

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/60/21 Part 5

Title: General Staff, Headquarters ANZAC
Mounted Division

November 1917



AWM4-1/60/21PART5

Date 9/11/17		Branch		Section	Subsection
Sequence No. in Register.	Time of Receipt. Despatch.	Sender's Number.	From. To.	SUBJECT.	Action.
955 (cont)				Charge in SIMSIM & 7 th Bde will be in reserve well and Hoff officer to report as once to DHD & 3 rd Bde will not come up on briefing for Bde, act.	
956	0535	9326	Ds Cps.	Following received from 2 nd Bde Following received from D Maddrell KUTRETT GAVLEA not yet received & nation for men above finish to night Please instruct & end. Please expedite relief	
957	0535	9327	Ds Cps.	GA 278 ackd 0535.	
958	0625 0537	9329	7 th Bde	Reconnaissance Squadron from 3 rd Bde was pushed out at 0430 to move in a North Easterly direction & gain touch with the enemy & no report yet received call Opport in the direction in which they went.	
959	0700	9328	Ds Cps.	1 st relay post to being sent to HUT at the Railway Str.	
960	0700	9329		Col Woodward in charge N ^o 1 Relay post Auzai Mt Dwn.	
961	0720	9330	Ds Cps.	Enemy guns have opened from direction KH ES SUMMELT. MG fire from same direction	

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962	0720	AV 2	7 th Bde	Long column seen about 8 miles away in a NW direction moving N & 7 th Bde concentrating at recd house.	
963	0735	9331	Ds Cps.	7 th Bde report & report 962	
964	0800	9330	7 th Bde	Move your Bde on as the 1st & you are far behind 1 st Bde & bring your guns well forward.	
965	0830	9332	7 th Bde	Concentrate your Bde in vicinity of DHD which is 500 yds N of R of WADI UM RUTORN	
966	0845	9333	Ds Cps.	Enemy guns have opened on our troops for about 1000 yds & our guns now in action & enemy camp seen & shelled & at 0815 advanced troops seen going through BUREIR. 7 th Bde just moving over SA HELKATET BUREIR	
967	0850	9334	7 th Bde	Just on through BUREIR to high ground N of EL HOLEIKAT	
968	0850	9335	Ds Cps.	Petrol sent back from KH ZEIDAN report enemy about TEL EL HESY & a great deal of smoke from TEL EL HESY	

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969	0900	B225	P ¹ Bde	Leave SIMSIM on your left push on vigorously to high ground N of EL HULEIKAT.	
970	0915	GE13	P ¹ Bde	our advanced troops report ESDUP all clear and ridge ESE of it two miles from ESDUP still strongly held.	
971	0910 0953	BM633	P ¹ Bde	Our advanced troops are through BUREIK and approaching SIMSIM.	
972	0922	G337	P ¹ Bde	you will be responsible for keeping touch with 2 nd Lf Bde & are you in touch with Am Bde.	
973	0925	B226	Des Cps	2 nd Lf Bde pushing across high ground E of EL HULEIKAT. encountering considerable opposition on right flank.	
974	0930 0945	BM634	P ¹ Bde	our adv. troops are through BUREIK and making the high ground to the North.	
975	0955	GB77	Des Cps.	Troops now on high ground N of EL HULEIKAT.	
976	0945	G333	Des Cps.	Ref. communication as we have been unable to get Des Cps. this morning by visual or cable and by the latter the signal service has been communicated with from them & it is a more satisfactory line but with very unsatisfactory result & it was with great	

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976	0941			difficultly that communication was maintained last night else have not been led your P ¹ Bde this morning & there offers look on probably in the morning.	
977	0950	G334	Des Cps.	At TEMMAMEN there is a running off tank company with Engineer 1 st P ¹ Bde troop in charge with 7000 gal working capacity 1000 gal per hour. Squad of 1 off 6 12 o'clock was	

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979	1000	9335	De C. Quana JEMMAMEN	Rejoin your Coe and how many guns were found at JEMMAMEN.		
980	1000	9677	De C. Quana	Is there any water in Wadi ACST		
981	1030	BM3	De C. Quana	Have not discovered any yet.		
982	1015	BM2	De C. Quana	Advanced troops have reached BURCIR		
983	1035	9677	De C. Quana	4th moving on to a point about mid SAMEL HAMRET BURCIR see 67 dead Turks were actually counted in front of 7th Mde after yesterday's fight.		
984	1115	BM4	De C. Quana	Our advanced troops have reached the high ground overlooking HURIKAT and all appear clear to sea & considerable quantity of food & material at BURCIR.		
985	1130	9618	De C. Quana	Prisoners taken during advance to day belong to 203 193 583 303 31st 136th 72nd 165th Regts. 17th De Cavalry & many others who have not passed through 1st Mde. to full identification & all testify to great confusion & demoralisation but state enemy intend to make a stand about EL TIME.		

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986	1200 1145	96735	De C. Quana	Advanced regt 1st Mde passed over at 1100 - all char & baggage rec'd all sent to KAMEEN last night.	MH ERZEN	

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990	(cont)			and blew up the guns themselves and they placed 4000 on high ground 700 yds due N of HULEIKAT, advanced troops are well beyond BEIT TINA and report convoy and Turkish troops in front, enemy making some resistance. Two Bazas operating offensively enemy retreating in EL TINA 6 very fine. You have passed HULEIKAT yesterday & they also state that during bombardment of Gaza 700 wounded men admitted to their own hospital there. Bazas supplies be pushed forward as far as possible.	
991	1330 1215	BM155	From SEC Co.	Am touch at JIBJAM in touch with 157 Bde on my left & Am pushing on East of Railway line	
992	1330 0803	EA 2	From D/Cp	Remainder of field below now at Sheria ordered upon you immediately & send guards await the TEMMAMEN pumpkin. Light from 1500 to day	
993	1330 0817	EA 297	From D/Cp	Unlikely, you will be able to advance before 1000 but this should not delay your advance.	

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994	1330 0710	EA 291	From D/Cp.	Report results of reconnaissance & time of moving off.	
995	1320	EA 303	From D/Cp.	Move on BEIT DOSAS with all possible speed.	
996	1827	EA 1	From D/Cp.	Forward ammunition dump will be formed at HVT by 1600 on 9/11/17 containing 18 Bds 13 Bds & SAA.	
997	1335	EA 336	From D/Cp.	GA 276 received 1330 & GA 278 not yet received.	
998	1347	EA 302	From D/Cp.	Enemy retiring hurriedly, 21 st Corps advancing to EL MEJDELL in route for JULIS & Amr. Own will now advance by shortest route objective BEIT JURAS. Am. Bn will move as soon as horses	

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1001	1305 1200	BM638	Progr Bde	Our advanced troops entered MEI DEL at 1225	
1002	1415	9337	Pl Bde	Enemy reported to have retired on EL TINAH & press forward keeping in touch with 2nd Bde on your right	
1003	1440 1430	BM12	Progr Bde	Our troops pushing well forward. Enemy troops infantry retiring on right flank seem to be surrendering freely & lots of Turkish transport at KAU KABA suggests great disorganisation.	
1004	1445	9217	Pl Bde	All prisoners will be sent to BEIT JERJAM where you will await arrival of infantry division to whom APM they will be handed over.	
1005	1450 1446	BM14	Progr Bde	Enemy holding position on plain near ERAK SAMEIDAN sending guns up to dislodge them	
1006	1525	SC3	Pl Bde	Have captured greater portion convoy estimate 250 prisoners 100 wagons now returning.	
1007	1555	9232	Pl Bde		

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1012	1700	9B734	Code message.
1013	1700	9B735	1st Bde. DHD on high ridge west of ES SUAFIR ESH. 2nd Bde are N of that place facing enemy about EL KUSTINE x move your Bde up to about ES DOD. There should be water in the Wadi METMA x. The position ES DOD line of Wadi METMA will be held for the night as 2nd officer to report DHD.
1014	1703	9K540	3rd Bde You will have to send back to KAO BABAH x. Kooludin is there but cannot move owing to condition of horse, also want water before morning.
1015	1905	9K550	1st Bde Report on any water you have found urgently required. What is there within reach of our HQ which are about 2 miles due west of ES SUAFIR ESH. 2nd Bde Can you say exactly where report of 1st Bde is. Will send a patrol out but from appearance of country as seen this afternoon think it unlikely it will get touch x. 5th Regt have taken 350 prisoners 100 wagons many animals x 7th Regt took three or perhaps 4 field guns.

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1021	(cont)		time to water x if no report from 1st Bde morning you should reconnoitre village towards the sea from your position
1022	9B239	240	2nd Bde Code message.
1023	2145	9E17	2nd Bde. Did you find water at METDEL x if so how much.
1024		BMB40	2nd Bde. Situation report as CHD is just south of BEIT JURAS with outpost line of 2nd regt and outpost line runs through the garden BEIT JURAS x all clear x body of cavalry seen on our left flank at dusk strength not certain x They were dispersed with MG fire as one troop left at JEMMAMEH on guard x 1 sqdn on guard at EL METDEL.
1025	1500	PJ4	2nd Bde. Evacuate prisoners of war to night to Corps Collecting Station HUS.

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1	0540	9B240	2nd Bde (Code) Our horses almost done up want of water and where are Austrians
2	0550 0555	1301	

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5				inhabitants were prevented from using their own wells & are now swimming round them badly wanting water - will push forward with Austro if absolutely necessary but this will mean loss of majority of horses if not watered before moving - The water in Palestine book as reported is not accurate as HULSKAT has no wells but only a recent boring plant put in by Turks about a mile from the village ESSAHFIR which is marked abundant is only watering part of a Bde & business with great difficulty - A rec. has just established Turks digging in on the high ground just S of EL BUTARI - our own position at present is HQ & 7th Bde on high ground 1 1/2 miles NE of JULIS close to new made road - 1st Bde on move through ESDUD - 2nd Bde on EL SUHFIR ESHERRIYE & vicinity - not yet in touch with	
6	0722 0735	42313	1st Bde	Report your position unless	
7	0736		7th Bde	Water at JULIS deep well slow process - MEJDEB refused to have abundant supply with water wheel have sent half Battery & 1200 there	

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8	0758 08				

Date	10/11/17	Branch	Section	Subsection	
Sequence No. in Register.	Time of Receipt. Despatch.	Sender's Number.	From. To.	SUBJECT.	Action.
27	1100	G342	2nd Bde Corps	Two documents	
28	1017	G0316	2nd Bde Corps	had message. (cannot get one)	
29	1101	B01657	1st Bde	our advanced regts pushing North through	
	1015		ESDUD	is under MEJMA	
30	1115	B01658	1st Bde	Squadron is kept getting in touch with 2nd Corps	
31	1135	B01661	1st Bde	Will at ESDUD deep pumping difficulties	
32	1115	SI25	10	Pysoner unfit travel: began MEDICAL today, have directed them in that place to obtain water there via BEIT JERIDAH to DUT to hand them over to infantry, they left before your message came	
33	1200	G343	52nd Bde	Position ESDUD clear in 1st Bde moving up between the plain & Wadi MEJMA - 1st Bde of	

Date	16/11/17	Branch	Section	Subsection	
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				not withdrawn advanced post until you have information	
				has been until the infantry have taken over from the	
				line E1 SUAFIR-ESDUD - Your supplies will be as	
				AULFIKAT is a hospital by 1700	
66	1820	GA375		2nd Lt. Most important maintain benzene hold on	
				on north bank of Wadi SUKERIER - Corp. Cader	
				intend operating there with two divisions tomorrow	
				make every effort to catch enemy position especially	
				with view to artillery support - meet Corp. Cader	
				with you CRA TEL ABU HERZAZ 0700 Division	
				will not be required before 1200 - Your supplies	
				drawn JULI between	

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186	1920 1920	5087	2nd Lt Bde	Outpost line Tel el Munna to head of stream - unlinked	
				water supply during stream KHIRBET SUKREIR 50' wide 10' deep	
				road only crossable near sea	
107	1900	4857	2nd Lt Bde	Situation report	
✓ 108	2000 1740	4859	2nd Lt Bde	1 Bde 52 Bn attacks Bunka tomorrow - you will	
				unless relieved by 2nd Bn 1st Lt Bde	
109	2005 1840	4860	2nd Lt Bde	1 Bde less 1 Bn is placed disposal against aragon	
				12th - 1 Bde will proceed to beach to water under angles to	
				when rep will report 0900 - 1 Bde to be warned and under	

11/11/17.

115A 0205 GI 33 7th Bde. Brigadier will meet GOC at TEL HERAZE as soon as possible.

116A 0225 GI 32 7th Bde. Please be at DHO at 0615 today prepared to go on reconnaissance with Dowl. Commander.

117A 0225 GI 31 7th Bde. Possible operations today to hold & maintain right bank of W. SUNKEREIR. Your Bde will not be required to move before 1200.

118A 0230 GI 31 7th Bde. Corps Commander wishes Brigadier & any other officer of your Bde who know the ground to meet him at TEL BEN HERAZE at 0700 today. 11th Bde will not be required to move before 1200.

119A 0215 GI 30 7th Bde. Your GA 325 ack.
120A 1155 GI 23 7th Bde. Situation report. 155 Bde group arrived ESCOD 1830. 155 Bde group in METDEL area. Other units unchanged.

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203	RFC	me	1 st Bde	Auzie Sim has reached ZERNUKAH ref Sheet XVI 1 in to 1 mile and enemy hold ER RAMLEH and ground to W of village.	
204	1010	9394	1 st Bde	repeats 203	
205	0930	9K363	1 st Bde	G.O.B. wishes you to water at ZERNUKAH before pushing on as it seems likely you will encounter serious opposition at RAMLEH and H. as places at NEBY KUNDA just NE of EL KUBEIBEH	
206	0950	BM731	1 st Bde	Have passed ZERNUKAH to water at the colony as the engines at ZERNUKAH are not working and from would therefore be saved and Good water at the colony.	
207	105 ³ 1045	BM734	1 st Bde	enemy infantry & cavalry holding in strength the road 1500 yards NNE of W. in center on the hill NNE of BM734	
208	1115	Yx724	1 st Bde	Guardsburg AKIBS inhabitants of Jewish village AKIB friendly reports as enemy infantry in force with m.g. and small body of cavalry held Arab village of AKIB yesterday and the force	

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				retired at midnight to RAMLEH and anti-aircraft fire heard at RAMLEH during past week and on 12 th at 1600 he saw 8 Quds marching S towards SHAHMEH and our cavalry the morning told him the Turks were beginning to evacuate KHOLDE and Von Kress was in AKIR for a short time yesterday and he can deliver in half hour 15000 Kilograms milled 7500 kilo wheat and there is 700 barley.	
209	1125	9306		Algeria. Situation 1120 and 1 st Bde HQ at 071 XHO with advanced troops in and about gardens S of ER RAMLEH. Gun in action against enemy in rear who are holding ridge 1500 yards NNE of ^{position} both S of X N2M. S of S of 071 U2HD. Advanced troops pushed ridges towards AYUN KARA which ground E of SURAFEND. Enemy are holding high ground immediately in front several columns opening have been seen moving from SE to	

214^A 1150 GB268 DHO situated at NEBY KUNDA just
 215^A 1250 GB267 H. of EL KUREISHA
 216^A 1230 GB269 to Descops Wireless on code.

Date 14/11/17		Branch		Section	Subsection
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			N.W. x	Enemy quiet in action against 0602	0602 x
				He are in touch with Godio on our right x	
				DMF are at NEBY KUNOA just N of	
				EL KIVBEIBEH,	
210.	1132 1120	Pm 736	from 12 MR Side	32 H Regt reports Column of 1000 troops	
				+ Camels moving N.W. 2 1/2 miles N.W. of mine	
				Callard.	
211.	1140 1130	9397 Pm 758	from 12 MR Side	Repeat 210.	
				Co. 32 H Regt reports Regt of 1000 troops	
				Reported by patrol moving in hills in	

Sequence No. in Register	Receipt No. in Despatch	Sender's Number	From To	SUBJECT	REMARKS
				1320. GB 270. Descript. Ref your GA 431. 11/11/17 sent to Godwin seen by no.	
				1340 GB 271 Your GA 431. 11/11/17 copy sent WEYIL seen by HEYER.	118
				1345 GB 272 Descript. Your GA 431 sent WEYIL seen by no.	118
				1350 GB 273. Godwin. There is abundance of water in WEYIL There are 7 engines 2 of which are working and can water in 2 hours.	118
				1400. GB 274. 11/11/17. Code Message.	
				1410 GB 275 11/11/17. Your DO go copy 21 and	

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224	1508	B	From To	RAMEL is unoccupied except for few cavalry 1st Lt. 071 x 30 Moving N.E.	
225	1535 1500	Bm 274	From To	Several hundred Turks on our front with whom we are at present engaged and on line held 250 p.m. M 19 & 24 are 100 yds with us to withdraw action in preparation for advance on RAMEL HILL. Rd is closed.	KARA out of
226	1525	Bm 401	Decomp To	Motor transport must come to YERNA road good.	to
227	1535 1510	Bm 275	From To	1 of our planes dropped 6 bombs on our troops. Bombs dropped on area M 29 road 1510.	
228	1525 1515	Bm 276	From To	Our left flank reports have pushed forward to outskirts of AYUN KARA M 24B	
229	1550	From 2	To comp Decomp		

2234. 1800 GB277 ^{Co, 1st Lt Bde} ^{11th Bde} You will be responsible for looking up with
 the 11th Bde who have been heavily engaged & suffered many
 casualties as you will also pass 1 Bde at the disposal of
 BGC 11th Bde as nearest way is past these 4th office to
 report on passing through. ^{11th Bde} ^{11th Bde}
 2241 1800 GB278 11th Bde 1 Camel Coy 1 Coy 11th Bde are reporting to
 you & will be under your orders further notice.

