

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

Artillery

Item number: 13/10/16

Title: Headquarters, 1st Australian
Divisional Artillery

January 1916



AWM4-13/10/16

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

Bgd Gen J. J. Hobbs
Comd 1st Aust Div

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>1400. 24/1/16 Port Said.</p> <hr/> <p>0800 25/1/16 TEL EL KEBIR</p> <p>1600.</p>	<p>Returned from "sick leave" in England by R.M.S. Mongolia. Left Port Said for 1st Aust Div Camp at TEL EL KEBIR. arrived at 1400. met by Bde. Majors - made my self acquainted with position of affairs. Called on S.O.C. 1st Aust Div. Gen CHAUVEL & reported arrival.</p>	<p>wet night.</p>
<p>0900. 26-1-16. TEL EL KEBIR.</p> <p>1000</p>	<p>Interview with Lt. Col ROSENTHAL re question of seniority with reference to Lt. Col CHRISTIAN I informed him that unless otherwise ordered Bde Commander would command their own Bde in my absence & obtain any instructions they required from Div or H.Q. I assured him that he would not be unfairly dealt with so far as promotion & seniority were concerned so far as I was concerned. Saw Capt RICAL & CRESPIX with regard to their claims to promotion in Bde Command I told them I could not recommend them at the present time as they were not qualified which they admitted. told them as soon as they were they would get promotion when vacancies occurred in their Bde. I also told them to let me know if they were not given opportunities to learn their work as Bde Commanders. Saw S.O.C. 1st Aust Div with regard to Officers leave</p>	<p>Fine day</p> <p>Fine day -</p>

J. J. Hobbs

1600 J.J.H.

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Bgd. Gen G. J. Stobbs
Carey. 1 - Aust 150

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>TEL EL KEBIR. 26.1.16 1500</p>	<p>26.1.16 continued - The G.O.C mentioned that several Artillery Officers appeared to have more overnight leave at week ends than they should. + said that without special reasons all should return to Camp on Sunday night. Inspected Div Art. Lines. result satisfactory. Found large quantity of equipment + stores besides horses. 11 guns. + about 65 Wagons reqd. to Div Art up to Establishment losses were made at withdrawal from ANZAC</p>	
<p>TEL EL KEBIR. 27.1.16.</p>	<p>Wrote to Bgd. Gen + Gen Staff. ANZAC reported returns + asked for interview, with regard to losses. + surplus of men + transport. Engaged in routine work.</p>	<p>7 mi day.</p>
<p>TEL EL KEBIR. 28.1.16 1430</p>	<p>Interview with G.O.C. with regard to state of efficiency of Div Art. which I told him was fair. Engaged in routine work. Went with Bde Major to test of apparatus for increasing number of horses in draught for Lewis + Wagon. for movement in heavy sand. Experiment satisfactory. Wrote to 1st Aust Div recommending adoption + asking for authority to order same to be made.</p>	<p>The apparatus referred to mounted by man S.M. ANDERSON Bde Major - DIV ART J J H</p> <p>7 mi day.</p>
<p>TEL. EL KEBIR. 29.1.16.</p>	<p>Inspected 3rd 7.A. Bde. Battery drill + manoeuvre. result satisfactory. engaged in routine work.</p>	<p>J J H</p>

2. G. J. Stobbs

J J H

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Bgde Gen G. J. Hobbs
Comd. 1st Aust Div

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TEL-EL KEBIR 30-1-16	Inspected 10th Art. lines. gave instructions to Artillery. W.O. CAMERON to prepare patterns for portable steel platform beats to enable 18 ft. to be fired effectively in sand. present at fitting same to guns.	7 me day
TEL EL KEBIR. 31-1-16	Inspected 4 th + 6 th . Batteries 2 nd G.A. Bde in Bally drill manoeuvres. result in both cases fairly satisfactory. made arrangements with G.O.C. for Art reconnaissance line of defence held by 1 st Aust Div on Trecy canal. Bde Comdys Bde Maj A.D.C. 2 Portmen + myself to go to forward Bde Comdys on Feb 3 rd . Self + Bde Maj + A.D.C. on Feb. 1 st .	7 me day.
TEL EL-KEBIR. 1-2-16. 1300 G. J. H	Engaged routine work. Inspected 6 th Bde. 2 nd G.A. Bde Bally drill manoeuvres - result. fairly satisfactory. Left for ISMAILIA with G.O.C. en route for SERAPEUM. Interview with B.C.R.A. ANZAC. re. various artillery matters. but unable to get desired information from him. afterwards 1700 went with B.C.R.A. ANZAC. to Bgde Gen - G.S. ANZAC. & ascertained that 1- 10 th Art. is to be reduced to original Establishment in the personnel. 3000 guns & Equipment. He approved of this idea of portable plates for 18 ft. in sand + the supply of apparatus for extra draught for one battery in each Bde. G. J. H	7 me day.