

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/25/4

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

June 1917



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QMA

IMPERIAL      MOUNTED      DIVISION

A. D. M. S.

J U N E      1 9 1 7



Volume No. 5

668

# EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

## WAR DIARY.

Unit A.D. M.S. <sup>Imperial</sup> ~~Art~~ Mtd Division

From 31. 5. 17 To 30. 6. 17

COMMITTEE FOR THE  
MEDICAL HISTORY OF THE WAR  
Date 16 OCT. 1917

*June 1917*



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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	May 30 <sup>th</sup>		<p>Watering arrangements in Wadi GHUZZEE receiving close attention. Brigade areas arranged. Pool selected for drinking water &amp; laid off. Covered tank in which water is chlorinated &amp; from which it is pumped into canvas stand pipe also supplied from it for tops for water troughs. Water troughs, ground pipes. Horse troughs laid down the wadi also water troughs providing use of water for drinking, ablaton area laid again than horse troughs. a canvas tank is fitted from a pool by a pump &amp; a tarpaulin with in place but less than 25ft from edge of wadi. but the men wash &amp; buckets of the water is drained away from wadi through a grease trap into a sump. No washing allowed on tanks</p>	<p>Map GAZA SHELLAL 1 in 45000</p>
		Mount	<p>Aeroplane attack on R. Basha Kassar 13 Casualties, all wounded evacuated through Jemmeh's Daba to 54<sup>th</sup> CCS. Several tanks killed buried on a track away from wadi</p>	
		2 <sup>nd</sup>	<p>Examination in health of 5<sup>th</sup> Wadi Bed. owing to measures of &amp; discussion etc. Found it is largely due to taking above edge of Rest Station. Men are in need of Rest &amp; change but in serious illness discovered. Food clothing &amp; coaching good &amp; men not depressed or physically weak.</p>	
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	<p>Inspected German prisoners. Men found in good physical condition &amp; cheerful. Rations good &amp; good supervision of cooking. Sanitation good. but in food protection cases yet.</p>	
		4 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Inspected work of Muzinta Squad in Wadi GHUZZEE a considerable tract has now been gone on. weeds cleared channels dug. Banks trimmed &amp; damp hollow filled up. &amp; pools oiled. After oiling large numbers of larvae are collected dead.</p>	
		5 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Muzinta Squad inspected 3<sup>rd</sup> Wadi Bed.</p>	
		6 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Rode to market &amp; inspected Rest Station. The men 91 are obviously benefited, they bath frequently &amp; sores are largely treated by being left alone. Diet is generous &amp; lime juice issued daily. Accommodation is increased to 200.</p>	
		7 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Inspected German prisoners. Men found in good physical condition &amp; cheerful. Rations good &amp; good supervision of cooking. Sanitation good. but in food protection cases yet.</p>	
		8 <sup>th</sup>	<p>Returned to BUNESAN in motor car. Wadi SHANWA much cut up in this part by Grant bodies &amp; Camps are covered with healthy larvae on the plain. Great numbers of larvae. No Anopheles larvae found &amp; very little weed but large numbers of larvae in the remaining water attached to stones, described by Major AUSTEN as larvae of fly SIMULIUM, female of which is a vicious blood sucker.</p>	



# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 211

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARAH	9.6.17		<p>Major AUSTEN thinks the bridge probably one of the Calceoids whose females are also blood suckers. The water salinity is 158 ppm. Needs 1-2 parts measures of Bleaching powder per 100 gall. according to whether water is running or = pools. It does not appear to be a desirable camping area from a health point of view, the fly men if they do not carry disease would be most irritating to man &amp; horse &amp; probably insects tendency to Diptera &amp; An.</p> <p>Visited 6th Int. Bde. Found Ablution area satisfactory, the green traps used were sufficient. There appears to be no chance of pollution of water by soapy water.</p> <p>Visited M.O.s to urge campaign against flies &amp; increased care in sanitation. It is found that spreading base manure is quite satisfactory if well done but if left thick flies breed.</p> <p>Watering areas are in good order all drinking water tanks covered, pipes off them for filling water bottles. Ablution areas good but disposal of soapy water is the difficulty. Buy little promiscuous toilet paper was upstate along the banks. The Antimunguets squad are clearing pools &amp; cutting channels &amp; also oiling, the work has to be done repeatedly as mud is very hard to remove.</p> <p>9.00. Dev inspected 6th M Bde. as to health of body &amp; mind of the men. There are still many cases of "Diptera ears" &amp; some pediculosis but the men are healthy &amp; cheerful. Relations found good but lockers in mess &amp; Dyer's stores. The men get only a few hours sleep owing to stand to.</p> <p>Rode to SHELLAL with A.P.M. to see C.R.E. D.C. re sanitary control of the dam area. All water will now come direct from springs which are covered over &amp; be led in pipes to stand pipes where water carts will be filled. Chlorination therefore is not necessary. Dam is finished &amp; to be bed up about 1000000 gals. Inspected whole Wadi watering area on way back. Conditions found good.</p> <p>Major Bagshawes report on 6th Bde. received. Visited S.M.O. &amp; took up necessary points re. maintenance of all water &amp; cutting portable sanitation equipment up to scale.</p> <p>Visited water area at GAMLI</p>	<p>Map GAZA SHELLAL 1-41000</p>
		10 <sup>th</sup>		
		11 <sup>th</sup> 412 <sup>th</sup>		
		13 <sup>th</sup>		
		14 <sup>th</sup>		
		17 <sup>th</sup>		
		18 <sup>th</sup>		



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	18.6.17 19.6.17 23.6.17  24.6.17  25.6.17  28.6.17  29.6.17  30.6.17		<p>D.S. M.S. Desert Column visited Immobile Section of Field Ambulance</p> <p>Disinfectory train in use. Instructions for governing attendance of the troops drawn up. Flats now not being arrived, hedges were sprayed with Arrol 5% C Fluid 50%</p> <p>Ullin carefully used this is found to cause irritation of skin</p> <p>Discussion with Col. Blackburn 14<sup>th</sup> Australian Gen Hospital on effect of shortage of bituminous in cooked diet increasing tendency to Diptera sores</p> <p>Anticars jobs work going on in the hoods &amp; very marked reduction in breeding observed. All the water to be gone on again as the weed is found to grow so fast. It is necessary to dig a special water hole adjacent to the pools used for drinking water while the pool is being cleared out.</p> <p>In regard to disposal of horse manure it is found that unless the spreading is very carefully &amp; thinly done &amp; on tracks well used fly breeding occurs. The larvae being then very difficult to destroy &amp; only by burning. Tracks are laid to &amp; from level crossings</p> <p>Scheme for sending Reg. Mts after 3 months field service to base hospital for 30 days. At present as Fd Amb. Mts will leave &amp; all on scattered duties no nominal roll can be sent. But scheme thoroughly approved as in some cases Reg. Mts have been 12 months in the field and a "rub up" on a hospital with most beneficial effect to very bad taste in chlorinated water which is apt to drink even to fill their bottles from unmouthed sources. It is found necessary to test each tank for its chlorine requirement as any excess makes them with nausea - taste</p> <p>The patients going to Reserables are distinctly improved. It enables the evacuation rate of the div. to be kept low. C.C.S. cases are evacuated to Hafham by darkness</p> <p>The A.C.W.S. received order to take on Germany Mt. Div. as A.C.W.S. ordered by H. Lt. Dir on A.A.M.S. from 20.6.17. The Division became Australian Mt. Division. The 6<sup>th</sup> Bn (Bryans) left to join Gen. H. Lt. Dir</p>	<p>Map BATA - SHELLAL 1-40500</p>

H. Reelby on H. Lt. Dir  
A.C.W.S. Amb. Division



