

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/23/2

Title: Headquarters, 18th Brigade, Royal
Horse Artillery, Australian and New
Zealand Army Corps Mounted
Division

July 1917



AWM4-13/23/2

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	14.5.15	—	Routine	
	7.17	—	Reference GAZA - SHELLAL MAP 1:40,000	Am 5
G.A.C. 6.3.	6.7.17	1200	HQ 18 Bde RHA	
G.22. a. 1.1.			Inverness Bty } camp site.	
K.31. d. 53.			Somerset " }	
K.31. b. 3.7.			Ayrshire " }	
	8.7.17	—	Reference BEERSHEBA MAP 1:125,000.	
pt 550 SHELLAL		0545	Ayrshire Bty } came under orders of	
Eg Crossing FARA		0545	Somerset " }	
GAMLI		0615	Inverness " }	
pt 550	8.7.17	0945	Blys in position of readiness.	
bet. EL BUGGAR				
+ TANEIL EHABARI				
KH. KHASIF				
pt. 550		1200	Ayrshire Bty shelled NADI HANAFISH near BIR EL GIRHEIR - enemy cavalry. Range 3500 x Amm ⁿ 18 rds	Am 5
500 x S of I		1500	Somerset Bty effectively shelled enemy 2000 x S.W. EL IN ARAB EL AZAZIMSH Range 7000 x Amm ⁿ 42 rds	Am 5
in TANEIL		1600	} all Blys ordered to withdraw + return to camp. Inverness Bty in reserve all day.	
	10.7.17	1730		DAC split up + each BAC placed in its Bty area.
	10.7.17	—	Somerset Bty under orders of BGC NZMR Bde for reconnaissance of ground B.5.	
600 x S of 550			shelled enemy machine gun on 630, canals near BIR IFTEIS + KH IMLEIH + NADI IMLEIH. Am 33	Am 5
	12.7.17	—	Somerset Bty placed under BGC NZMR. shelled BIR IFTEIS, BIR EL GIRHEIR Ranges 4500 + 4000 Amm ⁿ 55 rds	Am 5
FARA	13.7.17	—	Leicester Bty ceased to be administered by 18 Bde RHA HQ.	
"	19.7.17	0850	Ayrshire } placed under BGC { 2nd ALH Ayrshire to turn out	
			Inverness } NZMR Inverness + Somerset to stand to.	
KARM		1200	Ayrshire 1 section shelled pt 630 + swept ground behind. 2-4 gun batteries of enemy replied with small effect	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	7-17		Routine	
G.A.C. 6.3.	6.7.17	1200	Reference GAZA - SHELLAL MAP 1:40,000	
G.22. a. 1.1.			HQ 18 Bde RHA	
K.31. d. 53.			Inverness Bty	} Camp site.
K.31. b. 3.7.			Somerset "	
			Ayrshire "	
	8.7.17		Reference BEER SHEVA MAP 1:125,000.	
Point 550 (SHELLAL)		0545	Ayrshire Bty	} came under orders of { BSC 2nd ALH. NZMR 1st ALH
Eq crossing FARA		0545	Somerset	
GAMLI		0615	Inverness	
Point 550		0945	Btys in position of readiness.	
bd. EL BUGGAR		1200	Ayrshire Bty shelled NADI HANAFISH near BIR EL GIRHEIR - enemy cavalry. Range 3500' Amm ⁿ 181ds	
TANEIL EL HABARI		1500	Somerset Bty effectively shelled enemy 2000' S.W. EL in ARAB EL AZAZIMBH Range 7000' Amm ⁿ 421ds	
KH. KHASIF		1600	} all Btys ordered to withdraw + return to camp. Inverness Bty in reserve all day.	
Pt. 550	10.7.17	1730	DAC split up + each BAC placed in its Bty area.	
500' S of I in TANEIL	10.7.17		Somerset Bty under orders of BSC NZMR Bde for reconnaissance of ground B.5.	
			shelled enemy machine gun on 630, canals near BIR IFTEIS + KH IMLEIH + NADI IMLEIH. Am 33	
600' S of 550	12.7.17		Somerset Bty placed under BSC NZMR. shelled BIR IFTEIS, BIR EL GIRHEIR Range 4500 + 4000 Am ⁿ 551ds	
FARA	13.7.17		Leicester Bty ceased to be administered by 18. Bde RHA HQ.	
"	19.7.17	0850	Ayrshire } placed under BSC { 2nd ALH Inverness } NZMR Somerset } 1st ALH Ayrshire to turn out Inverness + Somerset to stand to.	
KARM		1200	Ayrshire 1 section shelled Pt 650 + swept ground behind. 2-4 gun batteries of enemy replied with small effect	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1200 ⁺ N 602 EL BASAL KARM	19.7.17	1200	REFERENCE BEERSHEBA MAP 1:125000. Somerset Bty shelled ridge 1 mile N IMLEIH Range 4000 ⁺ fire effective. observation good.	
		1530	Ayrshire " " trench effectively 800 ⁺ S. of E in EL GIRHEIR. vicinity searched & swept.	
6702 EL BASAL KARM		1715	HQ 18 th Bde ordered 4 - 18 pdr BAC wagons from FARA.	
		1730	Ayrshire Bty shelled & dispersed enemy cavalry in vicinity of KH IMLEIH	
1200 ⁺ N 6. ELB		1800	Somerset Bty reports enemy retiring.	Ayr. 1600 Som 352
		1900	All Btys ordered to withdraw. Inverness Bty in reserve all day. Amm ⁿ expended	
18 Bde HQ FARA		2200	Orders received for 20.7.17.	N.S.
FARA-BEERSHEBA rd E of wadi	20.7.17	0300	18 Bde RHA assembled & ready to move. Each Bty accompanied by 4 - 18 pdr BAC wagons.	
1/2 N pt 400 A6		0400	Bde in open & irregular formation in position of readiness	
		0740	Somerset Bty ordered to advance to pt 550 B.S., to open fire on enemy artillery at BIR IFTEIS & to locate infantry reported in branch wadi about 3/4 mile NW of BIR IFTEIS.	
1000 ⁺ N pt 630		1000	Somerset O.P. reported no enemy within range. no guns located. Our troops in wadi IMLEIH.	
		1045	All Btys ordered to withdraw & return to FARA. No Ammunition expended	N.S.
FARA	23.7.17	0030	Turks reported to be evacuating BEERSHEBA.	
		0130	Inverness, Ayrshire & Somerset Btys placed under orders of B.G.Cs. 1st + 2 nd ALH + NZMR Bde	Respect
Crossing { FARA		0500	Somerset	
{ FAMILI		0530	Inverness	
{ URGAM		0600	Ayrshire	
{ FARA		0600	HQ 18 Bde	
UM SIRR		0800	Somerset Bty in readiness.	
HQ 18 Bde RHA		0830	HQ in position.	
1 mile N EL BUGGAR KARM		0845	Inverness in readiness	
		0900	Ayrshire in reserve.	
		1130	Bty ordered to withdraw & return to FARA No ammunition expended	N.S.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
1200 ⁺ N 602 EL BASAL KARM	19.7.17	1200	REFERENCE BEERSHEBA MAP 1:125000. Somerset Bty shelled ridge 1 mile N IMLEIH Range 4000 ⁺ fire effective. observation good.	
KARM	..	1530	Ayrshire " " trench effectively 500 ⁺ S. of E in EL GIRHEIR. vicinity searched & swept.	
6702 EL BASAL KARM	..	1715	HQ 18 th Bde ordered 4 - 18 pdr BAC wagons from FARA.	
1200 ⁺ N G. ELB	..	1730	Ayrshire Bty shelled & dispersed enemy cavalry in vicinity of KH IMLEIH	
18 Bde HQ FARA	..	1800	Somerset Bty reports enemy retiring.	{Ayr. 160 rds Som 352 ..
FARA-BEERSHEBA rd E of wadi 1/2 N pt 400 AG	..	1900	All Btys ordered to withdraw. Inverness Bty in reserve all day. Ammunition expended	
1000 ⁺ N pt 630	..	2200	Orders received for 20.7.17.	N.S.
FARA	20.7.17	0300	18 Bde RHA assembled & ready to move. Each Bty accompanied by 4 - 18 pdr BAC wagons.	
..	..	0400	Bde in open & irregular formation in position of readiness.	
..	..	0740	Somerset Bty ordered to advance to pt 550 B.S. to open fire on enemy artillery at BIR IFTEIS & to locate infantry reported in branch wadi about 3/4 mile NW of BIR IFTEIS.	
..	..	1000	Somerset O.P. reported no enemy within range. no guns located. Our troops in wadi IMLEIH.	
..	..	1045	All Btys ordered to withdraw & return to FARA. No Ammunition expended	N.S.
FARA	23.7.17	0030	Turks reported to be evacuating BEERSHEBA.	
..	..	0130	Inverness, Ayrshire & Somerset Btys placed under orders of B.G.Co. 1 st + 2 nd ALH + NZMR	Crossed wadi GHUZZEE
Crossing (FARA, GAMLI, URGAL, TARA)	..	0500	Somerset	
..	..	0530	Inverness	
..	..	0600	Ayrshire	
..	..	0600	HQ 18 Bde	
U.M.S.F.R.	..	0800	Somerset Bty in readiness	
HQ 18 Bde RHA	..	0830	HQ in position.	
1 mile N EL BUGGAR KARM	..	0845	Inverness in readiness	
..	..	0900	Ayrshire in reserve.	
..	..	1130	Btys ordered to withdraw & return to FARA. No ammunition expended	N.S.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	REFERENCE GAZA SHELLAL MAP 1/40 000 Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FARA	24.7.17	0430	Somerset Bty attached to WELLINGTON Regt NZMR Bde for reconnaissance.	
L. 14. a.	...	0600	In position of readiness	W.S.
	...	1200	No targets available - Bty ordered to withdraw return to Biwouac. No Amm ⁿ expended	
FARA	25.7.17	—	Section of Somerset Bty placed under orders of B.G.C NZMR Bde	
L. 20. a. 1.7.	...	0800	} Covered advance of our patrols by searching WADI IMLEIH + WADI SHERIA from J20 to J29 Range 3900 to 4700 * Amm ⁿ expended 42 rds. Fire reported effective.	
	...	1030		
	...	1115		
	...	1630	Shelled Turkish patrol in WADI IMLEIH. Ammunition expended 10 rds. Range 4000. *	W.S.
	...	1645	Shelled + scattered Turkish camp. U. 3.C. Range 22° Elevation. Ammunition 32 rds.	
FARA	26.7.17	—	Section of Somerset Bty placed under orders of B.G.C NZMR Bde.	
L. 20. a. 1.7.	...	0900	Shelled enemy post U. 36. Range 4500 * Ammunition exp'd 17 rds.	
	...	1000	" " Cavalry U. 5 + U. 11 Range 6300 * " " 19. "	
	...	1200	" " entrenched U. 36. in support of attack by CANTERBURY Regt. Amm ⁿ exp'd - 30 rds.	
	...	1600	" " patrol at U. 29 Range 4800 Am exp'd 8 rds.	
	...	1620	" " post U. 36. effect reported good. Range 4500 * Amm exp'd 4 rds.	W.S.
L. 20. d	27.7.17	0810	Section of Somerset attached to NZMR Bde shelled enemy Cavalry at U. 27. Range 4900 Am ⁿ 8 rds	W.S.
	...	1630	Shelled enemy post U. 36. Range 4600 * Amm ⁿ exp'd 7 rds.	
L. 20. a. 1.7.	29.7.17	0740	Somerset Bty att. to NZMR Bde. One section shelled enemy machine gun post Am ⁿ exp'd 16 rds	W.S.
L. 20 L. 7. c.	30.7.17	0800	Somerset Bty placed under orders of B.G.C NZMR. Bde -	
	One section shelled enemy post U. 29. Range 5100 - 5500 * Amm. exp'd 12 rds.	
	...	1315	" " U. 28. b. 5350 * " " 7 "	
	...	1400	" " 30 enemy bet U. 16 c + U. 22 a. 5500 * " " 7 "	W.S.
	...	1645	" " enemy post U. 30 c 5100 * " " 9 "	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 2
2

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	REFERENCE GAZA-SHELLAL MAP 1/40000 Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to appendices
FARA	24.7.17	0430	Somerset Bty attached to WELLINGTON Regt NZMR Bde for reconnaissance.	
L. 14.a.	...	0600	In position of readiness.	
	...	1200	No targets available - Bty ordered to withdraw return to Bivouac no Amm ⁿ expended	NS
FARA	25.7.17	—	Section of Somerset Bty placed under orders of B.G.C NZMR Bde	
L. 20.a. 1.7.	...	0800 1030 1115	} Covered advance of our patrols by searching WADI IMLEIH + WADI SHERIA from U20 to U29 Range 3900 to 4700 * Amm ⁿ expended 42 rds. Fire reported effective.	
	...	1630		Shelled Turkish patrol in WADI IMLEIH. Ammunition expended 10 rds. Range 4000.*
	...	1645	Shelled + scattered Turkish camp. U. 3.C. Range 220 Elevation. Ammunition 32 rds.	NS
FARA	26.7.17	—	Section of Somerset Bty placed under orders of B.G.C NZMR Bde.	
L. 20.a. 1.7.	...	0900	Shelled enemy post U. 36. Range 4500* Ammunition exp'd 17 rds.	
	...	1000	" " Cavalry U5 + U11 Range 6300* " " 10."	
	...	1200	" " entrenched U. 36. in support of attack by CANTERBURY Regt. Amm ⁿ exp'd - 30 rds.	
	...	1600	" " patrol at U. 29 Range 4800 Am exp'd 8 rds.	
	...	1620	" " post U. 36. effect reported good. Range 4500* Amm ⁿ exp'd 4 rds.	NS
L. 20.d.	27.7.17	0810	Section of Somerset attached to NZMR Bde shelled enemy cavalry at U. 27. Range 4900 Am ⁿ exp'd 8 rds.	NS
	...	1630	Shelled enemy post U. 36. Range 4600* Amm ⁿ exp'd 7 rds.	
L. 20.a. 1.7.	29.7.17	0740	Somerset Bty att. to NZMR Bde - One section shelled enemy machine gun post Am ⁿ exp'd 16 rds.	NS
L. 20 L. 7.c.	30.7.17	0800	Somerset Bty placed under orders of B.G.C NZMR Bde -	
	One section shelled enemy post U. 29. Range 5100 - 5500* Amm ⁿ exp'd 12 rds.	
	...	1315	" " U. 28.b. 5350* " " 7"	
	...	1400	" " 30 enemy bet U. 16c + U. 22a. 5500* " " 7"	
	...	1645	" " enemy post U. 30c 5100* " " 9"	NS