

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/23/3 Part 1

**Title:** Assistant Director of Medical  
Services, ANZAC Mounted Division

May 1916



AWM4-26/23/3PART1



## 02

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.

## Vol. 1, Page. 1.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SALHIA.	5th May.		Operation Order for reconnaissance of BIR EL ABD received.	
	6th	"	M.C. Operation Order No.1 relative to above issued and attached.	App. 4
	7th	"	Medical Corps Order No.4 issued and attached.	App. 5
			Admission to and evacuations from Field Ambulances for week ending 7th May Admissions 51, evacuations 19. The equipment of Desert Transport supplied to each ambulance on entering the section was six sand carts, 15 sitting up cacolets and 2 lying down. Establishment of camels for 2nd L.H.F.A. for equipment 31, for personnel 46, For N.Z.M.F.A. for equipment 29, for personnel 77, exclusive of 17 camels for cacolets in both Ambulances. In addition to above establishment 2nd L.H.F.A. had two single sledges constructed with sheets of galvanized iron.	
C.E.H.	10th	"	Report on reconnaissance to BIR EL ABD received from 2nd L.H.F.A. There were no casualties.	
			(Original of above written on same sheet as entries for April and filed with volume for that month).	



# 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

(Erase heading not required.)

Volume I Page 2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hill 70	10 <sup>th</sup> May		M.C. Operation Order No.2 directing the N.Z.M.F.A to move by route march from HILL 70 to ET MALER on May 12th issued.	
	12 <sup>th</sup> May		1st. L.H.F.A. arrived at KANTARA with 1st.L.H.Brigade from SOHAG.and came under the orders of this division.	
	13 <sup>th</sup> May		SANITATION. There is a great shortage of latrine seats, disinfectants and other sanitary appliances. Sanitation consequently is being carried out under great disadvantages. 2nd L.H Brigade camped at ROMANI is particularly unsatisfactory partly as a result of this shortage but mainly because of the concentration of the whole brigade in one HOD for <del>xxxxxx</del> strategical purposes	
	13 <sup>th</sup> May		No Sanitary Section is yet authorised for this Division The health of the division continues good notwithstanding the great heat absence of bathing facilities and continuous reconnaissance work. Admissions to Field Amb.	
	14 <sup>th</sup> May		for week ending Saturday 13th. May 73, Evacuations 33.	
	15 <sup>th</sup> May		Orders received for a reconnaissance of BIR EL JEFEIR and BIR BAYUD M.C.	appendix 6 ✓
	16 <sup>th</sup> May		Operation Order No.3 for this reconnaissance attached	
	18 <sup>th</sup> May		Reconnaissance carried out under conditions of extreme heat. This excessive heat was responsible for a number of cases of heat stroke and heat exhaustion 5 officers and 29 other ranks having to be evacuated for the former condition There were no deaths.	
	22 <sup>nd</sup> May		1st. L.H.F.A. left KANTARA and marched to HILL 70 on May 18th. On same day a reconnaissance of HOD EL GEDALIA was carried out by 2nd L.H Brigade and N Z Brigade. No casualties or sick were reported	
	26 <sup>th</sup> May		On 22nd and 23rd May the 2nd.L.H.F.A. and N.Z.M.F.A took part in a reconnaissance of HOD EL GEDALIA. Owing to the character of the country in which <del>they were</del> <sup>we are</sup> operating it has been found essential that the bearers of our field ambulances be mounted and application has been made for the mounting of the N.Z.M.F.A. Admissions for week ending Saturday 27th May 121, Evacuations 63. Medical Corps Order No.60 attached.	appendix 7 ✓
			On May 29th 30th and 31st a reconnaissance of HOD SALMANA <sup>is to be</sup> was carried out M.C.Operation Order No. 8 for this reconnaissance attached. The improvised sledges which all the embs. of this division possess have proved themselves invaluable. The curtains and roof of the sand carts have proved too flimsy to stand the constant work which they are experiencing.	appendix 8 ✓

C.E.H.



## MEDICAL CORPS OPERATION ORDER NO. 1.

- Reference 1  
100,000 map (QATIA)
- INTENTION 1. To make a reconnaissance of the BIR EL ABD. This will be carried out by the 6th and 7th L.H. Regiments with covering force of the 5th L.H. and two regiments of N.Z.M.R. Brigade.
- DATE 2. To be carried out on Sunday May 7th and Monday May 8th
- MOVES FOR MAY 7th. 3. One bearer sub division of 2nd L.H.F.A. with 8 sand cart two single sledges, and two pack horses will march from ROMANI at 1600 on May 7th. with Headquarters 2nd L.H. Brig. and one regiment and will bivouac at OGH RATINA. They will remain at this bivouac during the reconnaissance until required to move forward or withdraw when the reconnaissance party has completed its work. The remainder of the 2nd L.H.F.A. will remain at ROMANI.
- The C.O., N.Z.M.F.A. will send (1) 4 sand carts at 1300 on May 7th with N.Z.M.R. Brigade to ROMANI to join details of 2nd L.H.F.A. and 4 camels with cacolets. (2) also two sand carts two sledges and four camels with cacolets with an officer to reach DUEDDAR at 1800 on May 6th to report to C.O., 5th L.H. Regiment; these carts will march out with 5th L.H. on May 7th to BIR EL HAMISAH where they will remain until required forward or withdraw with the 5th L.H. regiment.
- EVACUATION. 4. Ambulance at OGRATINA will evacuate to ROMANI. Details with 5th L.H. will evacuate to R.A.M.C at DUEIDAR.
- SUPPLIES. 5. One day's ration and one iron ration will be carried and two feeds per horse in each nose bag.
- WATER 6. Water for men will be carried on camels; water bottles to be filled before marching. Buckets and rope to be taken for horse water.
- EQUIPMENT. 7. Details of 2nd L.H.F.A. with reconnaissance party will take sufficient surgical equipment on pack horses. No camels will be taken. Details of N.Z.M.F.A. with 5th L.H. will carry surgical haversacks and water bottles.
- REPORTS. 8. Reports to D.H.Q. at ROMANI. Signaller will remain with 2nd L.H.F.A. at OGH RATINA.

R. M. DOWNES, Lieut-Colonel.  
A.D.M.S. ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.



1141

## Medical Corps Order No4.

issued by

Lieut. Col. R.M. Downes

A.D.M.S. ANZAC Mounted Division

Headquarters

Hill 40 Kantara

7th May 1916.

APPENDIX No. 5 3

- Postings. 17 Major M. Holmes, N.Z.M.C. having reported for duty is posted to N.Z.M.F.A. dated 5/5/16.  
Capt. W.L. Smith, A.A.M.C. having reported for duty is posted to Signal Squadron Engrs dated 3/5/16.
- Transfers. 18. The following transfers will take effect from 27/4/16  
No 26 L/Cpl. J. Magle, A.A.M.C. 10th L.H. Reg. to A.A.M.C.  
No 1863 Pte W.F. Earl " " " "
- Promotions. 19. No 26 L/Cpl J. Magle A.A.M.C. attached 10th L.H. Reg to be corporal dated 27/4/16.
- Court of Enquiry 20. A court of enquiry will be held at a time and place to be fixed by the president, to enquire into the damage to a "Thresh Disinfector".  
President - Lieut Col. C.T.H. Newton, C.O.N.Z.M.F.A.  
( Capt. C.E. Hercus, D.A.D.M.S.  
Members ( An Officer to be detailed by N.Z.M.F.A.
- Proceedings to be forwarded ~~ed~~ to A.D.M.S. necessary
- Economy. 21. It is ~~necessary~~ again to draw attention to the need for ~~st~~ strict economy for the use of drugs and dressings. This is particularly necessary in the case of synthetic drugs, which are scarce and very expensive., these should be used only in special cases, and not as a routine. Preparations of Opium are more readily obtainable - these may be substituted for other more modern analgesics.  
C.O.'s Units and R. M.O.'s must make it their special duty to keep down any unessential use of ~~r~~ drugs, dressings and instruments, especially of the higher priced items.
- Ulcers-  
Gingivitis. 22. This condition has appeared amongst the troops. It has a similar causation to the old hospital Gangrene, and is characterised by a rapid deep ulceration of the gums at the roots of the teeth. It is very contagious and causes loss of teeth, but readily yields to local treatment by arsenic or mercury: Medical Officers must be on the alert for this condition so as to transfer any cases to a Hospital
- Indents. 23. When submitting indents for articles from the ordnance Department the authority ~~for~~ the indent should be quoted; or if none exists, the special grounds on which the demand is ~~made~~ should be stated.  
If for any reason the supply or ordnance Dept. is unable to supply the material ask for, the indent should be forwarded to the A.D.M.S. with the explanation of the circumstances mentioning any particular grounds that may exist for the ~~de~~ demands.
- D.R. O's 24. The attention is drawn of Ambulances to paras. 155 158 159 of Divisional Routine Orders.

Sgn. R.M. Downes

Lieut Col.

A.D.M.S. ANZAC Mounted Division.



MEDICAL CORPS OPERATION ORDER NO. 3.  
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## Reference Map

 $\frac{1}{100,000}$  (QATIA).

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 $\frac{1}{125,000}$  (SABKHET EL BARDAWIL)

## INTENTION.

1. To carry out a reconnaissance of BIR EL JEFFEIR, BIR EL MAGEIBRA and BIR BAYUD. Troops employed will be one regiment each from N.Z.M.R. and 2nd.LH Brigade at ROMANI and one squadron 5th L.H. from DUEIDAR.

## DATE

2. Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th. May

## MOVES.

3. The regiment N.Z.M.R. less one squadron will leave ROMANI at 1400 on May 15th. and bivouac in neighbourhood of OGHRAATINA. On May 16th it will leave the bivouac to arrive at HOD DABABIS at 0600. Three sections of bearers of 2nd.L.H.F.A. with three sand carts and two sledges from N.Z.M.F.A. will accompany the regiment in charge of an officer of 2nd.L.H.F.A.

The regiment 2nd.L.H. Brigade and one squadron N.Z.M.R. will leave ROMANI at 1400 on May 15th and bivouac at HOD EL SAGIA. On May 16th the regt. & 2nd. L.H. Brigade will leave bivouac to arrive at BIR BAYUD at 0800. One bearer subdivision all sandcarts and sledges of 2nd.L.H.F.A. will accompany this regt. The squadron N.Z.M.R. on May 16th. will leave bivouac to arrive at BIR EL MAGEIBRA at 0800. One section of bearers 2nd.L.H.F.A. and one cart and two sledges of N.Z.M.F.A. will accompany this squadron in charge of an officer of 2nd.L.H.F.A. Tent division N.Z.M.F.A. will leave BIR ET MALER at 0400 on May 16th with one troop N.Z.M.R. as escort. They will form a dressing station at QATIA to which all ambulance parties will return casualties. Evacuations from here to ROMANI. Separate arrangements for ambulance with 5th L.H. regt. will be made.

4. Officers in charge Ambulance parties will act in accordance with orders of O.C. troops to which they are attached as regards withdrawal unless prevented by unevacuated patients. N.Z.M.F.A. tent division will withdraw when main body of 2nd.L.H. Brigade regiment returns.

## SUPPLY.

5. One day's ration and one iron ration to be carried by each man; two feeds per horse in nose bag. One extra horse feed will be carried by camels to the bivouac in neighbourhood of OGHRAATINA and HOD EL SAGIA.

Water bottles to be filled before starting and buckets taken for watering horses.

## CAMELS.

6. No camels will be taken except by N.Z.M.F.A. tent division which will take and retain sufficient camels for personnel necessary equipment water for patients and all caicolets.

## EQUIPMENT.

7. Equipment will not be carried on sand carts or sledges pack horses to be used. That for N.Z.M.F.A. tent division to be small in amount.

## REPORTS.

8. Reports to D.H.Q. at ROMANI.

R. M. DOWNES, Lieut-Colonel.  
A.D.M.S. ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.



1141  
War Diary

MEDICAL CORPS ORDER

NO. 5.

APPENDIX No 7  
5

by  
Lieut-Colonel R. M. DOWNES  
A. D. M. S. ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION

Head-Quarters  
HILL 40, KANTARA  
23rd. May 1916

- POSTINGS 25. Capt. W.J. SMITH, A.A.M.C. temporarily attached Signal Squadron returned to TEL EL KEBIR 10/5/16.  
Capt. R.G. WOODS, A.A.M.C. 3rd. L.H.Bde. Reserve Reg. having reported for duty is posted to Signal Squadron, dated 11/5/16.  
Capt. G.A. FORREST, N.Z.M.C. N.Z.M.F.A. is posted temporarily to C.M.R. vice Capt. ORRELL, evacuated sick, dated 15/5/16.  
Capt. KELLY, A.A.M.C. No. 1 Aux. Hosp. is posted temp. to 3rd. L.H.F.A. vice Capt. DAVIDSON, evacuated sick 8/5/16.  
Capt. HUTCHINSON, A.A.M.C. 5th. Div. is posted temp. to 8th. L.H.Reg. vice Capt. GRIEVES, evacuated sick 19/5/16.  
Capt. M.W. CAVE, A.A.M.C. 3rd. L.H.F.A. is attached temp. to Divisional Head-Quarters for instruction in staff duties, dated 19/5/16.
- ORDERS 26. The attention of Field Ambulances is drawn to D.R.Os. Nos. (G.S.) 25, 27 ; 173, 180, 183, 185, 191, 195 & 196, copies of which are issued herewith.
- INDENTS 27. Medical Corps Order para. 23, 7/5/16. is not being observed. When indenting for articles not on Mobilization Store Table authority for issue must be quoted.  
R.E. Stores - Indents for R.E. stores, including latrines and urine funnels, will be sent to A.D.M.S., as R.E. require consolidated indents from the division.  
Bread and meat safes are to be made by units ; the amounts of material required to be specified.
- MEDICAL COMFORTS 28. Field Ambulances will submit indents to reach this office by Saturdays. Supplies will be available at Supply Depots on Wednesdays.
- DRUGS 29. Attention has been drawn by the D.D.M.S. to the fact that indents for drugs are much in excess of those from other divisions. C.Os Ambulances must keep these indents as low as possible.
- PATIENTS in HOSPITAL 30. As a rough working rule patients likely to be fit for duty within four days will not be evacuated from Ambulances in the front line.
- SICK PARADES 31. The D.D.M.S., 3rd. Section has drawn attention to the advantages of holding sick parades in regimental units and of making the morning rounds of ambulance units, at an early hour during the hot weather.  
He suggests 0630 and 0700, respectively, as the latest times for these.
- INJURIES 32. In cases of injury, other than wounds received in action, the provisions of para. 674 K. Rs. must be carefully observed.
- RETURN 33. Field Ambulances and R. M. Os will render, punctually on the last day of each month, a return showing the state of inoculation ( % protected ) under the following headings :- Cholera - 1st. inoculation, 2nd. inoculation, Officers, O/Ranks; T.A.B. - ditto.
- BRASSARDS 34. G.R.O. 1244, 14/5/16. It is observed that the wearing of the Red Cross brassard by those entitled to its protection as laid down in para. 98, Chap. ~~XX~~ X. Operations Part 11, has fallen into disuse. The wearing of this brassard is obligatory for those persons subject to Military Law, who are entitled to protection under the terms of the Geneva Convention.

(Sgd.) R. M. DOWNES  
Lieut-Colonel,  
A. D. M. S. ANZAC MOUNTED DIVN.



MEDICAL CORPS OPERATION ORDER NO. 8.  
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- Reference Maps  $\frac{1}{100,000}$  Qatia.  
 $\frac{1}{125,000}$  SABKHET EL BARDAWIL.
- INTENTION. 1. To make a reconnaissance of BIR SALMANA and HOD SALMANA to surprise the enemy and destroy ~~kk~~ material.
- DATES. 2. Tuesday 30th, Wednesday 31st. May, Thursday 1st June
- TROOPS. 3. For reconnaissance:-  
N.Z.M.R. BRIGADE, Section AYRSHIRE R.H.A., N.Z.M.F.A., (less tent division)  
Covering troops.  
One regt 1st.L.H. Brigade, 2nd.L.H.F.A. (less tent division)  
5th. L.H. Regt., detachment Transport 1st.L.H.F.A.  
Dressing Station.  
N.Z.M.F.A. tent division and camel transport with escort.
- MOVES. 4. The force will leave camp on Tuesday May 30th at such hour in the morning as ordered by G.O.C. force Brig-General E.W.C.CHATER., C.B.; they will leave QATIA after sundown and carry out reconnaissance.
- AMBULANCES. 5. The N.Z.M.F.A. (plus bearer division 1st.L.H.F.A. and less tent division) will accompany reconnaissance troops their transport division not proceeding beyond BIR EL ABD unless required to move further forward.  
N.Z.M.F.A. tent division with camels for personnel equipment water medical comforts and cacolets will form a dressing station at HOD ED DABABIS.  
2nd.L.H.F.A. bearer and transport divisions (less camels) will remain in reserve at HOD ED DABABIS and be utilised with covering force.  
2nd.L.H.F.A. tent division with camel transport will remain at ROMANI to where patients will be returned.  
1st.L.H.F.A. will detail two sand carts with an officer to accompany 5th L.H. Regt. to BIR EL HAMISAH leaving DUEIDAR to arrive at the former place by 0500 on Wednesday 31st. May.
- SUPPLIES. 6. One day's ration and one iron ration will be carried by each man and two horses feeds in each nose bag.
- CAMELS. 7. Camels will not be taken except by N.Z.M.F.A. tent division.
- EQUIPMENT. 8. Bearer divisions will be supplied with surgical have ~~es~~sacks each bearer to be provided with a stone or similiar object for formation of blanket ~~ex~~ stretchers.
- REPORTS. 9. Reports to D.H.Q. at ROMANI up to 0400 on Wednesday May 31st. afterwards to QATIA.

R. M. DOWNES. ,Lieut-Colonel.  
A.D.M.S. ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.