

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/17/5

Title: Headquarters, Australian and New
Zealand Army Corps Mounted
Divisional Artillery

August 1916



AWM4-13/17/5

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Place | Date | Hour | Reference Map $\frac{1}{100,000}$ QATIA Summary of Events and Information $\frac{1}{125,000}$ SABKH ET EL BARDAWIL. | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | <u>AUGUST.</u> | | | |
| ROMANI | 2 nd | 1030 | LEICESTERSHIRE Bty. marched to QATIA and reported to BGC 1 st ALH Bde. Shelled enemy position S.E. of Hill 110. The Bty. fired 53 rounds | WLD |
| | | 2000 | and returned to Camp at ROMANI, arriving at 2000. — Enemy advanced during night to QATIA | |
| ROMANI | 3 rd | 1000 | AYRSHIRE Bty. left ROMANI and came into action 2 (two) miles NE of KATIB GANNIT. Shelled enemy's position in QATIA, also HOD UMMUGBA, and ER RABAH, all being occupied by enemy. Shelled also enemy redoubt near QATIA. Bty. fired 186 rounds and returned to camp | |
| | | 2130 | at ROMANI arriving 2130. | WLD |
| ROMANI | 4 th | 0400 | AYRSHIRE and LEICESTERSHIRE Batteries taken out of camp by C.R.A. Enemy then attacking WELLINGTON RIDGE and advancing round our right flank under Mt ROYSTON. Both Batteries came into action near Infantry Post 22a. | |
| "Battle of ROMANI." | | 0500 | One section AYRSHIRE Bty. engaging enemy attacking in low ground under Mt ROYSTON. Other section AYRSHIRE Bty. firing on WELLINGTON RIDGE. | WLD |
| | | | LEICESTERSHIRE Bty. opened fire on enemy infantry on MT MEREDITH. | |

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| Place | Date | Hour | Reference Maps $\frac{100,000}{125,000}$ QATIA Summary of Events and Information SABKHET. EL. BARDANIL. | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--------------|----------------------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| ROMANI | AUGUST. 4 th | 0900 | One Section AYRSHIRE Bty detached and took up new position near Infantry Post 23, Shelling HODS and Ridges towards Mt ROYSTON. An enemy 10 pdr mountain Bty was engaged below Mt ROYSTON by this section & silenced by them. | WJ |
| | | 0900 | One section LEICESTERSHIRE Bty took up fresh position further back and shelled HOD and hollows occupied by enemy. | WJ |
| | | 1100 | Both Batteries were supplied with Ammunition from Ammunition Column. AYRSHIRE Bty fired 429 rounds LEICESTER Bty about 500. | |
| | | 1915 | Both Batteries left their positions and returned to Camp at ROMANI. | |
| BALLYBUNNION | 4 th | 1050 | INVERNESS-SHIRE Bty left BALLYBUNNION and marched to HILL 70 arriving there at 1330. At 1800 they continued their march to DUEIDAR where they bivouacked for the night. | WJ |
| HILL 70 | 4 th | 0700 | SOMERSET Bty marched from HILL 70 with NZMR Bde due NE in the direction of ABU DIXUK. They came into action by detached sections. Sections continued to fire on enemy's line from the West until 1630 when fire was concentrated to cooperate in the attack by the NZMR Bde and 5 th Mt Bde on Mt ROYSTON. | WJ |

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|-----------|-----------------|-------|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| ABU DIYUK | 4 th | 1915. | AUGUST. | SOMERSET Bty returned to PELUSIUM and bivouacked there. Bty fired 219 rds. | Why |
| ROMANI | 5 th | 0330 | | AYRSHIRE and LEICESTERSHIRE Batteries moved to ET MALER. Enemy surrounded and Batteries moved on to water at NEW WELLS. | Wellington Ridge (4 its vicinity) |
| | | 0900 | | Both Batteries advanced towards QATIA. Rifle fire opened upon the leading Bty AYRSHIRE from vicinity of ABU HAMBRA, Bty opened fire on this target and then proceeded on to a position near the DUEIDAR-QATIA road, two miles W of QATIA. Bty fired at | |
| | | 1000 | | by Enemy's Mountain Bty from QATIA; fire was opened on this target and Mountain Bty was seen to be dismounted. QATIA was shelled when any movement of enemy occurred. | |
| | | 1600 | | LEICESTER Bty arrived with 1 st ALH Bde and occupied the position vacated by AYRSHIRE Bty which moved 1000 yards nearer QATIA. Both Batteries supported an attack on QATIA made by the 2 nd ALH Bde. | |
| | | 1700 | | SOMERSET Bty came up two miles W of QATIA, too late to take part in attack, having marched from PELUSIUM via DUEIDAR and | |
| | | | | BIR ENNUSS. | |

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| Place | Date | Hour | Reference Map $\frac{1}{100,000}$ QATIA Summary of Events and Information $\frac{1}{125,000}$ SABKHET ELBARDAWIL. | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------|-----------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | <u>AUGUST</u> | | | |
| QATIA. | 5 th | 1900 | AYRSHIRE and LEICESTERSHIRE Btys returned to ROMANI to | Btys |
| ROMANI | | 2200 | Camp arriving at 2200. SOMERSET Bty bivouacked at NEW WELLS. INVERNESS Bty marched from DUEIDAR and came into action with 3 rd ALH Bde against HAMISAH. Bty returned to BIR NAGID to bivouac. | |
| ROMANI | | | AYRSHIRE Bty fired 352 rounds. LEICESTERSHIRE Bty fired 95 rounds. INVERNESS Bty fired 7 rds and SOMERSET Bty - NIL. | |
| ROMANI | 6 th | 0800 | AYRSHIRE left ROMANI with 5 th Intd Bde in Divul Reserve, marched to QATIA. | |
| | | 1400 | AYRSHIRE Bty marched to UMM UGBA fired on enemy's position. Bty returned | Btys |
| QATIA. | | 1900 | to QATIA at 1900 and bivouacked, having fired 15 rounds. | |
| NEW WELLS | 6 th | | SOMERSET Bty left NEW WELLS and marched with NZMR Bde to S of UMM UGBA. | |
| ER RABAH | | | Bty returned to ER RABAH to bivouac. | |
| BIR NAGID | | | INVERNESS Bty marched with 3 rd ALH Bde to HOD ABU DAREM. | |
| QATIA. | 7 th | 0900 | AYRSHIRE Bty with 5 th Intd Bde marched to HILL 110. NO action. Returned to | Btys |
| | | 1900 | QATIA. 1900. | |
| ER RABAH | | 0400 | SOMERSET Bty marched to UMM UGBA and came into action against OGH RATINA, | |
| " | | 1900 | also many camps near NEGHWAT. Bty fired 205 rounds and returned to bivouac at ER RABAH arriving 1900. | |

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25. C

| Place | Date | Hour | Reference Map. $\frac{1}{100,000}$ QATIA. Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------|-----------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | AUGUST | | $\frac{1}{125,000}$. SABKHET, EL BARDAWIL. | |
| HOD ABU DAREM | 7 th | 0500 | INVERNESS Bty marched to HOD ES SAGIA with 3 rd ALH Bde, and came into action SE of HOD ES SAGIA. Many targets fired upon. Bty fired 305 rds | 189 |
| ABU DAREM | | 1900 | and returned to bivouac at ABU DAREM at 1900. | |
| QATIA | 8 th | 1300 | AYRSHIRE Bty marched with Divul Hdqrs and 5 th Mtd Bde to OGH RATINA. | |
| OGH RATINA | | 2100 | Bty marched to meet 1 st and 2 nd ALH Bdes at HOD IYEGILIAT at 2245. | |
| ROMANI | | 2200 | LEICESTERSHIRE Bty left ROMANI to march to KHIRBA + DABABIS. | 189 |
| ER RABAH | | | SOMERSET Bty marched with NZMA Bde to HOD ED DABABIS and bivouacked there. | |
| ABU DAREM | | 0300 | INVERNESS Bty with 3 rd ALH Bde marched to HOD EL HILLALI and bivouacked there. | |
| HAMADA | 9 th | 0600 | AYRSHIRE Bty arrived from IYEGILIAT and came into action at HOD HAMADA, against BIREL ABD. Remained in position all day supporting attacks and repelling counterattacks. Bty returned to OGH RATINA to bivouac | |
| OGH RATINA | | 2300 | arriving 2300. Bty fired 375 rounds. Bty wagon line throes heavily shelled - Casualties 11 men + 47 horses. | |
| KHIRBA | | 0600 | LEICESTERSHIRE Bty arrived at KHIRBA from ROMANI, then moved on and came into action 2 miles W of BIR EL ABD and against enemy's positions and transport in BIREL ABD. Bty supported attacks and repelled counterattacks throughout the day. Bty left position at 1915, having fired 399 rounds. | 189 |

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| Place | Date | Hour | Reference Map. 100,000 QATIA. Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|------------------|------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | AUGUST. | | 125000 SABKHET EL BARDAWIL. | |
| HODED DABABIS | 9 th | 0500 | SOMERSET Bty advanced from HODED DABABIS and came into action 3000 yds W of BIR EL ABD. Bty fired on similar targets to those of LEICESTERSHIRE Bty throughout the day. Bty retired with NZMR Bde at 1815 and marched to | |
| OGHRATINA | | 2400 | bivouac at OGH RATINA, arriving there at 2400. Bty fired 855 rounds. | 455 |
| HODEL HILLALI | | 0400 | INVERNESS Bty marched from HODEL HILLALI with 3rd ALH Bde and came into action near HASSANEIN. Remained there all day supporting attacks against BIR EL ABD. Bty retired to bivouac at HODEL HASSANIYA | |
| HODEL HASSANIYA. | | 2100 | at 1900. Bty fired 465 rounds. | |
| OGHRATINA | 10 th | 0100 | LEICESTERSHIRE Bty arrived from BIR EL ABD. | |
| | | 0630 | One Section AYRSHIRE Bty marched to KHIRBA. no action, returned to NEGILIAT to bivouac. | |
| HODEL HASSANIYA | 11 th | 0400 | INVERNESS Bty moved out and took up a position near HODEL HASSANEIN. | |
| | | 2000 | no action. Bty returned to bivouac at HASSANIYA. | |

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100

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|--|------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | AUGUST | | $\frac{1}{125000}$ SABKHET EL BARDAWIL. | |
| HASSANIYA | 12 th | 0500 | INVERNESS Bty with 3 rd ALH Bde marched against SALMANA. Bty shelled SALMANA and returned to HASSANIYA to bivouac, having fired 123 rounds. | WPA |
| ROMANI | 15 th | | All four Battalions assembled in Camp at ROMANI, with exception of one section of SOMERSET Bty left with NZMR Bde at HOD AMARA. | WPA |
| | 16 th | | | |
| | 31 st | | No incident. | |
| <p>For operations 4-9 August see also report attached as appendix I.</p> <p>Capt. BRYANT, Comdr. the AYRESHIRE Bty, was given a MILITARY CROSS for immediate award for gallant conduct & good work during the operations.</p> <p>and QMS THOMSON, also of the AYRESHIRE Bty, a D.C.M.</p> <p>Bty QMS TITFORD, SOMERSET Bty, also received a D.C.M.</p> | | | | |
| <p>W. W. Walshe CERA</p> | | | | |

Account of the action of the R.H.A. of A. & N.Z. Mounted Division between 19-7-16 and 14-8-16.

19-7-16.

News arrived from R.F.C. that forces of Turks had reached the GATIA district and were distributed: at BIR EL ABD, 8000, at BAYUD 5000, and at JAMAIL 8000.

The R.H.A. Batteries of the Anzac Mounted Division were then located as follows:-

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| At ROMANI, the Ayrshire Battery | - with 1st & 2nd L.N.Bde |
| " HILL 70 " Leicestershire " | -) |
| " " " Somerset " | -) with N.Z.M.B. Bde |
| " SHRAPNEL " Inverness-Shire " | - with 3rd L.N.Bde which |

on 20-7-16 moved to BALLYBUNNION.

All batteries had pedrails except the Inverness, who had been promised them & received them for 3 guns on 4th 16

The R.A., N.Z. were with Divisional H.Q. at HILL 40.
R.A., H.Q. at once moved up to ROMANI.

Turks advanced during night to OCHRATINA.

20-7-16.

Section of Ayrshire Bty was sent out to assist 2nd L.N.Bde in making a demonstration against the Turks from GATIA and shelled their camp at OCHRATINA.

Section returned to camp at 2150.

21-7-16.

One section Ayrshires out again to shell OCHRATINA camp. Two mountain guns of ROSS & GROMARTY Bty did good work in ROMANI camp, mounted as A-A guns, in keeping hostile aeroplanes high up. Capt Lambert, my Staff Officer, was sent to be "Artillery adviser" to Brig. Gen. Chaytor, Cndg "No 3 Section Mounted Troops" at HILL 70.

22-7-16
to
2-8-16.

Between these dates one section, in nearly every case from the Ayrshire Bty, was out, but the targets call for no comment. Enemy aircraft was active, and planes came over daily, but on the 27th the guns of the ROSS & GROMARTY Bty, mounted for A-A work as mentioned above, were removed, and no other A-A guns replaced them, thus giving the hostile airman a free hand to fly low.

During this period also, reconnaissances for Artillery positions were made W, S.W, and S of ROMANI in case of attack from those directions.

On the 31st July the Leicestershire Bty arrived at ROMANI from HILL 70.

3-8-16.

Turks in GATIA. - Whole Ayrshire Bty sent out with 2nd A.L.H. Bde. Wireless section out and battery was held ready to fire in co-operation with planes, but various accidents to planes prevented practice being carried out. Bty home by 2000.

1st A.L.H. Bde held Turks back till 2245 as outposts, S. & E. edges of the dune country S of ROMANI during the night.

The Turks, in force, attacked 1st A.L.H. Bde about 2345.

4-8-16.

1st A.L.H. Bde held Turks back till 0400, when joined by 2nd A.L.H. Bde.

0400

Ayrshire and Leicestershire batteries were taken out of camp by C.R.A. about 0400, when enemy was attacking Wellington RIDGE and advancing round our right flank under MOUNT ROYSTON.

Both batteries, having been bombed by aeroplanes on the way out, were brought into action near Infantry Post 23a about 1200yds N of centre of WELLINGTON RIDGE. The Ayrshires were ordered to fire on the zone to the W under MOUNT ROYSTON, the Leicesters being given a specific target of Turkish Infantry on MOUNT HERBERT who were firing on E end of WELLINGTON RIDGE.

The Leicesters opened effective fire first at 0550. They

They) 8.9

0530 found the range luckily in 2 shots, and pouring in shrapnel along reverse side of the steep ridge, completely stopped the rifle fire from MOUNT MEREDITH. One section was moved back later and turned on to other targets in the same direction, while the other section continued to neutralise MOUNT MEREDITH; *the ground behind it.*

An F.O.O. was sent out to WELLINGTON RIDGE but had to return without being of use when our men were driven back about 0800.

Divisional H.Q. moved several times about this time, (between 0600 and 0800) finally settling down in BT MALER camp.

Had some difficulty with communications about 0700, owing to wires being continually cut. This was put right by duplication.

0830 About 0830 the Turks were beginning to line the crest of WELLINGTON RIDGE. The Ayrshire Bty and one section of the Leicesters were in a good position to stem any attack from there, and, on the Turks showing signs of advancing, at once opened heavy bursts of shrapnel fire which effectually stopped them.

Bursts of searching fire were continued behind the crest when necessary, and no further attempt was made by the enemy to cross the ridge.

1100 One section of Ayrshires was detached at 1100 to a position N of BT MALER to fire on Hods and ridges towards MOUNT ROYSTON, where enemy was reported collecting again in front of our right.

Ammunition was replenished about this time from the Ammunition Column in both batteries.

Offers of co-operation came to me from 52nd Division R.A. and from No 3 Section and 2 batteries, Hants R.H.A. from near Station and "B" 260th Bde R.F.A. from near Anzac Div H.Q. - helped, by fire on WELLINGTON RIDGE and below MOUNT ROYSTON, respectively.

The enemy's left flank had now almost reached ABU DIYUK, and he was holding the high ground about MOUNT ROYSTON.

Shortly after 1100 a mountain battery from near MOUNT ROYSTON began shelling Divisional H.Q. and the camps near there.

It was located by the dust of discharges and the detached section of Ayrshires was directed to fire on it.

The hostile battery at once ceased firing.

Another section of the same German battery at the same time opened fire on a section of the Somerset Bty, then coming into action with the N.Z.M.R. Bde about 3000yds due W of MOUNT ROYSTON. The Somersets could not locate it.

After firing about 30 rounds it ceased.

The Somerset battery had left HILL 70 at 0730 with the N.Z.M.R. Bde and moved due N.E. in the direction of ABU DIYUK.

They came into action by detached sections as stated above, in the gap between the 2nd L.H. Bde, on our right from ROMANI, and the 5th Mounted Bde, who were attacking MOUNT ROYSTON from the South-West.

The Somersets continued to fire from the W on such targets as showed themselves, until 1630, when fire was concentrated to co-operate in an attack by the N.Z.M.R. and the 5th Mtd Bdes on MOUNT ROYSTON.

This attack took place successfully at 1645, the enemy being driven off to the East, and the battery ceased firing.

The enemy surrendered in large numbers, finding themselves almost surrounded between the ROMANI troops and the N. Zealanders.

One Bde of the 42nd Infantry Div arrived on the scene about 1800 and helped to gather in the prisoners.

To return to BT MALER.

Fire was continued through the day on the allotted zones by the Ayrshire and Leicester batteries.

1630 The Leicesters' detached Section was ordered to rejoin its battery at 1630, to support the advance of the 1st & 2nd A.L.H. Bdes with a F.O.O. in the front line.

1700 At 1700 all batteries were warned that the N. Zealanders were in possession of MOUNT ROYSTON.

They continued to fire at Turkish trenches and supported an attack by the 52nd Division on the E end of WELLINGTON RIDGE at

1830

1830

1915 The Ayrshires and Leicesters returned to camp at 1915 and the Somersets bivouacked at PELUSIUM.

Big gun shell fire (probably 8.2") continued on the camp at ROMANI throughout the night.

Casualties:- Ayrshires lost 2 men, Leicesters, 1 man, killed, and Ayrshires, 1 Officer and 6 men, wounded.

Ammunition supply was well maintained and batteries expended:- Ayrshires 429, Leicesters about 500, Somersets 150 rounds.

The Inverness battery, during this day marched from RALLY-BUNNION to DUEIDAR with 3rd A.L.H.Bde.

5-8-16.

At 0830 I moved Ayrshire and Leicester Batteries to ET MALER camp. Fairly heavy rifle fire was coming from WELLINGTON RIDGE, which was still occupied by crowds of enemy.

0830

Just at daylight however, and before the guns opened fire, the enemy stood up and surrendered to the A.L.H. and 52nd Div who walked up from W and N.E. respectively.

0800

About 0800, after watering at NEW WELLS, having seen the A.L.H. Bdes out in the low ground towards QATIA, and having been ordered to use my own discretion as to moving out, I ordered the two Batteries to follow with what escort we could pick up, (an Officer and about 20 men). At 0900, about 2 miles East of the NEW WELLS long range rifle fire was opened on the left flank of the leading battery (the Ayrshires) which wheeled to the right and opened fire on some hostile Infantry then leaving ABU HAMRA.

The Leicesters had by this time lagged somewhat behind and hearing the firing, and being practically without escort, they returned to the hills near NEW WELLS and opened fire from there on ABU HAMRA.

This was unfortunate, as they were badly wanted at QATIA later. However, I could not get into touch with them, and had to go on with the Ayrshires alone.

The Leicesters eventually reached QATIA about 1600.

1000

About 1000 the Ayrshire Bty came into action near the DUEIDAR-QATIA Road, 2 miles W of QATIA.

An enemy's mountain battery fired at the Ayrshires coming into action, and at the Wellington Mtd Rifles' horses, but the first two shots of ours bracketed them and they at once dismantled their guns. The ground being favourable, they managed to withdraw them during the day, in spite of occasional bursts of shrapnel from the Ayrshires when any movement was seen in the place.

1600

At 1600 the Ayrshires moved forward 1000 yds nearer QATIA and the Leicesters came up into the Ayrshires' former position.

They both tried to support the attack of the 2nd L.H.Bde in the centre, but it was difficult to locate the enemy, and though one or two columns leaving QATIA Eastwards were fired on, the machine guns stopping our advance could not be located.

1900

Both batteries broke off the fight and returned to ROMANI about dusk getting in at 2200.

The Ayrshires had 2 men wounded.

The Somerset Battery arrived 2 miles W of QATIA about 1700, too late to take part in the attack, having marched from PELUSIUM via DUEIDAR and BIR EN NUSS. It returned to NEW WELLS for the night.

The Inverness Battery with 3rd A.L.H.Bde was in action against HAMISAH and spent the night near BIR NAGID having marched from DUEIDAR.

6-8-16.

QATIA occupied by our troops.

Ayrshires came on in Div Reserve to UMM UGBA and fired 15 rounds on a Turkish redoubt. They bivouacked at QATIA.

Leicestershires remained with 1st and 2nd A.L.H.Bdes in camp ROMANI.

8.11

6-8-16.)

Somersets proceeded with N.Z.M.R. Bde through QATIA and remained in readiness S of UMM USBA, but did not come into action, though they were under enemy long range shell fire from 4" guns. They bivouacked at RABAH.

The Inverness Bty proceeded with 3rd A.L.H. Bde to ABU DAREM.

7-8-16.

Ayrshires proceeded with 5th Mtd Bde to Hill 110 and returned to QATIA. A hard march, horses tired.

Leicestershires remained at ROMANI.

Somersets came into action at 0430, near UMM USBA against OGHRAATINA position, searching the camps near NEBILIAS.

Forward patrols reported fire effective. The battery then remained in action without firing till 1830, when it again opened on the same targets. It was replied to by a 4" Howitzer Battery with heavy salvo fire, - H.E. and Universal shelly which fortunately did no damage, though very close. At 2100 the battery bivouacked at RABAH.

The Inverness Bty was in action against SAGIA, and was fired on ineffectively by a Mountain Battery throughout the day.

Turks evacuated OGHRAATINA during the night.

8-8-16.

Ayrshires reached OGHRAATINA at 1600, and left again at 2245, to join ROYSTONS' Column of 1st and 2nd A.L.H. Bdes at KHIRBA.

Leicesters were in camp at ROMANI till 2200, when they started for KHIRBA, under orders to move quickly.

Somersets moved forward with N.Z.M.R. Bde, and bivouacked at DABAHIS.

Inverness moved with 3rd A.L.H. Bde to HILLALI.

Turks reported to be in some force at EL ABD.

9-8-16.

Ayrshires joined ROYSTONS' Column, moved to HOD HAMADA, and got into action there at 0600, dispersing a small force of the enemy. After dealing with a large camel convoy, fire was opened on various bodies of the enemy apparently concentrating for attack.

About 1200 the wagon line came under fire of 4" H.E. shell, 4 men and 37 horses being killed, and 7 men and 7 horses wounded, before anything could be done.

During this time an enemy attack from the right began to materialise, and, the ammunition running short, the battery had to withdraw, which it did in good order, and returned to OGHRAATINA, having fired 375 rounds.

At 0630 the Leicester battery reached KHIRBA and, after watering and feeding, it was moved into action 2 miles West of BIR EL ABD.

It remained there during the day, firing effectively on various good targets, including four separate ~~xxxxxxxx~~ Turkish advances from BIR EL ABD.

At 1730 the battery withdrew to a position 1000 yds further West, to cover the withdrawal of the N.Z.M.R. Bde and Somerset Battery.

It returned to bivouac at OGHRAATINA about 0100 on 10-8-16.

There were four men wounded in this battery. It covered 32 miles in the sand and fought a battle, in 27 hours.

The Somersets advanced towards BIR EL ABD with the N.Z.M.R. Bde. They came into action at 0545, 3000 yds W of BIR EL ABD and fired on parties of enemy in the Hod, and on ridges behind.

They remained in action all day, firing effectively on the same targets as the Leicester Battery. The Somersets retired at 1815 with the N.Z.M.R. Bde and bivouacked at OGHRAATINA.

The Inverness Bty and the Leicester Battery were in action between 0600 and 1800 there all day firing 465 rounds. Bivouacked at HASSANIYA.

612

- 10-8-16. Received 200 fresh horses and mules on loan from 52nd Div to replace casualties.
- 10-8-16)
and) All Batteries rested.
11-8-16)
- 12-8-16. BIR EL. ABD evacuated. Inverness Bty shelled SALMANA in afternoon.
No other batteries fired again but moved up to BIR EL. ABD in readiness.
- 15-8-16. Batteries returned to camp at ROMANI, where all were assembled on 15th August except one section of Somersets, left out at HOD-AMARA with the N.Z.M.R. Bde.

8.13

APPENDIX.

Notes on German guns which Turkish forces in SINAI brought against ROMANI on 4th August 1916.

The following guns were certainly present. Numbers are not quite certain, but are estimated from fire observed and from prisoners' statements, tracks etc.

| Nature. | Number. | How drawn. | Remarks. |
|--|-----------------------|---|---|
| (1) 15 c.m. Hows (=8") (German) | 4 | Uncertain. Oxen, or 24 horses | Firing position, and many empty cartridge boxes found at RUSHAFAT, each box marked serial No up to 553. Only fired H.E. |
| (2) 10c.m. Hows (=4") Called 1/4 Battery Austro-Hungarian Mountain How Div. | At least 6 probably 8 | Oxen. | Two firing positions found at OGHRAFINA and DHAKAR- Many cartridge boxes-brass cartridge cases-fired shells fragments of H.E. & Shrapnel. Fired Universal shell in great numbers " H.E. in large numbers " Ordinary shrapnel - a few. This was the gun they fired mostly. |
| (3) 10c.m. Guns (=4") Called the "Pascha" Bty 60th Battalion Foot Artillery (German) | At least 2 | either oxen or 16 horses. Uncertain. | One firing position for 2 guns found almost in open- "semi-covered" about 1 mile N.E. of BIR EL ABD. Many cartridge boxes (1 round each) & broken shells found. Brass cartridge cases (about 2 1/2 ft long) found. One complete fixed round-shell & all- but unfused- can be brought in if required from BIR EL ABD. Fired H.E. & "Shooting" Shrapnel. |
| (4) Mountain guns. (about 10 pr=3") | At least 8 | On mules | One battery of four captured. Complete round taken- also many fired shell cases. Shrapnel only. Fixed ammunition. |
| (5) A-A guns (unidentified) | At least 4 | ? | Fired H.E. with black smoke & shrapnel with white smoke Was a C.F. gun & with great velocity; therefore was <u>not</u> a Howitzer. |
| (6) Probably 77 mm May be same as (5) (German) | ? | ? | Complete rounds of amtn (fixed) like miniature 18pr about 3" calibre and 18pr shells, were picked up near UM UGBA (probably EHRHARDT gun) This <u>may</u> be amtn for the A-A guns. On the other hand the A-A shells seemed larger and this may have belonged to yet another Field Gun. |

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Casualties July 30 - Aug 12
Anzac Mtd Div Artillery

All ranks TERRITORIAL

| Battery | KILLED died of wounds | | WOUNDED | | MISSING | | Admitted | |
|-----------|--------------------------|----|---------|-----|---------|----|----------|----|
| | O | OR | O | OR | O | OR | O | OR |
| Cyrshire | — | 7 | 1 | 13 | Nil | | | 1 |
| Inverness | — | — | — | — | Nil | | | 6 |
| Pomeroy | — | — | — | — | Nil | | | 9 |
| Leicester | — | 1 | — | 14* | Nil | | | 5 |
| Total | — | 8 | 1 | 17 | Nil | | | |

* 3 at duty.

15/8/1916

Atkinson
for the Army