

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

New Zealand Units

Item number: 35/1/29

Title: Headquarters New Zealand Mounted
Rifles Brigade

September 1917



AWM4-35/1/29

WAR DIARY

NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE

PLACE	DATE HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
	1917		
	Sept		
	1st	Training as per syllabus. 50 horses for Bde picked out. Reinforcements out of Isolation, Major Hulbert & Capt Grant Capt Herrold & 6 O/Rs to Bde. Lt From reported in camp on leave.	
	2nd	Camp Inspection by O/C. Major Munro reported in camp from PORT SAID rest camp.	
	3rd.	Training suspended. Posting Reinforcements and strikinh Isolation camp. 39 O/Rs ICC to ABBASSIA CAIRO. Conducting Offocer Lieut Sparrow 1350 train. 9 O/R Sig Troop to Alex.	
	4th	Training as per syllabus. Tpr Pace remanded for FGCM Summary taken by Lt Stewart, Cpl Grant reported in camp for duty on Cadre. Lt Sparrow returned from CAIRO.	
	5th	Training as per syllabus. Reserve Sqdn. paraded at 0700 for inspection by Commandant Lt Col., Spragg visited Camp.	
	6th	Training as per syllabus. Capt Reid detailed as a member of FGCM in the case of Pacey. Capt Matthias attend for instruction. Major Hurst & Lt Cawle called in en route to Bde.	
	7th	Training as per syllabus. Lt Manners to CAIRO with Canteen money. Lt E.S. Fossett WMR. marched in from Hospital. five Cadet Officers returned from CAIRO. Casting of horse 17915 Brn Geld. 1/2 draught evacuated to Remount Depot.	
	8th	Training as per syllabus. Lt Couper reported from Hospital. P.B.I. Lt Manners returned from CAIRO,	
	9th	Church Parade 0900. Camp inspection by O.C. 0940. 50 Horses despatched to Bde by 0830 train. Lieut Chapmen & 25 O.Rs in charge. Capt Kettle reported en route to TEL EL KABIR.	
	10th	Training as per syllabus. Capt Bidr left for interview with G.O.C.	
	11th	Training as per syllabus. 50 Horses from Bde arrived at 1700 fairly fit. A Fire ocured in a tent occupied by Lts Berrell & Bosworth, tent completely destroyed, both Officers losing considerable kit. Lt Wade reported from 14 A.G. Hosptl. A Board Major Anstead President held to enquire into fire and report on fire which destroyed tent occupied by Lieuts. Birrell & Bosworth.	

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NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.

Place	Date Hour.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices.
	1917		
	Sept		
	12th	Training as per syllabus. Confidential report on Lt Chapman posted to G.O.C.	
	13th	Col. Chaytor visited camp. Brig Gen., Watson from G.H.Q. visited camp re Instructor.	
	14th	Training as per syllabus. Lt Stewart to replace Capt Bird on Cadre for WMR 1 Off., 1 O/R 25 AMR. 22 24 CMR, 29 MGS, 1 Off., 1 O/R F.Amb. 8 O/Rs Rarotongans. Capt Reid returned with Pay.	
	15th	Training as per syllabus. Syllabus of training posted to G. Staff, GHQ Cairo, Major Whitehorn, Lts Sparrow & Rorde attended 26th Sat Hosp. for board. Lt Studholme from School of Instruction Major Whitehorn & Lt Manners 24 hours leave to PORT SAID.	
	16th	Kit inspection. Major Whitehorn & Lt Manners returned from PORT SAID. Lt Levin reported from Hosp.	
	17th	Training as per syllabus. Lt Wade member for board of Enquiry.	
	18th	Training as per syllabus. Lt Couper detailed as member on FGCM. Lt Chapman for Instruction. Major Northern reported in camp en route to CAIRO.	
	19th	Training as per syllabus. Marched out to Bde. Lt Besley AMR, CMR 12 O/Rs. WMR 25 O/Rs, NZFTroop 7 O/Rs NZMF 7 , 8 O/Rs.	
	20th	Training as per syllabus. The C in C inspected troops at work. Lt Wade to Alex, in connection with Board of Enquiry.	
	21st	Training as per syllabus. Capt. Bird to Bde. 4 Riding horses transferred to Remount Depot.	
	22nd	Training as per syllabus. Lt Cowl reported in camp. Major Wells arrived to take over duties of Chief Instructor.	
	23rd.	Lt Manners to CAIRO. re leave. Lt Stewart attended orderly room preparatory to taking over Adjutant C.O. inspected camp. Lt Chapman 2/Lt Evans marched out to Imperial School of Instruction (Cav Course) Lts Stewart (AMR) Pierce (WMR) passed through en route to Imperial School of Instruction. Lieut Wade returned.	

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NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE

Place	Date	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
	1917			
	Sept			
	24th		Training as per syllabus. Lt Menners returned from CAIRO. re board of Enquiry. 2/Lt Johnston (AMR) & Mathias (CMR) reported. Capt Mathias & Lt Mathias to CAIRO on leave.	
	25th		Training as per syllabus. Capt Crossley marched out to Bde. Br Mare 3179 destroyed and struck off strength. Lt Sparrow representative on Cinema meeting.	
	26th		Training as per syllabus. (Field Day) Draft marched out to Bde., AMR 16 O/Rs, CMR 16 O/Rs, WMR 12 O/Rs, Field Troop 1, Sig Troop 1, NZVC 1, 2/Lt Berryman in charge. 1 Off., 20 O/Rs of 25, 26, 27, 28, Refts marched in, party left in COLOMBO. Major Whitehorn to CAIRO. 2/Lt Johnston to Cairo for pay.	
	27th		Training as per syllabus. Major Ranstead inspected and addressed details of 25/26 Refts who were afterwards posted to Regts. Draft marched out to Bde., AMR 1 Off 4 O/Rs, CMR 1 Off., 3 O/Rs, WMR 3 O/Rs, Bde HQ 2 O/Rs, Band 5 O/Rs, Rarotongans 4 O/Rs, Somerset H.A. 2 O/Rs, Lt Wade reported back from CAIRO, Capt & 2/Lt Mathias reported back from CAIRO, Lt Manners on leave to ALEXANDRIA.	
	28th		Training as per syllabus. Lt Berryman reported back from RAFA. Lt Johnston returned from CAIRO with pay, Camp paid. Lt Wade marched out to Brigade.	
	29th		Training as per syllabus. 10 men posted to ASC, Capt Johnston NZVC reported. Lts Levin & Johnston to Imperial School of Instruction. Capt Grant & Lt Murchison to PORT SAID on leave. Major Whitehorn returned from CAIRO.	
	30th		C.O. inspected camp, Lt Murray marched through en route to PORT SAID. 2/Lts Berryman & Bosomworth marched out to Imperial School of Instruction, CAIRO. Lieut Sparrow to CAIRO on leave.	

WAR DIARY.

X WELLINGTON MOUNTED RIFLES REGIMENT.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
Beach) MARAKEB)	1/9/17		The Brigade was in reserve at MARAKEB. Regimental Training continued. All ranks received instruction in Musketry, Hotchkiss Gun, Bombing and Gas.	
	2/9/17		Lt-Col J. FINDLAY C.B. D.S.O., assumed command of the Brigade vice Brig-Gen W. Meldrum C.M.G. D.S.O., evacuated to Hospital. Regimental Training continued.	
	3rd/8th) Sept)		Regimental Training continued.	
	9/9/17		Regimental Training continued. Inspection of all rifled by Divisional Armourer.	
	10/9/17		Regimental Training continued.	
	13/9/17		Brigade Rifle meeting was held. Winners Match No 1 Trooper Kennedy (C.M.R.) 1st. Tpr Eccles (MGS) 2nd Tpr Sharp (WMR) 3rd Match No2 Tpr Neal (CMR) 1st Tpr Sharp (WMR) 2nd Tpr Jeans (AMR) 3rd Match No 3 Tpr Thompson (CMR) 1st Tpr Eccles (MGS) 2nd Tpr Marshall (CMR) 3rd. BRIGADE CHAMPIONSHIP, Tpr Sharp (WMR) 1st Tpr Eccles (MGS) 2nd Tpr Thompson (CMR) 3rd. Match No 5 Squadron Teams match, 3rd Squadron (AMR) 1st. 1st Squadron (CMR) 2nd.. Match No 6 Squadron Teams Match, Brigade Headquarters & Signal Troop 1st. 11th Squadron (AMR) 2nd Match No 7 Regimental Teams. W.M.R. 1st, A.M.R. 2nd Match No 8, Officers Teams, Canterbury M.R. 1st.	
	14/9/17		Regimental Training Continued.	
	15/9/17		Brigade was inspected by the General Officer commanding Desert Mtd Corps.	
	16/9/17)		Regimental Training continued.	
	17/9/17)			
FUKHARI	18/9/17		The Brigade was ordered to move to FUKHARI where it would remain in the support line. The Brigade moved at 0800, arriving at FUKHARI at 1030. Relieving the 4th Light Horse Brigade.	
	19/9/17		No Training was carried out owing to severe dust storm which prevailed all day.	
	20/9/17		Regimental Training continued. Attached orders in case of attack marked "A" issued	

Ref Map Rafa 1/125-000

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WAR DIARY.

			N.Z. MOUNTED RIFLES BRIGADE.	
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
	1917			
FUKHARI	Sept	28th	The Brigade was inspected by the Commander in chief. General BUTLER D.V.S. inspected the horses of the Brigade during the afternoon.	
	"	29th	All Officers attended a Brigade Staff ride in the direction of GHABI.	
	"	30th	Regimental Training continued.	

(Sgd) S.C.P. Nichools. Major
Bgde Major
N.Z.M.R. Bgde.

N.Z.M.R. Brigade Order No 35.

REFERENCE MAPS:-

RAFA 1/125,000

BEERSHEBA 1/125,000

20th September 1917

1. In case of attack the Anzac Mtd Division will assemble at once at EL MELEK, where it will remain ready to operate against the enemy's left flank as soon as opportunity occurs.

2. The forming up place of the Brigade will be on the ground pointed out to Adjutants, south of C.M.R. lines.

The Brigade will form up in line of Regimental masses, from left to right as follows:-

Brigade Headquarters
Signal Troop
Canterbury M.R. Regt.
Wellington M.R. Regt.
Auckland M.R. Regt.
Machine Gun Squadron
Mounted Field Ambulance.

The Canterbury M.R. Regt's left will rest on the road crossing the railway 300 yards NORTH WEST of No 3 REDOUBT.

3. From this point the Brigade will advance from the left and march to a point to be pointed out to Adjutants at EL MELAK.

4. Immediately orders are received to turn out the action of the Brigade will be as follows:,

Saddle up, Turn out, Water and march to forming up place. Directly Regiments are turned out a representative of each Unit will report to Brigade Headquarters.

In Watering care must be taken that Regiments do not cross the Regiments of the 1st and 2nd Light Horse Brigades, when going or returning from, water.

Note. Should the Brigade have to turn out between the hours of 19 and 0530 horses will not be watered.

5. It is essential that representatives of each Squadron should visit the forming up place and reconnoitre the route they will march to it, so that they can find their way to it without loss of time by day or night.

6. In addition to the unexpended portion of the days rations, and on iron ration, all ranks will carry twenty four hours fodder on the horse.

Care should be taken to see that all water bottles are full.

7. The Brigade Transport will collect the two days emergency rations one days emergency forage, water, firewood, and any other articles for G.S. waggons from Unit Lines and have all G.S. waggons drawn up on the Brigade Transport lines ready to move on receipt of Orders.

8. Units will take their pumps and troughs with them on the limbers.

9. The Dury Regiment will detail an Officer to remain as O/C Camp Detail Each Unit will detail guards to look after their Camp.

(Sgd)

S.C.P. Nicholls.

Bgde Major,
N.Z.M.R. Bgde.