

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/56/1 Part 5

Title: General Staff, Headquarters Imperial
Mounted Division

March 1917



AWM4-1/56/1PART5

A 35/104

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Appen. 21

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20-3-17

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~~APPEN. 21 MOUNTED DIVISION~~
IMPERIAL MOUNTED DIVISION ✓
53rd DIVISION.
52nd DIVISION.

Herewith summary of reconnaissance reports
of the area - North: The sea; West: The Frontier;
South: a line drawn through EL AEREISA and TEL EL
FARA; East: The Wadi GHUZZE. ^{tracing} Map referred to in para. 2
5 will be forwarded as soon as ready.

C. F. Fahame Capt

19th March 1917.

for Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff,
DESERT COLUMN.

B

APP. 21
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Report of COUNTRY in area ABASAN EL KEBIR - TEL
EL JEMMI - WADI GHUZZE - TEL EL FARA - EL MELEK
- ABASAN EL KEBIR. (From reports dated 14/3/17)

(Water is the subject of a separate
report).

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MAR 1917

Summary of Reports of 32nd Mounted Brigade of the area
bounded by the road from ABASAN EL KEBIR to TEL EL JEMMI on the
North, by the WADI GHUZZE on the East, by the road from KARM
IBN MUSLEH just North of EL SHA'UTH to TEL EL FARA on the South,
and a North and South line through the M of EL MELEK on the West.

1. ROADS:

- (a) WELI SHEIKH NURAN - SHELLAL good for all arms. 25' wide
- (b) Tracks shown in the area are fit for wheeled transport.
Those in the area East of ABU SITTA show little wear.
- (c) Road from TEL EL FARA to WELI SHEIKH NURAN, 10' wide,
and much cut up by passage of guns.
- (d) Track from EL SHA'UTH to TEL EL FARA, 15' wide, passable
for all arms.

2. SUPPLIES & GRAZING.

Large patches of cultivation, mainly barley, in poor
condition reported in area about WELI SHEIKH NURAN.

3. FLOCKS & HERDS.

N I L.

4. INHABITANTS.

Few seen. Seem friendly.

5. OBSERVATION POSTS.

- (a) Long distance. WELI SHEIKH NURAN.
- (b) Artillery - personal by C.O.
The ridge running N.E. from ruin at point 330 through
KARM ABU EL HISEIA.

6. COUNTRY.

Suitable for all arms except -

- (a) About ABU BAKRA and North of GOZ EL SLEIB where it is cut
into dongas, about 10' deep, and
- (b) Where the Turkish trenches are about WELI SHEIKH NURAN.

7. WADI GHUZZE.

- (a) Width. Bed of stream 30 to 80 yards. From edge to edge
of WADI X. from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.
- (b) Depth. About ABU BAKRA, 15 - 20 feet, about TEL EL FARA
50 feet and precipitous.
- (c) Crossings.
 - i. In the half mile of bank south of point 210 TEL EL
JEMMI.
 - ii. Where the valley just south of ABU BAKRA meets the
WADI.
 - iii. South of the E in EL in KARIM ABU EL HISEIA.

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- iv. Where track just North of the WELI SHEIKH NURAN - EL SHELLAL road crosses the Wadi.
- v. At EL SHELLAL and neighbourhood, exact spot could be selected with little trouble. See also report No. 4 para 2, for detailed description.
- vi. $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile North of TEL EL FARA.
- vii. $\frac{1}{4}$ mile North of TEL EL FARA.
- viii. TEL EL FARA itself. The track has been destroyed at this place on the West bank.

The west bank is usually more difficult to negotiate than the East.

(d) Approaches: There is nothing to make approaches difficult anywhere except the country about ABU BAKRA, and just South of KARIM UM EL HISSIA which is cut up by dongas.

(e) Bottom. Bed of stream hard and good, consisting of sand and stones.

(f) Quicksands. None.

(g) Dominating Bank. West Bank dominates East as far as ABU BAKRA, then east dominates West as far as point 510. Banks level from there as far as EL SHELLAL, after which West bank dominates East.

(h) Water. Some surface water found. Digging tried to 4' about ABU BAKRA with no result. The Wadi came down in spate and stopped further reconnaissance of bed.

(j) Covered approaches. Troops would certainly be seen crossing the ABU KHATLI Ridge.

(k) Dominating positions on East Bank. To a certain extent high ground crosses the Wadi dominates the crossings about ABU BAKRA, thence nothing on this bank dominates the West bank.

(l) Dominating points on West Bank.

- (i) Point 210 TEL EL JEMMI. It is 80' above opposite side.
- (ii) Many positions between 210 and ABU BAKRA which would be useful as giving a chance of overhead covering fire.
- (iii) Point 510
- (iv) North and South of KARIM ABU EL HISSIA.
- (v) TEL EL FARA.

The ground ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ gradually runs down to the Wadi from the ABU KHATLI ridge, so that good points for observation of the country beyond the Wadi can be found along the ABU KHATLI ridge, from point 430 on the northern end to point 510 a mile South, east of EL CHABI on the southern end.

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MAR 1917

REPORT ON WATER POSSIBILITIES in area
EGYPTIAN FRONTIER from SEA to ASHABIAN ASHABANI
Road - EL ABREISA - ABU KHATLI - TEL EL
JEMMI - WADI GHUZZE - sea.

Compiled from Reconnaissance reports dated up to 13.3.17

The area can be very clearly divided into two parts by the main RAFA - GAZA ROAD the northern portion, including KHAN YUNUS, DEIR EL BELAH, TEL EL SHABAN being very plentiful in water while the southern portion except for a few isolated places such as BENI SELA and ABASAN EL KEBIR is to all intents and purposes waterless.

The WADI GHUZZE the Eastern boundary of the area can also be described as being plentiful in water.

Northern Area

Water can be found practically anywhere along the beach, at a depth of a few inches, and also in the low dunes N. of DEIR BELAH as far as SHABANI.

At WADI SELISA it can be found near the sides of the wadi in the sand dunes.

KHAN YUNUS. 2 wells in village.

- A. Diameter 7 feet, unused.
- B. " 8 feet, 98 ft to water. This well has a deep well throw pump with a 4" delivery pipe fixed and has been driven by a small suction gas engine. Pump could be repaired. Engine smashed up and unrepairable.

3 stone storage tanks in Village.

- (a) Alongside pumping plant. 17,000 gallons.
- (b) 5,500 gallons.
- (c) 40,000 gallons.

of these (b) is foul and (c) is connected to pumping plant by a 3" and 2" pipe.

TEL EL DARAKEB. Water is found in pools at the bottom of the sand hill here. Water is fresh and apparently unlimited and only requires sumps to be made to collect it.

(6)

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MAR 1917DEIR EL BELAH and area.

(a) The well marked on the map N.E. of DEIR EL BELAH is hard to find. It is 8' x 6' x 4' not lined but with good water about 18" deep.

(b) 600 yards N. of Point 130 N. of DEIR EL BELAH is a stone lined well 8' in diameter. Water at a depth of 10 feet.

(c) 400 yards S.W. of above is another stone well about 8' diameter with a stone reservoir 18' x 18' x 4'6" and a water wheel. Water is at a depth of about 10'. This is used by the natives.

(d) Among the trees near DEIR EL BELAH are about 13 other wells of similar design as above varying from 6' to 12' diameter, with water at a depth varying from 8' to 20'. Some of these are not used and require cleaning out. Others are used by the natives.

There is an oil engine and a stone reservoir in the White House N.W. of the village but no well. Surface water fit for animals can be found in the Lagoon N.W. of the village. Depth up to 18". Edge firm and suitable for watering horses. Map quotes this lagoon as dry in summer. Other small pools are to be found among the low sand dunes N.W. of Well A.

SHEKH RASID. One well at Ruins just S. of SHEIK RASHID. Water can be found between SHEIK RASHID and WADI GHUZZE at depth varying from surface to 12 feet. There are 5 small wells in this area, and some surface water at which horses drink.

Southern Area.

Practically no water exists owing to the height of the ground except as follows -

BENI SELA. One well 201' deep 4'2" of water. This well is stagnant and is reported to have mosquito larvae in it.

ABASAN EL KEBIR. 1 mile (15°) from ABASAN EL KEER is a Roman concrete well about 15' diameter, water within 6 feet of surface. Good drinking water which is used by the natives in the village. Also small dams and holes here for holding water after rain.

(7)

This well is being investigated and a further report will be issued in due course. *See page 5.*

Report of 14/3/17 gives a well $\frac{1}{2}$ mile 78° from ABASAN EL KEBIR. Stone lined, 150' deep, 8' diameter. No means of drawing, therefore quantity or quality ^{was} not tested.

Report of 13/3/17 gives :-

1 well N.E. of village ^{Circular} Stone lined to within 24 feet of surface. Water at 210 feet, water 23 feet deep. The top of the well is at present rather unsafe. Well is disused.

* (3 circular cisterns 14' diameter 24' deep containing 2'6" water slightly brackish. 5 cisterns in a group, circular, stone lined, 10 - 12' diameter, 12 - 14' deep, containing 8' of water. All surface water quite fresh

4 Pools (a) 30 x 10 average depth of water 2', 440 yds. N. of Village
 (b) 30 x 20 " " " " 1' " " "
 (c) 50 x 30 " " " " 1'6" $\frac{5}{8}$ mile " " "
 (d) 30 x 30 " " " " 2' $2\frac{1}{2}$ " N.N.E." "

(d) is a dam and has a circular stone lined cistern at edge of pool full of water. 10' diameter 12' deep, quite fresh.

All around village are several cisterns some of which are empty. Cisterns in area about ABASAN EL KEBIR are summarized as follows and appear to contain water fit for animals only.

Diameter 10', depth 12 - 40 feet.

- *
 1 12' water) N.W. portion of village
 2 3' water)
 3 Water not seen. Near village.
 4 8' water. 2 miles N.E. of village.
 5 12' water 10' x 12', $2\frac{1}{2}$ mile NNE of ABASAN EL KEBIR
 6)
 7)
 8) 8' water 12' x 14' 200 yards further in that above.
 9)
 10)

SHEIK EL NAKHRUR (near TEL EL JEMMI)

1 well bearing of 30° - 300 yards distant from Tomb. Depth 100 ft. Stone lined (recently repaired) 8' wide across top. Plenty of water depth not ascertained. On the well is a stone reservoir (empty) Capacity 8,000 gallons. Also 2 stone troughs supplied from reservoir

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MAR 1917

and 2 water wheels (dismantled and lie near the well).

Water might be found by digging at SEIRAT and UM GHAZZA. Inhabitants here apparently get water from ABASAN EL KEBIR and DEIR BELAH. Water might also be found at BADARI as there are a few palm trees there.

WADI GHUZZE. Water can be found anywhere in the Wadi bed by digging at a depth of from 3 feet near the banks ^{to} a few inches in the channel. Where the bed is muddy water filters through slowly, where sandy quickly. The water obtained is perfectly fresh but a little muddy.

In the Wadi at TEL NUJEID surface water was found fresh at the crossing by "CAVES" but brackish near the sea. 200 yards S. of NUJEID some small springs of good fresh water were found.

On E. side 200 yards from where main RAFA GAZA road leaves Wadi in an orange grove is a well of modern construction, masonry built. Diameter 12' depth 37' roofed over by masonry archway partly blown away. At top of well is a masonry reservoir, capacity 13,750 gallons. 100 yards N.W. of this reservoir and connected by a raised stone channel is a second smaller reservoir 2100 gallons. At Wadi crossing near point 210 (EL BREIJ) is a well partly filled in.

...

N.B. A report dealing with the WADI GHUZZE south of TEL EL JEMMI and including the WELI SHEIKH NURAN position is now being prepared.

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FURTHER REPORT ON WELLS, &c., at ABASAN EL KEBIR.

MAR 1917

Reference: SINAI Peninsula. Sheet RAFA
1/125,000.

~~_____~~

An investigation was made of wells and water at ABASAN EL KEBIR, and particularly on "Old Roman Well". *15/3/17*

Practically no water of any value was found - the inhabitants are obtaining water from pools situated just North of the Village. There are two situated about 1/2 mile North and one near X roads about one mile North, they are surface water only, and offer no prospect of improvement or other than a very temporary supply.

There are numerous cisterns in the village most of which are empty, but some contain a little water, one has water six feet deep but it is very bad, and does not appear to be used.

There is a good cistern of water at X roads about 1 mile North of the Village - 20 ft. deep, stone lined, 11'7" water, 16' diameter.

The following Stone Wells were found:-

1. Apparently the Well referred to in ~~Orders~~ - shown on Map - 200 feet deep 7'6" diameter, stone lined to within 25 feet of surface - Top 25 feet not revetted in any way and badly corroded. This well is at present quite dry - an investigation of the bottom would require either a Gyn or Windlass with a 250 ft 3 in. fall.

2. Circular Stone Well 65 ft. deep situated near X roads about 1 mile N. of Village, 6 ft. diameter. No water.

These do not appear to be old wells but rather to have been put down within the last few years. To investigate them properly would entail an examination of the bottom with the tackle indicated above.

(10)
N.B. Further reports on water here are being summarized

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MAR 1917

WATER POSSIBILITIES IN AREA TEL EL JEMMI - ABU
KHATLI - EL ABREISA - TEL EL FARA including
East Bank of WADI GHUZZE.

17/3/17.

Very little water exists in this area apart from the actual
Wadi GHUZZE which is reported on below.

WELI SHEIKH NURAN. (incomplete 14/3/17)

4 wells exist.

One ~~well~~ with several feet of water in it. This had been in
recent use and had the remains of a chain for drawing water.

Two with several feet of water with a dirty scum on top.

Three and four were dry or nearly so. Three smelt strongly.

These wells are about 20' deep and about 30' feet in circumference.
They are bell shaped. Position about 300 yards E.S.E. of the top
of the position.

WADI GHUZZE (TEL EL JEMMI to TEL EL FARA) 17/3/17

Small pools of water exist between TEL EL JEMMI and Point 310.
Digging four feet deep produced no water, but sand became wet
from a depth of 6 inches.

Stream occasionally comes down in spate covering Wadi to a
depth of 1 - 2 feet in a quarter of an hour.

South of 310 to TEL EL FARA. The pool as marked on map exists.

On the SHELLAL Road on E. side of WADI Bed is a spring supplying
drinking water. This has a small weir. The spring comes out of
the bank and a stone coping has been put round the low side. The
water then runs down a hollow and at about 30' from 1st coping
a low weir has been built about 35 feet long, 3 feet thick -
rough stone work (centre has now been shot away) The maximum depth
of water at the weir did not exceed 3 feet, but there is no reason
why the wall should not be ~~raised~~ ^{raised} another ³ feet. The bottom is
gravelly sides grey clay soil. A cement faced stone flume took
away the overflow from this weir, ran along the Wadi bed for about
130 feet, then overflowed into the Wadi. Apparently used as a
trough for watering animals. At present almost entirely shot away

Spring thought to yield 5000 gallons per hour.

Other small springs shew along the Eastern bank and it appears
possible to obtain water in many places there by a short drive.

The actual bottom of the wadi bed has not yet been investigated

UM URGAN. Pools marked on map exist.

TEL EL FARA. Newly dug well on edge of water course at crossing
of BIR SABA road. The supply is reported as bad and foul.

N.B. All reports emphasise the rapidity in which the Wadi floods,
reports giving a depth of from 1 - 2 feet within a quarter of an
hour making the wadi uncrossable for a time. No report has yet
given the time which it takes for the flood to subside, and make
the Wadi fordable again.

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SECRET

The first paragraph states that the information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past.

It is noted that the information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past.

The second paragraph states that the information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past.

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The third paragraph states that the information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past.

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The fourth paragraph states that the information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past.

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SECRET

B

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MAR 1917

Reconnaissance of Area around DEIR EL BELAH -
GOZ EL TAIRE and ABASAN EL KEBIR.

Ref: Map 1/125,000 RAFA Sheet.

1. GROUND.

The edge of the sand area is marked by a dotted line. Between this line and the sea the going is heavy, except on the low hills along the beach from the mouth of the WADI EL SELKA northwards, where the ground is harder and in some places grass covered.

The enclosed area north of DEIR EL BELAH is only passable along the lanes which intersect it.

The cultivation near the well 600 yards N. of HILL 130 is enclosed by ditches and banks, and is not passable for wheeled traffic.

Good cover from view from the East is obtained under the ridge running N.E. and S.W. through HILL 130.

The beach from the WADI EL SELKA northwards is narrow and is bounded by cliffs 20' to 30' high. The going is heavy. An open and wide valley runs from KHAN YUNUS towards GAZA with apparently little rise or fall. It is bounded on the N.E. by the coastal sand dunes and the village of DEIR EL BELAH, and to the S.E. by the 200' contour line.

This valley is wide enough for the most extensive military operations movements, and though largely cultivated presents no obstacles to all arms. The watercourses which intersect it are very shallow.

It is however open to observation from the East, but good cover is obtainable in the water course broken country formed by the 200' & 300' contours immediately S. of UM GHAZZA and IN SEIRAT. These watercourses which are in places

/ formidable

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formidable and more frequent than can be indicated on the map would impede wheeled traffic. One or possibly two Mounted Brigades could be concealed in the area enclosed by lines drawn between the following points - Point 320, just North of EL in GOZ EL TAIRE, Point 430, N. of EL IMMAIN and Point 310 N.E. of IN SEIRAT.

Any advance beyond the last named point would come under immediate observation.

The country S.W. of the above mentioned area between the KHAN YUNUS - DEIR EL BELAH road and the ABASAN EL KEBIR EL IMMAIN Road, as far as BENI SELAH is suitable for the movement of all arms. The surface is firm and hard.

Very little cover for movement of troops towards the East could be obtained as the valleys all run East and West.

2. ROADS (Shewn on tracing).

AREA A. The roads except in the immediate neighbourhood of DEIR EL BELAH are ill defined. No road along the coast is visible until within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the village, where it is defined, but too narrow for wheeled traffic.

The road marked on the map as running through the sand dunes N. of HILL 130 is undefined.

A track runs along the Eastern edge of this sand, suitable for all arms.

AREA B. The track from IN SEIRAT to UM GHAZA thence S.W. & S. to ABASAN EL KEBIR is for the most part a fairly covered approach towards the WADI EL GHUZZE. It is very rough in many places. There is also a well covered track along the water courses from IN SEIRAT to the road just North of Point 430 near EL IMMAIN. It is also rough in places. The condition of these roads is fair though of a sandy nature, which with much traffic would become heavy.

AREA C. All roads are marked on the map, and the surface is good.

/ 3.

(2)

3. SUPPLIES.

AREA A. Supplies scanty. About 200 sheep and a few weedy cattle were seen in this area.

Grass very short for grazing. Barley crops about 1' high.

AREA B. About 3,000 head of sheep for the most part in good condition. About 400 head of cattle small and not in good condition.

Grazing is short but sweet and the crops if grazed off should provide a Mounted Brigade without any other forage for possibly 10 days.

AREA C. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of this area is under cultivation. The remainder is good grazing. Crops from 6" to 1' high. There are some thousands of sheep, a few hundred head of camels and a few goats and donkeys grazing.

4. INHABITANTS. On the whole friendly.

5. ARAB CAMPS. As shewn on attached tracing.

6. OBSERVATION. HILL 130. From here GAZA and TEL EL AHMAR are visible, but the view to the S.E. is blocked by a ridge running N.E. and S.W. through IN SEIRAT. View over DEIR BELAH.

Point 320 N. of EL in GOZ EL TAIRE. From here good observation is obtained to the N. N.E. and South.

Point 310, N.E. of IN SEIRAT. Good observation overaall the country towards SHEIKH RASHID and GAZA, and also to the East and South.

Point 330 1 mile S. of IN SEIRAT good observation towards E. AND S.

Point one mile due West from Point 340 N. of ABU SITTA good observation towards N.E. & E.

Point 430. N. of EL IMAAIN is not easily recognised.

7. Features easily recognised by night (shewn on attached tracing).

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APPENDIX 22
IMPERIAL MOUNTED DIVISION ORDER No. 3

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Copy No.

by
Major General E.W. HODGSON, C.V.O., C.B.
Commanding Imperial Mounted Division.

3 **22nd. March 1917.**

1. Weak enemy patrols have been met by our reconnoitring troops on the West bank of the WADI GHUZZE.
2. The Imperial Mounted Division (less 1 Regiment 6th. Mounted Bde) will cover a reconnaissance tomorrow, March 23rd, to be carried out by Officers of the Desert Column, of the area ABU BAKRA on the West bank of the WADI GHUZZE to the sea.
This area will be made good by the Division by 0900.
3. The Division will be disposed as follows :-
 - (a) Headquarters will be established at Point 320 INSEIRAT at 0830
 - (b) 5th. Brigade to make good the area ABU BAKRA inclusive to SHEIKH NEBHAN exclusive, and will be responsible for the protection of the right flank.
 - (c) 3rd. L.H. Brigade will make good the area SHEIKH NEBHAN to the sea coast, both inclusive.
 - (d) 6th. Mounted Brigade, less 1 Regiment, will be in reserve and will be at Point 320 INSEIRAT at 0830.
 - (e) R.H.A. will not proceed beyond KHAN YUNUS.
Representatives of Batteries will report at the Divisional Signal Station at Point 370 MAAIN to await orders.
 - (f) Field troops will accompany Brigades. 6th. Field Troop will join its own Brigade at INSEIRAT at 0830.
4. Two Officers from each Brigade with 10 other ranks with the necessary tools will report to O.C. Divisional Field Squadron R.E. at 0845 at Point 320, INSEIRAT to carry out a reconnaissance for water in the WADI GHUZZE in the area TEL EL JELMI to the RAFA - GAZA road.
5. (a) Three days rations will accompany units.
(b) 1st. Line Transport with forage on the light scale will accompany the Division but will not proceed beyond KHAN YUNUS, and will halt and park there.
(c) Transport Officers with all units 1st. Line Transport will report to D.A.A. & Q.M.G., I.M.D. at Point 370, MAAIN, S.E. of KHAN YUNUS at 0845.
6. One Regiment, 6th. Mounted Brigade, remain at RAFA holding the right section of the Defences, but will be prepared to move to join the Division at 2 hours notice.
7. The Divisional Trains will be in readiness to move at 2 hours notice.
8. Column Headquarters Signal Station is being established at DEIR EL BELAH. Divisional Headquarters Signal Station will be established at Point 320 INSEIRAT. A Divisional station will be established at Point 370 MAAIN to ensure direct communication between Divisional Headquarters and the R.H.A. and transport at KHAN YUNUS.
9. Field Ambulances will not proceed beyond Point 340 on the ABASAN EL KEBIR - EL JURA road, or DEIR EL BELAH on the RAFA - GAZA road until further orders.
10. All clear reports of area to be reconnoitred and location of Brigade Headquarters to be made to Divisional Headquarters at Point 320 INSEIRAT at 0845.

11. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Issued at 1900.

Copies to W.

- | | |
|----------|----------------------|
| No. 1-13 | Hds. Depts. I.M.D. |
| " 14-17 | H.Q. Desert Column. |
| " 18 | H.Q. Anzac Mtd. Div. |
| " 19 | H.Q. 53rd. Division. |
| " 20 | G.O.C. 3rd. Brigade. |
| " 21 | " 5th. do. |
| " 22 | " 6th. do. |

- | | |
|--------|--------------------|
| No. 23 | C.R.A. |
| " 24 | O.C. Field Squad. |
| " 25 | O.C. Signal Squad. |
| " 26 | O.C.A.S.C. |
| " 27 | File. |

H. P. Seward
Lieut. Colonel.
Imperial Mounted Division

No. 4389 17 1/2 1917



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APPENDIX NO. 23 not available
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4th January 1924.

appendix 24. F
all

Imperial Mounted Division

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Diary
MAR 1917
F 35/101

GE. ...
No. 250/71
22 MAR. 1917
* DESERT COLUMN

1. A reconnaissance will be carried out tomorrow under cover of the Imperial Mounted Division.
2. The area to be reconnoitred is bounded on the N. N.E. and East by the Wadi EL GHUZZE from the sea to ABU BAKRA.
This area will be made good by 0900.
The withdrawal of the covering troops will commence at 1500.
3. The Imperial Mounted Division (less one Regiment) will move out complete with 1st Line Transport, and with three days rations and forage on the light scale, but without its trains.
4. One regiment Imperial Mounted Division will remain at RAFA holding the right section of the Defences.
5. During the reconnaissance the artillery and the 1st line transport will not proceed beyond KHAN YUNUS. Every precaution will be taken to render these batteries etc. as inconspicuous as possible by hiding them under hedges and trees.
6. During the reconnaissance the Regiment Imperial Mounted Division at RAFA, and the A. & N.Z. Mounted Division complete and the trains of both Mounted Divisions will be ready to move at two hours notice.
7. (a) Officers from A. & N.Z. Mounted Division will examine the country N.E. and East of DEIR EL BELAH with a view to finding tracks suitable for the movement of Mounted Troops and guns from the neighbourhood of DEIR EL BELAH across the Wadi EL GHUZZE in the direction of SHEIKH ABBAS, from EL BREIJ to TEL EL JEMMI.

Report should include description of crossing places in the Wadi with estimates as to the amount of work which will be required to make them practicable.

Officers should be prepared to lead their division by day or night by any suitable track found.

/ (b)

(b) Officers from Imperial Mounted Division.

Water will be sought for in the Wadi EL GHUZZE in, at least, six places between TEL EL JEMMI and the RAFA - GAZA main road and reports will be furnished on the nature of the Wadi bed, difficulties^{likely} to be experienced in finding water, depth, etc.

(c) 53rd Division.

Should examine the country N.E. of DEIR EL BELAH between EL BREIJ and the sea and from the left ~~bank~~ bank of the Wadi, study the approaches to the position at ALI MUNTAR. They should examine the Wadi crossings on the RAFA GAZA road and at EL BREIJ with a view to crossing troops and guns by night.

(d) Tasks have been allotted by Eastforce to the 52nd, Divisions 54th/and I.C. Brigade.

(e) Officers from Q Branch of A. & N.Z. Mounted and 53rd Divisions.

Will report on the suitable distribution of water at DEIR EL BELAH for two mounted Divisions and one division, which they should be prepared to allot by night, if necessary.

It may be assumed that the animals of all divisions can water in the pond but that drinking water would have to come from wells.

Such a distribution as is asked for would be for one night only and the force indicated above would be very closely concentrated, say on the line IN SEIRAT to the sea, with the Divisional trains parked about point 120 on the RAFA road $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W. of DEIR EL BELAH.

W. S. M. M. M.

Lieutenant-Colonel,
G.S. DESERT COLUMN.

22/3/17

War Diary

Append 24

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135/99

Report on reconnaissance of crossings over WADI EL GHUZZE between BIR and TEL EL JEMMI, made on 23rd. March 1917.

Reference Map :-
SINAI. RAFA 1/125,000.

- (I) Crossing at BIR passable for Infantry in fours but requires improvement for wheeled transport. 50 men with picks and shovels for two hours. Bottom requires revetting in places. Material available in RED HOUSE.
- (II) Good crossing about 100 yards South of 100' contour one mile South of BIR, for all arms. Road should lead into WADI from the West at that point, thence 100 yards North up bed of WADI to avoid smaller WADI leading in from East bank.
Should be improved by 6 men with picks and shovels in a short time.
- (III) Crossing for troops, in column of troops, East of EL BREIJ diagonally N.E., no wheels.
- (IV) Crossing for all arms at 125 SHEIKH NUBHAN - diagonally N.E.
- (V) Crossing for all arms about 200 yards South of (IV) diagonally S.E.
- (VI) Crossing for all arms about 300 yards South of (V) at bend of WADI.
- (VII) Crossing for all arms West of EL KUTSHAN. East bank requires no improvement. WADI MUST BE ENTERED on West bank by entering head of tributary WADI about 300 yards up, towards West.
- (VIII) Crossing at TEL EL JEMMI - steep banks, both require ramping. 100 men two hours. Motor car has passed down West bank.

In most places banks of WADI are precipitous about 10 to 15 feet high.

Bed of WADI is mostly sand and gravel, with patches of damp clay loam, impassable for traffic.

Leab Tengye Major G.S.
In. G.O.C.



Report on water reconnaissance of WADI EL GHUZZE from RAFA - GAZA road crossing at BIR to TEL EL JEMMI, made on 23rd. March 1917.

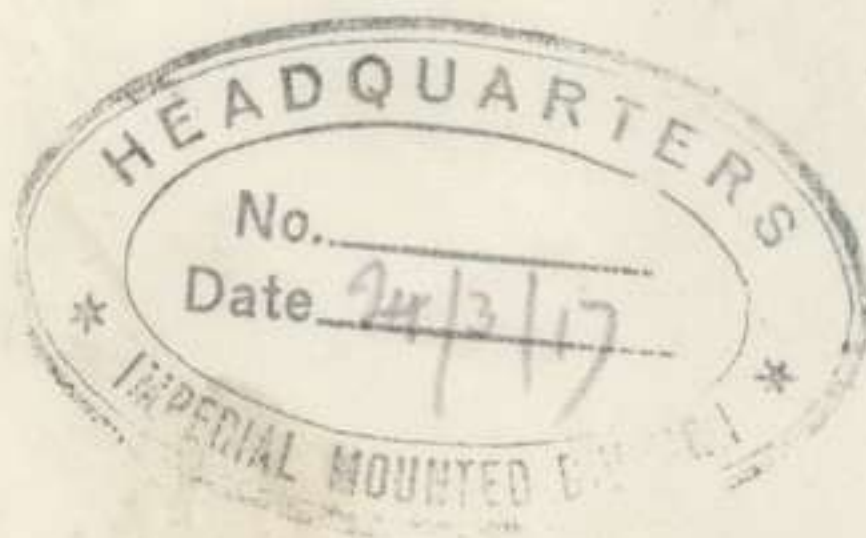
Reference Map :-
SINAI. RAFA 1/125,000.

- (I) Small cistern - diameter 6 feet, depth 3 feet, capacity approximately 100 gallons, in bend of WADI opposite Hill 210 EL BREIJ - catchment only.
- (II) Pool of fresh water, capacity approximately 2,500 galls. in bed of wadi 250 yards South of BIR - where RAFA-GAZA road crosses WADI - catchment only - liable to dry up quickly.
- (III) Well at BIR - diameter 14 feet, depth 45 feet, containing, as far as could be ascertained, 4 feet water. Hauling gear damaged and unserviceable.
- (IV) Well in red house at BIR - blown in - requires repair - water could be found at 40 feet depth.
- (III)&(IV) Both wells at BIR have a cistern 30'x 30'x 6' beside it.
- (V) Small wells ~~at BIR~~ stoned lined - water at depth of 50 feet at UM JERRAR, little used.
- (VI) 5 cisterns, varying sizes, catchment only, as marked on map South of UM JERRAR. By storing water from well it is estimated that there would be sufficient water for horses of one Brigade once.

There is no water in WADI between BIR and TEL EL JEMMI other than above mentioned.

Some places appeared to hold water, but on digging it was found the loamy clay retained moisture only. At depth of 4 feet in gravel bed, heavy gravel and clay were met with but no sign of water. As far as could be ascertained water could not be got at less than 20 feet from surface.

B. B. Tenye Major as
L. N. G. O. C.



SECRET

HCSW
A.K.

War Diary

Appen 25

2. A35/97

Copy No.

DESERT COLUMN ORDER No. 23

Arrangements for this watering - hours and
by
Liutenant-General Sir P.W. Chetwode, C.B., D.S.O.
Commanding Desert Column

Reference: map RAFA Sheet
Scale, 1/125,000

March 23rd 1917.

Moves.

1. The 53rd Division, complete (less A wheeled echelon) will move to KHAN YUNUS on 24th March, under Divisional arrangements. It will not move from RAFA before 1700.

Bivouac Area.

2. On arrival, the area BENI SELA - MAAIN will not be utilised, as it is reserved for the 54th Division, which will move in on the early morning of the 25th.

Defensive Line.

3. The 53rd Division will occupy a defensive line covering KHAN YUNUS which will be selected by G.O.C., 53rd Division previously.

Cover.

4. (a) Meticulous care will be exercised in hiding the presence of troops, guns, transport, etc., from hostile aircraft observation.

(b) Every effort will be made to prevent the increase in number of troops at KHAN YUNUS being noticed.

(c) Horses will be watered early in the morning or after the usual hostile patrol has passed over, similar precautions should be taken in the evening.

Train.

5. B Wheeled echelon and as many of the wheels as sufficient cover can be found for should bivouac east of the town and off the main road.

6. All roads will be kept clear and on no account will vehicles be kept halted on them.

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8/6/33
RECEIVED

On the 25th instant water will be required at KHAN YUNUS

for the horses of the 54th Division.

Arrangements for this watering - hours and

routes - to be used etc., will be arranged

by the Divisional Commanders concerned.
Commanding Desert Column

8. Acknowledged.

March 23rd 1917.

Reference to RARA Sheet
No. 1000

The 53rd Division, complete (less a wheeled echelon) will

Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff,
DESERT COLUMN.

Issued at

2000

- 1 A. & N.Z. Mounted Division
- 2 Imperial Mounted Division
- 3 53rd Division.
- 4
- 5 B.G.R.A.
- 6 A.D.O.S.
- 7 D.D.M.S.
- 8 A.
- 9
- 10 C.E.
- 11 Signals
- 12 A.D. of S. & T.
- 13 No.7 Light Car Patrol
- 14 No.11 Light Armoured Motor Battery.
- 15 A.P.M.
- 16
- 17 Royal Flying Corps
- 18 Filo.
- 19/20 War Diary
- 21/23 Eastern Force
- 24
- 25

SECRET.

Copy No.

IMPERIAL MOUNTED DIVISION ORDER No. 9.

by G. T. K. U. O. N. J. A. I. B. R. H. I.

Major General H. W. HODGSON, C.V.O., C.B.
Commanding Imperial Mounted Division.

24th. March 1917.

Reference Map :-
RAFA. 1/125,000

- The enemy are reported to be holding a position East and South of GAZA.
- The Division, on light scale of transport, will move to DEIR EL BELAH tomorrow March 25th.
- R.H.A., 5th. and 6th. Field Ambulances, wheeled vehicles of Signal Squadron and 'B' wheeled echelon of Divisional Train will march to KHAN YUNUS leaving RAFA at 1600 today - and will bivouac there tonight.
These units will march from KHAN YUNUS on March 25th., leaving at 1600, and will rejoin the Division at DEIR EL BELAH.
- Field Squadron will march to TEL EL MARAKEB today via BIR EL ESHSHA, leaving RAFA at 1600 and will move to DEIR EL BELAH in advance of the load loading Brigade on 25th.

5. The Division, less above mentioned troops will march to DEIR EL BELAH according to the following March Tables:-

Unit.	Starting Point.	Time to pass	STg. Pt.	Route
(a) Divisional H.Q.	D. of undulating	0830	-	BIR EL ESHSHA
5th. Brigade.	Just N. of	0845	-	-Coast Rd. to
6th. Brigade.	BIR RUFEIH.	0930	-	TEL EL MARAKEB
(b) Divisional H.Q.	Beach 300 yds.	1530		} Coast road to DEIR EL BELAH.
3rd. Brigade.	N.E. of 3rd. Bde.	1545		
5th. Brigade.	camp at	1615		
6th. Brigade.	MARAKEB.	1645		
3 Field Amboos.		1715		

Representatives of Units will report to D.A.A. & Q.M.G. at 1530 at N. of Ruins at DEIR EL BELAH to be shown bivouac areas,

- The 1st. line camels of units will march to DEIR EL BELAH in the same order of march as their units. they will rendezvous between RAFA station and the sand dunes at 0830, and will march independently under orders of Senior C.T.C. Officer, being joined at MARAKEB by those of 3rd. Brigade at 1530.
- The Divisional Ammunition Column will move in rear of the I.C.C. Brigade to ABASAN el Kobir on March 25th. The I.C.C. Brigade will pass Desert Column Headquarters about 1545.

Troops will move on light mobile scale, and will be prepared to be absent from their camps for at least 5 days.

Arrangements will be made by O.C. Field Squadron to water 3 Brigades at TEL EL MARAKEB between 1100 and 1400 on 25th., and to water the Division at DEIR EL BELAH on night of 25th/26th.

- The outposts South of RAFA, at present found by 6th. Brigade will be withdrawn at 0600 25th. and will march with their Brigade.
- All men employed on station duties at RAFA will rejoin their Brigades before leaving.

~~67~~ 67
A 35/96

- 12. Units will render a state showing numbers left behind in camps to Headquarters, Imperial Mounted Division, before leaving.
- 13. Divisional Headquarters office will close at RAFA at 1700 on 25th. and will re-open at DEIR EL BELLAH at the same hour.
- 14. Reports during march on 25th. to Head of Division.

WAR ESTABLISHMENT
Imperial Mounted Division
Headquarters
RAFA

H. C. S. Sarg

		Imperial Mounted Division										Lieut. Colonel. G.S.
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	
Issued at 1700.												
Copies to :-												
Nos. 1-13	Hds. Depts. I. I. D.											
" 14-17	H.Q. Desert Column.											
" 18	H.Q. 53rd. Division.											
" 19	G.O.C. 3rd. A.L.H. Bdo.											
" 20	G.O.C. 5th. Mounted Bdo.											
" 21	G.O.C. 6th. do.											
" 22	C.R.A.											
" 23	O.C. Field Squadron.											
" 24	O.C. Signal Squadron.											
" 25	O.C. A.S.C.											
" 26	O.C. 'A' Coy. C.T.C.											
" 27	O.C. 54th. Divisional Train.											
" 28	O.C. Improved Divnl. Train.											
" 29	S.S.O.											
" 30	File.											

		Imperial Mounted Division										Lieut. Colonel. G.S.
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	
Reserve												
Horses												
Mules												
Total												

COPY.

G.O.C.
3rd Australian L.H. Brigade.
5th Mounted Brigade.
6th Mounted Brigade.

C.R.A.
O.C. Field Squadron.
O.C. Signal Squadron.
O.C.A.S.C.
O.C. "A" Co., C.T.C.
O.C. 54th Divisional Train.

ADDITION TO DIVISION ORDER No. 9.

15. In no case will fires or lights be permitted at DEIR EL BELAH after dusk on 25th instant.
16. Mounted troops after arrival at DEIR EL BELAH will be ready to saddle up and move off at a moments notice.

25th March, 1917.

Sd/ A. KAVANAGH, Captain G.S.,
for Lieutenant-Col., G.S.,
Imperial Mounted Division.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.2121
(pads of 100).
No. of Message

Prefix Code m. Words Charge
Office of Origin and Service Instructions. *War Diary*
This message is on a/c of: *ADMS* Recd. at m.
Date *23/94*
Service. *ADMS* From
At m. By
To (Signature of "Franking Officer.")
By

65

TO { *CCA*
OC Signals *ADMS*
OC Hd Squad *OC ASC*

Sender's Number. * *95 212* Day of Month. *March 24* In reply to Number. *AAA*

All *RHA* all *Field Ambulances*
and all wheeled transport of
Signal and *Field Squads* will
move at *1600* by route
South of Railway line to KHAN
YUNUS today AAA Representatives
of units will report to Staff
Officer at the TOMB near Point
320 at western end of KHAN
YUNUS at 1700 to be shown
Camping grounds AAA Units will
go on light Mobile Scale

From *Morinda*
Place *1300*
Time

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.
(Z) *Sd Akawanagh*
Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

Vertical text and stamps on the reverse side of the page, including a large '65' and various illegible markings.

Handwritten note on the right side of the reverse page: 23/94

A35/90.
Appen 28
A35/90

SECRET

- 3 -

Copy No. 7

A. & N. Z. Mounted Division. (r)

DESERET COLUMN ORDER No. 24 (1)

The 53rd Division of the D.A.C. will move out to clear the

area. During this move the 54th Division
Lieutenant-General Sir P. W. Chetwode, Bt., O.B., D.S.O.,

will be working into DEIR EL BELAH from the S. and S.E.

Commanding Desert Column.

All A. & N. Z. Mounted Division troops, who are and are to

Reference map: SHEET RAFA 24th March 1917

Scale 1/125,000

S.E. of the 54th Division.

Reconnaissance 1. (a) Tomorrow a reconnaissance will be carried

out under cover of the A. & N. Z. Mounted Division.

through to DEIR EL BELAH, where they will remain on the

area. (b) The area to be reconnoitred runs from the sea

along the WADI EL GHUZZE to ABU BAKRA. The area will be

made good by 0900, and the withdrawal of covering troops

will be completed at 1000. The 54th Division will follow

cross-roads South of the 2 of WADI EL BELAH by 1600.

(c) Formed bodies of mounted troops will not

show up; but patrols will be pushed so far in advance

only as to enable water testing to be carried out in the

Wadi and crossings to be made practicable.

(d) The mounted troops when withdrawn will fall

back on a defensive line which will be indicated to

G.O.s. C. A. & N. Z. Mounted Division, 53rd Division, and

54th Division on Hill 310 (North of IN SEIRAT) at 1000

tomorrow. This line they will hold until relieved by

the Infantry.

Moves

2. The following moves will take place during the 25th.

(a) Desert Column Headquarters.

(i) Column Battal Headquarters will close at RAFA at 1000 and will reopen at DEIR EL BELAH at the same hour.

(ii) Column Headquarters baggage will leave after the morning hostile aeroplane reconnaissance, about 1000, and proceed by route marked by signboards.

/(b)

A/35/91

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SECRET

(b) A. & N. Z. Mounted Division.

(i) The Division (less 'B' wheeled echelon and the camel echelon of the D.A.C.) will move out to clear the reconnaissance area. During this move the 54th Division will be marching into BENI SELA from the S. and S.E.

All A. & N. Z. Mounted Division troops, wheels and 1st line transport, which are not moving by the beach, will move wide of BENI SELA to the S.E. and E. and will always keep S.E. of the 54th Division.

(ii) Guns and wheeled echelon, D.A.C. will proceed through to DEIR EL BELAH, where they will remain on the site selected for them, unless required for action.

(iii) 'B' wheeled echelon will move from SHEIKH HAMUDA to DEIR EL BELAH at such time as to be clear of the cross-roads South of the S of WADI EL SELKA by 1645.

(iv) The camel echelon of D.A.C. will move from RAFA to ABASAN EL KEBIR. It will proceed S. of RAFA to the cross-roads 1 mile ^{N.W.} of AMR to reach that place at 1500. It will then follow in rear of the I.C. Brigade.

(c) Imperial Mounted Division.

(i) The Imperial Mounted Division (less 'B' wheeled echelon, guns, and wheeled echelon of D.A.C., Field Ambulances, and R.E. wheeled vehicles at KHAN YUNUS, and less the camel echelon, D.A.C.) will move by the beach at 1730, where it will occupy the selected camp.

(ii) 'B' wheeled echelon, guns, etc., at KHAN YUNUS will leave KHAN YUNUS by the track, which was made today, at 1600 and will move by the open ground S.E. of the KHAN YUNUS - GAZA road, on a broad front and as close to the road as possible. The track through the foot-hills from BENI SELA through Point 320 to IN SEIRAT, and the country about that route, will be left clear for the 54th Division.

/ (iii)

63

1735/92

(iii) The camel echelon of D.A.C. will move from RAFA to ABASAN EL KEBIR, proceeding according to para. 2 (b) (iv) above and will follow the D.A.C. camels of the A. & N. Z. Mounted Division.

(d) 53rd Division.

The 53rd Division complete will march from KHAN YUNUS to DEIR EL BELAH, starting at 1300. The Division will move on a broad front on, and on the North of, the KHAN YUNUS - GAZA Road.

(c) I.C. Brigade

The I.C. Brigade will move as ordered to ABASAN EL KEBIR passing the point mentioned in para. 2 (b) (iv) above at 1500.

(f) Motor Machine Guns

No. 11 L.A.M. Battery and No. 7 Light Car Patrol will move to ABASAN EL KEBIR, leaving RAFA not earlier than 1730 and moving as wide as possible to the S.E. On arrival, the motors will come under the protection of the I.C. Brigade.

Security

3. (a) On arrival at DEIR EL BELAH the 53rd Division will take over from the Mounted troops the outpost line referred to in para 1 (d) above from the Sea to the GAZA main road inclusive. From this point the line will be continued through Point 310 (North of IN SEIRAT), and pass down GOZ EL TAIRE, this portion of the line being found by the 54th Division.

(b) This line will be the line of resistance.

(c) The mounted troops will be ready to saddle up at a moment's notice.

Lights.

4. In no circumstances will lights or fires be allowed at DEIR EL BELAH after dusk on the 25th.

(iii) The entire echelon of D.A.O. will move from
 All formations moving on the 25th will be
 accompanied by 3 days forage and rations on the special
 A. & N. Z. Mounted Division.
 class emergency scale.

6. Acknowledge. 53rd Division (b)

The 53rd Division complete will march from
 towards to DEIR EL BELAH, starting at 1500. The Division will
 move on a broad front on, and on the north of, the KHAN
 KHAN

W. G. S. M.

Issued at 1815
 Lieutenant-Colonel,
 General Staff,
 DESERT COLUMN.
 at 1500.

- Copy No. 1 53rd Division.
- 2 54th Division. (1)
- 3 A. & N. Z. Mtd Divn.
- 4 Imperial Mtd Divn.
- 5 A.G.R.A.
- 6 D.D.S.S.
- 7 A.D.S. to the S.E. On arrival, the
- 8 A.P.M.
- 9 Motors will come under the protection of the I.C. Brigade.
- 10 'A'
- 11 'Q'
- 12 Signals.
- 13 A.D. of S & T.
- 14 No. 7 Light Car Patrol.
- 15 No. 11 L.A.M. Battery.
- 16 I.C. Brigade.
- 17 Filo.
- 18/20 Eastforce.
- 21/22 War Diary.

Imperial Mounted Division
Appen 29

235/85
2

SECRET

Imperial Mounted Division (Copy No. 2)

The I.C.C. Brigades will move so as to be ready to cross the Wadi at TEL EL SHARIA at 8 a.m. and take up a position by observation a short distance N.E. of EL HAREIRA. Lieutenant-General Sir P.W. Chetwode, Bt., C.B., D.S.O. Commanding Desert Column.

The A. & N.E. Mounted Division closely followed Reference Map: (Sheet RAFA) 1/25,000 Jerusalem 4/25/17 3.5th March 1917.

The Imperial Mounted Division is holding at 000 is holding of the 54th Division who are about 12 1/2 miles and be ready to cross the Wadi by their provisionally reconnoitred routes from a position about ALI MUNTAR, round to the olive groves to the south and south-west of the town, to the Sea.

There are enemy forces at HAREIRA (10 miles S.E.), TEL EL SHARIA (14 miles), KH EL AKRA, 2 miles N.E. of HUI (11 miles), and TEL EL NEJILA, on the railway 8 miles East of HUI (17 miles). All the above distances from GAZA unless otherwise stated.

2. The Desert Column, closely supported by the 54th Division, will attack the enemy at GAZA tomorrow.

3. The enemy's position will be attacked by the 53rd Division, assisted, if necessary, by a proportion of Cavalry. + 54th Division.

- 4. The role of the I.C.C. and Cavalry is -
 - (a) To prevent the escape of the GAZA garrison by surrounding them.
 - (b) To observe the enemy known to be in the direction of HUI, HAREIRA, &c.
 - (c) To attack these enemy detachments if they issue from their trenches and move to the relief of GAZA, and to co-operate with the 54th Division should the latter advance to attack them.
 - (d) To assist in the reduction of the GAZA garrison if the 53rd Division find difficulty in doing so.
 - (e) To pursue the enemy in the HUI or HAREIRA area if news be received that he is retiring either during, or after, the action at GAZA.

4. In order to carry out the above, the following moves will take place on the morning of the 28th March.

(a)

Mounted Troops.

1. The I.C.C. Brigade will move so as to be ready to cross the Wadi at TEL EL JEMMI at 5 a.m. and take up a position of observation a short distance N.E. of EL MENDUR. Area of reconnoitring responsibility will be from - the Wadi GHUZZE (inclusive) to the GAZA - SABA main road, (exclusive)

ii. The A. & N.Z. Mounted Division, closely followed by the Imperial Mounted Division, will move round the rear of the 54th Division who are about IN SEIRAT, and be ready to cross the Wadi by their previously reconnoitred routes at 5 a.m.

iii. The leading division will move rapidly to the neighbourhood of BEIT DURDIS, where it will take up a position of observation, detaching sufficient troops to surround GAZA completely from BEIT DURDIS, through JEBALIE, to the sea. Area of reconnoitring responsibility will be from - HUI

iv. The other Mounted Division, (less detachment mentioned in para 4. b, below) will move to the neighbourhood of KH ER RESEIM, 4 miles S.E. ALI MUNTAR, and take up a position of observation.

Area of reconnoitring responsibility will be - GAZA - SABA main road (inclusive) to HUI, (exclusive).

v. It is important for the cavalry to reach these positions as soon as possible, and if the ground is difficult their guns must follow as best they can and join them later.

The mounted formations will remain as concentrated as possible and make only such detachments as are necessary for the above.

(b) 53rd Division.

The 53rd Division, with 1 Regiment (less 1 Sqn) Imperial Mounted Division will be in position to throw a strong bridgehead across the Wadi by 5 a.m. in the

/ neighbourhood

neighbourhood of EL BREIJ and seize the high ground MANSURA - EL SHELUP, and will attack ALI MUNTAR as soon as the G.O.C., can complete his reconnaissances, registration, and other arrangements.

(c) 54th Division have instructions to follow the cavalry across the Wadi and take up a position of readiness about SHEIKH ABBAS.

(d) No. 11 Light Armoured Motor Battery and No. 7 Light Car Patrol will follow the I.C.C. and endeavour to reach the neighbourhood of EL RESEIM, remaining on the GAZA - SABA main road.

5. Ammunition.

(a) Wheeled Echelon of D.A.C. will accompany the guns.

(b) The Camel echelons of the Mounted Divisional Ammunition Columns will follow the I.C. Brigade on the morning of the 26th to rejoin their Division, guides being sent back to lead them up.

(c) On arrival at SHEIKH ABBAS the 54th Division will dump 3/4 of its ammunition, and the empty camels will proceed to the West bank of the Wadi EL GHUZZE at SHEIKH NEBHAN to refill from a dump which will be formed there by 52nd Divisional Ammunition Column.

(d) The D.A.C. of 60-pdr sections attached to 53rd Division, will move in accordance with instructions given by G.O.C., 53rd Division.

(e) The D.A.Gs. of 53rd Division and I.C. Brigade will accompany their formations under divisional or Brigade arrangements.

6. Medical.

The 53rd Division will form a dressing station at DEIR EL BELAH immediately after the departure of the troops, and a collecting station at the Wadi crossing on the RAFA - GAZA road.

Dressing stations will be formed by Mounted Divisions and I.C. Brigades at the following places - near their Divisional HQ adjacent to a road.

/ (a)

neighbourhood of EL BREIJ and also the high ground MANSURA -
EL SHEJIB, and will attack EL MUNTAR as soon as the G.O.C.
(a) Anzac Mounted Division on GAZA - EL PALUJE road somewhere
West of BEIT HANUN.

(b) Imperial Mounted Division on main GAZA - SAFA road W. of
KH ER RESSEM.

(c) I.C. Brigade about the same spot as Imperial Mounted
Division.

(d) A No. 11 Light Armoured Motor Battery and No. 7 Light Car
A convoy of motor ambulances under the D.D.M.S. will
follow the I.C. and endeavour to reach the
work from the 53rd Division collecting station to DEIR EL
neighbourhood of EL RESSEM, remaining on the GAZA
BELAH and Westwards from the commencement of the action.

~~GAZA~~ ^{falls} GAZA is in our possession, motor ambulances will
work through the town to the Dressing Stations of Mounted
troops and thence to an improvised Casualty Clearing Station which
will be established in the town itself.

7. Trains.

B Wheeled Echelon of Divisions will remain at DEIR EL BELAH
on the departure of the troops and will be ordered to later,
under Divisional arrangements, as required.

8. 1st Line Transport.

Commanders will arrange that such portions of 1st Line
Transport as are not actually required for fighting purposes,
shall move in rear of the fighting troops of their own Divisions.

9. Water Development.

The 53rd and 54th Divisions will arrange to have water
developed in the Wadi as soon as possible after the passage of the
fighting troops; the 53rd Division, north of EL BREIJ; the
54th Division south of it.

10. Desert Column Headquarters will follow the second Mounted
Division and will be established about SHEIKH ABBAS Pt. 325.

11. Communications.

Column Signals will keep touch with Divisions by cable
as far as possible. Cable wagons will accompany each Division

/ laying

95
30
60
C 25/89/12
Ref 1/50,000 Map

5.

laying lines from DEIR EL BELAH. These will be diverted into Battle Headquarters when this moves to SHEIKH ABBAS.

By this means communication will be maintained between Divisions and Column Headquarters while on the move.

Divisions will establish visual communication with SHEIKH ABBAS as early as possible. Till then in the event of failure of the cable a visual station on Hill 310 will transmit messages from Divisions to Column Headquarters while on the march.

12. Acknowledge.

(a) HAREIRA - TEL EL SPARKIA
(b) BIR SABA
(c) AKRA - TEL EL NEJILE

Mirjam

Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff,
DESERT COLUMN.

Issued at _____

- Copy No. 1 A. & N.Z. Mounted Division
- 2 Imperial Mounted Division
- 3 53rd Division
- 4 I.C.C. Brigade
- 5 No. 7 Light Car Patrol
- 6 No. 11 Light Armoured Motor Battery
- 7 Eastforce
- 8 54th Division
- 9 Q.
- 10 B.G.R.A.
- 11 C.E.
- 12 Signals
- 13 Royal Flying Corps
- 14 D.D.M.S.
- 15 A.D.O.S.
- 16 A.D. of S. & T.
- 17/18 War Diary
- 19 File
- 20
- 21
- 22

5th Verbal Order to 5th Bde
re protective detachments

Time

CRA Order of Batteries
Officer to lead DAC

Ref. 1/250,000 Map.

95.

APPEN. 30

Copy No. 12/13

Divisional Order No. 10

by
Major General H.W. Hodgson CVO, CB.
Commanding Imperial Mounted Division

1. The enemy strength about 4000 with some guns are still holding GAZA.

Enemy concentrations of all arms are reported to be :-

(a) HAREIRA - TEL EL SHARIA area

Strength about 5,000

(b) BIR SABA about 4,000

(c) AKRA - TEL EL NEJILE area
about 7,000

2. The Desert Column is attacking GAZA on the 26th March at dawn.

53rd Div: attacks GAZA at dawn on March 26th

The A+NZ Mtd. Div: will cross the WADI GUZZEE S. of SHEIKH NUBHAN and thence by the Southern Spurs of SHEIKH ABBAS past EL MENDUR, via KHURBET SIHON and KHURBET EL RESEIN to BEIT DURDIS.

They will watch the enemy approaches from HUIJ and will close any line of retreat of the GAZA garrison from HUIJ to the sea.

The Imperial Mounted Division will follow the A+NZ Mtd Div: to KHURBET EL RESEIN and will observe the enemy from HUIJ exclusive to the GAZA - BIR SABA and ~~GAZA~~ road inclusive refusing the GAZA - BIR SABA and GAZA NEJILE roads to the enemy's retreat.

Ref - 50,000 Map

The 54th Div are occupying SHEIKH ABBAS on the 26th

The I.C.C. Bde. will continue the right flank of the Imperial Mounted Division from the GAZA BIR SABA road exclusive to the WADI GUZZEE

3. The Division will move on the following order of march:

5th Bde, less Gloster Sqdn. will form the Advanced Squad and will follow the rear of the A+NZ Mtd Div. RHA at 0315 from the angle tree at EL DEMEITA.

Div: H.Q., Signal Squad. + Field Squad. R.E. will follow the 5th Bde at 0330.

The 6th Bde will follow the Div. H.Q. units at 0350.

The 3rd L.H. Bde. will follow the 6th Bde at 0415

The R.H.A. will follow the 3rd L.H. Bde at 0440.

Field Ambulances followed by Mobile Vet. Sects. will follow the RHA. in the order of their Bdes. at 0500

The 1st line transport of the A+N.Z. Div will follow the Mobile Vet. Sects. of the Imp. Mtd. Div.

The 1st Line Transport of the Imp. Mtd. Div. will follow in the order of their units. The 1st Line Transport of the A+N.Z. Mtd Div will proceed under O.C. 'A' Coy. C.T.C. to SHEIKH ABBAS and park there.

The camel Detachment of the D.A.C. will

follow the I.C. Bde. on the morning of the 26th via TEL EL JEMMI and ELMENDUR to rejoin the Division at KHURBET EL RESEIN

B. wheeled echelon of the Divisional Train will remain at DEIR EL BELAH on the departure of the Division & will be ordered up later as required

- 4. The starting point is the single tree at EL DEMEITA
- 5. The Gloster Sps will be detached from its Bde & will report to the G.O.C. 53rd Div for orders at 1900 on 25th March.
- 6. An ammunition dump will be formed at SHEIKH ABBAS by 54th Division. On arrival there Mounted Divisional A.C. will refill from this dump when necessary.
- 7. A Dressing station will be formed in the vicinity of Div. Hd. Qrs at KHURBET EL RESEIN as near as possible to the GAZA - BIR SABA road. The location of the Casualty Clearing Stations will be notified later
- 8. A Vet. Dressing Station will be established near Div. Hd. Qrs on the GAZA - SABA road.
- 9. Usual communication will be established with Col. Hd. Qrs at SHEIKH ABBAS as early as possible for Div. Hd. Qrs at KHURBET EL RESEIN

10. ~~...~~ during the march to Div Hd Qrs in rear of 5th Bde.

11. Acknowledge. H.C. S. Dard

In the Field 25/3/17
 Issued at 0915

Copies to -	N ^o 5 th Bde	108 ADVS
	6 th "	9 OC A Coy etc.
	3 3 rd L H Bde	10 AA + QMG
	4 CRA	11 A + NZ Intd Coy
	5 OC Regal Sqd	12
	6 OC 4 th Squad RE	13 Desert Col
		14 G.O.C.

Lt. Col. G.S.
 Insp A.M. Div.

Instructions for patrols. 25/81

3. K Williams Buds 4rs
Strength 1 off 12 OR

To proceed with head of advance guard
leaving EL DEMBITA at 0315 and to
accompany it until it crosses the
Wadi Jazza. Then to proceed independent
to your objective.

Objective - SHARIA - via point 450
at KAURIBET DUHEILKAH.

You will leave the enemy trenches
at KAURIBET EL BAHAM on your
right.

You will withdraw at 1500 unless
otherwise ordered or directed.

Your mission is observation.

Report to S HQ at KAURIBET
EL RESEIN.

Your objective is to report any enemy
movement towards JAZZA.

Issued personally
at 2015. 25. 3.17

H. C. S. Sandford
IMD

55

25/81

There are about 2000 Nomads
 Troops moving towards GAZA & are
 about 30 miles from WADI SHARIF. Movement
 chiefly between Beersheba - Gaza & Sharrif -
 Gaza Road

A35/65

39

26
 No. 26

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.2121
 (in part)
 No. of Message

Prefix	Code	m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent			Service.
			At	m.	Date	
			To	From		
			By	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		By

TO { 54th DIVISION
 SHEIKH ABBAS } Duplicate

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* 16 107	26		

Aeroplane	reports	about	8000	infantry
evidently	enemy	at	down	1/2
miles	South	west	of	HUT
They	are	Marching	upwards	GAZA
area	They	are	right	along
The	road	you	are	following
about	3	miles	away	area
addressed	IMD	ANZAC	MTD	DIVS

From I.M.D.
 Place KURBET ER RESEIM
 Time 1750

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.2121
(in pads of 100).
No. of Message _____

Prefix _____ Code _____ m.	Words _____	Charge _____	This message is on a/c of: _____	Recd. at _____ m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions. _____	Sent _____			Date <i>23/63</i>
_____	_____		Service. _____	From _____
_____	At _____ m.	By _____		By _____
_____	To _____	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		_____
_____	By _____	_____		_____

TO { *54 Div*
SHEIKH ABBS *Duplicate*

Sender's Number. * <i>1G 102</i>	Day of Month. <i>26</i>	In reply to Number. _____	AAA
-------------------------------------	----------------------------	------------------------------	------------

<i>There</i>	<i>are</i>	<i>about</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>Mounted</i>
<i>troops</i>	<i>moving</i>	<i>towards</i>	<i>GAZA</i>	<i>and</i>
<i>are</i>	<i>about</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>miles</i>	<i>from</i>
<i>WADI</i>	<i>SHARIA</i>	<i>movement</i>	<i>chiefly</i>	<i>between</i>
<i>BEERSHEVA</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>GAZA</i>	<i>+ /</i>	<i>SHARIA</i>
<i>—</i>	<i>GAZA</i>	<i>Road</i>		

From <i>IMD</i>	<i>KHURBET ER RESEIN</i> <i>1750</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Place		
Time		
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.		(Z)
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.	

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.2121
(in pads of 100).
No. of Message _____

Prefix _____ Code _____ m.	Words _____	Charge _____	This message is on a/c of: _____	Recd. at _____ m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions. _____	Sent _____			Date <i>23/62</i>
_____	_____		Service. _____	From _____
_____	At _____ m.	By _____		By _____
_____	To _____	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		_____
_____	By _____	_____		_____

TO { *Desert* *Column*

Sender's Number. * <i>Om 15</i>	Day of Month. <i>Mar 26</i>	In reply to Number. _____	AAA
------------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------------	------------

<i>4000</i>	<i>infantry</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Squadrons</i>
<i>cavalry</i>	<i>advancing</i>		<i>from</i>
<i>in</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>Westerly</i>	<i>direction</i>
			<i>HUT</i>

From <i>Imridin</i>	<i>1650</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
Place		
Time		
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.		(Z)
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.	

* This line should be erased if not required.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C.2121
(in pads of 100).
No. of Message 100

Prefix <u>3B</u> Code <u>.....</u> m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/o of:	Recd. at <u>.....</u> m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.	Sent			Service.
	At <u>.....</u> m.			From <u>.....</u>
	To <u>.....</u>		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By <u>.....</u>
	By <u>.....</u>			

TO { 1 M D

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
*	<u>26</u>		

Aeroplane reports about 8000 infantry
 evidently enemy at town 12 miles
 south west of H.W. they
 are marching towards GAZA.
 aad They are right along
 the road you are following
 about 3 miles away aad
 Addressed IMD. Anzac Mt. Div

From	<u>3rd Lt. H. Bae</u>
Place	<u>1415</u>
Time	

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 W 2136-M509. H. W. & V., Ltd. 6/16.

MAR 1966

Charges to collect		By.....	At.....m.
Service Instructions.		To.....	By.....
Handed in at <i>WCO</i>		Office <i>0958</i> m.	Received <i>10:30</i> m.
TO <i>Imp Mtd Div</i>			
*Sender's Number <i>Op 3</i>	Day of Month <i>26</i>	In reply to Number	AAA
<i>Column</i>	<i>HQ</i>	<i>remaining</i>	<i>Hill</i>
<i>for</i>	<i>the</i>	<i>present</i>	<i>aaa</i>
<i>you</i>	<i>explain</i>	<i>heavy</i>	<i>Column</i>
<i>just</i>	<i>in</i>	<i>direction</i>	<i>of</i>
<i>SHERIA</i>			<i>TEL EL</i>
			<i>310</i>
			<i>Car</i>
FROM <i>Desert Column</i>			
PLACE & TIME		<i>0937</i>	

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (B 8979) Wt. w. 7495—M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H&S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

Prefix.....Code.....Words.....
 £ s. d.
 Charges to collect
 Service Instructions.
 Handed in at.....Office 1020 m. Received 1208 m.

Received
 Sent, or sent out
 From.....
 At.....m.
 By.....
 To.....
 By.....

Office Stamp.

TO
 Sup Mtd Bw

Sender's Number Day of Month In reply to Number
 003 26 AAA

If	you	can	get	touch
with	motor	batteries	send	them
down	GAZA	- SABA	road	in
direction	of	HARRERA	to	ascertain
cause	of	dust	clouds	

FROM
 PLACE & TIME
 1025

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (B 3370) Wt. w. 7496-M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H & S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

Prefix.....Code.....Words.....
 £ s. d. From.....
 Charges to collect By.....
 Service Instructions. At.....m.
 To.....
 By.....
 Handed in at WCP Office 1270 m. Received 1338 m.

TO Sup. Mtd Div

*Sender's Number WCP.8. Day of Month 26 In reply to Number AAA

<u>Both</u>	<u>Cavalry</u>	<u>Divisions</u>	<u>will reconnoitre</u>
<u>immediately with</u>	<u>view</u>	<u>at</u>	<u>GAZA</u>
<u>or</u>	<u>Enemy</u>	<u>of</u>	<u>ordered</u>
<u>assist</u>	<u>Infantry</u>	<u>only</u>	<u>from</u>
<u>one</u>	<u>Brigade</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>employed</u>
<u>division</u>	<u>will</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>continue</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Bde</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>observation</u>
<u>aaa</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>will</u>	<u>by</u>
<u>of</u>	<u>any</u>	<u>Enemy</u>	<u>movements</u>
<u>any</u>	<u>direction</u>	<u>aaa</u>	<u>act²</u>

FROM Desert Column
 PLACE & TIME 1205

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (B 8970) Wt. w. 7493—M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H&S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

Charges to collect		From.....	At.....m.
Service Instructions <i>Priority</i>		By.....	To.....
Handed in at <i>W.P.</i>		Office <i>B17</i>	Received <i>1357</i> m.
TO	<i>Sup Allied Div</i>		
*Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
<i>WB 10</i>	<i>26</i>		
<i>Column</i>	<i>Commander</i>	<i>considers it</i>	
<i>most</i>	<i>desirable</i>	<i>that mounted troops</i>	
<i>should</i>	<i>press</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>GAZA</i>
<i>to</i>	<i>assistance</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>infantry</i>
<i>is</i>	<i>on</i>	<i>very</i>	<i>extended?</i>
<i>aaa</i>	<i>Gen</i>	<i>CHAUVEL</i>	<i>is</i>
<i>in</i>	<i>Command</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>both</i>
<i>Swiss</i>	<i>aaa</i>	<i>The</i>	<i>J.C.</i>
<i>will</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>ordered</i>	<i>to</i>
<i>RESEIM</i>	<i>aaa</i>	<i>General</i>	<i>CHAUVEL</i>
<i>order</i>	<i>Supl</i>	<i>Division</i>	<i>move</i>
<i>North</i>	<i>about</i>	<i>KHURBET</i>	<i>KUFEIA</i>
<i>DEIT</i>	<i>DURDIH</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>release</i>
<i>Swiss</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>attack</i>	<i>on</i>
<i>San hills</i>		<i>from</i>	<i>NE.</i>
<i>Aeroplanes report</i>		<i>an</i>	<i>Enemy</i>
<i>activity</i>	<i>AKRA</i>	<i>+</i>	<i>HAREIRA</i>
FROM			
PLACE & TIME			

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (B 8970) Wt. w. 7495-M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H&S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

Prefix.....	Code.....	Words.....	Received	Sent, or sent out	Office Stamp.
£ s. d.			From.....	At.....m.	
Charges to collect			By.....	To.....	
Service Instructions.				By.....	
Handed in at.....			Office.....	m. Received.....	m.
TO <i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>					
*Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	A A A		
<i>aaa</i>	<i>Report</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>taken</i>	<i>aaa</i>	
<i>addressed</i>	<i>Anzac</i>	<i>repeated</i>	<i>Inspection</i>	<i>and</i>	
<i>53</i>	<i>Divis.</i>				
FROM <i>Desert Column</i>					
PLACE & TIME <i>1310</i>					

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (E 3070) Wt. w. 7496—M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H & S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.

Sent		Service.	Date.....
At.....m.			From.....
To.....	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		By.....
By.....			

TO { Desert Column

Sender's Number. * Om 3	Day of Month. 26 th	In reply to Number.	AAA
----------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------	-----

Division	Established	North	of	GAZA
SABA	road	near	RESEIM	ADAB
5 th	Brigade	operating	a	right
flank	reports	Enemy	patrols	visits
HUV	to	SHERIA	Cavalry	and
Camelry	aaa	Enemy	infantry	about
150	strong	holding	ridge	along
400	Canton	N.E.	and	SW.
through	KH.	EL	JINDY	Extending
to	South	of	G.AZA	SABA
road.	about	1	mile	aaa
Officers	patrol	Worcester	go	reports
Column	of	Smoke	at	HUV
HEREIRA	aaa	Enemy	appears	to be
Evacuating	Stores	along	SABA	road
report	cuts.			

From Mander
Place KH EA RESEIM.
Time 1945

The above may be forwarded as now corrected.
 (Z) H.C.S. Ward
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 750,000. W 2183 - M509. H. W. & V., Ld. 6/6.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message 12

Prefix CL Code 40 m. Words 40 Charge 40
 Office of Origin and Service Instructions 40
 This message is on a/c of: 40
 Recd. at 26/3 m.
 Date 26/3
 From 40
 By 40 235/59

TO Imperial Meadows
 Sender's Number 9K140 Day of Month 26 In reply to Number AAA

Please send one Bde to report
 to Div Hdqrs at the hill between
 K and H of KHARTIS reference
 1/168960 map add Bde to move
 at a trot has Acknowledged

From Imperial Meadows
 Place 1550
 Time 1550
 Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name. (Z) [Signature]

* This line should be erased if not required.

"C" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message 12

Prefix CL Code 40 Words 40 Received 40
 Office of Origin and Service Instructions 40 From 40 Sent, or sent out 40
 Office Stamp 7:35/58
 Charges to collect 40 By 40
 Service Instructions 40 To 40
 By 40

Handed in at Imperial Meadows Office 40 m. Received 40
 TO Imperial Meadows
 *Sender's Number SK 10 Day of Month 26 In reply to Number AAA

Send both batteries and light
 car report report angle this
 on 140 of 1/168960
 at once and cooperate in
 attack on Goya from NE

FROM Imperial Meadows
 PLACE & TIME 1550

* This line should be erased if not required.
 (B 8670) Wt. w. 7496-M357 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H & S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

Service Instructions. *DB* *AVH* *AVH*
 Recd. at *7:55* m.
 Sent *AVH* Service.
 At m.
 To
 By (Signature of "Franking Officer.")
 From *AVH*
 By
 TO *GOC Imperial Mtg Div. A35/61*

Sender's Number. ** GK 134* Day of Month. *26* In reply to Number. *AAA*

Patrol observing towards HQ reports large body of infantry & cavalry advancing about 3 miles E of my position. 2nd message reference first message enemy advancing rapidly. Position of this patrol is about 5 miles from BEIT DURDIS in direction of HQ. Enemy reported in 3 columns moving through DEIR SINEID. 300 infantry have moved into sand W of that place. Have sent one squadron to oppose them. Please send one Brigade to report to my Headquarters. AAA Brigade should move at a trot.

From *Avon*
 Place *1610*
 Time
 This above may be forwarded as now corrected.
 Censor. (Z) *Avon*
 Signature of Addressor or person authorized to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.
 750,000. W 2186-M509. H. W. & V., Ltd. 6/16.

"C" Form (Original). Army Form C. 2123. (In books of 50's in duplicate.)
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message

Prefix Code Words Received Sent, or sent out Office Stamp.
 From At m.
 By To
 Charges to collect By
 Service Instructions.
 Handed in at Office m. Received m.
 TO *IMP Mtg Div.*
 * Sender's Number *8134* Day of Month *26* In reply to Number *AAA*

TO *IMP Mtg Div.*

* Sender's Number *8134* Day of Month *26* In reply to Number *AAA*

ASNZ will move on *GARA*
 to assist infantry *AAA* *IMD*
 will take over *BEIT* *DURDIS*
 from *ASNZ* *AAA* *GOC* *VMA*
 will be responsible for all
 observation to East & North now
 carried out by both Divisions
AAA Acknowledge 1

FROM *ASNZ*
 PLACE & TIME *1610*

* This line should be erased if not required.
 Wt. 432-M437 500,000 Pads. H W V 5 16 Forms C.2123.

A35/60
 MAR 1917

37

Charges to collect	£ s. d.	From.....	At.....m.
Service Instructions.		By.....	To.....
			By.....
Handed in at <i>AWA</i>		Office <i>1205</i> m.	Received <i>1205</i> m.
TO	<i>Imp Mtd Div</i>		
*Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
<i>G. 134</i>	<i>26</i>		
<i>Anzac</i>	<i>Mtd</i>	<i>DW</i>	<i>will</i>
<i>on</i>	<i>GAZA</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>assist</i>
<i>Infantry</i>	<i>aaa</i>	<i>Impl</i>	<i>Mtd</i>
<i>will</i>	<i>take</i>	<i>over</i>	<i>BEIT</i>
<i>from</i>	<i>Anzac</i>	<i>Mtd</i>	<i>DW</i>
<i>Gen</i>	<i>Imp</i>	<i>Mtd</i>	<i>DW</i>
<i>be</i>	<i>responsible</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>all</i>
<i>to</i>	<i>EAST</i>	<i>and</i>	<i>now</i>
<i>out</i>	<i>by</i>	<i>both</i>	<i>Divisions</i>
<i>act.</i>			<i>aaa</i>
FROM	<i>Anzac Mtd Div</i>		
PLACE & TIME	<i>1602</i>		

* This line should be erased if not required.

(B 8370) Wt. w. 7496—M857 250,000 Pads. 10/16 H & S (E436.) Forms/C.2123/3.

Charges to collect £ s. d. From..... At.....m.
 By..... To.....
 Service Instructions..... By.....
 Handed in at W. C. P. Office 2127 m. Received 2212 m.

TO Imperial Med.

*Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number		AAA
<u>W.O. 22</u>	<u>27th</u>			<u>AAA</u>
<u>at</u>	<u>0500</u>	<u>tomorrow</u>	<u>patrols</u>	<u>will</u>
<u>be</u>	<u>pushed</u>	<u>forward</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>miles</u>
<u>from</u>	<u>the</u>	<u>outpost</u>	<u>line</u>	<u>and</u>
<u>it</u>	<u>and</u>	<u>other</u>	<u>they</u>	<u>report</u>
<u>that</u>	<u>there</u>	<u>is</u>	<u>no</u>	<u>sign</u>
<u>of</u>	<u>enemy</u>	<u>movement</u>	<u>from</u>	<u>the</u>
<u>direction</u>	<u>of</u>	<u>SHELLAG</u>	<u>towards</u>	<u>RAFA</u>
<u>KHAN</u>	<u>YUNUS</u>	<u>or</u>	<u>DEIR</u>	<u>EL</u>
<u>BELAH</u>	<u>each</u>	<u>mounted</u>	<u>division</u>	<u>will</u>
<u>close</u>	<u>on</u>	<u>its</u>	<u>app</u>	<u>and</u>
<u>circumstances</u>	<u>withdrawing</u>	<u>outpost</u>	<u>Squadrons</u>	<u>and</u>
<u>small</u>	<u>day</u>	<u>observation</u>	<u>posts</u>	<u>will</u>
<u>be</u>	<u>left</u>	<u>on</u>	<u>on</u>	<u>the</u>
<u>line</u>	<u>ABASAN</u>	<u>EL</u>	<u>KEBIR -</u>	<u>INSEIRAT</u>
<u>and</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>other</u>	<u>than</u>	<u>those</u>
<u>of</u>	<u>observation</u>	<u>posts</u>	<u>may</u>	<u>be</u>
<u>saddled</u>	<u>and</u>	<u>divisions</u>	<u>will</u>	<u>proceed</u>

FROM
PLACE & TIME

* This line should be erased if not required.
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Prefix.....	Code.....	Words.....	Received	Sent, or sent out	Office Stamp.
£ s. d.			From.....	At.....m.	
Charges to collect			By.....	To.....	
Service Instructions.				By.....	
Handed in at.....			Office.....	m. Received.....	m.
TO	<i>2</i>				
*Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA		
<i>to</i>	<i>water</i>	<i>as</i>	<i>from</i>	<i>as</i>	
<i>the</i>	<i>situation</i>	<i>permits</i>	<i>under</i>	<i>order</i>	
<i>from</i>	<i>Desert</i>	<i>Column</i>	<i>AAA</i>	<i>ack^s</i>	
<i>AAA</i>	<i>addressed</i>	<i>Imperial</i>	<i>Angas</i>	<i>MTd</i>	
<i>own</i>	<i>repeated</i>	<i>Eastforce</i>			
FROM	<i>Desert Column</i>				
PLACE & TIME					

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