

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/83/5

**Title:** 8th Sanitary Section, Australian  
Mounted Division

January 1918



AWM4-26/83/5

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
			<p>WAR DIARY OF LIEUT. S. T. PARKE 8<sup>th</sup> ASST. SANITARY SECTION FROM JAN. 1<sup>st</sup> to JAN 31<sup>st</sup> 1918 VOLUME No. 5.</p>	<p>M 211 Jan 18</p>

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
Katrah	Jan 1 <sup>st</sup>		Effective strength, mobile section 10 off. 15 OR. Immobile section at Gaza 10 OR's. At divisional dump Betah 2 OR's. Total 1 off 27 OR's. Received pay for personnel of section.	
	2.		Owing to adverse weather conditions no inspections have been made.	
	4 <sup>th</sup>		Recd. divisional order re move of division to Betah, halting places during march to be Esduel, Mejdal, Gaza, where rations will be drawn. All dismounted personnel and extra baggage to proceed by train to Betah. This section will march out with divisional troops @ 0915. A 16 S. wagon allotted for Div. train as extra transport.	
Katrah	5 <sup>th</sup>	0915	Marched out with divisional troops, natives proceeded by foot to Esduel and thence to Betah by train in charge H.C.O.	
Esduel	"	1400	Arrived Esduel, allotted bivouac area, rations received for dump at station.	
"	5 <sup>th</sup>		Recd. orders re move tomorrow, issued by O.C. 13 <sup>th</sup> Bde. RHA in charge divisional troops during march.	
"	6 <sup>th</sup>	0900	Marched out, roads very heavy for wheeled transport, heavy rain all day.	
Mejdal	"	1500	Arrived Mejdal. Recd. orders to move 0700 tomorrow.	
"	7 <sup>th</sup>	0700	Marched out for Mejdal, rain has ceased, roads in very bad state.	
Gaza	"	1430	Arrived Gaza, visited immobile section stationed here and instructed Sgt. Smith H.C.O. to proceed Betah on 9 <sup>th</sup> inst, arranged truck accommodation with R.T.O.	

A70921. Wt. W12839/M1293 750,000. 1/19. D. D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

M2/2  
Jan 15

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
Gaza	Jan.		Marched out for Gaza.	
Betah	8 <sup>th</sup>	0930	Arrived Betah, allotted camping site about 300 yds. W. of D.H.Q. During march from Katrah natives attached to units have cleared up vacated areas each day.	
Betah	9 <sup>th</sup>		Recd. instructions to collect 4 C.D.L. tents, 150 latrine buckets and seats received from R.O.O. Betah and issued to all units immediately as all are without sanitary equipment and ground is being fouled by using trench latrines. 20 muniters also received and issued. Each unit has native attached for sanitary duties and two inspectors are detailed to each brigade to make a daily inspection of camp, reporting any defects.	
	10 <sup>th</sup>		Serg Smith + 10 OR's (mobile section) reported from Gaza, to Betah to locate fresh disinfecta which will be brought out and put into immediate use, as all units report personnel infected with lice, application has been made by D.H.Q. for disinfecting train.	
	11 <sup>th</sup>		Inspected 3 <sup>rd</sup> brigade with Capt. Woods, brigade sanitary officer, allotted horse burial area. Latrine buckets are in use in all units, tents being defouled in a regimental pit, owing to shortage of suitable fuel and wet weather it is almost impossible to burn the faeces, the same applies to manure. The soil	M213 Jan 15

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
Betah	Jan		will be spread on one central road under supervision of M.C.O. for field tab. The disposal of dead animals is to be supervised by sanitary inspector for the section on receipt of notification from unit concerned. Afternoon inspected divisional train, good progress is being made with sanitary arrangements, efforts being made to burn manure and faeces.	
"	12 <sup>th</sup>		Thresh disinfecter brought up from Betah station and made arrangements to commence disinfection of all natives attached to the division, starting tomorrow. The disinfecting train will not be available for this division for another fortnight so recd instructions to proceed with disinfection of divisional units when natives have been finished. 4 <sup>th</sup> Brigade marched in for YEBNA, notified all units to collect sanitary equipment at once.	
	13 <sup>th</sup>		Inspected 4 <sup>th</sup> Brigade accompanied by Major Weedon, brigade sanitary officer arranged position of horse burial area, manure roads etc. 2 O.R. <sup>s</sup> marched in from divisional dump Betah, effective strength 1 of 27 O.R. <sup>s</sup>	
	14 <sup>th</sup>		600 blankets from field ambulances disinfected. Recd pay to personnel of section	
	15 <sup>th</sup>		1 O.R. evacuated to hospital, received another thresh disinfecter. With two machines in operation it should be possible to disinfect about 200 men per day. 27 am 87 kits were put this today and a number of hospital blankets.	M214 Jan 15

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
Belah	16 <sup>th</sup>		Inspected 4 <sup>th</sup> Brigade area. Kits of 200 natives were disinfected. Informed D.A.D.M.S. that disinfection of divisional troops could be commenced tomorrow at rate of 80 every 3 hours, from 0800 to 1700. Sanitary inspection report sanitation of camps now in a very good condition all minor defects having been pointed out and given attention. 2 ORs returned from leave to Cairo. P.	
"	17 <sup>th</sup>		Disinfection of divisional troops commenced. With two "Thresh's" working, 34 kits only can be disinfected every two hours, 152 per day, working from 0800 to 1700. Received pay for personnel from A.I.F. Field Post, Belah. P.	
"	18 <sup>th</sup>		Superintended "dehousing" of Signal Squadron, arranged "dehousing parades" with divisional troops. P.	
	19 <sup>th</sup>		Inspected 5 <sup>th</sup> Mtd Brigade. The problem at present in connection with the camp sanitation is the "burning of faeces", great difficulty being experienced owing to the shortage of suitable fuel i.e. timber, better efforts I think should be made as a large area of ground is being fouled owing to faeces being burnt. Weekly sanitary report forwarded to A.D.M.S. For week ending 19 <sup>th</sup> inst, disinfection work with two "Thresh" disinfectors has been carried out as follows: 300 hospital blankets, 100 new shirts which were found to be verminous when received from Brisbane, 288 natives, 360 whites. P.	M2/5 Jan 18

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
Belah	Jan. 20 <sup>th</sup>		2 OR's proceeded Port Said Rest Camp.	
"	21 <sup>st</sup>		The disinfecting train has been made available for use of this division on 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup> . Time table has been arranged by D.A.O.M.S. Disinfection of divisional troops is still being continued with two fresh disinfectors.	
"	22 <sup>nd</sup>		Supervised the "dehousing" of 5 <sup>th</sup> Mtd Brigade which commenced at Belah at 0800, the whole brigade having been completed by 1630. 3 M.C.O.'s from this section with two natives are stationed at the train and supervise the treatment of breeches and general supervision of work. Breeches with leather straps which cannot be treated in the train are sprayed for with a steam jet from the exhaust pipe of the engine, a mixed with flat iron, some of which were kept constantly heated for this purpose. Both methods proved very satisfactory. The steam jet was found to kill lice in about five seconds, but the effect on the eggs could not be ascertained. Shovel in 3 foot lengths was provided for the purpose of tying up kits and found to be very acceptable. Collecting in the way of equipment is provided by the train, all material flat iron, stables, brooms, wire etc. etc had to be transported down from this section.	
"	23 <sup>rd</sup>		4 <sup>th</sup> L.H. Brigade were "dehoused" today, attended at Belah and supervised same.	

M216  
Jan 18

