

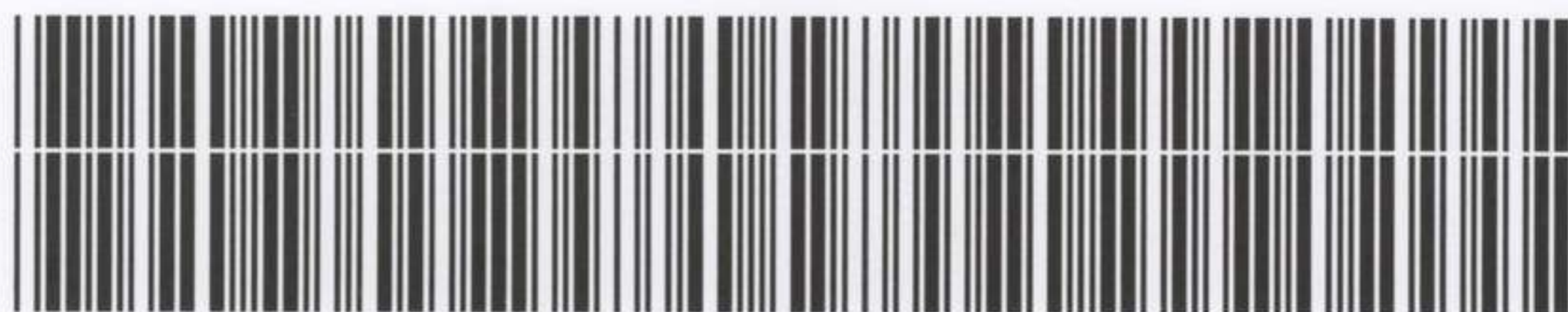
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/60/15 Part 1

Title: General Staff, Headquarters ANZAC
Mounted Division

May 1917



AWM4-1/60/15PART1

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

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General Staff April 1917
A. & N. Z. Mtd Div. Vol IV page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	1/5/17	0817	Report received from NZMR Bde. that their advanced guard has passed GOZ EL BASAL - so far only a few snipers seen	App 52
		0830	12 th L.H. Bde report enemy aircraft dropped 4 bombs on 3 rd L.H. Regt. No damage	
		0940	Report received from NZMR Bde. that their headquarters are at GOZ EL BASAL, and patrols have reached the line pt. 550 due E. of 450 to the 12 th K of KH KHASIF. Patrols were fired at from a trench about 1M SIRI.	
		1305	NZMR Bde report all quiet on their front and they are withdrawing at 1430.	
		1742	Report received from NZMR Bde. that they have returned to bivouac. Their report on the reconnaissance was received and forwarded to Des. Col.	Appen 34
	2/5/17	1012	Progress report on work carried out yesterday sent to Desert Column	Appen 35
		1015	NZMR Bde report 510 patrol in touch with about one squadron of enemy cavalry about N in CULTIVATION north of 510.	
		1345	2 nd LH Bde reports SAUSAGE RIDGE patrol at MUNKEILEH in touch with enemy patrols. 410 patrol also in touch with enemy patrols.	
		1700	Deserter from 1612 th Turkish regt sent in by 2 nd L.H. Bde. He states enemy are not making any preparations to attack.	
		1810	2 nd L.H. and NZMR Bdes ordered to detail working parties of 80 men and 3 officers for work on Outpost Line tomorrow.	
	3/5/17	0905	Orders re patrol areas received from Desert Column. In future this division will be responsible for patrolling the areas between WADI SHARIFA inclusive to the FARA - BEERSHEBA road.	
		0915	NZMR Bde. report patrols have reached pt. 510 ABU SHAWISH, pt. 550 and GOZ EL BASAL. Enemy patrol retired East from HILL 510 and a small Turkish post was	

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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General Staff
A. and N.Z. Mtd Div. Vol 14 page 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	3/5/17		located at point 630. Otherwise all clear	
	Contd.	1022	Patrol from 2 nd L.H. Bde. reports from 600 yds west of HILL 510. One troop enemy cavalry operating along WADI IMLEIH. Have been shelled at extreme range.	
		1750	2 nd and N.Z. Bdes ordered to provide the working parties of 3 officers and 50 O.R. to carry out works on outpost line tomorrow.	
		1937	Orders in daily patrols issued. 2 nd L.H. Bde to send patrols towards 410 and 510 ABU SHAWISH and N.Z.MR Bde patrols to GOZ EL GELEIB and GOZ EL BASAL.	
		2105	Further working party of 2 officers and 50 O.R. ordered for tomorrow from N.Z.MR Bde for works on FARA crossing, and party of 1 officer and 30 O.R. from 2 nd L.H. Bde for works in erecting wire on outpost line.	
	4/5/17	0900	2 nd L.H. Bde report patrol to 410 is in touch with enemy's patrols on WADI IM-LEIH - patrol to 510 reports all clear but is being shelled.	
		1003	Progress report forwarded to Desert Column	
		1015	Arrangements completed for attendance of two officers (Lt. Thompson Staffs Geo. and Major R.T. Bruce N.Z.MR Bde) at Staff course commencing at CAIRO on 6 th May.	
		1030	1 st L.H. Bde report hostile aeroplane dropped 2 bombs on party of 3 rd L.H. rpt. returning from water, wounding one man and 7 horses and killing 5 horses.	
		1600	Report received from 410 patrol that 1 troop enemy cavalry crossed WADI IM-LEIH, with one squadron in support on west East bank. Later it was reported that this hostile troop did not advance beyond West bank.	
		1925	2 nd L.H. Bde ordered to detail 3 working parties amounting in all to 6 officers and 210 men for works on crossings and outpost line tomorrow. Similar parties were also ordered from N.Z.MR Bde.	

Append 86

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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*General Staff
A & NZ Mtd Div. Vol IV page 4*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	4/5/17	2030	Report received from NZMR Bde and forwarded to Desert Column on enemy post in the vicinity of IM SIRI	Appen 87
	5/5/17	0920	Hill 410 patrol reports reached HILL 410, where patrol was shelled so moved a little to the right.	
		0930	Progress report on work done yesterday forwarded to Desert Column	Appen 88
		1805	N.Z. M.R. Bde report patrols have returned and report having reached the line 550 W of EL GIRHEIR - IM SIRI - KH KHASIP. Enemy posts were seen on the line K of KH IMLEIH - 720 - L of EL BUGGAR.	
		2000	NZMR Bde ordered to detail working party of 2 officers and 80 O.R. for works at FARA crossings tomorrow. 3 officers and 80 O.R. ordered from 2nd LH Bde for works on lateral road at UMURGAN.	
		2025	Summary of information obtained by patrols today forwarded to Desert Column	Appen 89
	6/5/17	0915	Progress report on work done yesterday forwarded to Desert Column.	Appen 89a
		0943	2nd L.H. Bde patrols report enemy patrols in WADI IMLEIH otherwise all clear.	
		1300	In accordance with orders received this morning from Desert Column, orders issued for NZMR Bde (less 1 regt.) and one regt 2nd L.H. Bde. to concentrate at TEL EL FARA at 1800 today. Under orders of GOC Imperial Mounted Division, and in cooperation with a brigade of that Division, they will then move so as	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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*General Staff
A & N. Z. Mounted Division*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	6/5/17	1555	to endeavour to capture at dawn enemy posts reported in the vicinity of IM SIRI CRA ordered to have one battery held in readiness to move from TEL EL FARA to support NZMR Bde if required.	Appendix 90
	7/5/17	0925	Progress report on work done yesterday forwarded to Desert Column.	Appendix 91
		0935	Hill 510 patrol reports it has made good WADI IMLEIH. Hill 510 patrol reports contact gained with enemy about 100 strong on East bank of WADI.	
		1010	Information received from Desert Column that IM SIRI - EL BUGGAR area where NZMR Bde are operating under orders of Imperial MtD Div. was found all clear.	
		1900	2 nd L.H. and NZMR Bdes ordered to detail working parties of 2 officers and 60 O.R. for work on FARA crossings tomorrow.	
		1530	510 patrol reports mounted troops about 200 strong manœuvring on East bank of WADI IMLEIH.	
		1910	22 nd MtD Bde ordered to detail 1 officer and 30 men for work on WADI crossings tomorrow. 2 nd Bde also ordered to detail working parties for tomorrow totalling 1 officer and 33 other ranks.	
		2155	7A th Division having reported 300 Turks seen digging on west bank of WADI IMLEIH, under instructions from Desert Column orders were sent to 2 nd L.H. Bde to send out officers patrols to clear up situation.	Appendix 92
	8/5/17	0951	2 nd L.H. Bde report that officers patrols ordered last night have returned and report all clear to WADI IMLEIH.	
		0900	Progress report on work done yesterday sent to Desert Column	Appendix 93
		1230	2 nd L.H. Bde ordered to move out and make good pt 510 ABU SHAWISH	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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General Staff
A & N.Z. Mtd Div.

Vol 10 page 6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA			and A50 GOZ EL BASAL by 0800 tomorrow to cover a visit of Army Commander to GOZ EL GELEIB and GOZ EL BASAL.	Appendix 94
		1750	Reference above order CRA ordered to detail one battery to accompany 2 nd L.H. Bde and O.C. Signal Squadron instructed to arrange for cable communication between Divisional Hqs. and 2 nd L.H. Bde	Appendix 95
		1930	N.Z. M.R. Bde ordered to detail working parties totalling 3 officers and 110 men for work on outpost line and WADI GHUZZE crossings tomorrow. Party of 1 officer and 30 OR ordered from 22 nd Mtd Bde.	
		2155	Summary of reports by patrols today sent to Desert Column	Appendix 96
	9/5/17	0835	2 nd L.H. Bde report HILL 510 ABU SHAWISH and 520 KARM clear. B.H.Q. at GOZ EL GELEIB. 3 miles to the East a regiment of cavalry was seen marching South.	
		0900	Progress report on work done yesterday sent to Desert Column	Appendix 97
		1149	2 nd L.H. Bde report they are now withdrawing	
		1712	Working parties of 3 officers and 81 men ordered from 2 nd LH and NZMR Bdes for work on crossings and outpost line tomorrow.	
		1715	Hostile aeroplanes dropped 11 bombs on NZMR and 22 nd Mtd Bde. Casualties 2 OR wounded 5 horses killed 6 wounded all in NZMR Bde Field Ambulance.	
		2030	NZMR Bde patrols returned to camp and report only enemy seen were small posts on line PT 630 EL GIRHEIR - PT 720 east of WADI UM SIRR.	
		2035	Working party of 1 officer and 40 men ordered for tomorrow from NZMR Bde for work on FARA crossings and 2 nd Bde ordered to provide two parties of 1 off. and 20 OR. for similar work tomorrow.	
	10/5/17	0930	NZMR Bde report GELEIB patrol reports from 500 contour line East of L in CULTIVATION, no enemy troops in sight, no train moving E from vaduit at 0815. BASAL patrol reports arrived at 4.50, enemy in sight	

69th Signal Coy
G.S.

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*General Staff
A. & N.Z. Mtel. Div. Vol 14 - page 7*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	10 th combel	0935	Arrangements made for 2 nd LH Bde to carry out all four daily patrols on 12 th instant and NZMR Bde all four daily patrols on 11 th inst. (i.e. patrols to 410 WADI IMLEIH - 510 ABU SHAWIS - GOZ EL GELEIB and GOZ EL BASAL)	
		1055	HILL 410 patrol reports unable to reach 410 - WADI IMLEIH strongly held.	
		1525	Under instructions from Desert Column, working party of 50 detailed from 2 nd LH Bde for work on water supply at SHELLAL.	
		1530	Working party of 2 officers and 36 men ordered from NZMR Bde for work on LIMURGAN road tomorrow - also 2 officers and 24 men from 2 nd LH Bde.	
		1855	NZMR Bde report patrols have returned to camp. Summary of reports sent to Dersol	Appen 98
		1950	Message received from Des Col. that R.F.C. report at 1620 - Party of enemy 2500 strong seen 2 1/2 miles from SABBA on SABBA - FARA road moving towards FARA.	
		2100	In accordance with the above all units warned to be on the alert. NZMR Bde instructed to push GOZ EL BASAL patrol well out along SABBA road tomorrow to endeavour to find out whether enemy strength in this area has increased.	Appen 99
		2100	Instructions issued that for the future, ^{2nd & NZ} Brigades will continue to carry out all four daily patrols alternately.	
		2230	Instructions having been received from Desert Column, NZMR Bde ordered to carry out a reconnaissance towards BIR SABBA tomorrow as far as EL BUGGAR to ascertain if enemy force reported by R.F.C. is advancing in this direction. The Brigade to be across WADI GHUZZE by 0400	Appen 100
		W. J. Hughes Capt G.S.	11/5/17	0615	NZMR Bde report - Have passed Point 900 - all clear.
0655	NZMR Bde report - Patrols 1 mile E of KARM - all clear			
0810	NZMR Bde report - Adv. guard on contour 800 1 mile E of R in EL BUGGAR. Enemy fire obstructing further progress.			
0900	Progress report on work done yesterday forwarded to Desert Column.			
		0920	In accordance with a message received from Desert Column, NZMR Bde ordered to withdraw, leaving out usual patrols.	Appen 101

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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General Staff Vol IV - page 8
A. B. N. Z. Mtd Div.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
TEL EL FARA	11 th Concl.	0950	NZMR Bde reports enemy's strength on ridge across road 1 mile E of 500 contour line 150 cavalry - cannot move further E without fighting. Enemy camps appear to stretch from KH SUFI to BEERSHEBA.		
		1105	NZMR Bde report they are withdrawing.		
		1200	HILL 510 patrol reports from 1 mile E of 510 - Enemy holding bank of WADI IMLEIH from H in IMLEIH to I in KHIRBIT ERK		
		1740	One of our aeroplanes was brought down by enemy plane on E bank of WADI opposite HM URGAN. Troop 12 th L.H. Bde was sent to its assistance and in addition car from DHQ brought in pilot who was badly burned to 22 nd Mtd Bde Field Ambulance.		
		1640	Instructions received from Desert Column that battery 60 pns leaves SHELLAL at 1300 tomorrow to take up position near GOZ EL GELEIB to shell HAREIRA area. 1 Bde Anzac Mtd Div to make good the area 450 (BASAL) - 510 ABU SHAWIS and thence towards WADI IMLEIH by 1300 commencing withdrawal at 1800		
		1800	Orders issued in accordance with the above	Appen 102	
		1840	In accordance with instructions received from Desert Column - orders for fresh dispositions on outpost and battle lines issued. Anzac Mtd Div. is now to be responsible (in addition to present line) for posts on WEST bank WADI GHUZZE, for which purpose the companies of infantry 7A th Div. at HISEIA, SHELLAL and FARA respectively are placed under orders of the division from noon tomorrow	Appen 103	
		1940	Summary of patrol reports sent to Desert Column	Appen 104	
		12/5/17	1345	2 nd L.H. Bde reports - Bde in position - Bde Hqs 1 mile SW of 510.	
			1830	Supplementary orders with regard to holding West bank of WADI GHUZZE issued. 3 rd L.H. Bde joins 12 th L.H. Bde who will be responsible for linking up infantry posts at HISEIA and SHELLAL. Stafford Coy joins 22 nd Mtd Bde who become respon-	

G. J. Hughes Capt
A.S.

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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General Staff
A NZ Mtd Div
Vol IV page 9

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			able for linking up infantry posts at SHELLAL and FARA. Inf. posts at NISEIRA and SHELLAL come under orders of 12 th LH Bde and inf. post at FARA under 22 nd Mtd. Bde. from	Append 105
		1720	2 nd LH Bde reports - no enemy movement - gun shelling pt 410.	
		1850	2 nd LH Bde reports - Heavy battery with drawing - am withdrawing brigade.	
		1925	Working parties of 1 officer and 16 men ordered from 2 nd LH and NZMR Bdes for to work on road at UM URGAN tomorrow.	
	13/5/17	0810	NZMR Bde report 410 patrol reached H in ABU SHAWISH from which point transport escorted by cavalry was seen moving towards GAZA.	
		0925	NZMR. Bde reports 570 patrol reports small enemy posts seen on HILL 630 and HILL 410.	
		1540	NZMR. Bde report patrol to 410 reached WADI IMLEIA enemy mounted troops falling back on line HAREIRA - ISIR IFTEIS. GELEIB patrol reports one man wounded.	
		1625	Orders issued for daily patrol to be carried out towards SAUSAGE RIDGE in addition to those already being done.	
		1627	Working party of 2 officers and 100 men ordered from 12 th LH Bde for cleaning up SHELLAL area	
		2010	Summary of patrol reports sent to Desert Column	Append 106
	14/5/17	0910	12 th L.H. Bde ordered to detail one troop as escort for convoys to relieve troops 2 nd LH Bde at 0900 tomorrow	
		1015	Two Turkish prisoners 47 th regiment 16 th Division taken 2 miles E of SHELLAL. They state their regiment is still in same position at HAREIRA. Shelling on 9 th instant inflicted loss of one killed and 6 wounded.	
		1010	GELEIB patrol reports HILL 550 SE of ABU SHAWISH occupied by enemy	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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General Staff
A & N. Z. Mtd Div. Vol IV page 10

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	14/5/17 contd	1400	2 nd and NZMR Bdes ordered to provide working parties of 1 officer and 16 men for work on route leading to AL 27 and 28 tomorrow.	
		1630	GELEIB patrol reports enemy aeroplane flying north dropped one bomb.	
		1710	2 nd and NZMR Bdes ordered to detail additional working parties of one officer and 25 men for work on UM URBAN crossings tomorrow.	
	15/5/17	0845	BASAL patrol reports two troops enemy's cavalry occupying ASD. Our patrol pushed forward and enemy retired on EL BUOGAR.	
1235		Instructions issued that for the future northern (SAUSAGE RIDGE) patrol will move only as far as WADI running through EL MAGAM so as not to overlap patrol from 5A th Division.		
1345		SAUSAGE RIDGE patrol reports enemy posts on the line SAUSAGE RIDGE - E of BAIKET EL SANA - pt 380 WADI SHERIA. Patrol was attacked by 50 infantry with machine guns and forced to fall back.		
1625		BASAL patrol reports one Bde enemy cavalry seen moving in southerly direction from pt 720 east of SIRR at 1432.		
1100		A and N. Z. Mtd Div. order No 82 issued. A new battle line to east of WADI is to be dug by 74 th Division on night 16/17. To cover this one regiment each from NZMR and 2 nd LH Bdes will be provided.	Appen 107	
		2030	Orders issued for NZMR Bde to be at a point 3/4 mile NW of KH KHASIF at 0900 tomorrow. In conjunction with a Bde of Imperial Mtd Div they will attack enemy cavalry reported near IM SIRI today should they be found.	Appen 108
69th C.S.	16/5/17	0915	410 patrol reports. unable to cross WADI SHERIA have had two men killed from rifle fire. enemy estimated 100 strong entrenched on North bank.	
		0940	22 nd Mtd Bde report one of our aeroplanes has been brought down 2 1/2 miles	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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*General Staff
A. & N. Z. Mtd Div.*

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	16 th would	1830	2 nd LH and NZMR Bdes ordered to detail each a party of 1 officer and 16 men for work on LIM URGAN crossings.	
		2000	A. and N. Z. Mtd Div. order No 83 issued. Work on new line by 74 th Division will be continued on night 17/18. Covering parties from A & N. Z. Mtd Division detailed as before. During the day the aeroplane which had been brought down was brought in - and also the pilot - Captain Jones - who was wounded in the leg.	Appen 109
	17/5/17	0955	NZ Bde report patrol in direction EL MAGAM reports enemy cavalry protecting about 100 beehive gathering crops at KH ERK. All other patrols report all clear.	
		1100	A and N. Z. Mtd. Div. Order No 84 issued. 74 th Division to take over outpost line East of WADI GHUZZE from 1700 today. Amman Mtd. Div. take over EL SHAUTH works from Imperial Mtd Div. at same hour. Besides holding these works the Division will be responsible for day patrols as heretofore and standing patrols along the whole line at night.	Appen 110
		1210	Fresh instructions having been received from Desert Column - operation order No 83 is cancelled, and instructions for distribution of Bdes after 74 th Division takes over outpost line at 1700 to day issued.	Appen 111
		1245	Instructions issued to CRA to select battery position in rear of right of line to be held by NZMR Bde front and move battery into position by 1800 to day.	
		1630	Instructions issued that except for Garrison of EL SHAUTH group and works connecting EL GAMLI and EL GHABI, units will not stand to tomorrow or thereafter until further orders.	
		1635	Orders issued for 2 nd LH Bde to relieve NZMR Bde on EL SHAUTH group and works connecting GHABI and GAMLI at 1500 tomorrow.	Appen 112
		1700	Line east of WADI URGAN handed over to 74 th Div. and SHAUTH-GHABI-GAMLI works taken over from Imperial Mtd Div by NZMR Bde.	

*W. J. Maguire
C.S.*

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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General Staff Vol 10 page 12
A. & N. Z. Mtd Div.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	18/5/17	1040	GOZ EL BASAL patrol reports it is engaged with about 50 enemy in trenches N of well just North of KH KHASIF. One horse killed.	
		1500	SAUSAGE RIDGE patrol reports one man killed near WADI EL BAHA.	
		1100	2 nd L.H. Bde relieved NZMR Bde in EL SHATH - GHABI - GAMLI works	
		2000	A & N. Z. Mtd Div. Order No 85 issued. A raid is to be carried out by the division on 22 nd instant with the object of destroying enemy railway between ASHUN and ALVA. The destruction is to be done by the demolition squadrons of Anzac & Imperial Mounted Divisions - who have been specially organized from the Field Squadrons. The 1 st L.H. Bde will act as an immediate covering force to the demolition squadrons, while the remainder of the division watch the approaches from BEERSHEBA. Tasks in conjunction with this operation have been allotted to Imperial Mtd Div. and I.C.C. Bde by G.O.C. Desert Column.	Appen 113
		2055	Summary of Patrol reports for the day forwarded to Desert Column	Appen 117
	19/5/17		Arrangements completed for 1 st & 2 nd L.H. and NZMR Bdes to exchange their Mark VI rifles for Mark VII	
		1255	Instructions issued that 1 Bde in addition to that holding the EL SHATH group will stand to each morning from 0315 until "All clear" starting with 1 st L.H. Bde.	
		1900	Amendment to Order No 85 issued, giving mainly details for handing over GAMLI - GHABI works to 101 st Gren. Advers.	Appen 115
		1945	Instructions recd. from Desert Column that projected raid on railway is postponed till further orders.	
		1950	Patrol report received from NZMR Bde. Observation was very difficult owing to dust storm, but enemy, strength 100 were seen occupying trench	

W. J. Hughes
C.S.

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General Staff
AB N. 2. Mtd Div

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	19/5/17 contd.		North of WADI IMLEIH at point 410 and parties were seen digging on works near HAREIRA.	
	20/5/17		Provisional Defence Scheme based on instructions received from Desert Column issued. Army Mtd Div. is responsible for day patrols, night standing patrols in front of Infantry line East of WADI GHUZZE and for holding EL SHAUTH works with one brigade. In case of attack one Bde to move towards IM SIRI and one Bde towards ESANI to clear up situation, remainder of division to concentrate at JEZARIYE with a view to taking offensive action against enemy's flank.	Appendix 116
		1450	Instructions received from Desert Column and issued to Brigades that railway raid will now take place on 23 rd instant - dates in Order No 85 to be altered accordingly	Appen 113
		1650	Summary of patrol reports forwarded to Desert Column.	
		1800	Orders issued that for the future 2 brigades with affiliated batteries as well as Bde holding EL SHAUTH works must stand to duty from 0315 to all clear.	
		1815	Based on instructions emanating from G.H.Q. instructions issued that every opportunity be taken to destroy crops east of Egyptian frontier which cannot be harvested by inhabitants under our protection or brought in	

W. J. Maguire
C.S.

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~~INTELLIGENCE~~ SUMMARY.

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General Staff
A. & N. Z. Mtd Div.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	21/5/17	1015	Patrols report GOZ EL GELENB - PT 510 - ABU SHAWISH - GOZ EL BASAL - GOZ MABRUK all clear	
		1900	Orders for assembly and march of Amman Mtd. Div. issued. (less 1 st L.H. Bde, 1 regt. 2 nd L.H. Bde and 1 section R.H.A.) issued. Order of march - Advanced Guard 1 regt. 2 nd L.H. Bde - Main Body Div. Hqrs - Signal Squadron - 2 nd L.H. Bde (less 2 regts.) 22 nd Mtd Bde. Div. Artillery - NZMR Bde (less 1 regt) Rear Guard - 1 regt. NZMR Bde. Each Bde to provide its own flank protection.	Appen 113
			An account of the operations against NEKHL carried out by 11 th ALH regiment in February 1917 having been received from that unit is attached	Appen 118
	22/5/17 -23/5/17		Operations against enemy railway between ASLUS and BUSA. For full account see attached report. Full details of the demolition work carried out, (with photographs etc) are contained in War Diary of Field Squadron, Amman Mtd Division	Appen 119
		23/5/17	Orders received for the bde Amman Mtd Div. to take over EL SHAUTH and GHABI - GAMLI works from Div. Sqdn. 74 th Div. and sqdn. Imperial Mtd Div. at 0900 tomorrow. 2 nd L.H. Bde detailed for this duty	

W. G. W. G. G. G.

WAR DIARY

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A. W. 2 mtd D. W.
Vol IV page 15

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 miles W of TEL EL FARA	24/5/17	0900	2 nd L.H. Bde. took over GHABI-GAMLI-EL SHAUTH works from Squadron Imperial Mtd Div. and Div. Sqdn. 7A th Division.	
		0925	Hostile aeroplane dropped three bombs at GAMLI - 2 men and 1 horse 2 nd L.H. Bde. were wounded, also 4 men 22 nd Mounted Bde.	
		1200	Divisional Hqrs. reopened at a point 2 miles W of TEL EL FARA	
		1700	Patrols from 22 nd Mtd Bde report that during the day enemy patrols were encountered 3 miles S of GOZ MABRUK - at KARM. in WADI IMLEIH near pt 510 ABU SHAWISH and at junction of WADIS SHERIA and IMLEIH. In all cases enemy patrols retired on approach of our parties.	
		2040	Patrol towards SAUSAGE RIDGE reported that enemy snipers were today concealed in crops about junction of WADIS SHERIA and IMLEIH, also that crops was being collected in that area. Instructions were received from Desert Column and forwarded to Bdes that on first opportunity patrols were to burn these crops.	
	25/5/17	1150	Patrols report all clear to S and W of GOZ MABRUK, small enemy patrols S of WADI at PT 410, & enemy covering working parties gathering crops N of WADI IMLEIH at KHIRBIT.	
		1230	3 Turkish deserters from 7 th Cavalry regiment taken by wood gathering party of 1 st L.H. Bde passed through D.H.Q. They state 3 rd Cavalry Division with 15 th Cavalry regiment attached is at BEERSHEVA	
		1731	1 st L.H. Bde ordered to send one regiment to protect the line EL MUNKH-BILEH to point 330 square L 1/20000 GAZA and SHEHAT map to cover a reconnaissance by force and Desert Column commanders of	

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.)

General Staff Vol IV page 16
A. & N. Z. Mtd Div.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
2 miles W of TEL EL WADI & FARRA.	25/5/17		Area between WADIS GHUZZE and SHERIA bounded on north by a line joining HISEIA and ERK. The reconnaissance leaves JEMMI at 0930 and the area will be made good by 0530 tomorrow.	
		1900	Instructions received from Desert Column that working party of 50 men are again required at SHELAL springs from tomorrow onward. They were detailed from 1 st L.H. Bde.	
		2100	A. & N. Z. Mtd Div. order No 87 issued. 2 nd L.H. Bde holding SHALUHA works to be relieved by 53 rd Division on 27 th instant. On 28 th May Amzac Mtd Division will be relieved by Imperial Mtd Division and will move to the ABISSAN EL KEBIR area - two Brigades (2 nd L.H. and 22 nd Mtd.) bivouacking near the beach at TEL EL MARAKEB.	A. & N. Z. Mtd Div. 120
	26/5/17	0840	1 st L.H. rpt. reported to be in position on line PT 330 - EL MAGAM - EL MUNKHEI LEH to cover reconnaissance force and Desert Column commanders.	
		2000	Arrangements completed for 21 officers from the Division to attend various courses commencing at Imperial School of Instruction - ZITOUN on 4/6/17.	
		2230	1 st L.H. Bde report that patrols to day encountered enemy patrols at a point 2 miles SE of GOZ MABRUH and on occupation of KARM. Enemy retired on approach of our troops.	
	27/5/17	1130	Further report from patrol to Point A10 yesterday reports enemy were holding WADI IMLEIH from A10 to 520. A wrecked aeroplane was found 1/2 mile west of E in WADI IMLEIH marked with Turkish characters underneath.	

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.)

General Staff Vol. IV - page 17
A. and N. Z. Mtd Div

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEBIR	27/5/17 Contd	1700	One arab soldier, deserter from 47 th regiment passed through D.H.Q. He states 47 th regiment is still situated south of HAREIRA, but his division (16 th) is expecting to be relieved shortly.	
		1715	Patrols from 22 nd Mtd. Bde report enemy patrols encountered today at POINT AIO WADI IMLEIM and BIR IFTEIS, also in trenches N and S of KH KHASIF. WADI SHERIA was held near ERK by about 1 squadron. GOZ MABRUK patrol reports capture of 18 beduin.	
		1735	2 nd LH Bde report they have been relieved at EL SHAUTH and at works QRST on GHABI-GAMLI line in accordance with Div. Order No 87 Training showing roads over WADI GHUZZE and defension line East thereof constructed during the month by Amzar Mtd Div. attached Brig. General Pyrie C.M.G. assumed command of Division during absence of Major-General E.W.C. Chayton C.B. C.M.G. in Cairo.	Appen 120 Appen 121
	28/5/17	1700	D.H.Q. closed at point 2 miles W. of TEL EL FARA and reopened at a point 1 1/2 miles north of ABASAN EL KEBIR.	
		1600	Moves as detailed in Divisional Order No 87 completed. In addition two batteries R.H.A. and Div. Amm. Col. bivouaced in TEL EL MARRA-KEB area instead of ABASAN EL KEBIR	Appen 120
		0825	Patrol of NZMR Bde towards KHIRBET ERK reports 3 troops enemy cavalry were encountered at point 300 covering party gathering crop & enemy were driven off with loss of 3 killed and 20 camel loads of crop burnt. Our casualties were 1 man and 2 horses slightly wounded.	

General Staff

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY *General Staff*
(Erase heading not required.) *AF N.2. Mtd Divn.*

Vol IV page 18

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>ABASAN EL KEBIR</i> <i>W.D.</i>	<i>29/5/17</i>	<i>1700</i>	<i>Application made to construct a Rifle Range at a point S of Kilo 12 on WELI SHEIKH NURAN Railway.</i>	
<i>"</i> <i>W.D.</i>	<i>30/5/17</i>	<i>1300</i>	<i>Re-armament of the Division with MK VII rifles in lieu of MK VI Commenced - one Bde per day exchanging rifles.</i>	
<i>W.D.</i>	<i>31/5/17</i>	<i>1430</i>	<i>Approval given for construction of rifle range and arrangements made to construct same on 1/6/17.</i>	

777+

Appendix No. 84

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form G. 2121
No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code.....	m.	Words	Charge.	<i>This message is on a/c of:</i>	Reed. at.....	m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions			Sent		<i>Service.</i>	Date.....	
Appendix 84			At.....			m.	
			To.....			From.....	
			By.....		By.....		
				(Signature of "Franking Officer.")			

TO	Desert Column.		
----	----------------	--	--

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	A A A
* GK 967	1st		

Additional report from N.Z. Bde as follows	aaa
when patrols reached a North and South line through	
S of IM SIRI they came under rifle fire from about	
30 enemy in trench about BEIT ABU TAHA	aaa 3 cisterns
containing about 30,000 galls at IM SIRI	aaa no
bedouin seen and no sign of crop being cut	aaa
Bde could not establish communication with advanced	
Bde Imperial Mtd Divn this Bde failing to answer	
signals	aaa Bde commenced withdrawal 1400
Bde returned to bivouac 1715.	aaa N.Z.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn		
Place			
Time	1755		

777+

Appendix No. 85.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

Appendix 85

TO Desert Column,

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK 997	2		

Progress report aaa 1st Bde report work done on
 outpost line to date - 846 yds fire trench completed
 320 yds commenced but not completed aaa 530 yds
 communication trench completed 165 yds commenced
 but not completed aaa 8 machine gun and 14 Hotchkiss
 Gun positions dug aaa 232 yds single apron entangleme
 completed aaa 22nd Mtd Bde report front line trenches
 lengthened aaa work being done on improving roads.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn
Place	
Time	0926

777+

Appendix No. 86

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form G. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

Appendix 86

TO { Desert Column.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK1095	4		

Progress Report aaa 1st Bde report work done on out-
 post line to date aaa 1667 yds fire trench completed
 221 yds in hand aaa 1330 yds communication trench
 completed 295 yds in hand aaa 20 M.G. and 30 H.G.
 positions dug aaa 1369 yds single apron entanglement
 completed 980 yds in hand aaa 22nd Mtd Bde report
 left sector aaa left redoubt, centre redoubt fire
~~positions dug and 1 comm trench completed~~
 new fire trench and M.G. emplacement completed aaa

From	Anzac Mtd Divn	
Place		
Time	1003	

Appendix No. 87

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO { *Appendix 87* Desert Column.

Sender's Number. * GK 1114 Day of Month. 4 In reply to Number. A A A

Patrol sent in direction GOZ EL BASAL reports - about 8 snipers pits have been dug 400 yds North of I of IM SIRI aaa about 500 yds North of the road where the 2nd H in KH KHASIF touches it there is a cross shaped trench each side of the cross being about 50 yds aaa this point is connected by a communication trench recently dug to a redoubt prepared for all round defence and situated just South of 2nd H in KH KHASIF aaa there are two lines of trenches at this ~~point~~ point aaa each being about 100 yds long aaa there is also 1 gun pit that has been dug for some considerable time at this point aaa snipers pits have also been dug West of the trench aaa the patrol leader considers these places are held by outposts as the trenches appeared to have been slept in last night aaa the enemy had strong posts, possibly 40 men at each, on Pts 720 East of the R in SIRI aaa at a point 500 yds South of the T in TAHA and also just South of the L in EL BUGGAR

From
Place Anzac Mtd Divn
Time 2030

Appendix No. 88

777 +

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO *Appendix 88*
Desert Column.

Sender's Number. * GK 119	Day of Month. 5	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-----

Progress report aaa	1st Bde report work done on out-
post line to date aaa	1735 yds fire trench completed
211 yds in hand aaa	1350 yds commn trench completed
280 yds in hand aaa	21 M.G. and 32 H.G. positions
dug aaa	1369 yds single apron entanglement completed
aaa 22nd Mtd Bde report	new trenches in left sector
almost completed aaa	

From	Anzac Mtd Divn
Place	0930
Time	

777 +

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO

Appendix 89
Desert Column

Sender's Number. * GK 159	Day of Month. 5	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------------------	--------------------	---------------------	-----

Following points noted on reconnaissance today aaa enemy fire mountain gun at Hill 510 from direction of ABU HAREIRA apparently extreme range aaa Many Turkish cavalry and men with camels in valley South of the WADI IMLIEH no formed bodies seen aaa traces of Turkish outposts having been seen at Hill 510 and 550 aaa railway between IRGEIG and SHERIA and viaduct plainly seen in aaa viaduct is about midway between IRGEIG and SHERIA apparently over Wadi which runs through 2nd A of ARAB EL TEIAHA aaa train passed viaduct going towards SHERIA at 0755 aaa another train entered SHERIA from North about 0915 aaa entrenching was going on in barley field about 1000 yds S/E. of the viaduct aaa redoubts on high ground running North of the ABU HAREIRA - ABU IRGEIG roads could be plainly seen aaa viaduct has guard of about 6 men by day aaa tracing shewing position of viaduct being forwarded.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn
Place	2025
Time	

777 +

Appendix No. 89(a)

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
No. of Message.....

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

TO { *after 89a* Desert Column.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK 165	6		

Progress report aaa 1st Bde report work on outpost line to date aaa 1775 yds fire trench completed 172 yds in hand aaa 1368 yds commn trench completed 360 yds in hand aaa 22 M.G. and 32 H.G. positions dug aaa 3000 yds wire complete and wire on remainder of front in hand aaa Turkish trenches and dug outs in front of line filled in aaa 22nd Mtd Bde report work continued in improving trenches aaa good progress is being made with communication in rear of positions.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn	
Place	0915	
Time		

777 +

Appendix No. 90.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

Appendix 90

TO { N.Z.M.R. Bde 2nd L.H. Bde
 Desert Column.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
* GK 180 6

Enemy are reported with trenches about EL BUGGAR
- IM SIRI and KH KHASIF aaa Column Cmmr wishes
these parties captured before dawn tomorrow 7th inst.
aaa one Bde Imperial Mtd Divn and 1 Bde ANZAC Mtd
Divn both under G.O.C. Imperial Mtd Divn will carry
out this minor enterprise aaa N.Z.M.R. Bde (less Regt
taking part in gas demonstration on 7th inst) and
1 Regt 2nd L.H. Bde will concentrate at TEL EL FARA
at 1800 today 6th aaa B.G.C. N.Z. Bde will command
this force and he himself will report to G.O.C.
Imperial Mtd Divn at EL GAMLI at 1830 on West bank
of Wadi aa orders of G.O.C. Imperial Mtd Divn will
be forwarded later aaaa acknowledge

From Anzac Mtd Divn
 1300
Place
Time

777 x

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO *Alphen 91* Desert Column.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK 187	7		

Progress report aaa 1st L.H. Bde report work done on
 outpost line to date aaa 1790 yds fire trench complete
 150 yds in hand aaa 1376 yds ~~6~~ commn trench completed
 342 yds in hand aaa 22 M.G. and 2 32 H.G. positions
 dug aaa 4262 yds wire completed 1670 yds. in hand aaa
 22nd Mtd Bde report trenches improved and deepened
 aaa 500 yds of track at UM URGAN were completed making
 a good crossing for wheels aaa work continued on
 crossings at FARA

From	Anzac Mtd Divn
Place	0925
Time	

277 +

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

Appendix 92

TO	2nd L.H. Bde		

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GE 211	7		

74th Divn report 300 Turks seen digging this evening on bearing 58 degrees from pt 310 on WADI GHUZZE and about 5000 yds distant aaa send out 2 officers patrols at once to clear up situation aaa strength 1 troop each aaa one to go via EL NAGLI towards Pt 280 one mile S.E. of KHIRBET UM RIUL the other via EL DAMMATH towards KHIRBET ERK aaa if all clear patrols will return aaa if enemy found patrols to send back word at once and remain in observation.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn	
Place	2155	
Time		

Appendix No. 93

777 T

"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

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

TO { Desert Column. *Alford 93*

Sender's Number. 00 212 * GK 241	Day of Month. 8th	In reply to Number.	AAA
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Progress report aaa 1st L.H. Bde report work on outpost line to date aaa 1795 yds fire trench completed 145 yds in hand
 • aaa 1376 yds comm trench completed 342 yds in hand aaa 22 M.G. and 32 H.G. positions dug aaa 6000 yds wire completed 1600 yds in hand aaa Comm trenches being widened
 22nd Mtd Bde report fire trenches deepened and widened and dug-outs commenced.

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN.		
Place	0900		
Time			

Appendix No 94

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

Appendix 94

TO { 2nd L.H. Bde

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK26 6	8		

Army Commander will visit GOZ EL BASAL and GOZ EL GELEIB tomorrow morning aaa your Bde will make good Pt 510 ABU SHAWISH and Pt 450 GOZEL BASAL by 0800 tomorrow 9th inst aaa withdrawal of Bde to commence 1300 aaa ack.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn
Place	
Time	1230

777+

Appendix No. 95

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
No. of Message.....

Prefix..... Code..... m.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions	Sent		 Service.	Date .....
	At..... m.		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	From.....
	To.....			By.....
	By.....			
TO	2nd Bde	22nd Bde	C.R.A.	Signals
		Desert Column.		
Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.		AAA
* GK 269	8			

To cover a visit of Army Commander to GOZ EL BASAL and GOZ EL GELEIB tomorrow the 2nd L.H. Bde are moving out to make good Pt 510 ABU SHAWISH and Pt 450 GOZ EL BASAL by 0800 commencing withdrawal at 1300 aaa C.R.A. will detail one Battery to accompany the Bde aaa the Battery should report to B.C.C. 2nd L.H. Bde on East side of WADI GHUZZE opposite UM URGAN at 0545 aaa O.C., Signal Sqdn will arrange for cable commn between D.H.Q. and 2nd Bde during operations.

ack

From			
Place	Anzac Mtd Divn		
Time	1750		

Appendix No. 96

777 x

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO Desert Column.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GE 212	8		

Patrols to GOZ EL BASAL report enemy strength about 1 sqdn holding line 720 2 miles East of IM SIRI thro' E of EL BUGGAR to pt 680 1/2 mile West of KHUR EL IJRAM a/c country in this area suitable for all arms and transport a/c patrols towards 410 on WADI IMLIEH report cavalry all along WADI IMLIEH a/c patrol shelled by mountain guns and under rifle fire when at a point just South of the M in WADI IMLIEH a/c enemy have trench 40 yds long at this point a/c patrol leader reports that this is same trench he saw a week ago and that it is much improved and recently worked on a/c another trench 20 yds long lies 150 yds behind on Wadi bank covering the crossing a/c another trench noted by latest patrol on North bank of Wadi just opposite the H of IMLIEH

From	Anzac Mtd Divn
Place	2155
Time	

Appendix No. 97

777 +

"A" FORM.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

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

Alfred 97

TO { Desert Column.

Sender's Number. * GK 286	Day of Month. 9th	In reply to Number.	AAA
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Progress report aaa 1st L.H.bde report work done on outpost line to date aaa 1812 yds fire trench completed 128 yds in hand aaa 1518 yds comm trench completed 205 yds in hand aaa 23 M.G. and 32 H.G. positions dug aaa wiring completed total 7600 yds aaa improvements to fire trenches and comm trenches continued aaa 22nd Mtd Bde report new post on right almost completed aaa elsewhere trenches deepened and parados heightened aaa hummocks in front being levelled.

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN.		
Place	0900		
Time			

Appendix No. 98

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form G. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

Appendix 98

TO Desert Column.

Sender's Number. * GK 353	Day of Month. 10	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----

Patrols returned to camp and report post to GOZ
 EL GELIB pushed forward to 500 contour line East of
 L in Cultivation ~~aaa~~ no enemy troops seen all day
 * ~~aaa~~ train was seen leaving viaduct in direction of
 HAREIRA at 0815 ~~aaa~~ post direction EL BUGGAR reports
 pushed forward to 1 mile East of R in IM SIRI ~~aaa~~
 enemy post about 40 cavalry on hill 720 East of IM
 SIRI ~~aaa~~ infantry posts also seen on line 2 mile
 South of H in BEIT ABUTAHA to O in Open South of
 KHASIF ~~aaa~~ about 500 altogether ~~aaa~~ convoy of about
 50 motor and horse wagons seen moving along HAREIRA
 - BEERSHEBA road in direction BEERSHEBA at 0810 ~~aaa~~
 number of wagons moving to and from SHEBA all day.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn
Place	1955
Time	

Appendix No. 99

777 ↑

[Faint handwritten notes]

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

Appendix 99

TO	All Units.		
----	------------	--	--

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------	---------------	---------------------	-----

* GK 355 10

R.F.C. report 2500 Turks seen moving along SABA FARA road towards FARA at 1620 this evening a special head of the column then 2 1/2 miles from SABA a special vigilance is required of standing patrols and outposts tonight a N.Z.M.R. Bde will push out the patrol which moves to GOZ EL BASAL along the SHEBA road and endeavour to find out if the enemys strength is increased in this area at least 1 sqdn should be held in rear of this patrol ready to support it a it is quite possible that in conjunction with the move of the enemy from SHEBA that a similar move on FARA may be made from ABU HAREIRA.

From	Anzac Mtd Divn	
Place		
Time	2100	

777 x

Appendix No. 100.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

Appendix 100

TO	N.Z.M.R. Bde	1st L.H Bde	2nd L.H. Bde	22nd Mtd Bde
	Signals	Desert Col.		

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	
* GC 215	10		AAA

The Column Commander wishes a strong reconnaissance pushed out tomorrow 11th inst. in direction BEKRSHEBA if possible as far as EL BUGGAR to find out if enemy force reported by R.F.C. tonight is advancing in this direction aaa N.Z.M.R. Bde less patrols to GOZ EL GELEIB and GOZ EL BASAL will carry out this reconnaissance aaa Bde must cross the WADI GHUZZE not later than 0400 aaa O/C Div Signals will have cable communication with the Bde and D.H.).

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN		
Place	2230		
Time			

777x

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO *Appendix 101*
Desert Column.

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK 367	11		

Progress report aaa 1st L.H.Bde report work to date 1873
 yds Fire Trench completed 81 yds in hand aaa 1662 yds
 comm trench completed 153 yds in hand aaa 24 M.G. and 36
 H.G. positions dug aaa wiring completed aa 22nd Mtd Bde
 report work on C.Ts continued and Turkish pits filled in aaa
 yesterday 500 yds of lateral roads were completed on East
 bank of Wadi. running South from URGAN.

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN.
Place	0900

777x

Appendix No. 102

"A" Form Army Form C. 2121

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message

Prefix	Code	m.	Words	Charge.	<i>This message is on a/c of:</i>	Recd. at	m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions			Sent		..... Service.	Date	
<i>After 102</i> TO {			At			From	
			To			By	
			By		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		
			2nd L.H.Bde		C.R.A.	Signals.	
Sender's Number.		Day of Month.		In reply to Number.		A A A	
* GK 408		11					
<p>1 Battery 60 pdrs will leave SHELLAL to-morrow 12th at 1300 and take up position about 420 GOZ EL GELEIB aaa from 1600 to 1800 it will engage targets about HAREIRA aaa 2nd L.H.Bde and 1 Battery will cover this demonstration and will make good the area 450 GOZ EL BASAL 510 ABU SHAWISH and the road running through ABU SHAWISH as far North as Pt 300 by 1300 aaaa C.R.A. will detail Battery and arrange with B.G.C., 2nd L.H.Bde where it will join his Bde aaa withdrawal of Bde will bbegin at 1800 aaa Signal Sqdn will arrange cable commn with Bde and D.H.Q.</p>							
From		ANZAC MTD DIVN					
Place		1800					
Time							

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121

No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code.....m.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions		Sent			Service.	Date.....
<i>Appendix 103</i>		At.....m.		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	From.....
		To.....			By.....
		By.....			

TO	1st L.H. Bde	2nd L.H. Bde
	22nd Mtd Bde	N.Z.M.R. Bde

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK 409	11		

Following new arrangement as regards to outpost and Battle line will take place from noon tomorrow May 12th ANZAC Mtd Divn will continue responsibility for outpost and patrolling East of the Wadi and the bridge head defences from HISEIA to FARA both/inclusive ANZAC they will also be responsible for defences on the West bank of the Wadi within same limit assisted by three companies 74th Division ANZAC for tonight only the B.G.C., N.Z.M.R. Bde will be prepared in case of attack to man the new defences just dug by the Imperial Mtd Divn and are numbered 1 1A 2B and 2 ANZAC position as follows ANZAC on West bank of Wadi at EL GAMLI where Regt of Imperial Mtd Divn which is on East bank reaches the Wadi to a point about due South of the present N.Z.M.R. Bde bivouac

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN
Place	1800
Time	

Appendix No. 103.

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form G. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO { Desert Column 1st L.H. Bde 2nd L.H. Bde
22nd Mtd Bde

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* GK 413	11		

Patrol to Hill 720 reports aaa opposed by small parties of enemy about 8 men each who took up a line from H in HAWAFISH through house 2 miles East of Hill 720 to Hill 820 North of TOWEIL EL HARARI aaa posts usually 20 tom/ 30 strong total number of enemy seen about 50 cavalry and 150 infantry or dis-mounted men aaa advanced guard opposed by enemy who apparently spent the night at KH KHASIF aaa these returned to 820 - 840 and Hills south of WADI EL SABA aaa about 300 cavalry and camelry opposed advance on this line aaa positions dug by enemy aaa small redoubts and small trenches across FARA - BEERSHEBA road just West of KH KHASIF aaa railway road and viaduct seen indistinctly aaa condition of roads all those seen easy grades and passavle for all arms aa water aaa two water cisterns just West of Hill 720 depth not ascertained aaa at KH KHASIF two cisterns already reported on EL BUGGAR 2 cisterns about 3000 galls 2 large cisterns aaa further information of water will be sent aaa crops aaa crops around EL BUGGAR being cut ~~with~~ also much activity along whole area about Hill 720 where Bedouin are cutting crops guarded by Turks aaa country is easy rolling downs only obstacle being part of Wadi running Westward 1/2 mile S.W. of V in Cultivation square B to 3/4 mile Westward where it cuts 700 contour line aaa banks of this part are very steep and Wadi bed broken aaa country round EL BUGGAR for 1/2 mile N. and S. give excellent cover from observation East and South for a large

From			
Place			
Time			

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form G. 2121

No. of Message.....

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

TO { 2

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

number of troops aaa observation points 1/4 mile North of B in EL BUGGAR 800 contour line and 1/4 mile West of the scross roads GAZA - ABU SHAWISH KHALASA and Fara-BEERSHEBA where country can be seen N.E., E., S.E., S., and S.W. aaa telegraph line from KH KHASIF to BEERSHEBA is being demolished by enemy aaa transport seen a few small camel trains about 25 camels four camps sited between 600 contour line 1 3/4 mile North of K in KAR KH IRGEIG and where trach from KH IMLIEH running East cuts 45 minute line aaa fires observed all day at these places and also about LHIRBET EL SUFI aaa later patrols to GOZ EL GELIEB and GOZ EL BASAL report enemy did not push forward when Bde was withdrawn nor where any enemy troops seen

From	ANEAC MTD Divn		
Place	1800		
Time			

1014

Appendix No. 1014

777 +

"A" Form
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2121
No. of Message.....

Prefix.....	Code.....	m.	Words	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....	m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.				Sent		Service.	Date.....
Appendix 105				At.....	m.	From.....	
				To.....		By.....	
				(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		By.....	

TO { 1st L.H.Bde 2nd L.H.Bde N.Z.M.R.Bde 22nd Mtd Bde
C.R.A. Signals

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
* GK 473 12

Ref our GK 409 of 11th inst. aaa Infantry companies now at HISEIA AND SHELLAL will be temporarily under command of B.G.C., 1st L.H.Bde aaa company at FARA under B.G.C 22nd Mtd Bde aaa from noon today the 3rd L.H.Regt and Stafford Yeo will be responsible for the linking up of the infantry posts at HISEIA and SHELLAL along the West bank of the Wadi aaa 22nd Mtd Bde will be responsible for the linking up of the posts at SHELLAL and FARA along the West bank of the Wadi aaa patrols to the front carried out by 3rd L.H.Regt under orders of the 74th Division will be carried out as usual tomorrow aaa acknowledge

From ANZAC MTD DIVN
Place 1830
Time

777x

Appendix No. 106.

"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

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

TO Desert Column.

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. * GK 498 13 A A A

Patrol to point 410 came into contact with enemy West of Wadi IMLIEH, enemy immediately retired across Wadi without firing, 15 wagons seen moving to HAREIRA from direction WADI IMLIEH. Bedouins covered by cavalry were gathering crops North of Wadi SHERIA about the 2nd K of KH ERK, 30 camels counted with the party. Patrol pushed towards Wadi and enemy retired on line HAREIRA - BIR IFTEIS. Enemy working all day on trenches at pt 470. No wire could be seen on North bank of WADI IMLIEH, small enemy posts about 4 to 8 men each retired before the GOZ EL CELEIB patrol to the line pt. 330 630 - EL GINNEH and the U of UM SIRR. Post at 630 was supported by M.G. which opened fire on aptrol whenever they attempted to move forward. Large cloud of dust seen all day on HAREIRA GAZA road, traffic apparently continuous both ways, casualties 1 man wounded.

From ANZAC MTD DIVN Place 2010 Time

777 +
SECRET.

Appendix No. 107/12
Copy No,

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.
Order No. 32,

by
Major-General E.W.C. CHAYTOR, C.B., C.M.G.,
Commanding A.&.N.Z. Mounted Division,

Reference Map.,
ELSHELLAL, 1/40,000.
RAFA, 1/125,000.

App 107

1. Digging of new Battle Line,

On the night 16/17th, the new Battle Line on the East Bank of the WADI GHUZZE will be commenced by 74th Division. This line extends from GAMLI Crossing to about 1/2 Mile North of HISEIA Crossing and running roughly 300 yards East of our present outpost line.

Work will begin at 1915 on the 16th and cease at 0445 on 17th.

On cessation of work, one platoon will remain as garrison to each work.

2. Covering Force,

The Anzac Mounted Division will provide covering party during the night 16/17th, one Regiment being provided by 2nd L.H. Brigade and one by N.Z.M.R. Brigade. These Regiments will be pushed about one mile East of the working parties.

The covering line will be divided into sectors, the right sector will be responsible for covering the work from EL GAMLI to a line drawn through EL SHELLAL - GOZ EL GELEIB exclusive, the left sector to cover the work from the above line inclusive to point 1/2 mile North of HISEIA.

Regiment N.Z.M.R. Brigade will be responsible for the right sector, and Regiment 2nd L.H. Brigade for left sector.

Regiments will be in position by 1830 on 16th Instant and will be withdrawn on 17th when the "all clear" is given.

3. Communications.

O/C Signals will arrange cable communication with each Regiment from D.H.Q. and also lateral communication between Regtl Hdqtrs. Os, C. Regiments detailed will point out to representative Signals site of Regtl Hdqtrs for the night not later than 1200 on 16th inst. All clear reports will be sent in hourly.

4. Standing Patrols.

Standing patrols usually supplied by 1st L.H. Bde and 22nd Mtd Bde will not be provided on the night 16/17th.

5. Action in case of attack,

Action in case of attack will be in accordance with orders already issued, Regiments delaying attack until joined by their Bdes which will engage the enemy East of the Wadi in a delaying action.

These Regiments will be responsible also that warning is sent to the working parties who will retire through the gaps in the outpost line.

6. Acknowledge.

15/5/17.

Issued at 1100,

[Handwritten Signature]

Lieut-Colonel,
General Staff,
A.&.N.Z. Mounted Division.

777 +

2 .

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. 1st L.H.Bde, | 9. Desert Column. |
| 2. 2nd L.H.Bde, | 10. 74th Division. |
| 3. N.Z.M.R.Bde. | 11. File. |
| 4. 22nd Mtd Bde. | 12. War Diary. |
| 5. C.R.A. | 13 G.O.C. |
| 6. C.R.E. | 14 G.S.O. I. |
| 7. Sig Sqdn. | 15 G.S.O. II. |
| 8. A.D.V.S. | 16 G.S.O. III. |
| | 17 A.D.M.S. |
| | 18 6th Mtd Bde. |
| | 19 Imp Mtd Divn. |

7777

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

Prefix _____	Code _____	m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at _____ m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent			Service.	Date _____
<p><i>Appendix 108</i></p>			At _____ m.	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		From _____
			To _____			By _____
			By _____			

TO { N.Z.M.R. Bde Signals
1st L.H. Bde 2nd L.H. Bde 22nd Mtd Bde C.R.A. C.R.E.
Desert Column.

Sender's Number. * GK 575	Day of Month. 15	In reply to Number.	AAA
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A force of enemy cavalry estimated at 500 were reported close to IM SIRI at 1500 today aaa 6th Mtd Bde are sending 2 Regts through GAMLI to KH KHASIF to reach that place at 0900 tomorrow ~~see~~ 16th to attack these cavalry if found in this place aaa N.Z.M.R. Bde will turn out less 1 Regt tomorrow 16th leaving bivouac at such a n hour as to arrive at Pt 550 $\frac{3}{4}$ mile N.W. of IM SIRI at 0900 and cooperate with 6th Mtd Bde in this enterprise aaa visual signalling will be established with Bde by Div Signal Sqn aaa usual daily patrols will be carried out by 2nd Bde aaa add. N.Z.M.R. Bde and Signal repeated other units.

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN
Place	2030
Time	

Appendix No. 108

44

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION
ORDER No. 83

- by -

Major-General E.W.C. CHAYTOR, C.B., C.M.G., M.
Commanding A. & N.Z. Mounted Division. *App 109*Ref. Maps.EL SHELLAL 1/40,000.
RAFA 1/125,000.

16th May 1917.

1. Digging of New Battle Line.

In continuation of A. & N.Z. Mounted Division Order No. 82 of 15th instant; work on the new Battle Line by 74th Division will be continued on the night 17/18th and following nights.

2. Covering Force.

ANZAC Mounted Division will provide covering party during the night 17/18th, one Regiment being provided by N.Z.M.R.Bde and one by 2nd L.H.Bde; Regiment N.Z.M.R.Bde occupying right sector, and Regiment 2nd L.H.Bde left sector of the covering line as described in Divisional Order No. 82, para 2, subpara 2.

3. Communications.

O/C Signals will arrange cable communication with each Regiment from D.H.Q. and also lateral communication between Regtl Hdqtrs. Os/C Regiments detailed will point out to representative Signals site of Regtl Hdqtrs for the night not later than 1800 on 17th inst. All Clear reports will be sent in hourly.

4. Standing Patrols.

Standing Patrols usually supplied by 1st L.H.Bde and 22nd Mtd Bde will not be provided on the night 17/18th.

5. Action in Case of Attack.

Action in case of attack will be in accordance with orders already issued, Regiments delaying attack until joined by their Bdes., which will engage the enemy East of the Wadi in a delaying action.

These Regiments will be responsible also that warning is sent back to the post on the battle line in their own sectors.

On night 17/18th and subsequent nights all working parties of 230th Inf. Bde will in case of attack reinforce the garrisons of redoubts; those of 49th Indian Bde will retire to their bivouac.

6. Covering parties for subsequent nights will be detailed later.

7. Acknowledge.

J. G. Littlebourne
Lieut Colonel,
General Staff.

Issued at 2000.

Copy No	1 1st L.H.Bde	9 Deert Column.
	2 2nd L.H.Bde	10 74th Division.
	3 N.Z.M.R.Bde	11 Imperial Mtd Divn.
	4 22nd Mtd Bde	12 File + 'A'
	5 C.R.A.	13 War Diary
	6 Field Sqdn,	14 G.O.C.
	7 Signal Sqdn	15 G.S.O. I
	8 Divn A.S.C.	16 A.D.M.S.

SECRET.

Copy No

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.
ORDER No. 84

- by -
Major-General E.W.C. CHAYTOR, C.B., C.M.G.,
Commanding A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.

App 110

Ref. Maps.
EL SHELLAL 1/40,000.
RAFA 1/125,000.
BEERSHEBA 1/125,000.

17th May 1917.

1. Information.

(a) At 1700 today the 74th Division will advance its line East of the WADI GHUZZE and take over the present line held by the ANZAC Mounted Division.

(b) The Imperial Mounted Division will hand over the EL SHA'UTH and adjoining groups of works to the ANZAC Mtd Divn at same hour and will be kept intact in the neighbourhood of ABASAN EL KEBIR.

2. Duties.

From 1700 May 17th the duties of the ANZAC Mtd Divn will be as follows -

(a) Patrolling of the Desert Column front as at present in the direction of SAUSAGE RIDGE - Pt 410 - Pt 510 - GOZ EL BASAL - GOZ EL GELEIB.

(b) Patrols to that part of the line now patrolled by the Imperial Mtd Divn to GOZ MABRUK and to the West of that place.

(c) Standing patrols at night as at present.

(d) Occupation of the EL SHAU'TH group of works up to No. 6 inclusive and the works connecting EL GHABI and GAMLI. To be held by one Bde.

3. Action in Case of Attack.

In case of attack from the East the Division (less 1 Bde) will at once cross the Wadi and engage the enemy in a delaying action for as long as possible and as far East as possible.

It will, when forced to fall back, clear the front of the Infantry and, concentrating to a flank, prepare to undertake offensive operations against the flank of the enemy.

4. Acknowledge.

W. J. Foster, Major

Lieut Colonel,
General Staff.

Issued at 1100.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|----|--------------------|
| Copy No 1 | 1st L.H.Bde | 10 | A.D.V.S. |
| 2 | 2nd L.H.Bde | 11 | Desert Column. |
| 3 | N.Z.M.R.Bde | 12 | 74th Division. |
| 4 | 22nd Mtd Bde | 13 | Imperial Mtd Divn. |
| 5 | C.R.A. | 14 | 'A' |
| 6 | Field Sqdn | 15 | File |
| 7 | Signal Sqdn. | 16 | War Diary |
| 8 | Divn A.S.C. | 17 | G.O.C. |
| 9 | A.D.M.S. | 18 | G.S.O. I |

777 x

Appendix No.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

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

TO { 1st L.H. Bde 2nd L.H. Bde N.Z.M.R. Bde 22nd Mtd Bde
C.R.A. C.R.E. Signals A.S.C. A A.D.M.S.
Desert Column Imperial Mtd Divn 74th Divn.

Sender's Number. * GK 616	Day of Month. 17	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----

Operation Order No 83 is cancelled aaa reference Operation Order No 84, 74th Division takes over present line held by ANZAC Mtd Divn at 1700 today AAA after relief 1st L.H. Bde and 22nd Mtd Bde will withdraw to bivouac sites on West bank of Wadi in neighbourhood of their Hdqtrs and will have camps well scattered to avoid aeroplane observation aaa N.Z.M.R. Bde will take over the EL SHA'UTH group of works up to No 6 inclusive and the works connecting EL GHABI and GAMLI from Bde Imperial Mtd Divn by 1700 today. 1st and 22nd Mtd Bdes will resume the usual standing patrols from tonight inclusive. N.Z.M.R. Bde will furnish same standing patrols as 6th Mtd Bde. Patrolling tomorrow 18th inst will be carried out by 2nd Bde over area as described in Operation Order No 84 para 2 subpara (a) and (b).
addressed all units ack.

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN.
Place	1210
Time	

777+

Appendix No. 112.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

Prefix	Code	m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at
Office of Origin and Service Instructions:						m.
<i>Appendix 112</i>			Sent		Service.	Date
			At		m.	From
			To			By
			By		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO { 1st L.H. Bde 2nd Bde N.Z. Bde 22nd Bde C.R.A. C.R.E.
 Signals A.S.C. Desert Column Imperial Mtd Divn

Sender's Number. Day of Month. In reply to Number. A A A
 * Gk 641 17

Reference Gk 616 of today - patrolling tomorrow will be carried out by 1st L.H. Bde and not 2nd Bde ~~aaa~~ 2nd L.H. Bde will take over the EL SHA'UTH group of works and works connecting EL GHABI and GAMLI from the N.Z.M.R. Bde at 1500 tomorrow 18th ~~aaa~~ N.Z.M.R. Bde on relief will return to its usual bivouac ~~ack.~~ "ack."

From ANZAC MTD DIVN
 Place 1625
 Time

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.

O R D E R No 35

- by -

Major-General E.W.C. CHAYTOR, C.B., C.M.G.
Commanding A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.

Ref. Maps.

RAFA	1/125,000.
BEERSHEBA	" "
ABDA	" "
EL KOSSAIMA	" "

18th May 1917.

1. Information.

(a) A raid will be made on the enemy's railway between ASLUJ and AUJA for the purpose of destroying both railway and viaducts in that area. The railway will be attacked in three different points at 0400 on May 22nd, and as much damage done as possible done in 5 hours.

(b) To carry this out, the Imperial Camel Bde will be relieved in the line by one Infantry Bde (less 2 Battns) 53rd Divn on night 19/20th May and march to RAFA, thence will concentrate at EL HABU by 1800 on May 20th, and will move from that place at 1800 on May 21st so as to reach AUJA at 0400 on May 22nd, and begin the destruction of two culverts and six miles of railway in that area. One sqdn from the Imperial Mtd Divn will accompany Imperial Camel Bde as escort. After completion of demolition, the Imperial Camel Bde will concentrate at AUJA with its escort and withdraw on RAFA via EL MAHDUD.

(c) The Imperial Mtd Divn (less 1 Regt) will reach GAMLI at 2400 May 21/22nd and will leave again at 0200 on May 22nd and move to the line IM SIRI - UM AJUA early on May 22nd and demonstrate against BEERSHEBA. One Battery 60 pdrs will be under orders G.O.C. Imperial Mtd Divn during the operation. The Division will be ordered to fall back on GAMLI by the Column Commander as soon as he knows that the ANZAC Mtd Divn is well on its way back to BIR EL ESANI.

(d) The L.A.M. Bde and No. 7 Light Car patrol will report to Column Hdqtrs at EL GHABI on May 22nd for duty during the operation.

2. Moves.

(a) At 1600 May 20th, the demolition squadron Imperial Mtd Divn will report to G.O.C., ANZAC Mtd Divn and be under his orders for the operations.

(b) At 1500 May 21st the 1st L.H. Bde and one Regt 2nd L.H. Bde, and one section R.H.A. Battery with demolition squadrons of ANZAC and Imperial Mtd Divns will leave Fara and reach BIR EL ESANI at 1800. They will leave BIR EL ESANI at 2000 and march to KHALASA. This place will be surrounded so as to ensure that no one leaves it to warn the enemy. The Regt 2nd L.H. Bde will remain here keeping all persons within the place until the arrival of the ANZAC Mtd Divn. 1st L.H. Bde and demolition parties will push on. The demolition party ANZAC Mtd Divn will make for ASLUJ so as to arrive there at 0400 on May 22nd, and will destroy five miles of railway working from ASLUJ Southwards, and a 12 arch viaduct near ASLUJ.

The demolition party Imperial Mtd Divn will make for a point 4 miles S.W. of TEMAIL RASHED, 10 miles S.W. of ASLUJ so as to arrive there at 0400 on May 22nd. They will destroy 5 miles of railway working from the above point Northwards and a 12 arch culvert 1 mile S.W. of TEMAIL RASHED.

The B.G.C., 1st L.H. Bde will act as follows -

(i) Provide covering parties from his Bde to both demolition parties when they move off to their separate destinations.
(ii) Ensure that ASLUJ is made good before demolition party ANZAC Mtd Divn starts work, and ensure that no one leaves the place to give warning.

(iii) Cover the demolition parties from interruption.

(iv) Inform D.H.Q. when work has commenced.

(v) Endeavour to get in touch by helio with Imperial Camel Bde carrying out demolition about AUJA.

(vi) As soon as the demolition is completed, or at 1000 May 22nd at latest, give orders to withdraw, informing D.H.Q. when the withdrawal has begun.

These demolition parties and Bde should get back to KHALASA by 1230 on May 22nd at

2. Moves. (contd).

(c) At 1900 on May 21st, the ANZAC Mtd Divn (less 1st L.H.Bde and 1 Regt 2nd L.H.Bde and 1 section R.H.A.Battery) will leave FARA and march via BIR EL ESANI to KHALASA so as to reach that place at 0400 on May 22nd.

Divn.Hdqtrs will be established at Pt 820. On arrival the Division will put out a strong flank guard on the general line GOZ SHEIHILI - UM AJUA to watch the approaches from BEERSHEBA.

The 2nd L.H.Bde will be on the right and will be on the line GOZ SHEIHILI (exclusive) along the high ground running S.E., getting into touch with the left of the 1st L.H.Bde.

The N.Z.M.R.Bde will be on the left from GOZ SHEIHILI (inclusive) to UM AJUA (exclusive) getting into touch with the right of the Imperial Mtd Divn.

(d) Should the situation demand it, the G.O.C., ANZAC Mtd Divn will be responsible for ordering and covering the withdrawal of the demolition squadrons by a route West of KHALASA.

(e) The ANZAC Mtd Divn will leave KHALASA by 1430 on May 22nd at the latest and march to BIR EL ESANI providing for security against enemy enterprise on the march. BIR EL ESANI should be reached by 1730 on May 22nd and after two hours rest the Division will march to FARA for the night May 22/23rd.

3. EL GHABI - EL GAMLI Defence Line.

The 2nd L.H.Bde will hand over defence of EL GHABI and works adjoining that place to a squadron Imperial Mtd Divn until completion of operations.

4. Daily Patrols.

The daily patrols will be carried out during the absence of the ANZAC Mtd Divn on the operation by the Imperial Mtd Divn.

5. Communications.

Column Hdqtrs will be established at Point 510 South-East of EL GHABI at 0400 on May 22nd.

Imperial Mtd Divn Hdqtrs will be at Point 680 near T in GOZ LAKHEILAT.

Communication will be established by Column Hdqtrs with ANZAC Mtd Divn by cable, helio, and lamp.

ANZAC Mtd Divn will keep communication between D.H.Q. and the demolition parties. The Division will also get into touch by helio with Imperial Mtd Divn.

Communication with Camel Bde will be by wireless or aeroplane

6. Supplies.

One days supplies for man and horse will be carried.

One days supplies will be ready for the Division on its return to FARA.

7. Artillery.

(a) The Batteries of the ANZAC Mtd Divn will move with ped-rails

(b) The B.G.R.A. is making arrangement for increased teams for the guns of the ANZAC Mtd Divn Artillery.

(c) Modified ammunition column will accompany the Division.

8. Wheels.

No wheels will be taken South of KHALASA except -

(a) one section R.H.A.Battery.

(b) Fore parts of limbers for explosives.

9. Water.

Information regarding water in the area is issued separately.

10. Guides.

Guides for the Division will report to D.H.Q. at 1000 on May 21st.

- 3 -

11. On arrival near KHALASA, Divn Hdqtrs will be established at Point 820 two miles S.W. of ABU GHALYUN.

J. G. H. Brown
 Lieut Colonel,
 General Staff.

Issued at 2000.

Copy No 1	1st L.H.Bde	10	A.D.V.S.
2	2nd L.H.Bde	11	Desert Column.
3	N.Z.M.R.Bde	12	74th Division.
4	2nd Mtd Bde	13	Imperial Mtd Divn
5	G.R.A.	14	Imperial Camel Bde
6	Field Sqdn.	15	"A"
7	Signal Sqdn	16	File
8	Divn A.S.C.	17	War Diary.
9	A.D.M.S.	18	G.O.C.
	19	G.S.O. I	

777

"A" Form. MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

Prefix	Code	m.	Words	Charge	This message is on a pad of: <i>Appendix 113</i>	Recd. at	m.	
Office of Origin and Service Instructions:						Service.	Date	
SECRET			Sent		<i>Allen</i>	From		
DRKS			At			(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	By	
			To					

TO { 1st Lt Bde 2nd Lt Bde, W3 mlt Bde, 22nd mlt Bde
CRA, CRE, ofcies of all b.
A ADMS ADVS. War Brany

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
* G.K. 718	20		

Reference operation No 85 the Division will now move out on 22nd Inst - and the following amendments will therefore be made to the above order:-

- In para 1 (a) for May 22nd read May 23rd
- In para 1 (b) (c) (d) for May 21st read May 22nd and for May 22nd read May 23rd
- In para 2 (a) for May 20th read May 21st
- In para 2 (b) + (c) for May 21st read May 22nd and for May 22nd read May 23rd
- In para 2 (e) for May 22nd read May 23rd and for night of 23rd May read May 24th
- In para 3 for May 21st read May 22nd
- In para 5 for May 22nd read May 23rd
- In para 10 for May 21st read May 22nd

From *Angac Mta DWH*

Place *1450*

Time *1450*
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *W Foster* Major

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

* This line should be erased if not required.

"A" Form.
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

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

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

TO { Desert Column.

Sender's Number. * GK 674	Day of Month. 18	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----

Patrol reports today aaa enemy encountered near RASHED BEK at KARM near Hill 510 ABU SHAWISH and close to WADIMEL BAHA. Casualties for the day one O.R. (Op1 LANGDRIDGE) 2nd L.H.Regt killed, one horse killed and two slightly wounded.

From	ANZAC MTD DIVN
Place	2055
Time	

Appendix No. 114

Appendix No. 115

Appendix No. 115

SECRET.

Copy No. 17

AMENDMENT To
ORDER No 85

- by -

Major-General E.W.C. CHAYTOR, C.B., C.M.G.,
Commanding A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION.

19th May 1917.

Reference Divnl Order No. 85 of 18th May.

Para 2 (b) (vi), add to para. - Withdrawal automatically begins at 1900 if no orders are given.

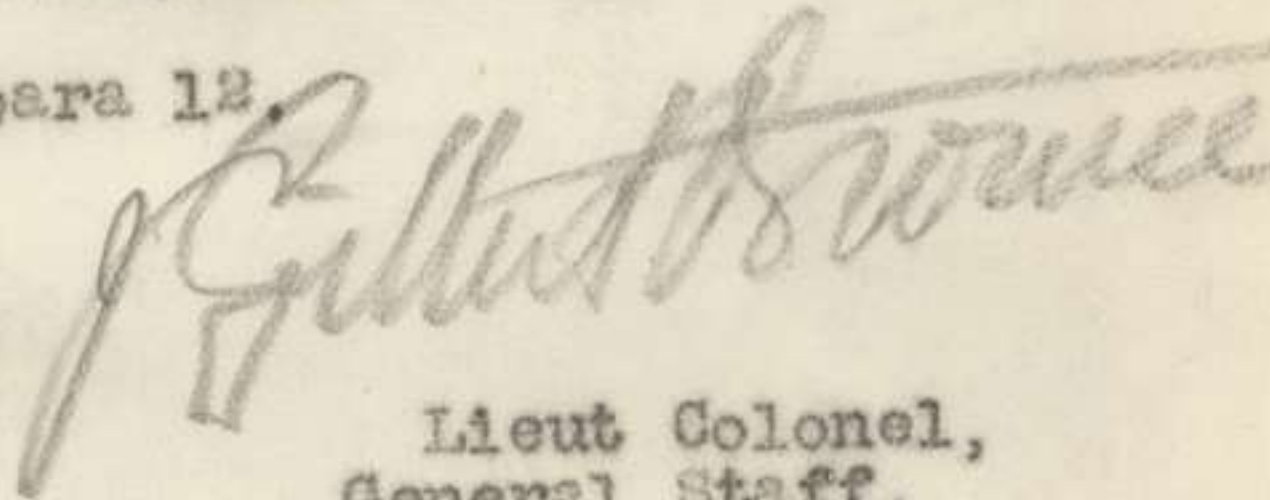
Para 3, should read as follows - 2nd L.H. Bde will hand over defences of EL GHABI and the works adjoining that place with EL GAMLI, to 1 sqdn Imperial Mtd Divn until completion of operations. Relief to take place by 1600 on May 21st.
1 Battn 101st Grenadiers will take over the EL SHA'UTH works from the 2nd L.H. Bde at 1400 on 21st inst. ~~with~~ under arrangements to be made by B.G.S.C, concerned.

Para 8, add to para - Sand carts will be taken with units.

Insert para 11. Medical. Motor Ambulance Convoy will be established at TEL EL FARA on the West bank of the Wadi and will be connected by wire with Desert Column Hdqtrs.

The present para 11 to be numbered para 12.

Acknowledge.



Lieut Colonel,
General Staff.

Issued at 1400.

PROVISIONAL DEFENCE SCHEME.

1. The Battle Line runs East of the WADI GHUZZE. It is held by 1 Infantry Division of which 1 Bde and 1 Artillery Bde are in the front line.

It is divided into - (a) Firing Line, (b) Support Line.

The Firing Line runs 300 yards in front of the Support Line. It consists of 25 redoubts numbered 1 to 25, running from GAMLI on the South to a point North of HISEIA. Total distance 12,000 yards. Each redoubt is covered by a wire entanglement with a line of wire covering the intervening space with the exception of 80 to 100 yards on either side of each redoubt. The garrison of the redoubts except numbers 2, 11 and 13 will be 1 platoon, the garrison of these points 2 platoons.

Communication trenches run back to the Support Line.

This line is also called the Line of Resistance.

The Support Line is the line dug by the ANZAC Mtd Divn close along the East bank of the WADI GHUZZE running from HISEIA to FARA, and the works dug by the Imperial Mtd Divn ~~at~~ ^{from} the right of those dug by the ANZAC Mtd Divn to EL GAMLI. Total length 11,000 yards. There is continuous wire entanglement with gaps on main roads and at other places.

2. Artillery.

The Artillery Bde is disposed in forward positions along the West bank of the WADI so as to sweep the ground in front of the Battle Line.

3. Mounted Troops.

(a) The ANZAC Mtd Divn is responsible for -

(i) By day, patrolling the whole Desert Column front from the direction of SAUSAGE RIDGE to GOZ EL BASAL and thence to GOZ MAHRUK and West of the place.

(ii) By night, standing patrols watching important points in this line.

(iii) 1 Bde holding the EL SYHA'UTH group of works, nos 1 to 6 and the EL GHABI to EL GAMLI works inclusive.

(b) The Imperial Mtd Divn will be kept intact about ABASAN EL KEBIR.

4. The Reserve Line.

The old Battle Line West of the WADI GHUZZE will be held as a Reserve Line.

This will be held by 1 Infantry Bde.

5. Action of Infantry in Case of Attack.

The Line of Resistance will be held and each garrison reinforced from the Support Line by sufficient numbers to replace casualties.

If any redoubt is lost, it will at once be retaken, either by bombing attack or across the open.

6. Action of Mounted Troops in Case of Attack.

Immediately our patrols report indications of a hostile advance in any strength the G.O.C., ANZAC Mtd Divn will send one Bde through GOZ EL BASAL towards IM SIRI and EL BUGGAR and another Bde Southwards towards ESAMI. The role of these Bdes is to endeavour to ascertain the enemy's strength and to determine which is the true attack and which the false one.

Meanwhile the remainder of the ANZAC Mtd Divn (less 1 Regt which will continue to hold the line of works EL HAKKI GHABI - GAMLI) will move at once to JEZARIYE and take action immediately patrol's reports clear the situation.

The Imperial Mtd Divn will saddle up at once on receipt of orders and proceed to the road junctions 1 mile South of EL MELUK where it will receive instructions from Column Hdqtrs.

Column Hdqtrs will move at once to Point SIC East of EL GHABI.

The action of the Mounted Troops in any such operation must be characterised by the greatest determination. The hostile cavalry must be severely dealt with whenever met.

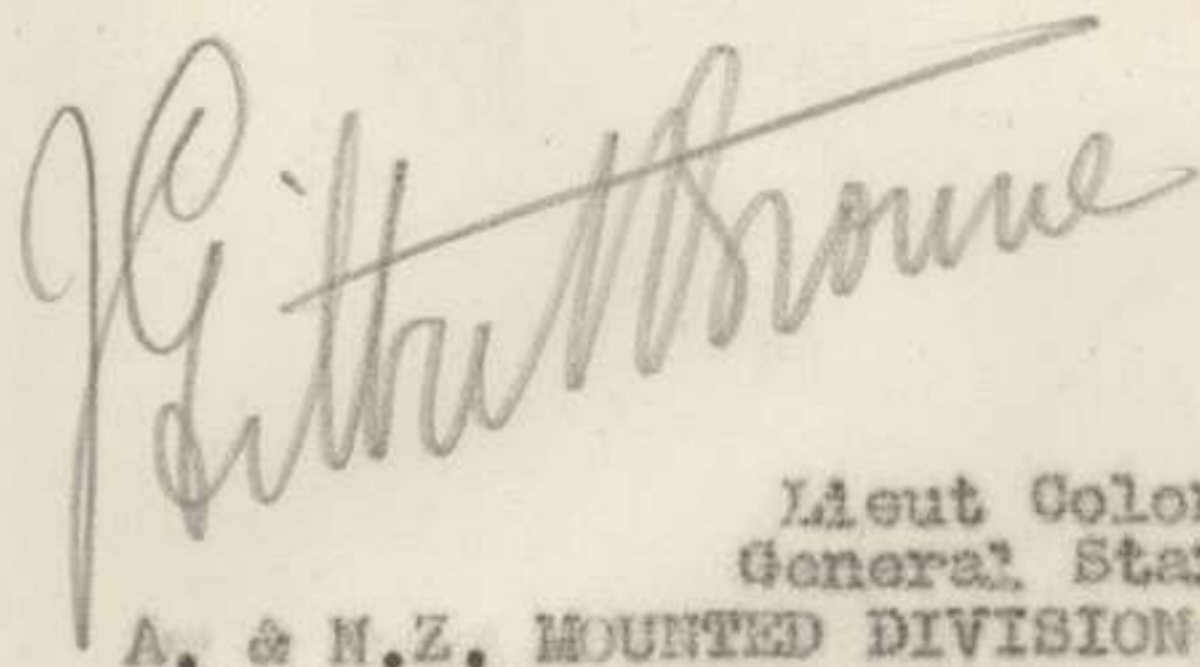
777x

- 2 -

It is of the utmost importance that the enemy should be engaged as far to the East, or South as possible.

The possession by him of the UM SIRI - EL BUGGAR line is almost essential to the success of any operation he may undertake and every effort should be made to make it untenable.

The Column Commander wishes to emphasise the necessity for the most vigorous aggressive action and to remind all commanders that their horses enable them to get quickly to the flank of the enemy - which should be the sole object in any operation.



Lieut Colonel,
General Staff,

A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION.

20th May 1917.

7777X

SECRET.

Append 117

Appendix No. 117 15

57

Copy No. 117.011 xibn9qqa

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.

ORDER No 86

by -
Major-General E.W.C. CHAYTOR, C.B., C.M.G.,
Commanding A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.

Ref. Mags.

RAFA	1/125,000.	21st May 1917.
BEERSHEBA	"	"
ABDA	"	"
EL KOSSAIMA	"	"

1. Reference Order No. 85 of 18th instant, the place of assembly for the ANZAC Mtd Divn on May 22nd will be one mile South of TEL EL FARA, just North of the East end of the line of redoubts running from EL GHABI to EL GANLI.

The ANZAC Mtd Divn (less 1st L.H. Bde, 1 Regt and L.H. Bde and 1 section R.H.A.) will be formed up at place of assembly in line of Regimental Masses ready to move off at 1950. Order of Units from right to left at place of assembly will be - 2nd L.H. Bde, Divnl Units, 2nd Mtd Bde, Artillery and N.Z.M.R. Bde.

2. (a) Formation on the March - Column of Troops.

(b) Order of March -

- Advanced Guard - 1 Regt and L.H. Bde.
- Main Body - Div. Hdqtrs.
Signal Sqn.
2nd L.H. Bde (less 2 Regts).
2nd Mtd Bde.
Divn Artillery.
N.Z.M.R. Bde (less 1 Regt).

Rear Guard - 1 Regt N.Z.M.R. Bde.

Flank Guard -

- Each Bde will provide its own ^{FLANK} protection.

3. Roads.

On the march, only the wheels will move actually on the roads.

4. On arrival at Point 880, 2 1/2 miles N.W. of KHALASA, the Divn will halt. The Brigadiers will meet the G.O.C., ANZAC Mtd Divn before the Bdes forming the flank guard detailed in Order No. 85 para 2 (c) move off.

5. Communications.

The responsibility of getting into communication will be from left to right.

6. March Discipline.

Strict attention must be paid to march discipline. In addition to officers riding in rear of units, one officer per Bde will be specially told off to see that no gaps or breaks take place in his Bde and send word up at once if the Bde is dropping back.

7. Aeroplane Signals.

The attention of all is directed to the order to give the friendly signals to our aeroplanes by circling as soon as they approach.

8. Reports.

Reports on the march to head of the main body.

J. G. ...

Lieut Colonel
General Staff.

Issued at 1900.

P.T.O.

Appendix No. 117
Appendix No. 117

Appendix 117

77777

Copy No	1 1st L.H. Bde	10 A.D.V.S.
	2 2nd L.H. Bde	11 Desert Column.
	3 H.Z.M.R. Bde	12 Imperial Mtd Divn.
	4 22nd Mtd Bde	13 "A" Commanding
	5 C.R.A.	14 File
	6 Signal Sqdn	15 War Diary
	7 Field Sqdn	17 G.O.C.
	8 Divn A.S.C.	18 G.S.O. I
	9 A.D.M.S.	19 G.S.O. II

1. Reference Order No. 55 of 1930 instructs the place of assembly for the ANZAC Mtd Divn on any day will be one mile south of the H. VANA, just north of the east end of the line of redoubts running from H. GRANT to H. SAMI.

The ANZAC Mtd Divn (less 1st L.H. Bde, 1 Regt and 1 L.H. Bde and 1 section R.H.A.) will be formed up at place of assembly in line of redoubts in order of battle ready to move off at 1930. Order of battle from right to left at place of assembly will be - 1st L.H. Bde, 1st Divn, 1st Regt, 1st Bde, Artillery and R.H.A. Bde.

2. (a) Formation on the march - column of troops.
 (b) Order of march -
 Advanced Guard - 1 Regt and 1 L.H. Bde.
 Main Body - Div. Artillery, Signal Sqdn, and 1 L.H. Bde (less 2 Regts).
 Rear Guard - 1 Regt H.Z.M.R. Bde.
 Flank Guard - 1 Regt H.Z.M.R. Bde. Each Bde will provide its own protection.

3. Heads. On the march, only the wheels will move actually on the roads.

4. On arrival at point 200 yds N.W. of KHALABA, the Divn will halt. The Brigadiers will meet the G.O.C., ANZAC Mtd Divn before the base forming the flank guard detailed in Order No. 55 para 2 (a) move off.

5. Communications. The responsibility of getting into communication will be from left to right.

6. March Discipline. Strict attention must be paid to march discipline. In addition to officers riding in rear of units, one officer per Bde will be specially told off to see that no gaps or breaks take place in his Bde and send word up at once if the Bde is dropping back.

7. Arrangements. The attention of all is directed to the order to give the friendly signals to our adversaries by circling as soon as they approach.

8. Reports. Reports on the march to head of the main body.

Major General
General Staff

Issued at 1930.

P.T.O.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS AGAINST NEKHL
BY LIEUT-COLONEL W. GRANT D. SO.
Commanding 11th . LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT A. I. F.

Appendix 118

Reference Map
SINAI PENINSULA
1/250,000

At the beginning of February information received by the Intelligence Branch of the General Staff led to the belief that, after evacuating SINAI, the Turks had sent a small force of approximately 130 men, the majority of whom were armed irregulars, back to NEKHL, in an attempt to maintain their supremacy in the eyes of the Bedouins.

A decision having been arrived at to operate against this force I received instructions from Headquarters, SOUTHERN CANAL SECTION, on TUESDAY, 6th. February, and commenced arrangements for the proposed operation, The scheme being that a column under my command moving by BIR EL GIDDI and THEMADA should act in conjunction with a column moving from the South via HENIAK and AYUN SUDR. The special mission assigned to my column being ^{the} severance of the enemy's communications between NEKHL and AUJA.

By the 14th. February a Supply Dump had been established at ZOCHA, the point of concentration and on that date the column under my command, consisting of the troops noted in the margin and known for purposes of this operation as the NORTHERN COLUMN, moved out to that place.

11th A.L.H. Regt
Strength 420
1 R.E. Officer &
4 O/R
1 R.A.M.C Officer
Detchmt 124th
F.Amb. Str. 26
1 R.F.C Officer
& 2 O/R
2 Aeroplanes
2 Wireless Pack
Stations

In addition to Lieut-Colonel A.W. JENNINGS BRAMLEY, whose services had been lent by the Egyptian Government and whose knowledge of the country and its people was of the greatest assistance to me throughout, the Column was accompanied by Capt. F.D. STIRLING, General Staff, General Headquarters, and Lieut. A.H. STUART of the Intelligence Branch, General Staff.

On the 15th. February I advanced to BIR EL GIDDI at which point I was joined by a Detachment of No 9 Coy. Imperial Camel Corps, of a strength of 60 rifles, which had arrived that morning from SHALLUFA. Here also I received the report of an Officer's patrol which I had sent forward to examine the wells at THEMADA - the last available water

Reference Map
SINAI PENINSULA
1/250,000

before reaching NEKHL.

This report was somewhat discouraging as it was to the effect that the Wells had been completely silted up and that no water was available. Being uncertain as to the opposition I might encounter I had fortunately allowed for the necessity of the Column spending 3 nights at an Advanced Base established at some point as near as possible to NEKHL. It was not, therefore, necessary for me to materially alter my plans as I calculated that even if no water could be made available at THHMADA, my supply arrangements would afford me sufficient to allow me to spend two nights at the Advanced Base.

Early on the morning of the 16th. I despatched an advanced party to THHMADA with instructions to develop the water supply to the best of their ability. I moved forward from BIR EL GIDDI later in the forenoon of that day after the horses had had a good drink. Weather conditions were in my favour as the cold and wet prevented the horses from becoming unduly hot and thirsty.

On arrival at THHMADA I found that the Advanced Party under Lieut. G.H. HOFFMAN had done exceedingly good work in digging 4 wells to an average depth of 8 feet which were then showing about 4 feet of water in each. This level was well maintained even when the pumps were rigged and the whole Regiment watered from these wells.

The next day, February 17th., I sent forward an Officers' patrol in advance of my main body with orders to pick a suitable spot for the Advanced Base and to reconnoitre the pass THILMETL EL THAMAMAT, 4 miles North of NEKHL.

About 1530 I received a report from this patrol that three shots had been fired from the ~~high~~ high ground North of Point 1380 on the HASSANA ROAD, shortly after 1300, by a Bedouin who had then made off on a camel in the direction of NEKHL.

3.

Reference Map
SINAI PENINSULA
1/250,000

At 1600 I reached a point on the HASSANA road, South of point 1380, about 7 miles North of NEKHL which I fixed on as my Advanced Base. At 1645 a further report was received stating that the pass was unoccupied and that men could be seen leaving NEKHL in an Easterly direction, whether soldiers or civilians it was impossible to state. The Officer Commanding the patrol asked for support as he was pushing ~~the~~ on in pursuit.

At 1710 I sent forward "B" Squadron, 11th. Light Horse Regt, giving the Officer Commanding such information as I possessed and warning him that NEKHL might not be completely evacuated and that he would have to be guided by circumstances in deciding on his course of action and ordered ^{ing} him to render me an hourly report.

Meanwhile, the advanced patrol had succeeded in intercepting and capturing four of the enemy with ten camels but had been prevented from crossing the plain to the Eastward of NEKHL by rifle fire from about 50 of the enemy who had temporarily halted in the foothills at the point where the NEKHL-AKABA road leaves the plain.

An aeroplane which landed at the Advanced Base very shortly after the departure of the reinforcing Squadron was sent to reconnoitre NEKHL and returned at 1740 reporting that the town was empty but having been unable to discover the enemy on the roads to the East.

NEKHL was actually entered by B Squadron at 1945, two Bedouins and one Turk, the only people in the town being captured.

Owing to the darkness and uncertainty as to the direction taken by the enemy further pursuit was impossible, the Officer Commanding therefore bivouacked in the town placing a cordon round it and patrolling the plain during the night.

At 0600 on the 18th. I entered the town with the main body of the Column, having left my Advanced Base at 0400.

Patrols were forthwith sent out to the Eastward with

4.

Reference Map
SINAI PENINSULA
1/250,000

orders not to exceed a radius of 15 miles, but they were ~~not~~ unable to regain touch with the enemy, though two more prisoners were taken and many signs of his hurried flight were found in abandoned arms, ammunition, stores, etc.

At 0830 helio communication was established with the Southern Column which reached the town at 0905.

After a thorough search of the town and neighborhood had been undertaken and arrangements made for the demolition of the field gun captured, the Southern Column commenced the return journey at 1030.

In the course of the search later in the day two Arabs and a Turk were found hiding in the hills: the latter was shot in attempting to escape but the two former surrendered.

Prisoners' statements taken the same evening seemed to indicate that the original report of the strength of the garrison was exaggerated. They state that the strength was approximately ⁴⁰ 50 armed Bedouins and 24 soldiers, the whole under the command of a Turkish Officer and ~~and~~ FAUD Effendi, an Arab, both of whom escaped with the Bedouins. Of the soldiers, one was killed, nine taken prisoners, six were away at HASSANA, two at BIR SABA, and six escaped.

Before leaving the town telegraph and telephone wires were cut and posts removed, though the Turks did not appear to have used this system of communication since the original evacuation. The placards supplied for the purpose to Lieutenant Colonel JENNINGS BRANLEY were posted in the town. It was observed that beyond making everything exceedingly dirty little damage had been done by the enemy during his occupation.

A hurried examination of two prisoners on the evening of the 17th. had revealed the fact that six Turkish soldiers were expected to return that evening from HASSANA where they had been sent to fetch rations. A detachment of the Imperial

Reference Map
SINAI PENINSULA
1/250,000

Camel Corps were accordingly detailed to waylay and capture them but only succeeded in securing six camels laden with stores. The two Bedouins with them made good their escape and nothing was seen of the soldiers.

On the morning of the 19th. the return journey was commenced during which no incident of any note took place.

I considered it advisable to halt for a day's rest at BIR EL GIBDI ~~and this~~ was accordingly done the Column remaining there from the night of the 20th to the morning of 22nd.

SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS.

Supplies throughout were based on a daily ration of 4 ~~lb~~ lbs weight and one gallon of water per man and 20 pounds of compressed fodder and 6 gallons of water per horse.

1600 camels of "W" and "Q" Companies of the Camel Transport Corps were employed under Captain SWALLOW, now Deputy Inspector, Camel Transport Corps, Anzac Mounted Division.

I wish to place on record my very high appreciation of the work performed by the C.T.C. I do not hesitate to say ~~that~~ that the efficiency shown by Captain J.L. SWALLOW in the handling of the Convoys under his command very materially contributed to the success of an expedition which depended so largely on satisfactory supply arrangements.

In this connection it is interesting to note that practically all the Camels employed were Somalis. They were not heavily laden and marched exceedingly well. The average days march was never less than 20 miles and they appeared to cover this distance without difficulty at a slightly faster pace than that usually shown by the Egyptian Camels.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Communication to the rear was very satisfactorily maintained by the two Wireless Telegraph Pack Sections with the Column but lateral communication with the Southern Column was not so good. For this I had to depend on Aeroplanes and Visual Signalling. The latter is exceedingly difficult to

6.

GENERAL
CONCLUSIONS
CONTINUED:

use satisfactorily in broken country such as that in which both columns were operating.

With regard to the former I would suggest that in any future operations of this nature orders be given that the attendant aeroplanes should get into touch with the Column Commanders as early in the day as possible. Owing to late arrival and engine trouble the most important message which I wish to send to General PITT was never delivered.

The experience of this Column would also tend to show the inadvisability of attaching great importance to aeroplane reconnaissance of small bodies of troops. It would seem that such parties can hide from an aeroplane without much difficulty - on one occasion an aeroplane came over and completely failed to see the whole of my Column.

Where all have done their utmost^{under all circumstances} it is difficult to single out individuals but I consider that the greatest credit is due to Captain (Temporary Major) L.S. ALEXANDER, who acted as my Staff Officer & was invaluable to me in the preliminary arrangements, to Lieut F.C. FARLOW, who did excellently as Officer Commanding the advanced patrol which reported on the water at THYMADA & also carried out the reconnaissance on the 17th. & to Lieut. A.F. STUART who accompanied him & whose knowledge of Arabic was of the greatest assistance. Capt. F.D. STIRLING, General Staff, General Headquarters, also rendered valuable assistance throughout the operations and also in compiling the information acquired during the reconnaissance.

I am glad to be able to report that both men & horses have returned to Camp fit & well, no casualties or sickness having been sustained.

Five appendices are attached: -

- No 1 dealing in detail with the route followed.
- No 2 showing a list of prisoners with particulars of their examination.
- No 3 giving a list of arms etc. captured or destroyed.
- No 4 Map LITTLE BITTER LAKE 1/100,000 showing position of water pools in the WADI UMM MUKHSHIB.
- No 5 Map SINAI, Sheet 3, SUHZ, 1/250,000 showing route followed to NEKHL.

W. Grant
Lieut.-Col.
Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.

REPORT ON OPERATIONS TO BLOW UP

THE ASLUJ - AUJA RAILWAY.War Diary
Appendix 119May 22nd 1917.

- 1100 A final conference was held at D.H.Q. at 1100. In this, action for withdrawal after completion of operations was decided on.
- 1500 At 1500, 1st L.H.Bde, 6th L.H.Regt and Demolition Field Sqdns of the ANZAC and Imperial Mtd Divns left TEL EL FARA Camp. The Bde reached ESANI at 1800, and halted for two hours. The cable cart, Desert Column went with this Bde, and laid the cable to Hill 820.
- 1830 The ANZAC Mtd Divn (less 1st L.H.Bde, 6th L.H.Regt and Field Sqdn) left for the place of assembly, which was fixed just North of the Redoubts close to EL GAMLI.
- 1930 At 1930, the Division marched in the following order -
 Advanced Guard 1 Regt, 2nd L.H.Bde.
 Main Body Div. Hdqtrs and Signal Sqdn.
 2nd L.H.Bde (less 2 Regts).
 22nd Mtd Bde.
 Divn. Artillery.
 N.Z.M.R.Bde. (less 1 Regt).
 Rear Guard 1 Regt N.Z.M.R.Bde.
- March was directed to leave ESANI to the East. The guide missed his way from the start, and was relieved of his duties, the march being made by compass bearing.
- 2000 At 2000, the 1st L.H.Bde and Demolition Parties left ESANI.

May 23rd 1917.

- 0200 At 0200, the ANZAC Mtd Divn arrived in neighbourhood of Hill 820, but, owing to darkness and unknown ground it could not be located.
- 0230 However, at 0230, the N.Z.M.R.Bde and 2nd L.H.Bde moved off to take up positions facing East on the other side of the Wadi. KHALASA had already been surrounded by the 1st L.H.Bde, and 6th L.H.Regt were left in position guarding it. They now rejoined their Bde as it moved past the place, and the 2nd L.H.Bde took up the line ASLUJ (exclusive) to GOZ SHEIHILI (exclusive) being in touch with the 1st L.H.Bde on their right and the N.Z.M.R.Bde on their left. The N.Z.M.R.Bde took up position GOZ SHEIHILI (inclusive) to UM AJUA (exclusive) being in touch with 2nd L.H.Bde on their right, and eventually getting in touch with 3rd L.H.Bde, Imperial Mtd Divn on their left.
- 0445 The 2nd L.H.Bde were opposed just after daylight by some armed Bedouin, but only a few shots were fired. One armed Bedouin was killed and others taken prisoners.
- 0500 The ANZAC Mtd Divn (less 1st L.H.Bde and Demolition party) was established on Hill 770, which was taken to be Hill 820, the mistake only being discovered later. Hill 820 lay two miles further South. The Division remained here for the day.
- 0655 At 0655, the 1st L.H.Bde being in position, the Demolition parties began work on the railway. (A report by Major ALEXANDER, O/C Field Sqdn, ANZAC Mtd Divn is attached).
- 1000 The work of all the parties (except one) was done by 1000 and at that hour they withdrew. One party was however 20 minutes late. The only opposition was a few snipers.
- 1030 At 1030, the 5th L.H.Regt reported 2 Brigades of Turks passing Hill 1170, square D9, BEERSHEBA Sheet. They moved away North and did not appear again.
- 1420 At 1420, the Demolition parties and 1st L.H.Bde were seen passing Hill 860 just North of KHALASA. They cleared the line of the 2nd L.H.Bde at 1500.
- 1500 The Bde began to drop back slowly through KHALASA. Orders were sent that the N.Z.M.R.Bde should cover the withdrawal on ESANI, and, that on arrival there, the Division would halt and, after watering and feeding was complete would march back with the N.Z.M.R.Bde as rear-guard.
- 1730 The N.Z.M.R.Bde began to withdraw at 1730, and after a short halt at ESANI the whole Division marched back to TEL EL FARA Camp. On the retirement from the Railway the 2nd L.H.Bde burned some of the crops in that area and the N.Z.M.R.Bde burned crops met with in their area. Estimated amount burned 110 tons. Our casualties for the expedition were nil. No. of prisoners taken 13.

- 2 -

May 23rd 1917 (contd).

by ANZAC Sqdn

Total amount of Demolition - one 18 arch Bridge.

	5	"	"
	3	"	"
	2	"	"
	1	"	"

Rails, points and switches at ASLUJ Station.

All rails on about 4 miles front of railway.

For details see attached report.

Report from I.M.D. Squadron has been sent in direct.

Cable communication with Desert Column worked well. Helio communication was very uncertain owing to light up to 1100.

E. W. C. Chaytor, Major-General,
Commanding,

AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.

25th May 1917.

A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.

Report on Railway Demolition Operations on 23rd May 1917.

I have the honour to report that the ANZAC Demolition Squadron and attached working party from ANZAC Division composed as follows -

- (a) Two Rail Demolition Parties each consisting of one officer and 53 other ranks with 10 pack horses and 2 half limbers carrying explosives.
- (b) One Bridge Demolition Party consisting of two officers and 70 other ranks with two pack horses and 3 half limbers carrying explosives,

operated as follows -

We left Camp at FARA at 1500 on the 22nd and joined the 1st L.H. Bde and went with them to ESANI, where we were divided into our separate parties and allotted to Regiments of that Bde, with whom we travelled as far as ASEUJ - AUJA Railway line. We reached the Police Post of ASLUJ (or Barracks) situated about 1 mile West of Railway on edge of Wadi and passed along the edge of Wadi until striking the rail. We provided the "Screen" with guncotton slabs to cut the rails where they crossed so as to prevent a train from passing before we (demolition party) could reach the line.

We found an 18 arched solid masonry bridge over the Wadi and the Railway Station of ASLUJ situated about half a mile to the North of the Bridge. We immediately, upon reaching the spot prepared our charges for the destruction of the bridge and at the same time, one of the rail demolition parties proceeded to Railway Station and commenced destroying rails, points, switches etc. My second rail demolition party had gone further South to a point 5 miles South from the 18 arch bridge, and started working Northwards to meet the first party who were working South and cutting each rail in the centre as they travelled, and demolishing any bridges and culverts that they came across.

In all, we demolished the following stone-arched bridges -

One 18 arched Bridge.
 " 5 " "
 " 3 " "
 " 2 " "

Two 1 arched Culverts,

and besides destroying all the points and switches at the railway station, we cut all the rails on about 4 miles of railway.

When the order to cease came, we got squads together and reported to Regtl Commander, and proceeded on the return journey reaching Camp at FARA about 2130 on the 23/5/17.

I am pleased to be able to report that we had no casualties of any sort, and every thing went without a hitch, and in this connection I would specially like to bring to your notice the good work done by the following officers in training their various parties and carrying out the work right through so successfully.

Lieut. A. MAX ALLEN, A.E.
 Lieut. H.G. ALEXANDER, N.Z.E.
 2/Lt. C.H. BRADBERRY, A.E.

also Sgt-Major G.T. PYE, R.E.

(sgd) J.H. ALEXANDER, Major, R.E.,
 O/C Field Squadron,
 A/ C.R.E. ANZACS.

24/5/17.

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SECRET.

Copy No. 18.....

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.

ORDER No 87

by Major-General E.W.C.CHAYTOR, C.B., C.M.G., T.D., Commanding A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.

Ref. Maps 1/125,000.

25th May 1917.

1. RELIEFS.

The two Battalions, 23rd Sikh Pioneers and L.A.M. Battery now attached to the ANZAC Mounted Division will come under orders of G.O.C., 53rd Division from the hour at which he assumes command of the Infantry Line, on relief of the 230th Brigade on night 26/27th.

2. On the 27th May one Brigade 53rd Division will relieve the 2nd L.H. Brigade (less R.H.A. Battery which will come under orders of 53rd Division and the garrison of works at EL GHABI with works W., X., and Y.) by 1800.

After relief 2nd L.H. Brigade will move to bivouac site half mile South of N.Z.M.R. Brigade.

3. (a) On 28th May the ANZAC Mounted Division will be relieved by the IMPERIAL Mounted Division as Forward Mounted Division.

(b) At 0900 on 28th May one Regiment, IMPERIAL Mounted Division will relieve the garrison of the works at the works of EL GHABI with works W., X. and Y.

(c) Patrols of N.Z.M.R. Brigade on 28/5/17 will be relieved by Brigade IMPERIAL Mounted Division at 1300.

4. MOVES.

The following moves will take place on 28th May -

Unit	To	Hour to move from present site.	Remarks.
Hdqtrs and Divn units	ABASAN EL KEBIR	1300	} Bivouac in area S. and S.E. of ABASAN EL KEBIR now occupied by IMPERIAL Mtd Divn.
Artillery (less one Battery)	" "	0830	
1st L.H. Bde	" "	0930	
N.Z.M.R. Bde	" "	1400	
2nd L.H. Bde	TEL EL MARAKEB	1100	} Bivouac near Beach.
22nd Mtd Bde	" "	0800	

5. The action of the Division in case of attack after Brigades have moved into new bivouac areas on 28th instant will be as indicated in GX.85 of 20th May, substituting in para 6, sub-para 3, 'ANZAC' Mounted Division for 'IMPERIAL' Mounted Division.

6. Acknowledge.

[Handwritten signature] Lieut.-Colonel, General Staff.

Issued at 2100.

- Copy No 1 1st L.H. Bde
- 2 2nd L.H. Bde
- 3 N.Z.M.R. Bde
- 4 22nd Mtd Bde
- 5 C.R.A.
- 6 Field Sqdn
- 7 Signal Sqdn.
- 8 Divn A.S.C.
- 9 A.D.M.S.
- 10 A.D.V.S.
- 11 Desert Column.
- 12 Imperial Mtd Divn.
- 13 53rd Division.
- 14 74th Division.
- 15 L.A.M. Battery.
- 16 'A'
- 17/19 'G'
- 20 G.O.C.

War Diary
Angaz Abd Dir
Appen 121

Appendix No. 120

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