect
and reference para 4 and suggest
one company at present heading
with B 4 Regt which work

From *1111*

Place *1111*

Time *1111*

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Form. *1111* Army Form C. 2121.
No. of Message *1111*

Prefix *1111* Code *1111* m. Words *1111* Charge *1111*

Office of Origin & Service Instructions. *1111*

This message is on a/c of: *1111* Recd. at *0855* m.

Date *3/4/16* Service. *1111*

From *1111*

By *1111* (Signature of "Franking Officer")

Sent. *1111*

At *1111* m.

To *1111*

By *1111*

TO *1111*

* Sender's Number. *1111* Day of Month. *1111* In reply to Number. *1111*

AAA

1111 and another at work
1111

1111

From *1111*

Place *1111*

Time *1111*

Appendix No 5

4.28
C 18

app V



CSM

Headquarters,
4th. Australian Division.
1st .April 1916.

G.O.C.

3rd. Light Horse Brigade.

Reference this Office G.2 despatched to you today, two half-battalions will move up into the 1st. Line shortly after dawn 4th. April.

2. During the night the Infantry will hold the outpost line, while the mounted troops will be responsible for its observation by day and will send out patrols as at present.

3. It is suggested that on the right half of A. Sub-section, one Company be located at the present Camp of your right squadron ~~East of Work 58~~ and furnish garrisons for Works 62, 58 and 59; and that one Company be located at the present camp on your right Regiments Headquarters and furnish garrisons for Works 55 and 53. In each of the above cases the Infantry will bring their ~~own~~ own tents but will use the water storage tanks at present in position. Have you any remarks to offer regarding the above?

4. Will you please make suggestions similar to those in para 3 for the occupation of the left half of A. Section which has not yet been seen by G.O.C. 4th. Division.

5. On morning of 4th. April when the above moves have been carried out you should reduce the Light Horse in the first line to two half Squadrons. *your suggestion in G/26/5*
of 27.3.16 as to ~~Will you please say~~
where you propose to locate these half Squadrons and where you will place the remainder of the Regiment *as approved.*

6. You will continue to command the troops in advance of Railhead.

Duncan

4th. Australian

Lieut-Colonel. G.S.

4.29
A

NO. 2 SECTION DEFENCE.

OPERATION ORDERS NO. 5

By
Brigadier-General J.M. Antill, C.B.,
G.O.C., 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

Copy No 311
42 230
4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION
No 4 APR. 1916
RAILHEAD
3rd April 1916.

INTENTION. 1.

Redistribution of Troops on the front line of "A" and
"B" Subsection of No. 2 Section.

The 8th Light Horse in conjunction with 5th Infantry
Division will take over the front line of "B" Subsection.

9th Light Horse in conjunction with 4th Infantry
Division will take over the front line of "A" Subsection.

10th Light Horse will move into Camp at Railhead. The
line is to be held as an Outpost Line only - no more, no less.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS. 2.

The 8th Light Horse will send an advance party to Rail-
head "B" Sub-Division by the evening of April 4th, to arrange
for the move of the Regiment the following day.

8th Light Horse will move from Railhead on the early
morning of 5th April; "C" Squadron of 8th Light Horse will
move into Railhead on 4th inst.

9th Light Horse on morning of 4th April will take up
its new position covering the whole of the front line of "A"
Subsection, and will be distributed as follows :-

1 Squadron at present Headquarters of 9th L.H.

1 " " " " " 10th L.H.

2 Squadrons and Headquarters on pipe line leading to No. 1.
Work at point selected about 1 mile in rear of front line.

10th Light Horse to move into Headquarters Camp at Railhead.

The Infantry will be distributed as follows :-

1 Company at No. 3 Work and responsible for 1 - 5 inclusive.

1 " " " 7 " " " " 6 - 8 "

1 " " " 9 " " " " for same.

1 " " " 62 " " " " 62 - 58 "

1 " " " Hd. Qrs.
9th L.H. (58) " " 55 - 52 "

Battalion " Headquarters with that of 9th L.H. Regiment.



4:30

2.

CAMEL
TRANSPORT.

3. Programme in detail attached - (provisional)

REGIMENTAL
TRANSPORT.

4. A Transport Park of all 3rd L.H. Brigade Transport under Quartermaster 10th Light Horse, will be established at Railhead.

With the exception of Transport for 9th Light Horse (to be detailed later) all Transport will be accommodated in the lines of the Park.

The 8th Light Horse will take no wheeled Transport with it.

TENTS.

5. The O.C. "C" Squadron, 8th Light Horse, will hand over 14 Single Bell Tents to the incoming Infantry Coy. (12 Brigade) a similar number being exchanged at Railhead by O.C. 8th Light Horse.

O.C. 8th Light Horse Railhead will hand over all tents at present standing to O.C. 10th Light Horse.

O.C. 8th Light Horse will take over from Infantry at Railhead 59 Bell Tents in lieu of those handed over in front line by 10th Light Horse.

9th Light Horse to move their tents in accordance with the new dispositions.

10th Light Horse to ^{hand} ~~take~~ over 59 Single Bell Tents to Infantry Companies taking over front line Camps.

HORSES.

6. O.C. 8th Light Horse will take every available horse with the Regiment less those in Park.

All horses from West of Canal will join up with their units as soon as accommodation is ready.

COMMUNICATIONS.

7. The telephone communications already established will be continued and connection with the new Headquarters of 9th Light Horse will be established; until it is completed visual communications will be maintained.

AMMUNITION.

8. Ammunition on posts to be occupied under the new dispositions will be handed over to the incoming unit.

3.

TRANSPORT
OF POSTS.

9.

The G.O.C. desires that O.C. present posts will assist the units moving in, in every way. They will furnish them with plans, etc., of positions; patrols and Observation Posts. The detail of reports etc. required to be explained.

WATER
STORAGE.

10.

Wagons will not be taken away by moving Troops from positions which are being re-occupied.

MACHINE
GUNNERS.

11.

Machine Gunners are to remain with their guns under instructions to be issued by the Brigade Major.

MANNING OF
WORKS.

12.

Works selected to be held will be manned at night by the Infantry, who will remain in occupation until Mounted Patrols move out the following morning and all is reported clear.

Works under construction, and to be constructed, will be carried on by Infantry responsible, vide para 2 of this order.

RATIONS.

13.

Iron Rations on posts will be handed over.

REPORTS.

14.

From Units to their respective Regiment and Battalion Headquarters, thence to 3rd L.H. Brigade Headquarters.

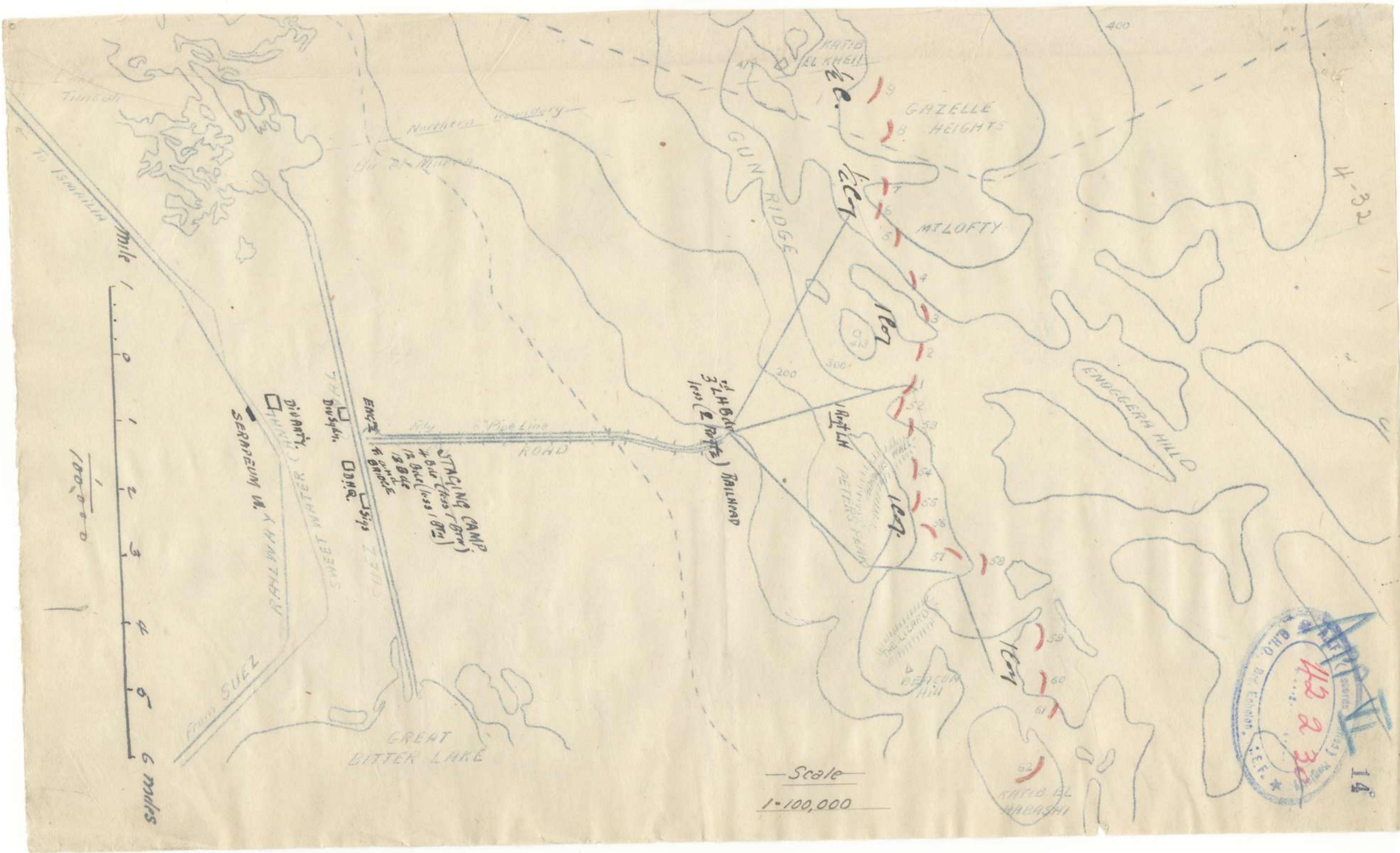
(sgd) C.C. Dangar, Captain.
Brigade Major, 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

Copy No. 1. Office.

- 2 Anzac Mtd Div.
- 3 4th Aust Div.
- 4. 8th L.H.
- 5. 9th L.H.
- 6 10th L.H.

Copy No 7

- 12th Inf. Bde.
- 8 Signal Troop
- 9 Field Amb.
- 10 O.C. Camel Corps.
- 11 C.O., Supply Depot.



4-38

App VII



Headquarters.

4th. Australian Division.

2nd. April 1916.

The following instructions are to be carried out in connection with the construction of works in the first line.

- (a) A fire trench is to be constructed for each work as originally designed along the whole front. Where the fire trench has not already been constructed a 4'6" trench will suffice.
- (b) Communication and support trenches and dug-outs will not be constructed except at points selected for occupation by outposts, these will be indicated later.
- (c) All fire trenches will be covered by low barbed wire entanglements.
- (d) In many cases the trenches have been so sited that fire can only be delivered through the barbed wire, in such cases the parapet and fire trench will be raised so that the firers can fire over the barbed wire.
- (e) The O.C. 4th. Field Coy. will indicate the order in which the work is to be carried out and will arrange for revetting materials &c. being brought up.
- (f) All men to do at least 6 hours work a day except those who have been on sentry duty the night before, these will do 3 hours work.
- (g) It is to be explained to all ranks that the Infantry Officers in charge of any particular portion of the line is responsible for completing the defence works, and that the Engineer Officers and personnel are only present for the purpose of supervising the trace and giving technical advice and assistance.

4 34

App VII



-2-

- (g) cont. Infantry Officers are responsible for the work of their own working parties.
- (h) The fire trenches of all works are to be kept reasonably clear of sand so that they can be used effectively at short notice.

Lieut-Colonel.
G.S. 4th. Australian Division.

4-35

OFFICERS COMMANDING UNITS OF 4TH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

G.O.C. 4th. Australian Division - Maj. Gen. Sir H.V. Cox
K.C.M.G., C.B., C.S.I.

4th. Inf. Brigade Headquarters. Brig-Gen. Monash C.B., V.D.
13th. Bn. Lt. Col. Tilney D.S.O., V.D.
14th. " " " Care D.S.O.
15th. " " " Cannon, C.B.
16th. " " " Pope, C.B.

12th. Inf. Brigade Headquarters Colonel D.S. Glasford
45th. Bn. Lt. Col. Herring, D.S.O.
46th. " Major Lee
47th. " Lt. Col. Snowden
48th. " " " Leane

13th. Inf. Brigade Headquarters Colonel D.W. Glasgow, D.S.O.
49th. Bn. Lt. Col. Lorenzo D.S.O.
50th. " " " Hurcombe
51st. " " " Ross, D.S.O.
52nd. " " " Beever

Div. Mounted Troops 15th. Light Horse Regt. Capt. A. Mitchell
(B. Squadron)
4th. Div. Cyclist Coy.

Div. Artillery Headquarters Colonel Rosenthal, C.B.

10th. F.A. Brigade Headquarters Lt. Col. G.H.M. King, C.M.G.
37th. Battery
38th. "
39th. "
40th. "
10th. Bde. Ammunition Column

11th. F.A. Brigade Headquarters Lt. Col. P.A. Hughes
41st. Battery
42nd. "
43rd. "
44th. "
11th. Bde. Ammunition Column

12th. F.A. Brigade Headquarters Lt. Col. R.L. Rabett, C.M.G.
45th. Battery
46th. "
47th. "
48th. "
12th. Bde. Ammunition Column

24th. F.A. (How) Bde. Headquarters Lt. Col. W.C. Waite
10th. Battery
11th. "
12th. "
24th. (How.) Bde. Ammunition Column
4th. Divisional Ammunition Column

4.26

4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION (Continued)

Divisional Engineers. Headquarters Lt.Col.Elliott,R.E.
 4th. Field Company Major R.V.Outler
 12th. " " Major E.A.E.Andrewartha
 13th. " " Captain M.Colyer

4th.Div.Signal Coy. Headquarters Captain Frazer

4th.Pioneer Battalion.Headquarters Major J.W.C.Corlette

Bde.Machine Gun Coys. 4th. Machine Gun Company
 12th. " " "
 13th. " " "

Div.Transport and Supply Units. 4th. Divisional Train
 14th. A.A.S.C.) Headquarters. Major Holdsworth
 7th. ")
 26th. ")
 27th. ")

Div.Medical Units 4th. Field Ambulance Lt.Col.A.J.Meikle
 12th. " " " " T.G.Ross
 13th. " " " " J.B.StV.Welch

4th. Sanitary Section. Headquarters Captain Campbell-Smith

4th.Mobile Vet. Section. " Major Kendall

ATTACHED
L. of C. Units A.S.C. 4th. Field Bakery- Lieut. E. Isaachsen
 4th. Field Butchery- Lieut. A.N.Young
 16th. Depot Unit of Supply
 17th. " " " "
 18th. " " " "
 19th. " " " "
 20th. " " " "

4th. Aus.Div.Inf.Base Depot.

Attached.

3rd.L.H.Bde(less 1 Regt)
29th.Coy.8th.Div. Train
Detachment Naval Bdg.Train
14th. Fortress Company
Aryehires Artillery
50 Bikaner Camels

437

App IX

No. (6)

19



4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISIONAL ORDER NO. 1.

SERAPEUM.
5th. April 1918.

War Diary.

The 18th. Infantry Brigade (less Battalion already in Front Line) will move to Railhead Camp on Thursday 6th. April. The Brigade will take tents and Camp Equipment.

2. Whilst at Railhead the Brigade will be under the orders of the G.O.C. 3rd. Light Horse Brigade for all tactical purposes and for Camp discipline.

3. The A.D.M.S. 4th. Australian Division will arrange for one Section 18th. Field Ambulance to move to Railhead and to be attached to 18th. Infantry Bde.

4. Instructions regarding the transport of tents and baggage will be arranged by A.A. & Q.M.G., 4th. Australian Division.

[Signature]

Lieut-Colonel.
G.O.C. 4th. Australian Division.

Issued at 1300.

To :-

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Copy No 1. | 18th. Infantry Brigade |
| " 2. | 3rd. Light Horse Brigade |
| " 3. | A.D.M.S. |
| " 4. | G.O.C. |
| " 5. | A.A. & Q.M.G. |
| " 6. | War Diary |
| " 7. | Signal Company |
| " 8. | Spare |

x.38

1735-13-3 "A" Form. C.M. Form A. 39. Army Form C. 2121. No. of Message.....

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Prefix.....	Code.....m	Words	Charge	This Message is on a/c of: <i>App</i> Service. (Signature of "Franking Officer").	Recd. atm.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions:		Sent			Date.....
.....		At.....m			From.....
.....		To.....			By.....
.....		By.....			

TO { Headquarters,
4th Aust. Div.

42 2 30
AAA

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number
B.M. 719	20	-

As requested by Colonel
Duncan I herewith
forward complete reports
and sketch in connection
with the JIF JAFFA
raid.

From	3L HBde
Place	Rail Head
Time	0925

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.	(Z)
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

From, ^{4 39}
Headquarters,
3rd A.L.H. Brigade.
RAILHEAD.

To,
Headquarters,
4th Aust. Division.

I herewith attach report ~~report~~ of Major W. H. Scott, 9th L.H. Regiment, the O.C. Column, organised and sent out from Rail Head 12th April to attack JIFJAF, vide G/34 Secret Instructions, 5-4-16. forwarded to the G.O.C. "A" Subsection.

Other matters to be reported upon are dealt with in detail in the attached report.

In forwarding the Report I wish to make the following comments -

On the afternoon of the 12th inst. I personally inspected the Column before it moved off and was very satisfied with the personnel and turn out. I was confident if there was anything ahead of it the men selected would carry it through and as things have turned out my opinion was quite justified.

From what Major Scott tells me the whole undertaking worked most harmoniously and almost to the time set out in the ~~itinerary~~ itinerary; the attack on JIFJAF itself being delayed until later in the morning on account of information received on the point of departure that the enemy evacuated their posts at night and did not return until all was clear in the morning.

I thought it wise to embody in the Column 1 Officer Captain Wearne and 12 men of the 8th Light Horse who had taken part in a previous reconnaissance and I am informed that their knowledge of the country was most useful. One of them was killed Corporal Monahan and Major Scott tells me that the services of Captain Wearne were particularly valuable and that the other men of the 8th Light Horse were most useful.

It will be seen that Major Scott has reported very comprehensively on the operations and Enemy's works, and I venture to say has shown himself possessed of powers of a high order. He has been ably seconded in this interesting little raid none the less difficult on account of its long distance from the Base, by the beforementioned.

Captain Macaulay of the 2nd A.N.Z. Staff, Captain Ayris Orderly Officer to myself and the Officers and personnel generally who showed the greatest zest and intelligence throughout these operations.

Major Scott desires me to say how much he has appreciated the excellent services of Lieuts. F. Eggar and Beale of the Wireless Section and also of the hearty and valuable co-operation of the Bikanir Camel Corps under their native Officer, Lieut. Bhair Singh.

I have had occasion before to bring under favourable notice the conspicuously fine work of Major W.H. Scott, particularly at HILL 60, Gallipoli, under Generals H.V. Cox and Sir Alexander Godley, and can only repeat how I appreciate at all times his services.

Sgd. J.M. Antill. Brig. Gen.
G.O.C. 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

Serapeum.
Egypt.
15-4-16.

Forwarded. I fully endorse the above - particularly as regards the capabilities of Major Scott as a leader. I found him very gallant and resourceful at ANZAC. The whole affair reflects great credit on the 3rd Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Signed. H.V. Cox. Major General.
Commanding 4th Australian Division.

Serapeum.
15-4-16.



RECONNAISSANCE REPORT

By

MAJOR W.H. SCOTT. O.C. COLUMN. 15-4-16.

REFERENCE MAP - Sinia Peninsula 1/125000.
Composition of Column - Schedule attached.

HOUR OF STARTING.

Left starting point at 1407 11-4-16.

RATE OF MARCH.

Normal walk with a halt at 10 minutes to each hour and resuming march at each hour.

ROUTE.

1st Day. April 11th 1916. The Column proceeded in a South Easterly direction and halted to feed horses at 1700 on contour 500 and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile due North of Point 610, Square 3D, (LITTLE BITTER LAKE SHEET-). From starting point to this place the surface gradually got more solid for the horses.

O.C. Field Ambulance asked me to slacken the pace of Head of Column as his horses had to trot in places to keep up and even then had to travel 3 or 4 minutes at every halt to catch up with column. On moving off at 1930 the course was set for 115 degrees which was practically kept, except for skirting Sand hills until the WADI UM-MUKHSHIEB was struck at 2130.

The travelling over this portion was very good and although the Column moved at a fast walk the Ambulance Sand Cart had no difficulty in keeping up with the Column.

The Column was marched down the WADI to the point of bivouac about half a mile South West of Point 850 Square 3H (LITTLE BITTER LAKE SHEET-)

This point was reached at 2230. The travelling down the WADI was very good and except for a few short patches which were Sandy was fit for Field Artillery to move at the trot. The Camel Train was met there.

2ND DAY. 12TH APRIL.

Column left bivouac at 0730. The bivouac occupied by the previous Reconnaissance Column was passed at 0820 and the WELL reconnoitered by previous Column was reached at 1120. The travelling down the WADI was very good except for the last mile and a quarter which was very rough and stony. The Camel Transport which left the same time as the Column under escort of Bikanir Camel Corps arrived at the Well at 1320. This Well is situated in the bend of the WADI about $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile East of where the WADI turns South to MOIYA HARAB - Square 5K (LITTLE BITTER LAKE SHEET-) Here the Column bivouaced.

At about $1\frac{1}{4}$ (one and a quarter) miles east of this Well, reconnoitering parties were sent out both to North and South to find out if any signs could be seen of Bedouin Camps which had been reported near MOIYA HARAB by aeroplane at 0715, but no sign of the Camps could be found although fresh Camel and Human feet tracks were very plain. During the morning 3 Bedouins and a Camel were captured and brought along with the Column. They were afterwards released.

From this point reconnoitering parties were sent out and the information obtained as shown in para re water.

The Column resumed its march to point 1340 leaving the Bivouac site by a branch of the WADI running N.N.E. for about a mile and a half until the high land was reached. This WADI was extremely rough and impassable to wheeled traffic.

The march continued to point 1340 Square 3B keeping in sight of the hills the whole way. The surface was very good and arrived at point 1340 at 0230 of the 3rd day, where the Column bivouaced.

3RD DAY. 13TH APRIL 1916.

One Officer and 16 other Ranks of the Light Horse Squadron and 4 Light Horse Camel drivers were left at the Well to guard Camel Train not required on the next part of the journey.

3RD DAY. 13TH APRIL 1916.

At 0530 The Column moved from this point leaving the Bikanir Camel Corps, Wireless Section and Transport there under the charge of Captain B.B. Ragless, and marched to HILL 1082, Square 2D and halted there at 0730. Awaited for message from aeroplane which was dropped at 0800. The message received stated that "All was clear". From this point it was decided to attack the enemy's position. The travelling along the track was very good but in view of HILL 1082 and to the Hills to the South and East throughout its entire distance.

3RD DAY Continued.

The return journey to point 1340 was made along practically the same route as was 1340 to bivouac at Well except the WADI was followed down from about one mile East of point 1684 Square 3L (BITTER LAKE SHEET-) From this point back to the Well was extremely rough and very hard going. The return route from this point to ROAD-HEAD was on practically the same lines as going out.

WATER.

- (1). At 2nd Bivouac a Well and a Cistern containing Total of 33,000 gallons.
- (2). At branch of WADI where it turns South to MOIYA) HARAB is a cistern 50 ft. x 15 ft. x 18 ft. deep containing 9 ft depth of water. The opening has a wooden cover 8 ft. x 8 ft. and a round man hole 1 ft. 6 in. in diameter. This the contained about 42,300 gallons of Water.

North east of this is a large underground excavation with 4 stone pillars cut out of solid rock. The Roof is four feet from the floor.

The floor is covered with silt which appears to come from the back of the excavation. The stone pillars are about 4 feet Square. There is no water in this excavation.

To the North East and about 10 feet from the back of the excavation a cistern runs back into the Hill for a distance of at least 30 feet and 15 feet wide and 22 feet deep. There is at present 2 feet of water in this cistern containing approximately 5,700 gallons of Water.

(a) North East of this Cistern about 10 feet is another cistern which is entirely silted up.

(b) North East of (a) is a dry cistern with a man hole cut out of the rock 15 inches diameter.

(c) North East of (b) about 14 feet is a cistern 40 feet by 30 feet by 10 feet dry with silt in the bottom.

(d) East North East of (c) is a cistern with a small man hole 4 feet by 2 feet nearly silted.

(e) Two hundred to two fifty yards north east of (d) on the side of the hill facing east a tunnel enters hill about 30 feet from the bottom of the valley and runs in 19 feet and enters in four chambers each about 9 feet square and 7 feet high with troughs cut out of three sides 18 inches wide and 12 inches deep.

3. At MOIYA HARAB. Following the branch of the Wadi down South from Water No. 2. the well is about two and a half miles distant and on the east side of the WADI. This Well has a diameter of 15 feet a depth of 8 feet and has 2 feet 6 inches of water. This was all the water found in the locality of GEBEL-UM-MUKHSHEIB. No Water was found at BIR-EL-JIFJAJA. CAPTURE OF WORKS AT BIR-EL-JIFJAJA. (Reference sketch attached.)

The Force was halted to the South of HILL 1080 out of view of BIR-EL-JIFJAJA and the attack was planned for 0900 13-4-16 as the Royal Flying Corps had informed me that they believed the personnel of the Camp retired to the Hills until after Aeroplanes passed over them and then returned to Camp.

Having made a reconnaissance with Field Glasses one Troop under Lieut. McDonald was detailed to pass round the West and North of HILL 1082 and occupy a point on ridge about a mile North West of supposed position of enemy's Camp.

One Troop under Lieut. Pender to move North East and pass enemy's works on the South.

One Troop less 8 men under Lieut. Linacre to make the frontal attack.

Four men and Machine Gun Section were held in reserve and four men for escort to Engineers Stores and Ammunition.

On arrival at point X it was seen that Lieut. MacDonald would be a little late arriving at his position, so Lieut. Linacre and 16 others were sent over Ridge slightly to North of enemy's ~~position~~ post. The remaining men and Reserves marched direct on to the Post.

One man of the enemy's out-post was seen to retire.

The whole of the enemy bolted from the Camp, some taking to the hills and others to South East.

Those who took to the Hills were headed off by Lieut. Pender's Troop and the enemy took up position shown on sketch. Here the fighting took place with the result that the whole party were either killed or captured.

Six of the enemy were known to be killed and five wounded, one of these being in a very serious condition and could not be moved.

The following prisoners were captured:-



The following prisoners were captured:-

1 Austrian Engineer Officer.

34 Other Ranks including 4 wounded.

According to the Austrian Officer the Post was occupied by 1 Officer, 25 Soldiers and 15 Labour Corps. A Total of 41. It would appear that the whole of the enemies Force had been accounted for, but 2 mounted men were seen to gallop away in an Easterly Direction. These may not have belonged to the Post; I regret to have to report that No 976 Corporal Monaghan of the 8th Light Horse Regiment was killed. Our other casualties being one horse killed.

ENEMY'S PERSONNEL.

From information received from the prisoners the enemy's fighting force was part of the 2nd Company 4th Battalion 79th Regiment 27th Division 8th Army Corps 4th Army and the other ~~XXXX~~ personnel belonged to a Labour Corps.

ENEMY'S WORKS.

No. 1 Boring Plant. Well casing 6 inch diameter.

Bore 276 feet deep. No water. Work of boring apparently suspended though all plant was laid out in readiness for work.

PLANT. German Military Artesian. Very substantive, beautifully made, nothing temporary about any part of it. This part consisted of winch & separate from gin legs and one and a half steel rope used. Large quantities of tools small parts of drill etc., of boring plant. These were dropped down the bore which was subsequently blown in 25 feet from the surface rendering recovery impossible.

NO. 2 BORE. 8' ~~XXXX~~ diameter 51 feet deep. Apparently abandoned. Situated 41 yards east of No. 1. Bore. Found damp sand at bottom. This was a Well casing only with no plant.

NO. 3 BORE. Similar to No. 1. but winch was bracketed to frame of gin. Well casing 8' in diameter. Depth 260 feet (approx.) No water and no tools Plant demolished.

Two sets of gins wrecked by cutting legs in two with gun cotton. Two winches, one fixed to frame of gin and the other separate destroyed with gun cotton. Four hundred feet of one and a quarter hydraulic pipe destroyed with gun cotton and hammers. Twenty four spare boring rods 15 feet long each bent up and otherwise rendered useless.

CAMP EQUIPMENT.

6 bell tents. 1 large Tent. Stores of biscuits, blankets, and general Camp Equipment were burned.

4,000 rounds of S.A.A. were destroyed by dropping down bores afterwards blown up also by placing in fibres.

19 Rifles Captured.

7 Rifles destroyed.

2 Enemy Camels captured.

A number of papers and letters were seized.

ENEMY'S DEFENCES.

Three trenches in echelon were in course of construction. Two being practically finished. To the east of these trenches was a concrete foundation with a circular groove cut round it evidently for the foundation of an Air-Craft Gun. This was not reported to me until after leaving the works.

ATTACK ON CAMP AT No. 1. Well.

Lieut. Nelson was left in charge of details at this bivouac. He reported that during the night of the 12th/13th a large number of shots were fired into the Camp to which he replied. No casualties took place. He had the assistance of one Officer and 10 other Ranks of the Middlesex Yeomanry who had connected up from the 9th Army Corps Reconnaissance on the previous night. It is believed that the firing came from Bedouins.

WADI IN FLOOD.

On the 14th inst on the return journey at about 1700 the WADI ~~XXXX~~ came down in flood.

TACTICAL. In the region of Wells Nos. 1, 2, and 3 a small party could keep off a large force from getting to the Wells owing to the rough nature of the ground. The whole of the road from MOIYA-HARAB to BIR-EL-JIFJAF is commanded by hills on the East and an Observation Point on 1082 would see practically the whole of the last 10 miles of this road.

A supplementary report giving distances, time, strength and condition of horses and men and other information will be forwarded later.

GENERAL. 443 On the morning of the 13th the Khamp Seem was blowing and concealed our movements to a great extent. The atmosphere became much clearer by 0800 and gave every opportunity for observation. At about 1200 when we started to return the dust was very thick and continued so ~~untill~~ till late at night.

A halt was made at the Camp at 1340 and the march to the water started at 1730 and arrived there at 2230; frequent halts had to be made in order to keep in touch with the Camels.

WIRELESS. The Wireless detachment had a good deal of difficulty in getting messages through owing to the dust interfering with the adjustments in the apparatus and the constant jamming by higher power stations. This detachment was very smart in erecting and dismantling its station.

EFFICIENCY. The men and horses stood the fatigue well, four horses had gone lame owing to having their shoes pulled off by the stones in the WADI.

There were no cases of sickness amongst the personnel. Both men and horses were tired on return to Camp.

I desire to bring under notice the names of the following:-

(1). Captain MacCaulay, 2nd A. & N.Z. Staff for his able personal assistance to myself in the collection of information and for his co-operation during the operations.

(2). Captain Wearne, 8th Light Horse Regiment. This Officer made a previous reconnaissance of portion of the country and his knowledge and experience were of great value to me from first to last. He is the finest Scout Officer I have seen and was untiring in his energy, giving me particular help in his topographical knowledge.

(3). Lieut. Pender, 9th Light Horse Regiment. This Officer whom I placed in charge of the right attacking party showed considerable initiative in anticipation the enemy's retirement by making a rapid movement round the rear of the position, thus cutting off and preventing the escape of any of the garrison.

(4). Lieut. Eggar and personnel of the R.E. Section, Wireless, and the Officers Lieuts. Snooks and Pitman and personnel of the Royal Flying Corps.

(5). Captain Ayris, 10th Light Horse Regiment, A.D.C. to G.O.C. 3rd Light Horse Brigade, acted in the capacity of my Staff and did excellent work and personally captured the Austrian Officer.

(6). Mikanir Camel Corps. The incorporation of this Unit was of very great value in carrying out the protection of Camel Transport Train and did their work in the most efficient and intelligent manner. Also No. Corporal Smith, showed much initiative and ability in anticipating a vantage point by the enemy which he occupied with his section with most excellent results.

(7). 2/Lieut. Colghlan, Australian Engineers. For obtaining information of Wells, bores, etc., and for his demolition work.

Sgd. Major W.H. Scott, Major.
O.C. Reconnaissance No. 2.

Rail Head
15-4-16.

COMPOSITION OF COLUMN.

UNIT.

MEN.

HORSES.

CAMELS.

REMARKS.

Major W.H.Scott)	Light				
S.O. Column. -)	Horse	130	138	-	-
Capt.H.E.Wearne)	Aust.				
Staff Officers.)	Engineers.	10	10	4	-
	R.F.C.	4	2	4	Signal Apparatus.

	Royal	6	1	15	Wireless Section.
	Engineers.	3	-	-	Sudanese.
	Army Medical				
	Corps.	9	13	6	Two Sand Carts & 5 Cacolets.
	Camel Transport				
	Corps.	3	3	-	Officer & Warrant Office-
	"	29	-	-	Light Horsemen - rs
	"				drivers attached.
	"	95	-	-	Native Drivers.
	"	-	-	88	Water.
	"	-	-	15	Rations.
	"	-	-	78	Forage.
	"	-	-	10	To lighten loads so that
	"	-	-		Light Horsemen could be mtd
	"	-	-	4	Ammunition.
	Army Service				
	Corps.	1	1	-	Warrant Officer.
	Bikanir Camel				
	Corps.	25	-	25	Riding.
	"	-	-	12	Rations and Forage.
	Guides.	2	2	-	
	Interpreter.	1	1	-	French and Arabic.
Attached -					
Capt.MacCaulay-					
S.O. 3rd		1	2	-	Intelligence Officer.
Anzac.					
Capt. Ayris,					
Orderly Officer		1	2	-	Staff Officer.
Ord L.H.Eds.					

TOTAL.

320

175

261.

APPX.



SKETCH of ENEMY
Position
BIR-EL-JIFJIFA
13-4-16
No Scale

Lieut McDONALD'S TROOP

Reserves

Lieut LINARES TROOP

Enemy outpost

Excavation

Post

Bores
1400x
1400x
1400x

Trenches

Concrete Foundation

Stores

Lieut PEINDERS TROOP

1082
Starting Point

No 3 Bore

J. H. Wood
C. I. Reconnaissance

Appendix No 10

27



As a result of his visit to the right section of the Front Line, the G.O.C. directs that the following shall be carried out as soon as possible :-

(1). The camp at Roadhead and the camps of the right and left Battalions in rear of the Front Line will be prepared for defence. In the case of Roadhead camp, which will only be occupied by Cavalry, the defence works will be of a light nature. If attacked it is the duty of the Cavalry to get on the move as soon as possible and not to allow themselves to be pinned to the ground where they are liable to come under hostile artillery fire. For this reason the defences will be designed so as to check the enemy long enough to enable the Cavalry to extricate themselves from their camp.

(2). In the case of the right and left sections of the line the camps are occupied partly by Infantry, and for this reason the defences must be of a more complete nature, owing to the fact that in the event of attack the Infantry will not be able to withdraw.

(3). The following works will be held in the right section:- 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 62b, 62c. The left work of 62 at the bottom of the hill will not be occupied. The unnumbered work between 57 and 58 will be partly occupied, a Machine Gun emplacement being constructed at the back of the work as pointed out to Brigade Major, 3rd L.M. Brigade, today, and a light trench being constructed on the forward slopes of the hill in front of the present work.

At 57 3 or 4 new lunettes will be constructed on the forward slopes of the hill. At 61b the post in front of the present work on the forward slope of the hill will be further extended. The design of this work, as also of the new trench in front of ~~X~~, and the new lunettes in front of 57, will be the same as the work at 62c.

(4). In cases where works are to be occupied by only a small number of men, parts of the work which are not to be occupied should be filled in.

(5). Wire entanglements and other obstacles should be put down in the wadis between the posts. Trip wires, old tins, and any device which will help to delay or make known the presence of a hostile party should be employed to this purpose. These obstacles should be placed somewhat in front of the main line of defence.

(6). All sandbags used should be taken from works already constructed and no longer required.

Copies to :-

3rd A. L. H. Bde.
12th Inf. Bde.
C. D. E.
4th Pioneer Batt.

Lieut-Colonel,

G.S., 4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.