

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

New Zealand Units

Item number: 35/5/16 Part 1

Title: Wellington Mounted Rifles Regiment

October 1916



AWM4-35/5/16PART1

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

WELLINGTON MOUNTED RIFLES.

670

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																		
	Oct. 1st.		<p>Arrived at SWING BRIDGE CAMP 0630 and found Camp already pitched and breakfast ready for all RANKS.</p> <p>Strength -:</p> <table data-bbox="1385 763 2597 1001"> <tr> <td>Officers.</td> <td>26</td> <td>O/RKS.</td> <td>482.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Horses.</td> <td></td> <td>Riding.</td> <td>437</td> <td rowspan="3">} 469 - Total.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Pack</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Draught.</td> <td>23.</td> </tr> </table> <p>(The original of above appears on the same sheet as entries for previous month and will be found with the diary for that month.)</p>	Officers.	26	O/RKS.	482.		Horses.		Riding.	437	} 469 - Total.			Pack	9			Draught.	23.	
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SWING BRIDGE CAMP	Oct 1 st		Lient Fossett and four other Ranks proceeded to 'ZEITOUN SCHOOL of INSTRUCTION' to undergo instruction for Machine Gun.	
KANTARA WEST			Six other Ranks proceeded for Lewis Gun Course. Two N.C.O.'s for N.C.O.'s Class.	
			All proceeded by 0530 train from KANTARA. Marched in from Train's Regt 2 nd Bn. Holland's	
	3 rd		and twenty two other Ranks.	
	5 th		Marched in from Train's Regiment fifteen other Ranks.	
	7 th		Maj. Batchelar A.P. and Capt. Scott J.O. proceeded to Cavalry School of Instruction ZEITOUN.	
	8 th		Sixty one Remounts arrived.	
			Orders received at about 1815 that Regiment to join up with B'DE at ET MALER.	
	9 th		Remounts issued out at 1000.	
			Began striking tents at 0375, all baggage taken by train to Romani Rls head ready by 1200 and transported on baggage to KANTARA EAST.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct	9 th		<p>Regiment moved out from SWING BRIDGE CAMP at KANTARA WEST at 1600. Arrived at Hill 70 just before 1900. Hosted and fed up here and men had tea. Left again at 2045 for DUEIDAR arriving 2230 and bivouaced for the night.</p>	
	10 th		<p>Lieut TINGEY F 2nd " MANSOR A.J.M. 2nd " BUCHANAN R.H. 2nd " Black E.R.</p> <p>Stago Mts Rifles transferred to Wellington Mounted Rifles, dated 7:9:16. To Hospital Lieut Coleman. W.L. 2nd " Holland. A.</p>	<p>Seconded to M.G. Corps, now transferred to that UNIT, dated 18:9:16</p>
BIR et MALER			<p>Regiment watered and fed up at DUEIDAR. Moved out at 0715 arrived ET MALER 1015 and spent remainder of day in settling down in Camp. A party from A.M.R and C.M.R had already nearly finished pitching tents when we arrived.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 616

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct.	11 ^B		Settling down in Camp	
			G.O.C. Div. visited Camp	
	12 th		<p>Training begun in accordance with the following syllabus 0845 to 0945 Sqd and Troop trainings. Special attention being paid to attack practice, also to the necessity of maintaining touch and making use of all available cover.</p>	
			<p>Lewis Gun Men to report to Lt. Kerish and Signaller to Regimental Signalling Officer.</p>	
			<p>Instructional Classes in Lewis Gun and Signalling work to be carried on as usual under the Lewis Gun & Signalling Officer.</p>	
			<p>1400 to 1500 O/C Squadron to carry on Instructional Classes for their Officers and Sergeants in Map Reading, Compass Bearings and Reconnaissance Reports.</p>	
			<p>Command Capt. Somerville J.A. O/C of 7th Det. 10th</p>	
			<p>Postings: Lieut. Harding M.A. Temp. attached 3001st, as noted Staff Officer.</p>	
			<p>Lieut. Bird R.J. Temp. attached 4th W. & S. 2001.</p>	4

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct.	13 th		Training as per Syllabus (Syllabus includes Lewis Gun firing practice)	
	14 th		Training as per Syllabus	
	15 th		Training as per Syllabus.	
	16 th		Training as per Syllabus	
	17 th		Training as per Syllabus	
	18 th		<p>o/c 6th Sqd. detailed three Patrols of two sections each and the other of one Section to proceed as follows:</p> <p>(a) One Section to proceed BIR-ABU-GOLID, SIR-EL-HAMISAH</p> <p>(b) Two Sections " " BADIER, MI BAYAD, HOD QIR GAFSA</p> <p>(c) Two Sections " " HOD EL-AMOIA, HOD AY-SH, HODS-SAFSA</p> <p>BIR-ABU-THEILA + PATIA.</p> <p>HOD-ED-DHAKAR.</p> <p>in return</p> <p>SAID.</p> <p>Patrols to leave Camp at 0430 and send in written report</p> <p>Training as per Syllabus</p> <p>Two Officers and fifty other ranks proceeded on leave to Port</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118/12

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct.	18 th		In Hospital Maj. Armstrong, J. A.	
	19 th		Training as per Syllabus.	
	20 th		Training as per Syllabus	
	21 st		Training as per Syllabus	
	22 nd		Orders out for ^{outfit} moving to GE'EILA the following day.	
	23 rd		Regiment moved to starting point at 0750 left at 0800,	
	24 th		Regt. ^{FCMR} arrived DGH RATINA at 1210 water & fed up, leaving again at 1320, joining with remnants of BDE. on ROAD. Arrived BIREL ABD 1800 and bivouac here for the night.	
GE'EILA			Capt BAX T.B. & 11 other ranks marched out to Camel Corps. 22-10-16 Left BIREL ABD at 0800 arriving GE'EILA 0945 and settled down in Camp for remainder of day.	
			Camel transport with baggage left ET MALER at 0800 - 23 rd and remained at NEQILAT for the night, arriving GE'EILA on afternoon of 24 th .	
			Lt. Col. MELDROM marched out on leave 23-10-16	
			Capt. Somnerville appointed tent. i/c Regt. 23-10-16	
			Capt. BAX T.B. seconded for duty with Imperial CAMEL	
			Lt. Grant NG. temp i/c of 9 th SQD. vice Capt. Somnerville J.A.	
			Lt. Herrick AD. 6 th Capt. BAX T.B.	

Corps 22/10/16

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct.	25 th		<p>Troop from 2nd Sgd. under Lieut PIERCE ES. detailed to protect party working on Rail way.</p> <p>2nd Sgd. (less 1 Troop) under Lt. Foley detailed for OUTPOST DUTY on night 25th/26th</p> <p>1 N.C.O + 12 other Ranks from 9th Sgd. proceeded to BADA WIL to protect TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY working party.</p> <p>Excavated houses for one hour.</p> <p>Lt. North P.J. tent Commanded 2nd Sgd. 19/10/16 to 22/10/16</p> <p>2nd Lt. Foley W.R. attached tent I/c 2nd Sgd. date 23/10/16</p> <p>Orders out to move to MOSEIFIG the following day.</p>	
	26 th		<p>Carabinieri Mounted Rifles reported about fifty Camel ⁹⁰⁰ in a HOD some five miles ^{S.E.} from WILLEGRA. This made it necessary to put out two listening posts of INCO and six MEN each, one to the EAST & the other N.E. They reported all clear in the morning.</p>	
RECEIVED	27 th		<p>Arrived MOSEIFIG 10</p> <p>for a Camp. 9th Sgd. detailed necessary Observation Posts. 6th Sgd. went out on Outpost DUTY leaves Camp 1915.</p> <p>Camel Transport with Baggage arrived early in afternoon.</p>	

2449 W.L. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.R.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/19.

WAR DIARY

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Army Form 1011/16

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MOSEIFIG. Oct.	28 th 27		<p>LINE.</p> <p>Stand to Arms 0400 until 'all clear' reported, ^{by} OUT POST</p> <p>Two small 'PATROLS' under an N.C.O. left on a reconnaissance -ance of the Country between MOSEIFIG, GANADIL & towards KASSEISA.</p> <p>Objectives to "Locate WELLS"</p> <p>(2) See that the Country is clear.</p> <p>Patrols on reporting return reported all clear. Two WELLS were found one of which was filled in with sand.</p> <p>Lieut Williams left MOSEIFIG at 1200 in Command of two Troops with the object of finding out ^{all about} the water supply at GERERAT, situated some fifteen miles W.S.W of EL ARISH.</p> <p>Regimental Signalling Officer & O/C Field Troop accompanied the PARTY</p> <p>Then orders were to use the following stages</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Bivouac MAZAR on night of 25th 2 Carry out Reconnaissance of GERERAT on 29th return to MAZAR that night 3 And return to MOSEIFIG on 30th 	

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MOSEIFIQ Oct.	28 th		<p>Party left Camp at 1200, a separate Escort was left for Camel Transport, which caused five nations for MEN and HORSES. The Party arrived, at 1700 and withered, then moved some little distance from WELLS and bivouaced for the night.</p> <p>Camel Transport arrived at 2100 + Camped for the night. Souch was not obtained with Auckland Mounted Rifles until 0830, but immediately touch had been obtained. Lieut. Williams + one Troop left for GERERAT, travelling in at N.E. direction until they reached bend in road some 9 3/4 miles from MAZAR. From here they took a bearing nearly due South. They came on sheep and goat tracks shortly after leaving road and decided to follow these which took them to WELLS at GERERAT, time 1320.</p> <p>BEDOUINS were seen to scatter in the distance but owing to horses being done and no time being available nothing could be done with him. The water was found to be good and plentiful, horse drank freely. After obtaining all necessary information about and watering horses, party moved to a point two miles EAST, where they fed up. Moving on again here they arrived MAZAR 1700. Watered and fed up again here and rested until 1830, then moved to a point six miles WEST MAZAR, bivouaced here for night. Left Bivouac next morning 0715 and arrived MOSEIFIQ 1015.</p> <p>Transport remained at MAZAR with one Troop all day 29th until reconnoitered Party arrived back to MAZAR. They left here at 1715 on the 29th bivouaced six miles W. of MAZAR and returned to MOSEIFIQ the next day. Regimental Signaller's Officer kept touch with Brigades + Regt. at MOSEIFIQ.</p>	
		29 th		
		30 th		

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Oct.	28 th		<p>9th Sqn found OUTPOST LINE 9th Day OBSERVATION POSTS. Camel Escort of INCO and 12 MEN to repair BDE Supply Depot found by 6th Sqn.</p>	
	29 th		<p>Observation POSTS 6th (Two Posts of INCO + 2 other Rank each) OUTPOSTS 2nd Sqn. (Full Sqn. where possible)</p>	
	30 th		<p>Observation POSTS 9th Sqn OUTPOSTS 6th Sqn</p>	
	31 st		<p>Marched in Maj. Batchelor A.F. from School of Instruction Capt. Scott J.O. OBSERVATION POSTS 2nd Sqn OUTPOSTS 9th</p>	
			<p>2nd Sqn. detailed 1 officer, INCO + 11 other Rank as an Escort to General Smith</p>	
			<p>Strength end of MONTH: Officers 23 O/Rs 479 (including 100 in 1st Sqn) HORSES: Riding 422, Pack 8, Drains 23 } 453</p>	

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