

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

New Zealand Units

**Item number:** 35/5/16 Part 2

**Title:** Wellington Mounted Rifles Regiment

October 1916 [duplicate]



AWM4-35/5/16PART2

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

WELLINGTON MOUNTED RIFLES.

(Erase heading not required.)

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place

Date

Hour

Oct. 1st.

(Arrived at SWING BRIDGE CAMP 0630) and found Camp already pitched and breakfast ready for all RANKS.

Strength -:

Officers.  
26

O/RKS.  
482.

Horses. Riding.  
Pack  
Draught.

437 }  
9 }  
23. }

469 - Total.

(The original of above appears on the same sheet as entries for previous month and will be found with the diary for that month.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SWING BRIDGE CAMP	Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>		Lieut Fossett and four other ranks proceeded '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.	
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	Marched in from Trainees Regt. 2 Lieut. Holland A	
			and twenty two other ranks.	
		5 <sup>th</sup>	Marched in from Trainees Regiment fifteen other ranks.	
		7 <sup>th</sup>	Maj. Batchelar A.F. and Capt. Scott J.O. proceeded	
			to Cavalry School of Instruction ZEITOUN.	
		8 <sup>th</sup>	Sixty one Remounts arrived.	
			Orders received at about 1815 that Regiment to	
			join up with B DE at ET MALER.	
		9 <sup>th</sup>	Remounts issued out at 1000.	
			Began striking tents at 0515 <sup>hourly</sup> all baggage to go by	
			train to Romani Rly head ready by 1200 and transported on waggon to KANTARA EAST	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 176

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct	9 <sup>th</sup>		(Regiment moved out from SWING BRIDGE CAMP at KANTARA WEST at 1500. Arrived at HILL 70 just before 1900) watered and fed up here and men had tea. (Left again at 2045 for DUEIDAR arriving 2230 and bivouaced for the night)	
	10 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Lieut TINGEY F }                      2<sup>nd</sup> " MANSON A.J.M. } Secured to M.G. Corps, now transferred to                      2<sup>nd</sup> " BUCHANAN R.H. } that UNIT, dated 18:9:16                      2<sup>nd</sup> " Black E.R. Otago Mts Rifles transferred to Wellington Mounted Rifles, dated 7:9:16.</p> <p>To Hospital Lieut Coleman W.L.                      2<sup>nd</sup> " Holland A.</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>	

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Oct.	11 <sup>th</sup>		Settling down in Camp.	
			G.O.C. Div. visited Camp.	
	12 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Training begun in accordance with the following Syllabus                      0945 to 0945 Sqd. and Troop training. 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. Herrick 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 &amp; Signalling Officer.</p> <p>1400 to 1500 O/C Squadrons to carry on the Instructional Classes for their Officers and Sergeants in Map Reading, Compass Bearings and Reconnaissance Reports.</p> <p>Command Capt. Sommerville J.A. temp. i/c of 9<sup>th</sup> Sec. dated 10/10/1918.</p> <p>Postings Lieut. Harding M.A. temp. attached B.C.C. HQ. as acting Staff Officer.</p> <p>Lieut. Bird R.J. temp. attached 9<sup>th</sup> W.M. &amp; S.O.</p>	

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Oct.	13 <sup>th</sup>		Training as per Syllabus (Syllabus included Lewis Gun firing practice)	
	14 <sup>th</sup>		Training as per Syllabus	
	15 <sup>th</sup>		Training as per Syllabus.	
	16 <sup>th</sup>		Training as per Syllabus	
	17 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Training as per Syllabus</p> <p>O/C 6<sup>th</sup> Sqd. details 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-GULID, BIR-EL-HAMISAH BIR-ABU-THAILA + PATIA.</p> <p>(b) Two Sections " " BADIEN, M. BAYAD, HOD QIRGAFFA</p> <p>(c) Two sections " " HOD-EL-AMOIA, HOD-AYISH, HOD-ES-SABIA</p> <p>HOD-ED-DAAKAR.</p> <p>Patrols to leave camp at 0430 and send in written report on return</p>	
	18 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Training as per Syllabus</p> <p>Two Officers and fifty other ranks proceeded on leave to PORT SAID.</p>	

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Oct.	18 <sup>th</sup>		to Hospital Maj. Armstrong, J. A.	
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Training as per Syllabus	
	20 <sup>th</sup>		Training as per Syllabus	
	21 <sup>st</sup>		Training as per Syllabus	
	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Orders out for <sup>Dunjak</sup> moving to GE'EILA the following day.	
GE'EILA	23 <sup>rd</sup>		<p>Regiment moved to starting point at 0750 left at 0800.</p> <p>Regt. <sup>FCMR</sup> arrived DGH RATINA at 1210 watered &amp; fed up (leaving again at 1320, joining with remainder of BDE. on ROAD.</p> <p>Arrived BIREL ABD 1800 and bivouacked here for the night.</p>	
	24 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Capo BAX T. B. &amp; 11 other ranks marched out to Camel Corps. 22-10-16</p> <p>Left BIREL ABD at 0800 arriving GE'EILA 0945.</p> <p>settled down in Camp for remainder of day.</p> <p>Camel Transport with Baggage left ET MALER at 0800 on 23<sup>rd</sup> and remained at NEQILAT for the night, arriving GE'EILA on afternoon of 24<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Lt. Col. MELDROM marched out on leave 23-10-16</p> <p>Capt. Sommerville appointed temp. i/c Regt. 23-10-16</p> <p>Capt. BAX T. B. seconded for duty with Imperial CAMEL</p> <p>Lt. Grant N.G. temp i/c of 9<sup>th</sup> SQD. vice Capt. Sommerville J. A.</p> <p>Lt. Herrick AD. 6<sup>th</sup> Capt. BAX T. B.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Oct.	25 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Troop from 2<sup>nd</sup> S qd. under Lieut PIERCE ES. detailed to protect party working on Rail way.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> S qd. (less 1 Troop) under Lt FOLEY detailed for OUTPOST DUTY on night 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup></p> <p>1 N.C.O + 12 other Ranks from 9<sup>th</sup> S qd. proceeded to BABAWIL to protect TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY's working party.</p> <p>Exercised horses for one hour</p>	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Lt North P.J. took Commanded 2<sup>nd</sup> S qd. 19/10/16 to 22/10/16</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Foley W.R. appointed temp I/C 2<sup>nd</sup> S qd date 23/10/16</p> <p>Orders out to move to MOSEIFIG the following day.</p> <p>Canteenry Mounted Rifles reported about fifty Camel Men in a HOD some five miles <sup>S.E.</sup> 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>	
MOSEIFIG	27 <sup>th</sup>	15 31 <sup>st</sup>	<p>(Left GE'EILA at 0800) 9<sup>th</sup> S qd. acted as Advance guard, put down Hoises Lines and generally settled down for a Camp. 9<sup>th</sup> S qd. detailed necessary Observation Posts. 6<sup>th</sup> S qd. went out on OUTPOST DUTY leaving Camp 1915.</p> <p>Camel Transport with Baggage arrived early in afternoon.</p>	

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MOSEIFIG. Oct.	<del>28</del> 27		<p>Stand to Arms 0400 until 'all clear' reported <sup>by</sup> OUT POST</p> <p>Two small 'PATROLS' under an N.C.O. left on a reconnaissance of the country between MOSEIFIG, GANADIL &amp; towards KASSEIBA.</p> <p>Objectives: (1) Locate WELLS (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 <sup>on 28<sup>th</sup></sup> in command of two Troops with the object of finding <sup>all about</sup> out the water supply at GERERAT, situated some fifteen miles W.S.W. of EL ARISH.</p> <p>Regimental Signalling Officer &amp; O/C Field Troop accompanied the PARTY.</p> <p>Their orders were to use the following stages</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bivouac MAZAR on night of 28<sup>th</sup></li> <li>2. Carry out Reconnaissance of GERERAT on 29<sup>th</sup> &amp; return to MAZAR that night</li> <li>3. And return to MOSEIFIG on 30<sup>th</sup></li> </ol>	

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MOSEIFIG Oct.	28 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Party left Camp at 1200, a separate Escort was left for Camel Transport, which caused fine nations for MEN and HORSES. (The Party arrived at 1700) and watered, then moved some little distance from WELLS and bivouaced for the night.</p> <p>Camel Transport arrived at 2100 + Camped for the night.</p> <p>Touch was not obtained with Auckland Mounted Rifles until 0830, but immediately touch had been obtained Lieut. Williams + <sup>one Troop</sup> (On 29<sup>th</sup>) (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.</p> <p>The water was found to be good and plentiful, horses drank freely. (After obtaining all necessary information) Party and watering horses, party moved to a point two miles EAST, where they fed up. (THEY MOVED) 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 MOSEIFIG 1015.)</p> <p>Transport remained at MAZAR with one Troop all day 29<sup>th</sup> until noon when Party arrived back to MAZAR. They left here at 1715 on the 29<sup>th</sup> bivouaced six miles W. of MAZAR and returned to MOSEIFIG the next day. Regimental Signaller Officer kept touch with Brigades &amp; Regts. at MOSEIFIG.</p>	

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Oct.	28 <sup>th</sup>		<p>9<sup>th</sup> Sqd. found OUTPOST LINE                      9<sup>th</sup> Day OBSERVATION POSTS.                      Camel Escort of INCO and 12 MEN to report BDE.                      Supply Depot found by 6<sup>th</sup> Sqd.</p>																
	29 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Observation POSTS 6<sup>th</sup> (Two Posts of INCO + 2 other Rank &amp; File)                      OUTPOSTS 2<sup>nd</sup> Sqd. (Full Sqd. when possible)</p>																
	30 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Observation POSTS 9<sup>th</sup> Sqd                      OUTPOSTS 6<sup>th</sup> Sqd.                      Marched in Maj. Batchelar A.F. from School of Instruction                      Capt. Scott J.O.</p>																
	31 <sup>st</sup>		<p>OBSERVATION POSTS - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sqd                      OUTPOSTS - 9<sup>th</sup>                      2<sup>nd</sup> Sqd. detailed 1 Officer INCO + 11 other Rank &amp; File</p>																
	2 <sup>nd</sup>		<p>Escort to General Smith                      During the month                      Training was carried on                      + patrols + escorts supplied by Regt.</p>																
			<p>Strength end of MONTH:</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Officers</td> <td>23</td> <td>O/RKS</td> <td>479</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HORSES</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Riding</td> <td>422</td> <td></td> <td rowspan="2">453</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pack</td> <td>8</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="font-size: small; margin-left: 20px;">(Includes 20 pack left behind near 4)                      + 10 pack of horses</p>	Officers	23	O/RKS	479	HORSES				Riding	422		453	Pack	8		
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