

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/25/2

Title: Assistant Director of Medical
Services, Imperial Mounted Division

April 1917



AWM4-26/25/2

Omni

IMPERIAL MOUNTED DIVISION

A. D. M. S.

A P R I L

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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*Central
Imperial mounted
Division shown in envelope*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIREI BELAH	ap 1	0845	<p>Reached round water supply of Division with G.O.C. & sanitation of other Divisional units in area</p> <p>Visited Test Division: a load of Cans (light Ford) & also O.C. 6th Fd Amb & camels for medical</p> <p>Convoy under proposed scheme</p>	
	ap 2	09.15	<p>Visited all outposts occupied by 3 L.H. on crest S.W. of DEIREI BELAH & sanitation of posts</p> <p>Office equipment brought up from RAFA</p> <p>All sanitary equipment being brought up also</p> <p>Visited O.C. 1st M.C. Fd Amb & Motor Amb Depot & O.C. 6th M.B. Fd Amb</p>	955
	ap 3	09.00	<p>Visited DDMS Besut Col re division of camp into Divisional areas</p> <p>with O.C. 5th M.B. Fd Amb inspected camps of 5th M.B. saw Capt's Forster & Teichman. condition good</p> <p>Visited camp of Wireless & Signal. not good saw O.C.</p> <p>Visited mammal dressing stations. That of 5th not very clean</p>	
	ap 4		<p>With S.M.O. 6th M.B. inspected lines of 6th M.B. on outposts this day. Condition of camp not good</p> <p>Inspected the watering case on the Beach. much fouling of the pulleys leading to the lead</p> <p>arrangements for issue of water (dunking) to 3 L.H. not satisfactory</p> <p>Visited Beach well. Equilibrium between supply & issue not properly established so that water has salt & is chlorinated in the well. Sanitation of area round the well not good</p>	

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DEIR ELBELAH	ap 4 Mon	noon	G.O.C. 1MD inspected the immobile Tent Divisions 5 th & 6 th open for reception of sick	
	ap 5 Thurs		Visited DDMS Desert Column re medical camel convoy sent in Report of sanitary inspection Rode round the camps of 6 th Brigade. Bathing of Berks & Nolts Visited Brick Well	
	ap 6 Fri		31 Sanitary section reported Division from RAFA. ENRURGE + SHEIK ZOWAID camped close to 6 th Fd Amb. They bring 16 mules Visited immobile Tent Divisions + Brick Well + HAC A Battery Application for transfer from Capt: TRAINFORTH + GIBSON forwarded to DDMS	656
	ap 7 Sat		Visited immobile Tent Divisions	
	ap 8 Sun		Gain O.C. 6 MB F ^d Amb + O.C. Berks Yeo re change of M.O. Capt GIBSON. HAC A with LT SHANNON Berks Yeo. Application for Capt GIBSON for transfer out of Division returned	
	ap 9 Mon		21st Troop acting ADMS ANZAC + Lt Col Dawson, temporary commanding 1 st LH F ^d Amb called conference with DDMS + acting ADMS ANZAC Visited Nolts RHA. DAC. Water Supply on Beach. 54 Div' 79 am + ASC dump + quarters Sent in sanitary report as then Application	

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DEIR EL BELAH	ap. 10 Thu		<p>Visited Notts PMA & B Bilt HAC saw Capt Robinson & Berry Interviewed CPT & organisation of DAC for sanitary purposes 14.30 Conference with Capt Wynne & sanitation of Camp 15.00 Conference with 3 CO. Fd Amb. & 1. Schum 2. Sanitation 3. Medical returns & sick rate</p> <p>Received sanitary report from O.C. 3. LH Fd Amb & letter from Capt DAVIDSON 10 L.H. asking to be removed owing to difficulty with his O.C. Forwarded this to G.O.C. with letter recommending organing</p>	
	ap 11 Wed		<p>Visited O.Cs 53rd & 54th C.C.S. The former reported now open, latter not yet ready Visited the two Immobil Section & arranged their evacuation to 53. C.C.S. Interviewed Lt SHANNON O.C. HAC A. & 9th command Berts Yeo & change of MOs Inserted change of MOs in orders Lt Col Fowler O.C. 4th LH Fd Amb reported on arrival at KHANYUNUS Immobil Sect 3rd LH. Fd Amb moved from RAFA to DEIR EL BELAH. opened close to the two other Immobil Sections</p>	551
	ap 12 Thurs		<p>Inspected the lines of 5th Mtd Brigade then out on Out Posts accompanied by Capt TORRANCE</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELAH 1	April 13 Fri	0900	Staff conference re impending operations Issued amended instructions re motor ambulances & camel medical convoy Saw O.C. 6 th MBT rd Amc about collection of 10 caecot ^s from 4 th LH 1 st Mpl & fetching up remainder of his personnel & stores from RAFA	
	Apr 14 Sat		Applied for M.O for 54 Div ['] Train Disinfection of wells equipment (copy incomplete) distributed to units	
	Apr 16 Mon	1900	Div ['] HQ left DEIR EL BELAH & moved to TEL EL JEMMI with whole Division later Camped 500 yds W. of JEMMI	658
JEMMI	April 17 Tues		Got into town with all Bajjeh & remained quiet all day	
	Apr 18 Wed	0630	Lt Col MOORE selected position for Dressing Station for 1 st mobile Section of 6 th moved up with 14 Bajjeh & 14 Bajjeh Camels. Whistled of JEMMI thru road branches to NAHRUR Well Capt ALLCOCK made reconnaissance of crossings of WADIS GUZZI & CHARIA for motor ambulances without much success	
		1430	Rode out with Major CAVE to meet Lt Col Forrest & Flager at ASEIFERIYEH & select post for advanced Dressing Station for Division. Lt Col Flager did not get message but met Lt Col Forrest & chose site	
		1830	Received operation orders & issued AMC orders at 29.30. Fd Ambulance Divisional Troop under ADMS	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
JEMMI	Apr 19 Thurs	0300	<p>H.Q. started from JEMMI proceeded through MENDUR towards ASEIFERIYEH established Div^l H.Q. near BAIKET EL MENDUR 1 1/2 miles from MENDUR</p> <p>Division made a dismounted attack on position KH. SIHAN + FTAWINEH practically on GAZA-BIR SABA road. 5th 3rd + 4th Brigades in front line from R to L. 6th Bⁿ in Reserve</p> <p><u>Medical Disposition + arrangements</u></p> <p>(1) Divisional Dressing Station formed by 1 mobile section of 6th MB F^d Amb with camel transport at JEMMI</p> <p>(2) Advanced Div^l Dressing Station formed by 3rd LH F^d Amb at ASEIFERIYEH</p> <p>(3) 5th + 4th F^d Amb established Brigade Dressing Stations 6th F^d Amb in reserve at MENDUR with 3rd, 4th + 5th</p> <p>(4) 1/2 the sand carts of the Division employed in collecting from Relief Aid Posts to Divisional Dressing Station at ASEIFERIYEH. The other 1/2 between ASEIFERIYEH + Dressing Station JEMMI about 4 1/2 miles</p> <p>(5) The 6 Motor ambulances were stationed at JEMMI with a view to evacuating from there to CCS. & DEIR EL BELAH. Later it was found possible to get these cars across the WADI GUZZI at JEMMI after which they were used between ASEIFERIYEH + JEMMI, all evacuation from JEMMI & CCS being then undertaken by DDM's convey of cars + one journey of Camel Coadjut Convoy of 60 under Major WHITFORD</p> <p>(6) lightly wounded were sent to pick back on horse back. For this purpose 60 led horses were ordered up to ASEIFERIYEH + later another 30</p>	650

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JEMMI	Ap 19 on		<p>6th Fd Amb sent up 8 Sand Carts to ASEIFERIYEH to assist evacuation from there</p> <p>About 4:30 PM it became obvious there was to be a withdrawal. ASEIFERIYEH Dressing Station</p> <p>The Dressing Station party of 6th Fd Amb therefore were directed to open intermediate dressing station at MENDUR + the evacuation from ASEIFERIYEH was thenceforth to MENDUR only until front was cleared. This was finished by 2200. After that all transport directed to clearing MENDUR</p> <p>With exception of 15 cases serious, not fit to move till day light, all cases were cleared to JEMMI by 0200 on 20th</p>	660													
		19.30	<p>HQ. moved from BAIKET ABU MAILIK to pt. 600 yds S. of EL KOTSHAN</p> <p>ADMS visited JEMMI at 2300 + returned for night to Dressing Station MENDUR at 01:30</p> <p>All 4 Fd Amb except 4 sand carts with each Bujad was concentrated for night at MENDUR</p> <p>Capt C.M. MITCHELL RAMC T.C. joined attached to 7th & 6th MB Fd Amb for Berke Yeo to relieve Capt GIBSON</p>														
ELKOTSHAN	Ap 20 Fu		<p>Line of out posts taken up 45th 3rd 4th Bujades Pt to L. MUNH EILEH - ASEIFERIYEH - SHARTA</p> <p>Fd Amb back with their Bujades but all except 3rd sent by Gacs took to JEMMI</p>														
		3.30	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> <p>JEMMI clearly surrounded. Total passed through</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Wounded</td> <td style="width: 10%;">47 off</td> <td style="width: 10%;">715 OR</td> <td rowspan="3" style="width: 10%; vertical-align: middle;">Personnel</td> <td rowspan="3" style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>of these 1 MD</td> <td>32 off</td> <td>382 OR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deaths at JEMMI</td> <td>1 off</td> <td>4 OR</td> </tr> </table> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>JEMMI Dressing Station prepared for removal but not moved</p> <p>Opened a temporary Dressing Station 2 1/2 miles back on Desert Col Rd to DEIR EL BELAH & save post admissions to JEMMI</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>JEMMI clearly surrounded. Total passed through</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Wounded</td> <td style="width: 10%;">47 off</td> <td style="width: 10%;">715 OR</td> <td rowspan="3" style="width: 10%; vertical-align: middle;">Personnel</td> <td rowspan="3" style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>of these 1 MD</td> <td>32 off</td> <td>382 OR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deaths at JEMMI</td> <td>1 off</td> <td>4 OR</td> </tr> </table>	Wounded	47 off	715 OR	Personnel		of these 1 MD	32 off	382 OR	Deaths at JEMMI	1 off	4 OR	<p>JEMMI Dressing Station prepared for removal but not moved</p> <p>Opened a temporary Dressing Station 2 1/2 miles back on Desert Col Rd to DEIR EL BELAH & save post admissions to JEMMI</p>	
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KUTSHAN	21 4/17	Sat. am	Subsidiary dressing station at DEIR EL BELAH road returned to JEMMI JEMMI open again for evacuation of sick & wounded Fd Amb moved up to their Brigades at night fall	661
	22 4/17	Sun	Division moved back after dark from O.P. line to ABASAN EL KESIR and H.Q. at BENISELA 1mmvib section 1st moved from JEMMI to BENISELA + spent as Divisional Recovery Station	Capt HOLDER joined 3rd LH Fd Amb. Capt PARRY rejoined 4th I.H. PA.
	23	Mon	ADMS visited Div. Recovery Station Went DDMS whereabouts. Saw Major LELEAN ADMS Deputy Col Clerks + office rejoined	
	24	Tues	Capt GIBSON ordered to report ADMS Delta + Western Force Visited DDMS DEIR EL BELAH Saw 3rd + 5th 1mmvib sections then Sent in report on Trans joints of Fd Amb + forwarded report re nature drivers of Lt Col Mowu Capt WYNNE + 31 Sanitary Section with Sanitary equipment rejoined Div. from DEIR EL BELAH KHAMSIIN blowing	Saw Capt HOLDER new office to replace Capt CASSETT
	25	Wed	KHAMSIIN continued all day great heat Water supply at KHAN KUNTA failing. Horses could only be watered once Shortage also of drinking water Visited 6th + 3rd Fd Amb + H.Q. 4th Brigade re water Capt Wynne reported his arrival + work	Capt GIBSON left for CAIRO replacing Capt MITCHELL Bond Ye

Capt Raven built camp + expressed wish to accept post offered in C.C.S

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BENI SELA	Apr 25 Wed		DDMS ordered 1 NCO 2 OR Sanitary Sect & KHAN YUNUS to superintend Sanitation there	
	Apr 26 Thurs		5 th MB moved from BENI SELA to EL SHA'UTH unaccompanied by F ^d Amb 3 rd MB moved from BENI SELA to MARAKEB (old camp) accompanied by F ^d Amb Arranged for evacuation of sick Large number of dead camels reported arranged with Maja Lelian & Capt Wynne re disposal SHU KAMBIN	662
	Apr 27 Fri		Maja LELIAN ADMS Desert Column inspected bivouacs of 6 th MB Arranged for preparation of camels for burial. 1 NCO & 6 Orators of Sanitary Section loan 1 Beddy & 3 Bayjays Corners of 1 mounted Section Visited Watering Place KHAN YUNUS + 5 th MB F ^d Amb BENI SELA Much cooler some rain at times during the day	
	Apr 28 Sat	from noon	Visited DDMS Desert Column re establishment of transport F ^d Amb etc Visited Immobil Section 5 th MB F ^d Amb, inspected approval of move of their camp & that of 3 rd L Horse to site W side of C.C.S.	
		afternoon	Visited 4 th L.H. F ^d Amb Camp near Station KHAN YUNUS saw O.C. Arranged with O.C. Sanitary Section re treatment of dead camels in area Visited 5 th MB 5 th MB F ^d Amb moved out to SHA'UTH to join their Bayjays on detached duty there	

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BENI SELA	1917 Apr 29 Sun		<p>Visited 5th Bujael + Fd Amb near SHA'UTH 8 miles from H.Q. Bearing 135° camped on old Turkish position</p> <p>Visited 6th M.B. Recy Station BENI SELA saw Lt Col MOORE</p> <p>Major RUTHERFORD¹²⁴ in Fd Amb with Mysore Horn reported on their Indian Imp Service Mounted Bujael joining 1. Mounted Div</p>	623
	Apr 30 Mon	08.30	Visited 124 Imp Service Fd Amb + lines of Mysore Lancers.	
		2.30	With Lt Col Fowler inspected lines of 4 th LH Bujael less 2 nd LH Bujael 2 coctns Mota Amb attached to Division making 8 in all	
			O.C. 5 th M.B. Fd Amb directed to detail on 140. To take medical charge detail camps of 5 th + 6 th M.B. Bujael. Lt WILLIAMS detailed. Arranged for light sick to be sent to detail camp particularly scars + heat exhaustion	
			2 Regiments (1st M.B. + Fd Amb) de bonded 570 in all	
	May 1 Tue		Reconnaissance in Force across WADI GHUZZE beyond GAMLI by 5 th Bde + 2 Bys + 2 nd Bde Major CAVE went with Div H.Q.	