

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/58/1 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters
Australian Mounted Division

July 1917



AWM4-1/58/1PART1

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

of General Staff
Australian Mt Division

for month of July 1917

Vol II

page 17

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Zoules West TEL EL FARAH	1/7/17	0900 0700	<p>Intelligence Summary for June 30th appended 2 Squadrons enemy cavalry seen beyond W. IMLEIH. The KHASIF - KARM area had been purposely left alone during the last three days of June by 4 AL-HIBde patrols, so as to try and lull the enemy cavalry into a false sense of security, the object being to lay an ambush in KHASIF and endeavour to lure the enemy patrol on so that they would come between KARM and KHASIF. One squadron of Lt Col H. H. HIB engade, under Major RANVIN took up the following position at 0300.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Two troops with three Hotchkiss guns to proceed dismounted from KARM to a stone building at KHASIF mine. (B) One troop dismounted to remain in support at KARM. (C) Remaining troop and led horses to take cover behind QOZ EL BASAL. <p>The two troops at KHASIF to lie in wait until a favourable opportunity presented itself allowing as many of the enemy as possible to move N.W. of KHASIF, (troops were hidden) at At 0700 a squadron of cavalry approached KHASIF and passed 1/2 mile N. of KHASIF, riding in the direction of KARM. Two troops of this squadron attacked outpost line N. of L in IM SIRI at 0710. The remaining two troops of the enemy returned along the BEERSHEBAH road, passing within 100 yds S of the mine (where the ambush was concealed). Men then filed out and opened fire on the enemy who were then 150 to 200 yards away - enemy scattered when firing commenced and galloped over ridge - 12 men & 3 horses were killed - estimated 25 men wounded. Considerable force then advanced from 730 but two squadrons of the 4th Regt galloping up, enemy withdrew in direction of 810 - Ambush suffered no casualties. Report of Lt Col M. W. J. BOUCHIER CO 4th Lt Regt appended.</p> <p>1430 Divisional Order No 3 is cancelled, and Order No 4 substituted and appended. Commander is carrying out a personal reconnaissance of area. 550-630-770-780 - Pt where black track crosses SABRA FARAH road 144 miles S of KH. EL SUTFI - 960 (easternmost) - Australian Mt Division with 1st AL-HIBde, ATINZ, mta Division will cover the reconnaissance which will take place on Wednesday July 4th.</p>	appen 82
				appen 83
				appen 84

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division
for month of July 1917. Vol II page 20

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 miles West TEL EL FARAH	1/7/17	1300	Report on Reconnaissance of enemy's lines along the Wadi's IMLEIH and SHERIA carried out on 15 th 20 th and 22 nd ult appended -	appen 85
		1330	All clear in front, usual enemy's patrols being seen.	amf
	2/7/17	0930	Daily Intelligence Summary for July 1 st appended - Divisional Order NO 5 re relief of Division by A.M.Z. mtd Division on 6 th instant issued and appended -	appen 86 appen 87
		1000	2 guns of L.A.M. Battery will come under orders of HQ. Royal Aviators near TEL EL FARAH in the broken ground East of the WADI.	appen 88
		1700	Corrections & additions to Divisional order NO 5 issued & appended	appen 89
	3/7/17	0930	Intelligence Summary for July 2 nd appended.	amf
		1030	Machine gun opened on enemy OP station on N. bank of Wadi IMLEIH on a bearing of 50° from P 510 (ABU SHAWISH) which withdrew into Wadi. Usual enemy patrol seen but no unusual activity -	appen 90
	1200	Amendments to Divisional Order NO 5 issued and appended.	appen 91	
		1845	About 60 enemy cavalry and camelry on EL GIRHEIR moving towards BIR GIRHEIR otherwise all clear	
	4/7/17	0630	Two Brigades Australian Mounted Division and 1 st ALIBIDE A.M.Z. mtd Division took up the following line 530-630-730-770-790 on a point where black track crosses the SABA FARAH road 1/4 mile S of RA EL SUFI - 960, east of ABU YAHIA -	amf

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Anshaban Mounted Division
for month of July 1917 Vol II page 21

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Zimbe West TEL EL FARAH	4/7/17 Contd.	0630	<p>IV2 MR Bde, Army 2nd Division in reserve at SW. TAWEL EL HABARI - Only one small patrol was seen during the advance and this was surprised at EL BUGGAR fled east leaving their lance & water bags behind. When the ^{left of the} line was being taken up, it was shelled fairly fairly heavily with both shrapnel and H.E., and from 0545 when the 810 - TAWEL HABARI ridge was taken up, enemy guns opened fire from BIR SABA and continued a regular bombardment of the forward line till about 0930. DTR at cross roads of</p>	
		0800	<p>ABU SHAWISH - SABAH FARA roads established 0612 Movement along GAMA - SABAH road towards Southern Redoubts</p>	
		0900	<p>Many shelters at EL ABREIN and GENEITERI were removed - No firing was carried out by our own guns, as all targets and gun positions were over 7000 yards distant -</p>	
		1500	<p>Enemy defences around SABAH were clearly visible and appeared to consist of the following - ① On the South towards Pt 1070 and HM FARATH isolated works growing the ridge no wire not connected with other defences ② A continuous fence in two rows - ③ One strong completely wired in redoubt near Western Pt 910 from the point the defences seem to swing back toward BARGHUT. On the North of SABAH defences are ④ Redoubt on Hill 550 commanding railway line & bridge ⑤ Works along the line IRGEIG to 550 commanding the WADI SUTI.</p>	
		1745	<p>Enemy moved up some infantry to within 2500 yards, but did not advance more than any further forward - During the afternoon 3 large calibre Howitzers drawn by motor transport down SABAH road to Pt 550. These guns shelled our troops during their withdrawal. The right of the line was withdrawn to Pt 840 at 1705 and at 1745 the whole line withdrew to line 630 - 720 - EL BUGGAR. During this withdrawal the centre and left were heavily shelled but no attempt was made to follow up withdrawal except on the left where enemy cavalry attempted to cut off some of 1st ALI Bde detachment by advancing up the wadi HANAFISH. This effort was met by</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division

for month of July 1917 Vol II page 22

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 miles West TEL EL FARAH	4/7/17 (Cont'd)		<p>machine guns posted on the banks of the wadi. A few casualties were inflicted on men and horses and enemy troops hurriedly withdrew. Captures 67 Bedouins 16 camels 54 donkeys. Casualties 100. Killed 12 wounded and 1 injured - 1 horse killed and 4 wounded - The smallness of casualties amongst men and horses was due to the clever way the Brigades and Regimental commanders hid the men and horses in the wadis behind the line.</p> <p>The 5th Mtd Brigade were sent on a special mission to KHATLASSA to effect the arrest of a notorious spy LUTTI. Post mission was unsuccessful.</p> <p>2230. Brigades arrived in bivouac areas.</p> <p>0900 Report on above operation and reconnaissance issued and appended Intelligence Summary for June 3rd appended</p>	<p>Appen 92 Appen 93</p>
	5/7/17	0900	<p>Intelligence report for June 4th appended</p>	<p>Appen 94</p>
		1200	<p>On July 7th at 1200 the Commander in Chief will inspect at FUKHARI a composite mounted Brigade composed of 1 Yeomanry Regiment, 1 Australian Regt, 1 New Zealand Regiment which will be commanded by Brigade General J.B. MEREDITH D.S.O. - Order to 4 95th Bde appended</p>	<p>Appen 95</p>
		1800	<p>The day has been spent by units of the Division in clearing up their camp areas preparatory to handing them over to units of ANZ Mtd Division tomorrow 6th instant</p>	<p>Appen 95</p>

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division
Vol II page 23
10th Month of July 1917

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEBIR	6/7/17	1500	The relief of Australian Mounted Division by ANZAC ANZAC Mtd Division as laid down in SO Order No 5 of the instant accomplished -	
		1530	Details are in ANZACS old Headquarters at Pt 272 1/2 mile NE of Desert Column battle Headquarters, 3 rd Bde in bivouac area at KAZAR, 4 th Bde S of FUKHARI and 5 th Mtd Bde on the beach at MARAKEB - Headquarters closed at TARA and reopened here at 1500 -	
		1630	Further Order re inspection of composite ^{force} force under command of Major General HODGSON, C.V.O., C.B., by Commander in Chief tomorrow 7 th instant appended	appen 95
		1630	Details as to how parade will be formed up appended	appen 95(b)
	7/7/17	0900	List of units represented at Commander in Chief's inspection today at 1000 appended	appen 96
		1000	Letter of appreciation to Officers Patrol who carried out long reconnaissance during the operations on the 4 th instant appended	appen 97
		1100	Time table of Com-C's visit appended -	appen 98
		1140	The range will be at the disposal of 3 rd Lt Bde for the following week ending 16 th instant will then be placed at disposal of 4 th Lt Bde - Every man will be given an opportunity of firing, particular attention to be given to fighting of rifles and grouping practice - The following programme to be carried out by 5 th Mtd Bde for first fortnight at MARAKEB - Regiments Squadding - Hotchkiss Training Ammunition Course - Instruction of junior officers, Machine Gun Squadron - Training of detachments - Range practice - Training in indirect and barrage fire - R.A.M.C. lectures on sanitation and resuscitation from arrowing	
		1000	The inspection took place the Com-C expressing his satisfaction at the conduct and efficiency of the troops.	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Anshalian Mounted Division
1st month of July 1917 Vol II page 24

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARASHAN EL KREBIR.	8/7/17	0600 1500 2230 1700	<p>Horses for Cin C, CQS, East Force Commander, MGRA, BQGS (East force), Military Secretary, GSO II, ADC left ANZAC Headquarters for KHASIT.</p> <p>Cin C arrived per car from TARA & proceeded on horseback to 720 pm which point he was shown the nature of country & positions of enemy holdings -</p> <p>Horses used by Cin C and staff returned to DTHQ.</p> <p>Captain A.T. DEER KAVANAGH proceeded on 10 days leave to Alexandria.</p>	
	9/7/17	0000 1500	<p>Syllabus of training of 4th A.H. Bde for week ending July 16th as follows.</p> <p>10th - The direction and control - Description of target. Passing of order.</p> <p>Use of ground & cover.</p> <p>11th - Troops occupying and withdrawing from fire positions. Use of ground and cover. The order & direction. Mounting & dismounting for action.</p> <p>12th - Squadron drill as for Wednesday 8th instant.</p> <p>13th - Regimental training. Advancing to the attack. Collective & covering fire. Mutual support in advance and withdrawal.</p> <p>14th - Cleaning of arms, saddlery etc. Weekly inspection.</p> <p>In the event of the repairs of the outpost mounted Division reporting a hostile advance in strength, the Reserve Mounted Division consisting at present of the Anshalian Mounted Division, consisting but with 22nd Mid Bde attached, will saddle up at once on receipt of order and proceed to the road junction one mile south of EL MELEK (Rafa 42500) where it will await orders. Bde's and other units of this division will be prepared to turn out at 2 hours notice.</p> <p>Major W.S. KENT-HUGHES Staff Captain 3LH Bde attached for one month, under study to General Staff arrived 1500.</p>	<p>Def</p> <p>Appendix 99</p> <p>Def</p>

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division
for Month of July 1917
Vol II page 25

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEER	10/7/17	0600 to 0800	Training of 11 th & 5 th Bde commenced.	
		0930	3 rd Bde commenced musketry practice on range.	appen 100
		1100	Points to be observed when on outpost	
		1500	Report on result of water reconnaissance carried out in area held by 1 st ALH Bde on July 4 th . appended	appen 101
		1600	Some notes on water supply N.E. of BAR SABA issued to Bde for information	appen 102
				<u>Appl</u>
	11/7/17	0600 to 0800	Training carried out in all Brigades.	
		0930	Musketry practice on range for 3 rd LH Brigade.	
		1000 to 1500	Day very quiet in firing line. Usual enemy cavalry patrols seen but no unusual activity.	
				<u>Appl</u>
	12/7/17	0600 to 0800	Training as per syllabus.	
		0930	Musketry continuing.	
		1400	On 11 th July the BERKS and LEICESTER Batteries RHA on relief will come under orders of GOC. From Army Division & complete 20 th Brigade RHA, which will remain at MARAKEB for the present. On the above date the 15 th & 19 th Bde RHA will be also joined - Desert Column Order No 40 appended	appen 103

Appl

WAR DIARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division

for month of July, 1917 Vol II

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABRASAN EL KEBIR	13/7/17	0600 To 0800 0900	<p>Training as per syllabus.</p> <p>On 11 July 4th Bde carried out a successful ambushade at KHASIF in consequence of which 3 O.R. were recommended. These men NOWH Cpl. J. GILLESPIE, No 428 Sgt H. HAMPTON, TNO 968 Tpr H. ROBERTSON have been awarded Military Medal. Column Commander accompanied by Divisional Bde Commander presented the ribbons.</p> <p>0930 3rd Brigade Musketry practice</p> <p>1100 Lt Col. H.C.S. WARD to be prepared to embark for INDIA on 16th instant.</p>	
	14/7/17	0900 1600	<p>Brigades held the usual weekly inspection, the syllabus of training and musketry being discontinued for the time being.</p> <p>1600 Lt Col. P.V. KELLY CMG DSO 3rd Hussars appointed GSO, via Lt Col H.C.S. WARD recalled to INDIA. The embarkation of the latter is postponed to a later date.</p>	amp
	15/7/17 To 17/7/17	}	<p>Usual syllabus of training carried out daily.</p> <p>On 17/7/17, 3rd Bde carry on training from 0530 - 0730 daily and 4th Bde carry on with musketry and range practice.</p>	amp

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Arabian Mounted Division
for month of July 1917. Vol II page 27

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEBIR	17/7/17	0530 to 0730 0930 1700	3 rd Brigade carrying out syllabus of training 4 th Brigade carrying out musketry and range shooting. Divisional Order No 6 relative to the relief of the Division by Yeomanry Mounted Division on 22 nd instant and move to the beach west of MARAKEB issued and appended	appen 104
	19/7/17	0900 1015 1025 1045 1230 1310 1320 1340 1400 1575 1525	L.I.C. went to rifle range and inspected musketry practice Telephone message from Desert Column to turn out the Division at once and concentrate at EL MELEK. 5 th Mounted Brigade to remain in bivouac and 22 nd Mtd Bde. to accompany the division Orders to the above effect issued Telegraphed orders received giving information that 2 Regiments of enemy's cavalry supported by guns had taken up line 510 - 550 - 630 EL GIRHEIR - KH KHASIF and that A+M2 Mtd Division had moved out to deal with the enemy Units of Division moved out excepting Batteries, who had not watered when order to turn out was received. 22 nd Mtd Bde arrived EL MELEK 4 ALH Bde arrived EL MELEK 3 ALH Bde arrived EL MELEK DHQ established XXXXXXXXXX and Division, less batteries, concentrated EL MELEK Batteries arrived EL MELEK Orders issued for 4 ALH Bde to proceed at once to Point 680 LAKHLEILAT, to gain touch with P ^t ALH Bde, and to cooperate with that Bde against the enemy's left flank. 3 ALH Bde to move to 680 602 LAKHLEILAT and there to await further orders, and to send one Regiment to take up the line P ^t 750 - RASHID BEK - P ^t 680 KHOR EL AIRAM, to cover XXXXXXXXXX water supply.	conf

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mt'd Division
for month of July 1917
Vol II page 28

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
IN THE FIELD	19/7/17 Cont'd.	1325 (Cont'd) 1730 1745 1800 1830	<p>22nd Bde to move to GOZ MABRUK and act as Column Reserve - A line transport which accompanied Bdes from camp were parked at EL MELEK.</p> <p>4th ALH Bde arrived at 650 and gained touch with 1st ALH Bde having covered 11 miles in two hours - The Battery (A Battery HAC) could not keep up -</p> <p>Divisional Headquarters established at 650 GOZ LAKHLELAT. GOC personally saw GOC 1st ALH Bde, and obtained following information from him from an aeroplane message dropped at 1745; that the enemy was holding the line 630 EL GIRHEIR, 720, 820, and thence to BIR SABA. All the country to West and SW. of that line all clear - Our cars and patrols were at EL BUGGAR and towards EL HATHIRA where there were 50 Turks, the total enemy force in the whole area being 1200 to 1500. It was therefore decided that no useful purpose would be served by pushing on to EL BUGGAR so late in the day.</p> <p>Visual communication established with 17th Div. GOC informed that in accordance with verbal orders from Desert Column, 1st ALH Bde had come under Aust. Mt'd Division.</p> <p>Ofc Light Car Patrol arrived at Hdquarters and gave following information: bearing looking line 630-720 - cross roads 1 mile West of TAWEL EL HABARI towards 840 and were digging on this line and that Cavalry had retired through the infantry line.</p> <p>By this time there was only one hour of daylight left and it was evident that the chance of attacking enemy's left flank had disappeared. All attempts to establish communication with Desert Column had failed and from that on a helix was useless and the distance too great for a lamp. Taking into consideration the urgent necessity, owing to heat and pace, of watering the horses and the unlikelihood of getting any orders from Desert Column, it was decided to send the 3rd Brigade to ESTANI, and the remainder of the division to GAZI to water and to concentrate on the West bank of the wadi and await further orders - This splitting up of the division was deemed advisable as by sending it was hoped that all animals would be watered well before daylight.</p>	

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of General Staff
Australian Mtd Division

for Month of July 1917

Vol II

page 17

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 miles West TEL EL FARA	11/7/17	0900	Intelligence Summary for June 30 th appended	appen 82
		0700	<p>2 squadrons enemy cavalry seen beyond W. IMLEIH.</p> <p>The KHASIF - KARM area had been purposely left alone during the last three days of June by 4 ALHBde patrols, so as to try and lull the enemy cavalry into a false sense of security, the object being to lay an ambush in KHASIF and endeavour to lure the enemy patrol on so that they would come between KARM and KHASIF. One squadron 4th Lt Regt H ALHBde, under Major RANKIN took up the following position at 0300.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Two troops with three Hotchkiss guns to proceed dismounted from KARM to a stone building at KHASIF ruins. (b) One troop dismounted to remain in support at KARM. (c) Remaining troop and led horses to take cover behind GOZ EL BASAL. <p>The two troops at KHASIF to lie in wait until a favourable opportunity presented itself allowing as many of the enemy as possible to move N.W. of KHASIF (in the hope of cutting him making it easier to cut him off from 550 (where 2 troops were hidden) at. At 0700 a squadron of cavalry approached KHASIF and passed 1/2 mile N. of KHASIF, riding in the direction of KARM. Two troops of this squadron attacked outpost line N. of I in IM SIRI at 0710. The remaining two troops of the enemy returned along the BEERSHEBA road, passing within 100 yds S of the ruins (where the ambush was concealed). Men then filed out and opened fire on the enemy who were then 150 to 200 yards away - enemy scattered when firing commenced and galloped over ridge - 12 men + 3 horses were killed - estimated 25 men wounded - considerably more horses were wounded - enemy in considerable force then advanced from 720 but two squadrons of the 4th Regt galloping up, enemy withdrew in direction of 810 - ambush suffered no casualties. Report of Lt-Col M.W.J. BOUCHIER CO 4th Lt Regt appended</p>	appen 83
		1430	<p>Divisional Order No 3 is cancelled and Order No 4 substituted and appended</p> <p>Commander is carrying out a personal reconnaissance of area 550 - 630 - 770 - 790 - Pt where black track crosses SABA FARA road 1 1/4 miles S of KH. EL SUFI - 960 (easternmost) - Australian Mtd Division with 1st ALHBde, ATN 2, mtd Division will cover this reconnaissance which will take place on Wednesday July 4th</p>	appen 84

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division
Vol 11 page 20
for month of July 1917.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 miles West TEL EL FARA	1/7/17	1500 1830	Report on Reconnaissance of enemy's lines along the Wadi's IMLEIH and SHERIA carried out on 18 th 20 th and 22 nd ult appended - issued All clear in front, usual enemy's patrols being seen.	appen 85 Amf.
	2/7/17	0900 1000 1700	Daily Intelligence Summary for July 1 st appended - Divisional Order No 5 (re relief of Division by ARNZ mtd Division on 6 th instant) issued and appended - 2 guns of L.A.M. Battery will come under order of Lt Col. Powell bivouac near TEL EL FARA in the broken ground East of the WADI. Corrections & additions to Divisional Order No 4 issued & appended	appen 86 appen 87 appen 88 appen 89 - Amf.
	3/7/17	0900 1030 1200 1845	Intelligence Summary for July 2 nd appended. Machine gun opened on enemy OP station on N. bank of Wadi IMLEIH on a bearing of 50° from P 510 (ABU SHAWISH) which withdrew into Wadi - Usual enemy patrol seen but no unusual activity - Amendments to Divisional Order No 5 issued and appended About 60 enemy cavalry and camelry on EL GIRHEIR moving towards BIR GIRHEIR otherwise all clear	appen 90 appen 91 Amf.
	4/7/17	0630	Two Brigades Australian Mounted Division and 1 st ALHABIA ARNZ mtd Division took up the following line 530 - 630 - 730 - 770 - 790 to a point where black track crosses the SABA FARA road 1/4 mile S of RA EL SUFI - 960, east of ABU YAHIA -	Amf.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118 **080**

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Rushdahan Mounted Division

for month of July 1917

Vol II page 21

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1 mile West EL EL FARA	4/7/17	0630	<p>IN 2 MR Bde, ARMY 2 Inf Div in reserve for SW. TAWEL EL HABARI. Only one small patrol was seen during the advance and this was surprised at EL BUGGAR fled east leaving their lances + water bags behind. When the ^{left of the} line was being taken up, it was shelled fairly fairly heavily with both shrapnel and H.E., and from 0545 when the 810 - TAWEL HABARI ridge was taken up, enemy guns opened fire from BIR SABA and continued a regular bombardment of the forward line till about 0930. DIXA at cross roads of</p>	
		0800	<p>ABU SHAWISH - SABA - FARA roads established. Movement along GARA - SABA road towards Southern Redoubts</p>	
		0900	<p>Many shelters at EL ABREIN and GENETTERI were removed. No firing was carried out by our own guns, as all targets and gun positions were over 7000 yards distant. Enemy defences around SABA were clearly visible and appeared to consist of the following: ① On the South towards Pt 1070 and UM FARRATH isolated works growing the ridge. No wire + not connected with other defences. ② A continuous line from GENETTERI through EL ABREIN - HILL 910 with lengths of wire aprons fence in two rows. ③ One strong completely wired in redoubt near western Pt 910 from the Point the defences seem to swing back towards BARGHUT. On the North of SABA defences are ① Redoubt on Hill 550 commanding railway line + bridge ② Works along the line IRGEIG to 550 commanding the WADI SUFI.</p>	
		1500	<p>Enemy moved up some infantry to within 2500 yards, but did not advance more than any further forward. During the afternoon 3 large calibre Howitzers drawn by motor transport down GARA SABA road to Pt 550. These guns shelled our troops during their withdrawal.</p>	
		1745	<p>The right of the line was withdrawn to Pt 840 at 1705 and at 1745 the whole force withdrew to line 630 - 720 - EL BUGGAR. During this withdrawal the centre and left were heavily shelled but no attempt was made to follow up withdrawal except on the left where enemy cavalry attempted to cut off some of 14ALH Bde detachments by advancing up the wadi HANATISH. This effort was met by</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division

for month of July 1917 Vol II page 22

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 miles West TEL EL FARA	4/7/17 (Cont'd)		<p>machine guns posted on the banks of the wadi. A few casualties were inflicted by men and horses and enemy troops hurriedly withdrew. Captures 67 Bedouins 16 camels & 4 donkeys - Casualties 10v. killed 12 wounded and 1 injured - 1 horse killed and 4 wounded - The smallness of casualties amongst men and horses was due to the clever way the Brigade and Regimental commanders hid the men and horses in the wadis behind the line.</p> <p>The 5th mtd Brigade were sent on a special mission to KATLASSA to effect the arrest of a notorious spy. LIFTI. Post mission was unsuccessful.</p>	
		2230	<p>Brigades arrived in bivouac areas. Total casualties 10v. killed 12 wounded</p>	<p>1 horse killed 4 wounded appen 93.</p>
		0900	<p>Report on above operation and reconnaissance issued and appended in diary.</p> <p>Intelligence Summary for June 3rd appended</p>	
	5/7/17	0900	<p>Intelligence report for June 4th appended</p>	
		1200	<p>On July 7th at the Commander in Chief will inspect at FUKHARI a composite mounted Brigade composed of 1 Yeomanry Regiment, 1 Australian Regt, & 1 New Zealand Regiment which will be commanded by Brigadier General J.B. MEREDITH D.S.O. - Order 15 4 05th Bde. appended</p>	<p>appen 94</p>
		1800	<p>The day has been spent by units of the Division in cleaning up ten camp areas preparatory to handing them over to units of ANZ mtd Division tomorrow 6th instant</p>	<p>appen 95</p>

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division
10th Month of July 1917
Vol. II page 23

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEBIR	6/7/17	1500	<p>The relief of Australian Mounted Division by ANZAC ANZAC Division as laid down in Div Order Nos 5 of the instant (accomplished). DNG are in ANZACS old Head Quarters at Pt 272 1/2 mile NE of Desert Column battle Head Quarters. 3rd Bde in bivouac area at KAZAR, 4th Bde S of FUKHARI and 5th Mtd Bde on the beach at MARAKEB. Head Quarters closed at TARA and reopened here at 1500.</p>	
		1530	<p>Further Orders re inspection of composite Force under command of Major General HODGSON, C.V.O., C.B., by Commander in Chief tomorrow 7th instant appended</p>	appended in diary
		1630	<p>Details as to how parade will be formed up appended</p>	appended 95
	7/7/17	0800	<p>List of units represented at Commander in Chief's inspection today at 1000 appended</p>	appended 96
		1000	<p>Letter of appreciation to Officers Pahols who carried out long reconnaissances during the operations on the 12th instant appended</p>	appended 97
		1200	<p>Time table of Gen-C's visit appended</p>	appended 98
		1400	<p>The range will be at the disposal of 3rd Mtd Bde for the following week ending 16th instant till then be placed at disposal of 4th Mtd Bde. Every man will be given an opportunity of firing, particular attention to be given to fighting of rifle and grouping practice. The following programme is to be carried out by 5th Mtd Bde for first fortnight at MARAKEB. Regiments Squads - Hotchkiss Training Ammunition course. Instruction of junior officers. Machine Gun Squadron. Training of detachments. Range practice. Training in indirect and barrage fire. R.A.M.C. - lectures on sanitation and resuscitation from drowning.</p>	
		1000	<p>The inspection took place the Gen-C expressing his satisfaction at the contentment and efficiency of the troops.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division
Month of July 1917 - Vol II page 24

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ARABIAN EL KEBIR.	8/7/17	0600	Horses for C-in-C, CQS, East Force Commander, MGRA, BQGS (East Force), Military Secretary, GSO II, ADE left TANZAC Headquarters for KHASIT.	
		14500	C-in-C arrived per car from T-ARA & proceeded on horseback to No. 1 from which point he was shown the nature of country & positions of enemy holdings.	
		2230	Horses used by C-in-C and staff returned to D.H.Q.	
		1700	Captain AT MCM KAVANAGH proceeded on 10 days leave to Alexandria.	
	9/7/17	0000	Syllabus of training of 4th A.M. Bde for week ending July 16 th in diary as follows: 10 th - The direction and control - Description of target. Position of water. 11 th - Use of ground & cover. 12 th - Troops occupying and withdrawing from fire positions. Use of ground and cover. Fire orders & direction. Mounting & dismounting for action. 13 th - Squadron drill as for Wednesday 11 th instant. 14 th - Regimental training. Advancing to the attack. Collective covering fire. Mutual support in advance and withdrawal. Communication. 15 th - Cleaning of arms. Saddling etc. Weekly inspection.	
		1500	In the event of the reports of the outpost mounted Division reporting a hostile advance in strength the Reserve Mounted Division consisting at present of the Australian Mounted Division less 5th MIA Bde but with 22nd Mtd Bde attached will saddle up at once on receipt of orders and proceed to the road junctions one mile south of EL MELEK (Rafa 1/25000) where it will await orders. Bdes and other units of this division will be prepared to turn out at 2 hours notice. Major W.S. KENT-HUGHES Staff Captain SLH Bde attached for one month under study to General Staff arrived 1700.	appen 99

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division
for Month of July 1917
Vol II page 25

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEBR	10/7/17	0600 to 0800 0930 1100 1500 1600	<p>Training by 4th & 5th Bde commenced -</p> <p>3rd Bde commenced musketry practice on range -</p> <p>Points to be observed when in outpost</p> <p>Report on result of water reconnaissance carried out in area held by 1st ALM Bde on July 4th appended in diary</p> <p>Some notes on water supply N.E. of R SABA issued to Bde for information</p>	<p>appen 100</p> <p>appen 101</p> <p>in diary</p> <p>April</p>
	11/7/17	0600 to 0800 0930 1000 to 1800	<p>Training carried out in all Brigades.</p> <p>Musketry practice on range for 3rd LH Brigade.</p> <p>Day very quiet in firing line - Usual many cavalry patrols seen but no unusual activity.</p>	April
	12/7/17	0600 to 0800 0930 1400	<p>Training as per syllabus.</p> <p>Musketry continuing.</p> <p>On 11th July the BERKS and LEICESTER Batteries RHA on relief will come under orders of GOC from Army Division & complete 20th Brigade RHA, which will remain at MARAKEB for the present. On the above date the 18th & 19th Bde RHA will be also formed. Desert Column Order No 40 appended.</p>	<p>appen 103</p> <p>April</p>

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division

for month of July 1917

Vol II

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABRASAN EL KEBIR	13/7/17	0600 To 0800 0900 0930 1400	<p>(Training as per syllabus)</p> <p>On 1st July LALH Regt carried out a successful ambushade at KHASIF in consequence of which 3 O.R. were recommended - These men No 411 Cpl. J. GILLESPIE, No 478 Sgt H. HAMPTON, and No 968 Tpr H. ROBERTSON have been awarded Military Medal - Column Commander accompanied by Divisional Bde Commander presented the ribbons.</p> <p>3rd Brigade musketry practice</p> <p>Lt-Col. H.C.S. WARD to be prepared to embark for INDIA on 16th instant.</p>	
	14/7/17	0900 1600	<p>(Bridges held the usual weekly inspection, the syllabus of training and musketry being discontinued for the time being.)</p> <p>Lt-Col R.V. KELLY CMG DSO 3rd Hussars appointed GSO, via Lt-Col H.C.S. WARD recalled to INDIA. The embarkation of the latter is postponed to a later date.</p>	AUF
	15/7/17 To 17/7/17		<p>(Usual Syllabus of training carried out daily)</p> <p>on 17/7/17 3rd Bde carry on training from 0530-0730 daily and at 4.30 carry on with musketry and range practice.</p>	AUF

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
Arabian Mounted Division
for month of July 1917 Vol II page 27

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEBIR	17/7/17	0530	3rd Bn Bde carrying out syllabus of training	
		0730	4th Bn Bde carrying out musketry and range shooting	
		0930	Divisional Order No 6 relative to the relief of the Division by Yeomanry Mounted Division on 22nd instant and move to the beach west of MARAKLEB issued and appended	
		1700		
	19/7/17	0900	Lt Col went to rifle range and inspected musketry practice	
		1015	Telephone message from Desert Column to turn out the Division at once and concentrate at EL MELEK. 5th Mounted Bn Bde to remain in bivouac and 22nd Intd Bde to accompany the division	
		1025	Order to the above effect issued	
		1045	Telegraphed Order received giving information that 2 Regiments of enemy cavalry supported by guns had taken up line 510 - 550 - 630 EL GIRHEIK - KH KHASSIF and that A+N2 Intd Division had moved out to deal with the enemy.	
		1230	Order to turn out was received. Units of Division moved out excepting Batteries, who had not watered when	
		1310	22nd Intd Bde arrived EL MELEK	
		1320	4th ALH Bde arrived EL MELEK	
		1340	3rd ALH Bde arrived EL MELEK	
		1400	DHQ established at MARAKLEB and Division, less batteries, concentrated EL MELEK	
		1515	Batteries arrived EL MELEK	
		1525	Order issued for 4th ALH Bde to proceed at once to Point 680 LAKHLEILAT, to gain touch with 1st ALH Bde, and to cooperate with that Bde against the enemy left flank. 3rd ALH Bde to move to 680 502 LAKHLEILAT and there to await further orders and to send one Regiment to take up the line Pt 750 - RASHID BEK - Pt 680 KHOR EL ANRAM, to cover ESANY water supply.	

appendix 104

[Signature]

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
 Australian Mtd Division
 Vol II page 28
 for month of July 1917

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
IN THE FIELD	19/7/17 Contd.	1525 (Contd.) 1730 1745 1800 1830	<p>22nd Bde to move to GOZ MABRUK and act as Column Reserve - Pl line transport which accompanied Bdes from camp were parked at EL MELEK</p> <p>4th ALH Bde arrived abt 680 and gained touch with 1st ALH Bde having covered 11 miles in two hours - The Battery (A Battery HAC) could not keep up -</p> <p>Divisional Headquarters established at 680 GOZ LAKHLEILAT, Lt Col. personally saw 1st ALH Bde, and obtained following information from him from an aeroplane message dropped at 1745; that the enemy was holding the line 630 EL QIRHEIR, 720, 820, and thence to BIR SABA. All the country to West and SW. of that line all clear - Our cars and patrols were at EL BUGGAR and towards EL HATHIRA where there were 50 Trucks, the total enemy force in the whole area being 1200 to 1500. It was therefore decided that no useful purpose would be served by pushing on to EL BUGGAR so late in the day.</p> <p>Visual communication established with 7th Div. Lt Col. informed that in accordance with verbal orders from Desert Column 1st ALH Bde had come under Aust. Mtd Division.</p> <p>Cyc Light Car Patrol arrived at Hdquarters and gave following information: Enemy holding line 630-720 - cross roads 1 mile West of TAWEL EL HAHARI - towards 840 and were digging on this line and that cavalry had entered through the infantry line.</p> <p>By this time there was only one hour of daylight left and it was evident that the chance of attacking enemy's left flank had disappeared. All attempts to establish communication with Desert Column had failed and from that on a helig was useless and the distance too great for a lamp. Taking into consideration the urgent necessity, owing to heat and pace, of watering the horses and the unlikelihood of getting any orders from Desert Column, it was decided to send the 3rd Brigade to KSAH, and the remainder of the division to GAMLI to water and to concentrate on the west bank of the wadi and await further orders - This splitting up of the division was deemed advisable as by so doing it was hoped that all animals would be watered well before daylight.</p>	

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of General Staff
Australian Mtd Division

for month of July 1917

Vol II

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
In the Field	19/7/17 (Contd)	1830 (Contd) 1850 1920 2130 2400	<p>And the men obtain a certain amount of my necessary rest -</p> <p>Orders issued to the above effect - GOC 1st ALH Bde informed, as also GOC A.N.Z. Mtd Division that the Brigade would no longer be under orders of Australian Mtd Division</p> <p>Division commenced withdrawal to watering places -</p> <p>DHQ established at GAMLI on West bank of Wadi</p> <p>Cable communication to Desert Column established</p>	
"	20/7/17	0100 0150 0500 0555 0615	<p>Orders received from Desert Column with information to the effect that at 2000 enemy were holding line 630-720 - crossroads one mile West of TAWEIL EL HABARI, hence toward 840 and that they had dug in above line. Orders were for A.N.Z. Mtd Division and Australian Division to move from FARAH and GAMLI respectively, against the above line so as to reach 902 EL BASAL and 902 LAKHLEILAT by 0400. The enemy line to be tapped and his Cavalry cut off and driven in. One Brigade to be sent to 902 MABRUK a Column reserve -</p> <p>Orders issued by 3 ALH Bde to move from ESANI against the line cross roads 1 mile West of TAWEIL EL HABARI to ABU YANIA so as to pass the line 680 KHOR EL AJRAM - RASHID BEK at 0430. 4th Bde to move to 680 902 LAKHLEILAT by 0400 with one Regiment watching night flank of 3rd Bde. 2nd Bde to move to 902 MABRUK by 0400 and act as Column Reserve. DHQ to move to 680 902 LAKHLEILAT.</p> <p>Owing to fog and lateness of receiving orders, Bde were one hour late -</p> <p>DHQ established at 680</p> <p>In touch with A.N.Z. Mtd Division HQS, who reported that they had line at 630 - KHAFSIF and were pushing on.</p> <p>3rd Bde held EL BOQQAR ridge and were advancing.</p>	<p><i>QW</i></p>

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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of General Staff
of British Army Mounted Division

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for month of July 1917

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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
In the Dula	20/7/17 Contd	0740	3rd Bde held line 840 - ABU YAHIA and in touch with enemy on line, 1st H of HATHIRA to last A of YAHIA	
		0900	3rd Bde held line 840 - cross roads one mile N/W of TAWEL with advanced post in small enemy trench 1/4 mile E of cross roads - 20-30 new rifle pits were seen on small spur N.E. of cross roads facing South and running on to ABU SHAWISH - KHALASSA road 1/2 miles SE of 720. On the line cross roads to 910 two new groups of rifle pits were found, one of 25 and the other of 8. No other trenches were seen. Noth's Battery fired 66 rounds against enemy on line 720 - ABU YAHIA, and 5 large platoons moved out of Melwadi and proceeded N.E. except for the only small cavalry patrol was seen.	
		0840	22nd Mtd Bde withdrawn from Column Melwadi -	
		0950	Orders withdrawn to bivouac received	
		1000	Order for the Division to withdraw to GAMLI, water and feed, and return to bivouac, issued -	
		1615 to 1830	(Bde reached bivouac areas)	
ABASAN EL KEBIR	21/7/17	0830	Noth's Battery whose horses were very distressed stayed last night at GAMLI and arrived in camp this morning	Relief
		1200	4th ALH Bde moved from bivouac area S of FUKHARI and moved to beach 3 miles West of TEL EL MARAKIB.	
		1400	4th ALH Bde in new bivouac area	
		1600	Report on operation of 19/20th instant appended in diary	
BEACH (in 1/20 1/2 mile SW of RUINS Ref map SHELLAL (44000))	22/7/17	1100	Relief completed by 1st Mtd Div. JHQ closed at ABASAN & reopened on beach 3rd Bde and Divisional Troops in allotted bivouac areas on beach	Relief 105
		1530		Relief 20

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

of General Staff
Australian Mounted Division

for month of July 1917

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL MARAKEB	23/7/17		Day spent by units in settling down in their new bivouac areas -	
	24/7/17	0900 1500	<p>(Crossed out)</p> <p>Musketry, Hotchkiss and Machine Gun practice commenced on Buzah range</p> <p>Further information with regard to Wadi HALGON, ABUSHAR, KHALASSA, EL ERNI and EL AUSEGI issued and appended -</p>	<p>Appen 106</p>
	25/7/17 to		General HODSON left on 28 th for 7 days leave in ALEXANDRIA	
	31/7/17 30/7/17		<p>Musketry, Hotchkiss and Machine Gun training continued on local range -</p> <p>Order as to routes to be taken by units in the event of the Division having to turn out while on the beach issued and appended on 26/7/17</p> <p>Genl G.V. HAWTREY of Lovat's Scouts attached Gloucester Yeomanry arrived in second month attachment to General Staff - Capt A.C. THOMPSON returned to Regt duties</p> <p>Strength of Division on July 1st = 5633 all ranks</p> <p>" " " " July 31st = 5766 all ranks</p>	Appen 107
			<p>Differences due to Regt Camp at MARAKEB, EL ARAISH taking a water</p> <p>haul of men, weapons, etc. and change and to transportation</p> <p>to hospital if necessary and so on</p> <p>Increase due to reinforcements chiefly to 5th Bde</p>	

P. H. Murray
Lt. Col
General Staff
Australian Mounted Division