

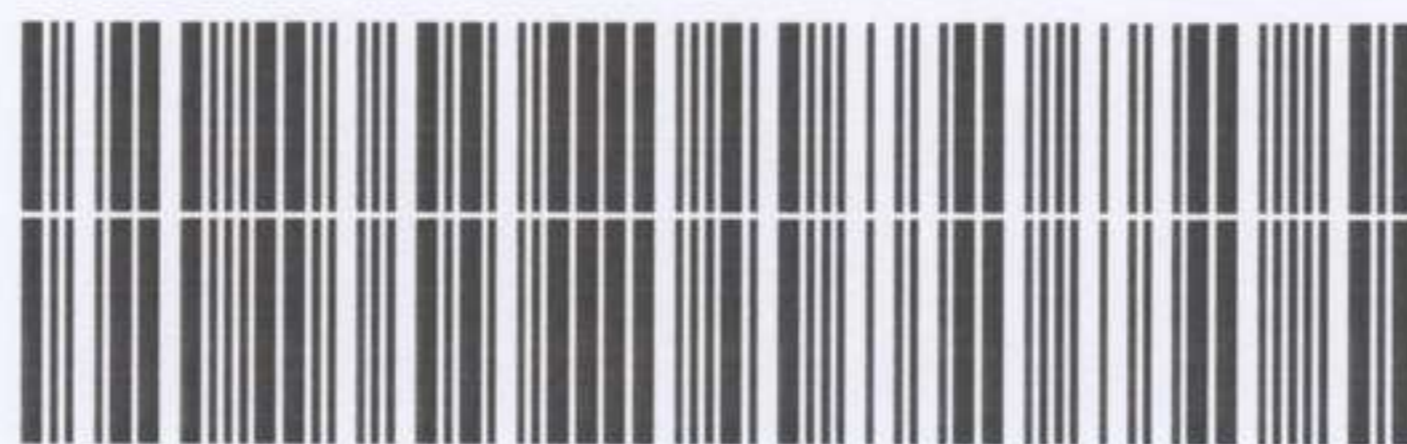
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

New Zealand Units

Item number: 35/3/34

Title: Canterbury Mounted Rifles Regiment

July 1918



AWM4-35/3/34

WAR DIARY.

CANTERBURY MOUNTED RIFLES.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
AIN ED DUK	1st July		0500 Regiment withdraw from NEJMEH - WAX Post line, leaving one troop to maintain touch with 53rd Division until 1200. 1 Officer and 50 O.R. on anti-mosquito work. 18 O.R. Reinforcements marched in.	
	2nd July		1 Officer and 33 Other ranks departed for Descorps Rest Camp, PORT SAID. Usual mosquito party supplied.	
	3rd "		3 other ranks departed on leave to EGYPT. Major Hurst D.S.O. returned from leave. Lieutenant F.L.Murray and 1 O.R. marched in from Training Regiment. Guard on Arab Wood-cutting party relieved by 6th Mounted Brigade. 2 Officers and 50 other ranks employed on work improving existing defences.	
	4th "		Lieut C. Deans returned from leave and Capt R. Brewster from duty EGYPT. Captain Isdale ceased to be attached. 21 other ranks Reinforcements marched in. 1915 2 Officers and 50 other ranks employed improving defences.	
	5th "		1000 Monthly Sack Board assembled in C.M.R. lines, with Major H.C. Hurst, D.S.O. as president. Captain Macfarlane, Lt. Young and 2 other ranks visited 53rd Division Post at NEJMEH. 3 N.C.O.'s and 36 other ranks employed on anti-mosquito work. 1845 one N.C.O. and 12 other ranks employed wiring in front of trenches.	
	6th "		Same Mosquito and Wiring parties as detailed on 5th inst.	
	7th "		0830 Lieut-Col. J. Findlay C.B., D.S.O., departed for EL ARISH and CAIRO as member of 2nd Senior Officers' Tour of Schools of Instruction. Major H.C. Hurst, D.S.O. assumed command (temp) of the Regiment. 1 N.C.O. and 15 other ranks employed wiring in front of trenches. Mosquito party as usual.	
	8th "		Remained in bivouac.	

(Sgd) G.J.H. Reid, Captain.

ADJUTANT.
CANTERBURY MTD RIFLES.

Sheet 18
ERINA
1" to 1 mile.

WAR DIARY.

CANTERBURY MOUNTED RIFLES.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
AIN ED DUK	1918.			
	9th	July.	Major Murchison appointed Temp 2nd in Command of Regiment. Captain Barker assumed Command 10th Sqdn. Usual Mosquite and Wiring parties supplied. 21 other ranks reinforcements marched in.	Sheet 18 ERINA 1" to 1 mile
	10th	"	2/Lt Wanden returned from Descorps School of Instruction RICHON. 8th Squadron less one troop - 6 officers and 82 other ranks returned from detachment Descorps School of Instruction RICHON. Usual Mosquite and Wiring parties employed.	1" to 1 mile
	11th	"	1 Officer and 50 other ranks employed wiring defences. Usual mosquito party also supplied.	
	12th	"	37 dismounted men of 8th Sqdn arrived per motor lorries. Wiring and mosquito parties supplied as usual.	Sheet 15 AKRABEH 1" to 1 mile
	13th	"	Usual mosquito and wiring parties furnished. Heavy shelling of front line throughout the night.	1" to 1 mile
	14th	"	0415 Regiment stood to arms as Turks were attacking 1st Light Horse Brigade. 1300 Regiment ordered to move immediately to battle headquarters just South of WAX Post. 1st Squadron took up position in Wadi AUJA to endeavour to capture Turks coming down for water. 1620 Regiment less 1st Squadron ordered forward to clear ground between ZEISS and VIEW Posts. Very heavily shelled while moving into position. 1900 patrols reported ground clear. 1920 Regiment less 10th Squadron withdrew to former bivouac area AIN ED DUK. 10th Squadron posted to watch for enemy concentration in the vicinity of AUJA Gorge, withdrawing at dawn. Total casualties - 1.O.R. Killed, 5, O.R. wounded. 2 Horses killed.	Sheet 18 ERINA 1" to 1 mile
	15th	"	2/Lt Compigne and 35 other ranks departed to D.H.Q. for a fortnight's tour of duty. Lieut Harris and 2 other ranks departed for three months detachment with Poona Horse (34th). 4, Other Ranks sent to JERUSALEM to participate in parade of German Prisoners. 8th Sqdn on outpost near TEL EL TRUNY, withdrawing before dawn.	

(Sgd.) G.J.H. Reid, Captain,

Adjutant,
CANTERBURY MOUNTED RIFLES.

WAR DIARY

CANTERBURY MOUNTED RIFLES.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
1918.				
AIN ED DUK.	16th	July	Usual Mosquito party supplied. Guard at Divisional Dump JERICHO relieved by 4th L.H. Brigade. One troop of 1st Squadron on outpost near TEL EL TRUNY. Advice received of 29 other ranks invalided to New Zealand from Suez.	Sheet 18 ERINA 1" to 1 mile.
	17th	"	Major Gorton and two other ranks departed to EGYPT on leave. Lieut Johnstone and 18 other ranks returned from detachment Descorps School of Instruction RICHON. One troop 1st Sqdn on outpost near TEL EL TRUNY. 1 Officer and 25 other ranks 10th Sqdn on wiring in front of defences. Usual mosquito party employed.	
	18th	"	Lieut C. Deans departed to Cavalry School of Instruction RICHON. One troop 8th Sqdn on outpost AUJA Gorge. 1 Officer and 20 other ranks wiring in front of defences.	
	19th	"	15 other ranks who could not be mounted proceeded by motor lorry to TALAT ED DUMM Camp. Lieut Johnston detailed as Brigade Water Officer while at TALAT ED DUMM, and went forward with Advance party. 1230 Lieut Doherty left with Advance party. Lieut Knubley detailed to take charge of Brigade Transport for move, and one troop 10th Squadron as escort to Transport. 1930 the Regiment parades - 20 Officers 387 other ranks, -393 rides, 36 pack 34 draughts 4 mules - and marched to Brigade Concentration point on the South bank of WADY KELT. 2130 Brigade moved to TALAT ED DUMM, arriving new bivouac area at 2400.	
TALAT ED DUMM	20th	"	Remained in bivouac. G.O.C. Brigade interviewed C.O. and Squadron Leaders at 1500. One N.C.O. and 20 men unloading at Dump.	
	21st	"	0930 C.O. addressed all officers of the Regiment on "Discipline". Lieut Lawrence departed to JERUSALEM for Mess Stores. Lieut-Col J. Findlay returned from duty EGYPT. 1800 Rev Wilson A.M.R. conducted Church Parade in Regiment's lines.	Sheet 18 ERINA 1" to 1 mile.
	22nd	"	C.O. addressed all officers prior to Corps Commander's Inspection. Squadrons paraded and all gas helmets in the Regiment re-sprayed.	
	23rd	"	Lieut D. Deans departed to CAIRO en route to Training Cadre. 1100 G.O.C. Brigade inspected Regiment on Squadrons' Lines. Supplied Guard on Dump.	

(Sgd) G.J.H. Reid, Captain.

ADJUTANT.

CANTERBURY MOUNTED RIFLES

WAR DIARY.

CANTERBURY MOUNTED RIFLES.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
TALAT ED DUMM.				
	24th	July	Two other ranks departed to EGYPT on Leave. Major Murchison departed to LUDD to take charge of Desert Corps Remount party. Supplied unloading party of 2 N.C.O's and 20 men.	Sheet 18 ERINA 1" to 1 mile.
	25th	"	Lieut Doherty and 13 other ranks departed by Motor Lorry for JERUSALEM en route to LUDD, to bring forward remounts. 1100 Corps Commander inspected the Brigade dismounted, afterwards addressing officers and men. 18 Officers and 252 other ranks on parade.	
	26th	"	Supplied unloading party of 2 N.C.O's and 20 men, also water guard of one N.C.O. and 8 men. 2200 Lieut Wanden and 8 other ranks left for SOLOMONS POOLS as Advance Party preparatory to move.	
	27th	"	1730 The Regiment parades - 18 officers, 363 Other ranks, 395 rides, 33 packs, 39 draughts and marched to new bivouac area in the vicinity of SOLOMON'S POOLS. 2100 halted at KILO 3 until 2300 to allow 12th Cavalry Brigade to pass.	
SOLOMON'S POOLS				
	28th	"	0300 arrived in new bivouac area. Regimental Officers' Mess established.	Sheet 17 JERUSALEM 1" to 1 mile.
	29th	"	2 Officers and 77 other ranks and 23 remounts and 4 mules marched in. Major Murchison, Lieut Doherty and 30 other ranks returned from duty LUDD. Total guards picquets etc, 6 N.C.O's and 54 other ranks, 1 Officer and 20 other ranks improved road to Regimental water troughs. Leave party of one Officer and 12 other ranks.	
	30th	"	Supplied BETHLEHEM Picquet of one Officer and 20 other ranks, tour of duty 1500 to 2400 Major Hurst inspected Divisional picquets. Leave party to JERUSALEM 1 officer 12 other ranks.	
	31st	"	2 Officers and 24 other ranks on leave to JERUSALEM. Mr Whitehair of the American Y.M.C.A. Commission dined at Regimental Mess. Captain Barker appointed Temp Command 8th Squadron vice Major Gorton admitted to Hospital.	
			(Sgd) G.J.H. Reid, Captain, Adjutant.	
CANTERBURY MOUNTED RIFLES.				