

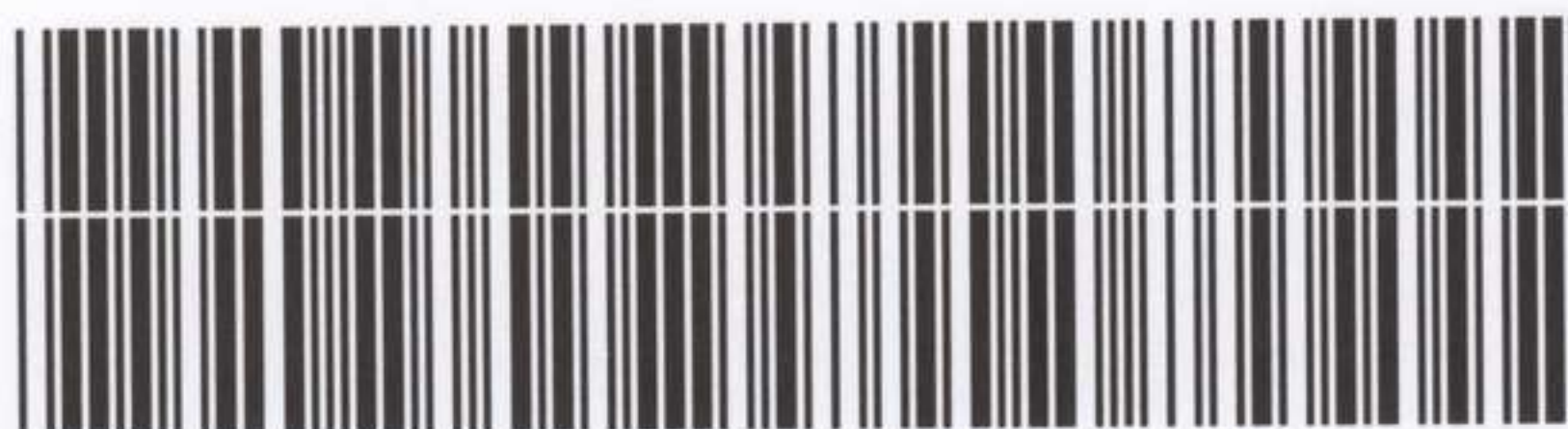
AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/53/12

Title: General Staff, Headquarters New
Zealand and Australian Division

March 1916



AWM4-1/53/12

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).

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General Staff

NZ Division

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
MOBSCAR CAMP ISMATLIA March 1.	On this date 3 machine gun companies were formed. No 1 & 2 from the existing machine gun sections of 1 st N.Z. Inf Bde - the personnel to be provided by reinforcements. No 3 Coy from the 2 existing sections of the 1 st & 2 nd Bats in R B. The Division assumed the title of N.Z. DIVISION. The 2 nd N.Z. Inf Bde was also formed. B ^r Staff, OC units & adts temporarily appointed.	
March 2	Letter from Corps that 1 st A & NZ AC will shortly move to France.	
March 3.	Coy of CR. 6/4/5 ga reorganizing Div. Artillery.	Attn L 1.
March 5.	" GHQ 2/45/2 & AC. order No 3 received. The move of portions of the Div came to FERRY POST. Earr commenced in accordance with Table of notes issued. Coy of instructions issued to GOC N.Z. M.R. Bde	Attn L 2. Cancelled attn L 3.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

page 5
General Staff
N.Z. Division

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
March 8	<p>movement to E bank of Canal complete, troops disposed as under</p> <p>1st Inf Bde FERRY POST Rifle Bde 1 mile E of " 2^d Bde 1/2 mile W of ALLBURY HILL OTMR FERRY POST</p> <p>The NZMR Bde came under the orders of G.O.C. NZ Div & occupied the front line & disposed 1 Squadron at each previous batt Hd. leaving 6 squadrons in the front line & 1 Regt at railheads. G.O.C. NZ Div assumed command from 1100.</p>	
March 10	Copy of G.S. Circular No 1 issued	attch L 3
March 12	letter from G.H.Q. re move to France recd " Ausae dispositions on front line	attch L 4 attch L 5

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 3-3

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

(Erase heading not required).

Page 6
General Staff
N. 2 Division

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
March 20.	Div. commenced returning to MOHSCAR the move was completed by March 21 less 1 st inf Bde & 1 st & 2 nd F. A. Bdes which remained E of Canal. The command of B Subsection was remained in the hands of the GOC N. 2 Division.	
March 23.	By this date the whole Division was concentrated at MOHSCAR.	
March 30.	The transfer of "B" Subsection to Maj. Genl Macay commanding 5 th Aust. Div. was completed at midnight March 30.	

Asst. Quarter Master
Gen. Staff
N. 2 Div.

April 1st 1916

Copy.

Appendix No.
R. No. 78/19.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND.

SECRET.

Headquarters,

Ismailia,

2.3.1916.

Headquarters,

1st A. & N.Z., A.C.

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1. It has now been definitely decided that the artillery of the A.&N.Z. Forces will be organised on War Establishments, Part VII, except that the howitzer brigade will be composed of three batteries instead of four.

2. This involves the organization in the N.Z. & A. Division of a total of :-

- (i) 8 - 18 pdr. batteries.
- (ii) 1 - howitzer battery and ammunition column.

I am to ask you to take steps accordingly for the organization of these additional units and to acquaint the Lieutenant General Commanding as to whether personnel is available to provide the whole of such units. I am also to ask you to inform this office of the numbers allotted to respective brigades and batteries.

3. The policy governing the creation of the additional battery for each 18-pdr. brigade and the additional howitzer battery will be to provide the personnel required before the division leaves this country; and that except as regards this personnel no other steps will be taken to form the batteries required to complete until the arrival of the Division in France.

Sd. C.B.B.White,

Brigadier-General,

D.A. & Q.M.G.,

A. & N.Z., Forces.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS
(Mediterranean Expeditionary Force).

Appendix No.

- 2 -

To/

New Zealand and Australian Division.

For information and necessary action. Please submit
statement as regards personnel required in para 2 and your sugges-
tion for numbering of brigades and batteries as early as possible.

(Signed). Colonel,
General Staff,
1st A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

ISMAILIA,

2.2.1916.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS?

Appendix No.

MEDITERRANEAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

March, 1916.

General Officer Commanding,

1st A. & N.Z., Army Corps.

The following arrangements will be made and movements carried out by the 1st A. & N.Z. Army Corps preparatory to entraining:-

1. General Officer Commanding 1st A. & N.Z. Army Corps will detail mounted covering forces from the A. & N.Z. Mounted Division for the protection of the front of both sub-sections of No. 2 Section.

2. The N.Z. & A. Division will move at once to FERRY POST Camp, replacing the 2nd Australian Division which will move to MOASCAR, and will entrain there for Ports of embarkation.

N.Z. & A. Division will remain concentrated at FERRY POST Camp.

3. As soon as the 2nd Australian Division has vacated MOASCAR, it will be replaced by the N.Z. & A. Division from FERRY POST. The N.Z. & A. Division will be replaced at FERRY POST by a Division from TEL EL KEBIR.

4. The 1st Australian Division will concentrate at SERAPEUM, ready to entrain there for Ports of embarkation.

5. A copy of these instructions has been forwarded to General Officer Commanding, A.&N.Z., Forces.

Sd. E.P.Dawnay, Lieut-Colonel,

General Staff,

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Mediterranean Expeditionary Force.

C.R. No. S 40/4/1.

To.-
N.Z. Division.

For information. Details of the necessary moves
will form the subject of an Army Corps order.

Sd. C.W.Gwynn, Colonel,
Genl Staff,
1st A. & N.Z., Army Corps

Ismailia.

4.3.1916.

SECRET.

ARMY CORPS ORDER No. 15

Copy No. 8.....

Appendix No.

Lieutenant-General Sir A. J. GODLEY, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
Commanding 1st Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

Headquarters,
Ismailia,
4.3.1916.

1. The 2nd Australian Division will be withdrawn forthwith from Subsection B to MOASCAR Camp and will be relieved as detailed below by the New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade and the New Zealand Divn.

(a) The N.Z.M.R. Bde will take over the whole of the front line at present occupied by the 5th and 6th Infantry Brigades.

(b) The New Zealand Division will concentrate at FERRY POST East.

2. The command of B Subsection will be taken over by the G.O.C., N.Z. Division when the Headquarters, 2nd Australian Division is withdrawn.

The G.O.C., 2nd Australian Division will report to Corps Headquarters when he has handed over command.

3. Detail of movements (see table attached)

4. (a) The N.Z.M.R. Bde will hand over their camp equipment and tentage to the 2nd Australian Divn and will take over the equivalent in the front line of B Subsection.

(b) The 2nd Australian Divn will take over tent accommodation at MOASCAR vacated by the N. Z. Division, and will hand over to the latter the equivalent at FERRY POST East. The remainder of the camp equipment and tentage of the 2nd Australian Divn will be brought to MOASCAR.

5. The guns of the 2nd Australian Divn will remain in their present position in charge of personnel detailed for transfer to the 4th and 5th Divisions. The G.O.C., N.Z. Division will be responsible for the custody of the guns on departure of Headquarters, 2nd Australian Division.

6. The transport of the 2nd Australian Division will be utilised for the movements of both divisions, moving from FERRY POST in the morning and returning from MOASCAR in the afternoon with the baggage of the N.Z. Division.

7. The transfer of supply duties will be arranged mutually by G.O.C., 2nd Australian Division and G.O.C., N.Z. Division.

~~The N.Z.M.R. transfer of supply duties will be arranged~~
The supply of the N.Z.M.R. Bde will be undertaken by the 2nd Australian Division until the transfer takes place.

8. All telephone and telegraph lines will be left standing and the system will be taken over by the Signal Troop, N.Z.M.R. Bde and the Signal Company, N.Z. Division, under arrangements to be made by G.O.C. Divisions.

C.W. Gwynn
Colonel
General Staff,
1st A. & N. Z. Army Corps.

DETAIL OF MOVEMENTS.

Attached to Army Corps Order
No. 5, dated 4.3.1916

Unit	From	To	Date	Concentrate at	Remarks
N. Z. M. R. Bde.	Serapeum	Railhead B Subsection	5th March	-	Take over front line of B Subsection by 12 noon, 6th M March, including post reserves of ammunition and custody of Engineer Stores.
13th Light Horse Rgt.	Ferry Post East	Meascar	5th "	-	Take over lines of Otago Mtd. Rifles Regt.
7th Inf. Bde. (less 1 battalion)	Do	do	5th "	-	Take over lines of 3 battalions N. Z. Inf. Bde.
Otago M. R. Regt.	Meascar	Ferry Post East	5th "	-	Take over lines of 13th L.H. Regt
N. Z. Inf. Bde. (less 1 battalion)	Do	do	5th "	-	Take over 3-battalions lines of 3 battalions 7th Infantry Bde.
5th Inf. Bde.	Ferry Post East	Meascar	7th "	} Ferry Post East } on 6th March	
6th Inf. Bde	Do	do	8th		
5th & 6th Field Coys, all Field Ambulances (less 1 section of one), A.S.C. and other details	Do	do	6th	Ferry Post East on 5th March	
Artillery Personnel and Horses.	Do	do	6th	-	Other than those required for practice firing (Remainder proceeds on conclusion of practice.

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Unit	From	To	Date	Concentrate at	Remarks.
N.Z. Rifle Bde (2 bat- talions)	Meascar	Ferry Post East	7th March	-	
7th Inf. Bde (1 batta- lion)	Ferry Post East	Meascar	8th March	-	In relief
N.Z. Inf. Bde (1 battalion)	Meascar	Ferry Post East	8th "	-	
N.Z. Division-Engin- eer details, 1 sect- ion Field Ambulance	Do	Do	-	-	In relief. Date and details to be arranged mutually by MYNKA G.O's.C. Divisions.
2nd Australian Diva.- 7th Field Co., 1 sec- tion Field Ambulance	Ferry Post East	Meascar	-	-	

N.B.

(i) Other details, N.Z. Division will remain at Meascar.

(ii) The Canal Bridge at Ferry Post will be swung from 0900 to 1200 and 1500 to 1800 on 5th March, and at similar hours on succeeding days if possible.

Appendix No.

3-11
Secret.

General Staff Circular, No. 1.

Appendix No. 3

1. The G.O.C. thinks it is desirable that the policy to be followed in dealing with a serious attack should be laid down and thoroughly understood by all Brigade Commanders.
2. The front line is at present held by 2 Mounted Regiments with one in reserve at Hailhead. This line is only an outpost line. It is improbable that any serious attack could be delivered upon it without previous warning from aeroplanes or other sources. However that may be, the G.O.C. wishes to be clearly understood by G.O.C. Mounted Rifles Brigade, that the enemy is to be met and engaged upon the front line whether Infantry Reinforcements are handy or not and there is to be no retirement from it unless overwhelmed by vastly superior Artillery - a most improbable contingency.
3. When information of an impending attack is received the G.O.C. intends to move the Infantry on to the front line, and when they have arrived, the Mounted Rifles will probably be concentrated in rear with a view to offensive action.
4. The following is the provisional distribution of troops for the support and occupation of the front line, in case of attack.

2nd Infantry Brigade	the right sector at present held by Canterbury Mtd Rifles
Rifle Brigade	the left sector at present held by Auckland Mounted Rifles.
1st Infantry Brigade	in general reserve to ALLBURY HILL (Div.H.Q.)
5. To facilitate such a move, Brigadiers their Staff Officers, and Regimental Commanders will take steps to reconnoitre the routes to these sectors, the front line itself and make provisional distribution of their commands in the actual trenches which they will occupy. This reconnaissance should enable Brigades to move either by day or night. The 1st Infantry Brigade will reconnoitre both sectors with a view to reinforce either one, as required.

A. C. H. H. H.

Major,
General Staff,
New Zealand Division.

Copy No.	1	File.
"	2 & 3	War Diary.
"	4	A & Q
"	5	A.D.M.S.
"	6	Signals
"	7	A.D.C. for G.O.C.
"	8	C.R.A.
"	9	C.R.E.
"	10	1st Inf. Bde.
"	11	2nd Inf. Bde.
"	12	N.Z.M.R. Bde.
"	13	O.M.R.

Appendix No.

General Headquarters,

Mediterranean Expeditionary Force,

7th March, 1916.

1st A. & N.Z., Army Corps,

Instructions have been received from the War Office that the N.Z. Division will be prepared for embarkment to France on lines similar to those issued for the 1st and 2nd Australian Divisions.

Detailed instructions will be issued later.

It is not anticipated, at present, that they will be required to embark under a month from now.

Sd. Walter Campbell, Major-General

D.Q.M.G., M.E.F.

Copies to.

(2)

Headquarters,

New Zealand Division.

For your information.

Ismailia.
11/3/1916.Sd. M-Dodington, Major
General Staff,
1st A. & N.Z., Army Corps.

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K5
SECRET.

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C.R. No. 41/8/1 Ga. Appendix No.

1st Australian and New Zealand Army Corps,
Headquarters,

10th March, 1916.

Headquarters,

New Zealand Division.

1. The 3rd L.H. Brigade and N.Z. Mounted Rifle Brigade occupying respectively the front line in A & B subsections are essentially outpost troops. Their line of resistance is in the front line of trenches which must be held till it can be occupied by reinforcements from the Divisions concentrated at SERAPEUM and FERRY POST respectively.
2. Warning of an attack in force should be given by the air service in time for the reinforcement of the front line, but the outposts must be prepared to hold the front line against a reconnaissance in force by mounted troops.
3. In view of reconnaissances carried by our aeroplanes and the Bikanir Camel Corps it should normally suffice for Light Horse and Mounted Rifles to keep the ground for about four or five miles in advance of the front line under observation by day, strong or numerous patrols are not required.
4. Posts for picquets should be selected in the front trenches and at these posts trenches should be completed and protected with wire. Reserve ammunition, water and rations in these posts should be provided, also cover for horses shd be considered
5. The outpost troops are responsible for the custody of engineer stores, reserve ammunition &c in the front line and for the general maintenance of the trenches which have been constructed. The latter should be kept sufficiently clear of sand to furnish an efficient breast work at all points; where revetment is exposed and works have suffered by sand being blown away the damage should be made good. Such new work as

3/14 K5
would improve the position as an outpost line should be carried out. The completion and strengthening of picquet posts should have preference to maintenance work.

6. Where gaps still exist in the line of the 1st Division the 3rd A.L.H. Brigade will construct works for occupation by picquets on the line pegged out. The trenches however may be of a lighter character than originally designed.

The works to be constructed will include posts -

(a) on Gazelle heights.

(b) Katib-el-Habashi

(c) Post south of Katib-el-Habashi near caravan route.

7. Nothing in the above instructions is to be read as prohibiting Commanders of Mounted Brigades from taking offensive action in advance of the entrenched line to round up small parties of the enemy located in the front.

8. The Corps Commander desires that orders to the above effect be issued to Mounted Brigades concerned.

Brig-General,

General Staff.

1/ A. & N.Z. Army Corps.