

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/42/1 Part 3

Title: General Staff, Headquarters 1st
Australian Division

August 1914 - April 1915



AWM4-1/42/1PART3

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Aug 16 th 1914.	Melbourne	Took up duties as ADC to G.O.C 1 st Austn Division	
Aug 16 to October 21	}	Organizing and equipping Divisional Hdqrs Unit and also travelling with G.O.C to 2 nd & 4 th Military Districts - Considerable difficulty experienced in obtaining equipment	
Oct 21	Melbourne	2:30pm Staff A.I.F embarked on Transport A. 3. ORVIETO, Railway Pier, Port Melbourne. H.E. The for General down to see G.O.C off. 3pm Transport sailed.	

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Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Oct 22 nd	At sea 10am Meeting of Hdqrs Staff as to work (a) to be completed (b) to be put in hand.	
	12 noon Lat 38° 33' S Long 140° 35' E. Fine, Sea smooth.	
23	" 10am Lat 37° 42' S Long 134° 21' E. Fine, Sea smooth.	
24	" " " 36° 40' S " 128° 26' E. " "	
25	" " " 35° 46' S " 122° 29' E. Sea rising towards end of day.	
26	King George Sound 8am Arrived, anchored - Sea rough; tugs finding difficulty in getting alongside - Transport arrived.	
	10am Capt Silver H.M.A.S. Melbourne Called on G.O.C. also Warden and Jc Garrison	
	pm Orders 32/36 distributed to ships.	

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3

Date:	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
27-X-14	KGS	San Oviato moved into Prince's Royal Harbour - weather rough - rain falling 4 p. JOC inspects Pt Lincoln and Euripides (Transports) 28 Australian & 10 NZ Transports and 4 gunboats in Harbour. Gunboats - Abouki (Jap), Minotaur (China Station), Sydney & Melbourne 10 a. Conference of JOC's Transports on Oviato. JOC & Gen Godley exchanged visits.

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46

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
29. 7. 14	KGS.	10am	FOC inspected Shropshire and Argyllshire. Capt. Kiddie - HMS Minotaur called on FOC.
30. 7. 14	"	11am	FOC returns call of Capt. Kiddie.
31. 7. 14	"	11pm	Went ashore to collect details left returned at 1pm on 1-11-14.
1. 11. 14	"	6am	Orvieto led the fleet out of King George Sound. Sunny morning. Fleet moved out in 3 lines - 1 st line headed by Orvieto - 2 nd by Wiltshire & 3 rd by Europeans. 12 noon. Lat 35° 15' S Long 117° 29' E. Fine smooth.

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Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 2	at Sea Mon	Lat 33° 32' S Long 113° 53' E Sea rising. Naval Convoy Escort consists of Minotaur Melbourne & Sydney.
3	" "	Lat 30° 21' S Long 111° 49' E Sea rough. Convoy joined by Hukki (Jap) with Kevic & Ascension at 4 pm.
4	" Mon	Lat 27° 20' S Long 109° 29' E. Run 219 miles.
5	" "	" 24° 4' S " 106° 50' E " 242 " Orient Mail Steamer Deterley joined Obsc to Convoy at about 7 pm.
6	" "	Lat 20° 38' S Long 104° 11' E - Run 253 miles.
7	" "	" 17° 12' " " 101° 35' " 253 "

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6

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 8	Alsea Jan	"Minotaur" parted company with escort- Melbourne took charge.
	from	Lat 13° 55' S Long 99° 23' E - Run 234 miles. weather - moderate swell.
9	" 9.30	HMAS "Sydney" engaged and sank German Cruiser "Emden".
	from	Lat 10° 52' S Long 96° 52' E - Run 239 miles
10	" 8.11	" 93° 39' " 249 "
11	" 5.30	Captain Silver, HMAS Melbourne Came alongside and had interview with JOC - Melbourne parted company - Burke in charge.
	from	Lat 2° 27' S Long 87° 34' E Run 260 miles

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7

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 12.	Alaca 1.45p	Empress of Asia passed convey freight Cocos Is. She is auxiliary armed merchant cruiser.
13	" 7.30a	HMS Hampshire joined convey and left again at 9 am with N. 3 ships and HMS T Rangitira, Karroo & Anglo Egyptian for Colombo.
13	"	Lat $6^{\circ}37'N$ Long $84^{\circ}48'E$ - Run 248 miles
14	"	" $3^{\circ}35'N$ " $82^{\circ}16'E$ " 234 "
15	"	" $6^{\circ}45'N$ " $79^{\circ}47'E$ " 244 "
	Colombo 1.30p	Arrived at Colombo. Capt. Kato of Jap. cruiser "Huski" called on GOC.

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8

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 16.	Colombo.	<p> JOC calls on "Itaki" & Governor of Ceylon. - German prisoners from Emden sent on board Orville & Omrah between 3 & 4 pm. Also visits Hampshire and Sydney with JOC. </p>
17	11:30 am	<p> Convoy escorted by Hampshire and her the four 3rd Division sailed for Aden. remainder to leave at 6 pm. </p>
18	<p> noon Lat 6° 59' N Long 79° 46' E. Run 44 miles. </p> <p> am JOC interviewed Capt. Von Mecklen, late of Emden. </p> <p> noon Lat 7° 47' N Long 75° 39' E. Run 250 miles. </p>	

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9

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 19 20	Aden	Lat 9° 7' N - Long 71° 53' E. Run 237 miles Lat 10° 9' N " 67° 43' E " 254 "	
21		news meeting - J.W. H. de la - 4 ships of New Zealand Convoy & the 3 rd Division of Austr. Convoy passed about 6 pm on the Aden to Coor & water. During the night 20/21 "Ascensus" Collided with "Shropshire" - Slight damage both ships - no loss of life.	
22	won	Lat 11° 20' N Long 63° 23' E Run 265 miles "Hampshire" came alongside & JOC went on board & conferred with Capt of Hampshire Hampshire as Convoy Commandant Generally as Aden	

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10

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 22	At sea	Lat 12° 7' N Long 59° 5' E Run 257 miles
23	"	" 12° 53' " 54° 32' " 269 "
25	Alder 7.46am	Oriskany & Hampshire proceeded ahead at 15 knots - run ahead to follow. Arrived Alder - Run 295 miles. Remains of Convoy arrived in afternoon. Called on Resident for JOC - O/C Troop. even Called on JOC at 6 pm.
26	" 6am	Complete Convoy sailed for Suez - escorted by Hampshire - & accompanied by NZ Transport - farewell message exchanged with Huke, which is ordered to Pacific.
	At sea	Lat 12° 31' N Long 44° 0' E Run 66 miles.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 27	Red Sea hom	Lat 15° 47' N Long 41° 35' E. Run 262 miles Calm & hot.	
		11-44p Wireless received that Austin & N 3 were to disembark at Egypt & proceed to front from there.	
28	"	Orville pushed on to Suez at 17 knots	
29	Suez	10/30am Arr Suez - D. A. Omer, Egypt (Maj Broadbent) came on board with disembarkation orders. - representation of Div HQ & Brigades ordered to proceed to Cairo to assist at Camping ground	

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Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nov 30	Suez 2/30pm	Left for Pt Said -
Dec 1	Pt Said 7am	Arrived -
2	" 8am	1 Coy 5 th Inf B attn to Cairo to assist at Camp. - German prisoners handed over to Stanpotwin.
	Cairo 12/20	Left with Col for Cairo - Arr 4/30pm Saw Maj Gasford & Maj Broadbent re arrangements.
3	Cairo 10am	Went to Pyramids and arranged Camp Site of Div Hqs. - left for Alexandria at 4/20pm Arr 10pm
4	Alexandria 8am	2 Bnt atked Div Hqs. and left for Cairo at 12:30pm - Div Unit following in troops train - met them at Cairo at 8pm and took them & all stores to Mena - Completed by 11pm.

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13

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 5	Mena		Arranging Hodge's Camp & Office.
6	"		Div Hodge's Staff into Camp.
7	"		Completing Camp arrangements. JOC came on High Commission & Gen McEwen.
8	"	10am	JOC came into Camp & took command.
9	"	Am	Gen Godley came on JOC.
Dec 10	"		Major Blaney came into Camp.
12	"		JOC interviewed JOC Egypt re establishment of Base Depot.
13	"		Disembarkation Alexandria reports complete.
14	"		Major Villiers Stuart JOC II on Gen Berdwood's Staff reported for temporary duty.

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Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 17	Home	Maj Gaspari No II Sick.
18	"	" " in hospital.
20	Cairo	GOC accompanied by Capt. Fother attended accession of Hussein I as Sultan of Egypt. 2 Bata ^{2 Bata} Infantry (Austrian) arrived to line streets.
21	"	Maj William Stuart left to join Gen Birdwood's Staff.
		4/30 pm Gen Birdwood's Staff arrived from India - met by G.O.C.
22	Home 10 am	Gen Birdwood inspected Camp.
23	Cairo 4 am	GOC, Col White & Capt. Fother attended march past of NZ Troops in Cairo.
		Gen Maxwell took the Salute. - 1 st Lt H. B. also went past.

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15

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 24	Cairo. 4/30pm	High Commissioner for Australia, accompanied by Col Buckley & Mr. Leath, arrived. Lt Plant sent to Alexandria on 23/12/14 to arrange and meet him.
25	Mena	General from Birdwood & Staff visited Camp.
	3/15pm	Sir Geo Reid visited Camp and stated that Lord Kitchener had definitely promised that the A.I. 7 Shores go straight to the front from Egypt.

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16

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 26.	Mena	Dir Orders announced Lt Coly Organization as from 1/1/15.
27	"	Major Gasford returned to duty.
30	"	2/30p Sir Geo Reid addressed 1 st & 2 nd Lt Bde who afterwards marched past - Gen Maxwell also present.
31	"	9/30p Sir Geo Reid addressed remainder of troops - Gen Maxwell and Reidwood also present.
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17

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Jan 1 st 1915	Mena	Colonel White reported sick.	
Jan 2	Cairo pm	Go C at Army Corps Hqrs. * Interview with Gen Birdwood.	
Jan 4	Mena	Amendment to War Establishment Tables issued 29/1/15.	D.O. 22 of 4/1/15.
Jan 5	Mena	Machine gun Courses (special) started.	D.O. 26.
6	"	Staff Captain apptd to brigade	D.O. 1111 No. 3
9	"	Syllabus of lectures to be given by Officers of Army Corps Staff promulgated.	
12	"	Practice Ammunition fixed at 3000 per gun + 75 per rifle (mgs included).	

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18

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Jan 15	Mena	Route march of $\frac{1}{3}$ of Div.	D.O. No 30.
19	"	" " " $\frac{1}{3}$ " " "	
		Div Hdqrs Unit also marched	D.O. 34/38.
20	"	Div Artillery commenced elementary practice field firing.	
25	"	Courses of instruction in Scouting commenced	D.O. 40 - per 339
27	"	Above courses cancelled - Lt Brown recalled to his Regt.	

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19

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Feb 1	Mena	March of $\frac{1}{3}$ of Division. Training hours laid down.	D.O. 46 par 382. D.O. 47 " 391.
Feb 3	"	Undermentioned units detailed to proceed to Kinnaird:- 2 nd Infantry Bde (less 2 Battns). Brigade Section Div Signal Coy. Supply details of 1 Coy ASC Div Train.	D.O. 49. para 1-5.
Feb 4	Mena	Field firing carried out by 1 st Infantry Brigade.	
Feb 8 + 9	Gezira Bulez	Attached to Directing Staff - Army Corps of Signal Exercise with units of Australian NZ Army Corps.	

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20

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Feb 11	Mena ^{all day}	French mission visited Camp and remained all day.
12	Beni Yusef	1 st Infantry Brigade moved out for Brigade Training.
15	Sakkara	With 1 st Infantry Brigade - Brigade Carried out all night manoeuvres.
16	Mena	With 3 rd Infantry Brigade - ^{night} attack Carried out 10 miles from Camp on "Tiger's Tooth" returned to camp at 3 am 17/15
18	Ismailia	Left Camp at 7 am - visited defensive works at Kantara, Ismailia & Tousson - returned to Mena mid night.

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21.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Feb 20	EL TALAH	Signal Exercise of Divisional Units carried out. - Div HQ/215	
21	Mandi Helwan	With JOC - visited 2 nd & 4 th Bde Camp at Mandi & afterwards inspected Country around Helwan in view of Div Exercise.	
26	EL TALAH	Continuation of Signal exercise of 20/21/15.	
28	here	3 rd Inf Bde - details left camp for Cairo via Cairo for Alexandria - destination unknown.	Div Order 717 26-2-15

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mena. EGYPT.	1915. Mar. 1st to 31st.		<p>1-3-15. Entrainment of 3rd Brigade completed.</p> <p>remainder of Division was exercised Continually throughout the month, principally in night operations.</p> <p>(Original of above written on same sheet as entry for beginning of subsequent month & filed with volume for that month).</p>	

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Apr 10	Wren	Transport left at 6.30 am for LEMNOS.
12 th	Lemnos 7.30	Arrived Lemnos.
13	" 9.30	Joc 1 st Aust Div explained plan of operation to Staff.
	5.40	Joc, Gen Staff, Col Bde & Bde. embarked on HMS Queen and reconnoitred coast of GALLIOLI.
14	"	Assisted with landing of 1 st Inf Bde.
16	"	Landing operations practised by brigade.
17-18	"	Landing operations continued.
19	"	Landing operations continued - Conference on board HMS MINNEAPOLIS.

C.11054.

Date.	Place and Time.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Mar 1 st - 31 st	here, Egypt	1-3-15 Continues of 3 rd Brigade completes. Remainder of Division has exercises continuously throughout the month, principally in night operation.
April 1 st		Training continues - orders for embarkation of Division received.
4		Horses of Divisional Headquarters sent down to Alexandria to be embarked on H.M.T. MINNEWASKA.
5-9		Personnel of Headquarters left at intervals remainder on 9 th and embarked on H.M.T. MINNEWASKA at Alexandria on same evening at 4.30 pm.

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Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		<p>Operation Order No 1 + Distribution Orders issued and explained to Cos. - Special instructions issued to O/c 3rd Inf Bde.</p>	
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Triplicate

WAR DIARY

A.D.C. to G.O.C., 1ST. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Date	Place and Time	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, &c., attached.
April 23	Lemnos 8 pm.	G.O.C. and Staff went on board the H.M.S. Prince of Wales.	
24	"	"Prince of Wales" left Lemnos at 2 p.m. for Gallipoli Peninsula, arriving opposite the point of landing at 2 p.m.	
25	Gallipoli Peninsula 4 am.	3rd Infantry Brigade acting as covering force landed at 4 ^a pm. This point was 1½ miles above place originally selected - the error was fortunate as just North of KAPA TEPE (spot originally selected), the approaches were heavily entangled. The third Brigade made a successful landing and the 1st and 2nd Brigades were landed immediately after. The warships opened a very heavy fire which materially assisted the advance. During the landing, the beach was under shell fire from KAPA TEPE. This battery was silenced on the afternoon of the 26th. Heavy fighting took place all day and at 6 pm., a line 1300 yards from the shore and closing in about ¾ mile on either side of the landing to the shore, was made good.	
April 26	Gallipoli	Line was slightly advanced on the right - heavy firing continued throughout the night - visited firing line of 2nd. Infantry Brigade holding the right. Stores from ships continued to be landed regularly notwithstanding heavy shrapnel fire on beach. Turks made several counter-attacks during the night but retired immediately our men came out of trenches - so far it is evident that they do not like the bayonet.	
27	"	No advance of line made but men are now digging in and improving the line everywhere.	

A.D.C. to G.O.C., 1ST. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Date	Place and Time	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, etc., attached.
April 27		Food and water is being taken up to the firing line regularly. Everywhere they found abundance and the men are being fed well. No change in situation - 2 Battalions of R.M.L.I. landed and taken up to the firing line to relieve portion of 3rd Brigade. During the night, they were driven out of their trenches but were reinforced and retook them again. Ships were shelling enemy's position.all day.	
April 28		Indian mountain Batteries are doing splendid work.	