

AWM4

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

Camel Corps

Item number: 11/6/3 Part 1

Title: 1st ANZAC Battalion, Imperial Camel
Corps

June - December 1917



AWM4-11/6/3PART1

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ferry Post	1.6.17		NEKHL column returned.	GS.
"	5.6.17		No 2 Coy. left SERAPEUM for KUBRI	GS.
"	9.6.17		No 2 Coy. completed relief of No 13 Coy. (4 th Bn. I.C.C.) at KUBRI, AYUN MUSA, and GENEFFE.	GS.
"	12.6.17		Maj. BUXTON, O.C. H.Q. and Administrative Centre, I.C.C., inspected posts at FERDAN and FERRY POST.	GS.
"	13.6.17		Maj. BUXTON inspected SERAPEUM, KABRIT, GENEFFE, KUBRI and AYUN MUSA.	GS.
"	25.6.17		TOPO escort returned from GIDDI.	GS.
"	28.6.17		No 3 Coy. left FERRY POST for KUBRI.	GS.
"	1.9.17		Capt. GOLDENSTEDT, ADJUTANT, proceeded to KUBRI and took command of No 2 Coy. vice Capt. CAMPBELL, seconded to I.C. Bde. for Staff Training. Lieut SMYTH, Signalling Officer, took over duties of Adjutant.	GS.
"	4.10.17		Capt. GOLDENSTEDT proceeded to I.C. Bde. for Staff Training, Lieut. NICHOLSON assuming command temporarily of No 2 Coy.	GS.
"	8.10.17		Party under Maj. MILLS left BIR MABEIVK as escort to AKABA SURVEY PARTY. Strengths 2 Officers, 46 OR, 64 Camels, 1 L.G.	GS.
"	26.10.17		AKABA PARTY escort returned to KUBRI.	GS.

2449 Wt. W14957/M90 750,000 1/16 J.B.C. & A. Forms/C.2118/12.

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- DEC 1917

APPENDIX
'A'

WAR DIARY

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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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FERRY POST	13.11.17		Nº 1 Coy moved from FERRY POST to KUBRI.	APPENDIX "B"
	15		Nº 2 Coy moved from KUBRI to SERAPEUM, DEVERSOIR and TOUSSOUM.	
	18.11.17		Nº 4 Coy moved HQ from SERAPEUM to FERRY POST and took over posts at FERDAN, BALLAH and TOUBOUL.	
"	27.11.17		HQ Nº 4 Coy moved from FERRY POST to BALLAH	
"	28.11.17		Lieut. MILLS (Nº 1 Coy) assumed command of Nº 2 Coy. and promoted Capt. from 9.11.17	
"	24.11.17		HQ Nº 2 Coy moved from SERAPEUM to FERRY POST.	
"	3.12.17		Small chain ferry at Ferry Post overturned about 2/30 causing death of two soldiers by drowning. One man Pte. RIDDLE J. belonged to Nº 3 Coy, the other to 1st Gm. Bn., R. Warwickshire Regt.	
	13.12.17		Maj. MILLS A.J. proceeded to I.C. Bde. to take command of 4th Bn. T.C.C.	
	17.12.17		Maj. A.S. NOBBS reported from I.C. Bde. as 2nd in command of Bn.	
	22.12.17		30 NCO's arrived from I.C. Bde. for General Course of Instruction arranged by Bn.	
	26.12.17		NCO's School moved to ABBASSIA with Maj. WRIGHT, M.C. as Chief Instructor, in view of early move of Bn. to join I.C. Bde. at RAFA.	
			Orders received from Southern Canal Section that Bn. would move soon after Jan. 1st 1918 to join I.C. Bde at RAFA, being relieved by 3rd Bn., Camel Corps. Special Warning Order issued to Companies to this effect.	

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Appendix "C"

SPECIAL OPERATION ORDER.

By

Lieut Colonel G.F.Langley, Commanding 1st Battalion, Imperial Camel Corps

Ref. Maps: SUEZ & AKABA 1: 250,000

Copy no 7.

- DEC 1917

1. Intention.

An Officer of the Signal Service has been detailed to proceed overland to AKABA to report on the state of the old telegraph line with a view to establishing an overland telegraph route from Egypt.

1st Battn, ICC will provide the necessary escort

2. Formation.

Escort Commander: Major A.L. Mills. Strength : 2 Officers 45 O.R. 55 Riding Camels, 9 Pack Camels, found as follows:- From No 2 Coy 1 Officer, 34 rifles, 2 Signallers, 1 medical Orderly, 49 riding camels, and 7 pack camels.

From No 3 Coy:- 1 L.G. Team (6 men 0), 6 riding camels, and 2 pack camels for Lewis Gun and ammunition.

From H'Qrs: 1 Officer, 1 batman, 1 Vet. Sgt.

The Signal Service party will consist of one Officer 1 Linesman-guide and 1 native servant. The formation will be known as the AKABA SURVEY PARTY.

3. Special Instructions.

The party will concentrate at Bir Mabeuk by 1700 on Monday 8th Oct. Camels will be watered here. They will then proceed by route S9. (page 59 Military report on Sinai) to AKABA keeping as near as possible to following march table: Evening of October 9th camp at Sudr el Heitan., 10th in vicinity of Nekhl; evening of 11th in vicinity of Makad el Agibein., midday of 12th Bir el Themed, where camels will be watered., evening 12th at cross roads about 1 mile E of Wadi Abu Bateima evening of 13th at Mashash, evening of 14th arrive at AKABA.

The party will halt for 7 days at AKABA, and return by the same route. The arrival of the party at AKABA and the date and time of departure on return journey should be notified to H'Qrs Southern Canal Section by wireless.

4 Rations.

Eight days rations will be carried by each man in saddle bags. Rations for Signal Officer will be drawn with I.C.C. rations. Rations for servant and guide will not be drawn by I.C.C. 5 days camel rations and 5 days water will be carried on saddle., This ration will not be touched until after leaving Sudr el Heitan when the whole party will come on to 2/3 water rations O.C. No 3 Coy will arrange for supplementary ration party to carry 1280 lbs dhurra, 75 gallons water, for use of survey party on 8th and 9th and morning of 10th. This party will proceed as far as Sudr el Heitan and should consist of 1 Sgt and 10 O.R.s with necessary pack camels. They will carry 4 days rations and water at Sudr el Heitan. A similar party in charge of an officer will be detailed to meet Survey Party with same rations and water at Sudr el Heitan 5 days after commencement of return journey. O.C. No 3 Coy will be notified of this date. Arrangements have been made for a supply of rations for Survey Party while in AKABA, and 8 days Mobile Rations for return journey. 300 rounds S.A.A. per rifle (Officers will carry rifles (and 48 drums filled and 4000 rounds in bulk for L.G. will be carried.

5. Ammunition.

6. Camels.

Camels will be distributed as follows:-

Riding 51.

Riding spare 4

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<u>Baggage.</u>	Officers baggage	2
	L.G. & Ammunition	2
	Spare Dhurra.	2
	Water.	1
	Caculet	1
	Spare gear ropes, picks	1
	shovels, etc.	1

If, on inspection of camels O.C. Escort prefers more spares, total number of spares will be increased to 7. Any increase should be wired to Battn. H'Qrs before departure.

Medical. Pte Ritchie A.A.M.C. No 2 Coy will accompany the party as Medical Orderly. The water occupied in 12 gallon fantasis will be at his disposal.

Communication From AKABA by wireless. 2 Signallers will accompany the party carrying.

- 1 Helio and stand
- 1 Telescope and stand
- 1 Large Blue Flag.
- 1 Large White Flag.

Information. It is given for information that small parties of hostile Bedouins who indulge in Sniping, may be encountered. A special order re the treatment of Bedouins will be issued later.

Sgnd. J.G. Smyth Lieut,
Adj't, 1st Anzac Battn, The Camel Corps.

Issued at 2000

Ferry Post October 6th 1917.

Copies No 1 to Southern Canal Section.
 " " 2 to O.C. Escort
 " 3 to Signal Service Officer
 " 4 to O.C. No 2 Coy.
 " 5 O.C. No 3 Coy.
 " 6 File
 " 7 War Diary

Appendix "B" Copy No 6
No 2 569

MOVEMENT ORDER.
By Lieut Colonel G.F. LANGLEY . Commanding 1st Bn. I.C.C.

FERRY POST 11/11/17/

Ref. maps. PORT SAID & SUEZ. 1:250,000

- DEC 1917

1. MOVES. The following moves will take place during week ending 17th Novr. 1917.
- A. H'qrs and Detachment of No 1 Coy at Ferry Post will move at 1400 on Tuesday 13th inst. to SERAPEUM taking over posts at TOUSSOUM, SERAPEUM and DEVERSOIR from No 4 Coy by 1800. 1 Section of No 4 Coy will move from SERAPEUM at 1400 on same day to Ferry Post, taking over duties at Ferry Post on arrival.
- B. H'Qrs and remainder of no 4 Coy will move from SERAPEUM AT 0700 on 14th inst. to FERRY POST. where they will draw the days ration ON afternoon of same day L.G. Section and two other sections will proceed to FERDAN where the L.G. Section will take over from L.G. Section of No 1 Coy which will move from FERDAN at 0600 on 15th inst and proceed to SERAPEUM.
- C. The two other sections of No 4 Coy will move from FERDAN at 0700 on 15th inst, and proceed to Ballah and Taboul respectively taking over posts on arrival from detachments of No 1 Coy. O.C. No 4 Coy will wire present O's C Detachments TOUBOUL and BALLAH STRENGTH of relieving sections in time for rations to be drawn for issue on 15th.
- D. The TOUBOUL-BALLAH detachments of No 1 Coy will move to FERDAN on afternoon of 15th proceeding to FERRY POST early on 16th O.C. this detachment should wire to FERRY POST Q.M. strength of incoming detachment in time for rations to be drawn for issue on 16th. This detachment will proceed to SERAPEUM on afternoon of 16th inst.
- E. H'Qrs and No 1 Coy less detachments at TOUSSOUM and DEVERSOIR and 1 section at SERAPEUM will move to KUBRI on 17-18th. O.C No 1 Coy will arrange to draw 3 days mobile rations at SERAPEUM before leaving.
- F. No 3 Coy will relieve No 2 Coy on posts at AYUN MUSA GENEFFE & KABRIT NTH. by 1800 on 16th. under arrangements of NO. C. No 3 Coy except that L.G. Section will relieve KABRIT NORTH.
- G. No 2 Coy will move to SERAPEUM on 17-19th inst. taking over posts at DEVERSOIR, SERAPEUM ? and TOUSSOUM on arrival from detachments of No 1 Coy, O.C. No 2 Coy should arrange to draw 3 days mobile rations for trek, and will wire his strength to O.C. A.S.C. SERAPEUM 2 days in advance.
- H. Detachments of No 1 Coy at SERAPEUM TOUSSOUM and DEVERSOIR will concentrate at SERAPEUM on 19th. after relief, and will move on 20th to rejoin Company at KUBRI drawing 3 days rations for trek.

2. RESERVE RATIONS
& AMMUNITION.

It is suggested that O's C Companies through their Q.QMS. arrange to exchange Company Reserve Rations and Ammunition.

3. SIGNALLERS.

All signallers will remain on present posts till further orders.

4. REPORTS.

All reliefs as soon as completed will be notified to Bn H'Qrs by wire.

ISSUED at 1700.

Lieut & Adjnt.

1st Battalion, Imperial Camel Corps.

Copy No 1 to No 1 Coy I.C.C.

2 " 2 " "
3 " 3 " "
4 " 4 " "
5 Q.M.
6 War Diary
7 file

MOVE ORDER No. 1.

Ferry Post

2/1/18

- DEC 1917

1. RELIEF.

A.

The Bn. will be relieved by the 3rd. Bn, C.C. on 2nd and 3rd inst.

The 3rd Bn. will be distributed as follows :-

FERDAN ... 1 Company, less detachment on KANTARA cordon under orders of P. L. of C., which will be stationed at BALLAH WEST and TABOUL as heretofore.

FERRY POST ... Headquarters and 1 Company.

SERAPEUM ... 1 Company.

KUBRI ... 1 Company.

The detachments of 1st Bn Camel Corps at all other posts other than above will be withdrawn without relief on dates according to Table issued herewith.

B.

The camels which are being handed over to the 3rd Bn. will, therefore, required to be distributed as follows:-

BALLAH WEST (for KANTARA cordon)	...	50
FERDAN	...	65
FERRY POST	...	10
SERAPEUM	...	75
KUBRI	...	100

		300

C.

The detrainment of the 3rd Bn Camel Corps will take place as follows :-

BALLAH ... KANTARA cordon detachment and conducting party to take camels from BALLAH EAST to FERDAN.

FERDAN ... One Company, less above detachments.

MOASCAR ... Headquarters and one Company (for FERRY POST)

SERAPEUM ... One Company.

KUBRI ... One Company.

D.

Tents, post stores and post reserve rations at the posts from which Camel Corps are being withdrawn, with out relief, should be disposed of as follows :-

KABRIT ... They will be despatched to Coy. H'Qrs at KUBRI by the daily ration boat, before the detachment is withdrawn. The Officer Commanding 2/101st.

Grenadiers will send up a working party by the ration boat, in direct communication with the O.C. Company concerned, to assist in loading these stores.

BALLAH EAST ... They will be sent to Company H'Qrs at FERDAN as opportunity offers.

At the remaining posts they may be handed over to the detachments 101st Grenadiers, or sent to the Company H'Qrs concerned, as is convenient.

E. The Officers Commanding Companies 1st Bn Camel Corps, are responsible that the A.S.C. concerned is notified in good time before detachments are withdrawn from the various posts.

F.

1st Bn. C.C. will hand over all maps of ~~this~~ this area to the 3rd Bn.

2. MOVE.

The Bn will move as far as KANTARA in three Divisions, thence in two.

Div. 1. will march mounted. This party will be as strong as possible.

" 2. will proceed by train to I.C.Bde. strength will be all men not able to be mounted, less Div. 3.

" 3. will proceed by train to KANTARA, where they will pick up camels from Remount Depot, they will utilise all spare company saddlery, plus 50 sets forwarded from I.C.Bde. and join up with Div. 1. The strength of this Div. will be notified to Coys. by wire.

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3. TIME-TABLE. Div.1.

Zero - 1. AYUN MUSA and GENEFFE detachments will ~~move~~ move to KUBRI.

TOUSSOUM and DEVERSOIR detachments move to SERAPEUM.

Zero KUBRI detachment will move to GENEFFE. TABOUL detachment moves to BALLAH WEST.

Zero 1. KUBRI detachment move to SERAPEUM, halting at KABRIT NORTH to pick up 1 days fresh rations, and KABRIT detachment.

FERDAN detachment moves to BALLAH.

Zero 2. KUBRI detachment move to BALLAH, halting at FERRY POST, to draw 1 day fresh rations and join FERRY POST detachment.

Zero day will be wired to Companies.

Div.2.

Jan.4th. Trucks will be at KUBRI and MOASCAR for loading baggage.

Jan.5th. KUBRI entrain at SERAPEUM entrain about 0700.

MOASCAR entrain about 0730.

BALLAH entrain about 0900.

O.C Div 2. SERAPEUM, should arrange to have morning perishable train stopped.

Arrive KANTARA

Orders for completion of journey will be issued later.

Div.3.

Entrain on first train from KUBRI, ISMAILIA and BALLAH, on Zero plus one. Officer i/c of party will be given necessary instructions.

4. RATIONS. Div.1

will carry usual five days rations, which will not be broken into until ordered.

O.C. KUBRI detachment will arrange with A.S.C. AS PER INSTRUCTIONS IN WIRE CCA 867 of 1st.

inst. Os C. Coys will wire Bn H'Qrs strength of Div.1. by 0900 on Zero.

Div.2. will carry unexpended portion of days ration and two days reserve rations.

Div.3. ditte.

Os.C. Coys will arrange to have five days reserve rations in addition to this party to be sent to KANTARA in bulk by train.

All signallers must be in Div.1.

5. SIGNALLERS.

6. AMMUNITION.

The 28 boxes of S.A.A. usually carried by Coys will be sent in bulk by train with Div.2.

Issued at FERRY POST at 0800.

Lieut. & Adjutant,

1st Anzac Battalion, The Camel Corps.

Copy No.1 to S.C.S.

2 " Palestine L.of C.

3 " No.1 Coy.

4 " " 2 "

5 " " 3 "

6 " " 4 "

7 " File.

8 " War Diary

OC No 2 Coy ICC 1st Imp Camel Bde

Reference A.F. O 1796A

CLA 4

26/6/17

No alterations should be made
in any pay book till Chief
Paymaster has agreed to the
alteration in allotment.

In case of dependents you can be
sure that Chief Paymaster will not
listen to any alteration &
sufficient reason must be given in
all other cases.

Give this your immediate attention
as in cases of McKenna, Cobb, and
Gall the certificate has been
signed to the effect that alteration
has been made in paybooks.

W Langley Lt Col
Cinidg, Anzac Pm I.C.C.

26/6/17