

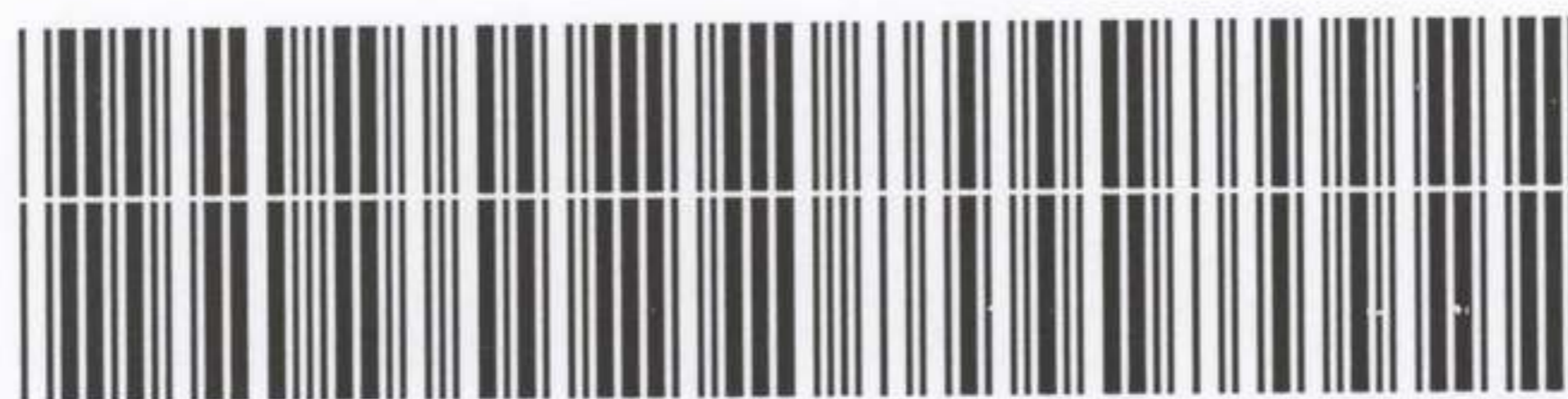
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,**  
**1914-18 War**

Artillery

**Item number:** 13/10/17

**Title:** Headquarters, 1st Australian  
Divisional Artillery

February 1916



AWM4-13/10/17



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Bgdr. Gen. J. J. Hobbs.  
Comg. 1st Aust. Div.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL KEIR.	1. 2. 16.	1300.	<p>Engaged routine work -                      Inspected 6th Bn. 2nd F.A. Brigade Battery drill and manoeuvres - result fairly satisfactory.                      Left for ISMAILIA with G.O.C. en route for SERAPEUM.                      Interview with B.G.R.A. ANZAC re various Artillery matters, but unable to get desired information from him. Afterwards 1700 went with B G.R.A. ANZAC to Bgdr. Gen. G.S. ANZAC and ascertained that                      1 - First Div. Art. is to be reduced to original Establishment in Personnel, Horses Guns and Equipment.                      He appd. of the idea of portable platform plates for 18 pd. in Sand and the supply of apparatus for extra draft for one Battery in each Brigade.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Sgd). J.J.H.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Original of above written on same sheet as entries for end of previous month and filed with volume for that month).</p>	<p>Fine day</p>



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Page Gen J. J. Hobbs  
copy. 1st Aust Div art.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>ISMAILIA 1-2-16</p>	<p>1/2/16 continued when working in heavy sand as on the SUEZ Canal defenses. He could give me no information of despatch of Corps Artillery - but directed me to distribute the word of the 1st Aust. along the whole line to closely support the Infantry against attack + to cover the right flank. In Artillery to be kept in reserve.</p>	
<p>ISMAILIA 2-2-16 0900 SERAPEUM 1000 1030</p>	<p>Left ISMAILIA by launch at 0900 for SERAPEUM arrived at SERAPEUM + reported to G.O.C. with G.O.C. G80.1 - Two Officers from H.M.S VENUS - my A.D.C. + Bde Major. made recon of line of defense allowed 2nd Aust Div from 4th home left. 2nd work no 56. returned to SERAPEUM at 1715.</p>	<p>fine day. Ship Officer Lieut VIVIA R.N. + Lieut. DRAKE BROCKMAN R.M.L.I. J.S.H</p>
<p>SERAPEUM 3-2-16 0915</p>	<p>Continued Artillery Reconnaissance from alternate night of position to work no 56. set camp. 1700 G.O.C. 1st Aust Div G.S.O.1 - <del>Captain DEWAR R.N.</del> <del>Comd. H.M.S. VENUS.</del> <del>Lieut HILDYARD +</del> <del>etc. 1st Aust Div present.</del> Lieut VIVIANI R.N. H.M.S VENUS also present.</p>	<p>fine day J.S.H</p>
<p>SERAPEUM 4-2-16 0915</p>	<p>Artillery Reconnaissance again made on night for purpose of conferring with Captain DEWAR R.N. Comd. H.M.S VENUS. + Survey Lieut HILDYARD R.N. H.M.S. VENUS. + for powdering gun. in Op 101 of G.A. Bde. the appropriate position of this position. returned 1715 Bde. Major 1st Aust Div. + Op 3rd of G.A. Bde. made reconnaissance on left. Op 2nd of G.A. Bde. center of position. G.O.C. 1st Aust Div G.S.O.1 present. 4.</p>	<p>fine day J.S.H</p>



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SERAPEUM. 5.2.16. 1000	<p>Engaged in firing with G/C. 2 + 3<sup>rd</sup> 7A Bde the approximate position of Batteries of their commands + also G. p. etc on the left + center of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div line of defence. returned camp. 1630 Received consent of G.O.C. to make arrangements for allowing 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. <u>Ambridge</u> TUNBRIDGE. Captain MADDEN Captain MCGEE 1<sup>st</sup> Div Am Co. to proceed to all camp. at TEL EL KEBIR in try + quality for promotion. left in return to TEL EL KEBIR arrived 2030</p>	<p>fire up to 1700 then rained heavily until 2130 J.J.H.</p>
TEL. EL KEBIR. 6.2.16. 1100	<p>Engaged in office + routine work. Saw Div Am Commander. 2 Aust. Div. told him result of my recommendation at SERAPEUM + arranged for mutual assistance in quarterly own left + his right flank CANAL defence. In reply he wrote out in list of names for rewards for work at ANZAC from landing up to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> last.</p>	<p>I me day</p>
7.2.16. TEL EL KEBIR	<p>Saw <del>S. W. O.</del> DOWSETT. told him there was nothing against him + prevent him getting commissioned rank. + that he would be recommended next deal of <del>men</del> men sent forward Inspected no 1 Bally. men LOCAS at Bally drive + manouevre. Bally alright but b/o. no do Inspected no 2 Bally. Bally efficient in Bally drive + manouevre but <del>officer</del> b/o. no do Will up in his work as the Bally.</p>	<p>Sent sketch map showing approximate distribution of 1<sup>st</sup> Div. to canal defence + Report on same to G.O.C. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div. J.J.H.</p>

J.J.H.

J.J.H.



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Bgd. Gen J. S. Hobbs  
Col. 1st Aust Div  
art.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>TEL EL KEBIR. 8.2.16</p> <p>1500.</p>	<p>Office Routine work. Inspected m B. Battery. Capt. KINGSMILL. m/c Battery drill good but knowledge of laying on lines of fire by + coming out action by special method very poor. Saw Bde. Battery Comdr. part of Battery Staff in m/c detailed reconnaissance of Canal defence zone allotted to 1st Aust Div. to plan positions of alternative positions of Batteries Btp. etc etc.</p>	<p>I m/c day</p>
<p>TEL EL KEBIR. 9.2.16</p> <p>SERAPEUM.</p> <p>1300</p> <p>2030</p>	<p>Office Routine work. also saw G. LE RENE of D.A.C. who paraded before me to complain that he had been improperly reduced from Saddler Serg. I found he had by reduced by order S.O.C. LAIRO 1st. but promised to find out if he had the right to appeal. against this decision. proceeded to SERAPEUM. to present at General Court martial. Saw S.O.C. with regard to various articles matters + do to whether LE RENE had right of appeal. (See yesterday) he said no. I met by C.C.M. case of Lieut MOAG. 1st Bn found accused found guilty <del>by court</del> S.S.H. S.O.C. 3rd 7a. Bde reported artillery reconnaissance going on satisfactorily. I met case of Lt WILSON - 11th Bn accused found guilty - I met case of priv MORTON - accused acquitted on account of fault, wrong case was</p>	<p>m/c Heavy Battery disbanded this day I thanked all rankes for the splendid work they had done at ANZAC 8.5.16 Showay - during day + night.</p>
<p>SERAPEUM.</p> <p>10.2.16</p> <p>1800</p>	<p>I met by C.C.M. case of Lieut MOAG. 1st Bn found accused found guilty <del>by court</del> S.S.H. S.O.C. 3rd 7a. Bde reported artillery reconnaissance going on satisfactorily.</p>	<p>I m/c day</p>
<p>SERAPEUM.</p> <p>11.2.16</p>	<p>I met case of Lt WILSON - 11th Bn accused found guilty - I met case of priv MORTON - accused acquitted on account of fault, wrong case was</p>	<p>8.5.16</p>



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Bdqr, Gen J. J. Hobbs  
Coey. 1 Div Art.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SERAPEOM. 11/2/16	put before Court. do three other cases very similar. adjourned Court for instructions from Comdew. (C.O.C. 1st Aust Div) as to whether other cases should proceed or be amended - G.O.C. ordered me to proceed without alteration.	
SERAPEOM. 12/2/16.	<p>distributed 3 sets each of 6 maps of CANAL zone. at G.O.C. 1st Aust Div (receipts given on 13/2/16 at Staff Capt)</p> <p>trial cases of PAGE - EDWARDS + O. ROURKE by G.C.M. - all acquitted. I hold all the accused these cases were really a mis-carriage of justice owing to having been referred under a wrong Section &amp; I warned them of the narrow escape they had had from severe punishment.</p> <p>Left SERAPEOM for TEL EL KEBIR. arrived there. 2/30.</p> <p>Office + Routine work</p> <p>Left for CAIRO.</p>	fine day
TEL EL KEBIR. 13.2.16. 1140		fine day.
CAIRO. 1015. 14.2.16.	<p>Inspected 5" Howitzer with Caterpillar tire for sand travelling &amp; with Camel draught. both the ideas of Major COX TAYLOR 2nd Div Am Col. Considered very satisfactory.</p> <p>Inspected 1. Div Am Col. (1290) Officer in C.B. &amp; men including reinforcements for both. 1st Div Art. Inspection satisfactory.</p> <p>Saw G.O.C. Lt. Col TON BRIDGE &amp; instructed him to proceed to TEL EL KEBIR. CAMP &amp; endeavour to qualify for command of 7.A. Bde.</p> <p>J. J. H. T.</p>	fine day

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Bgd. Gen J. J. Stobbs  
Comd. 1st Aust Div Art.

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CAIRO. 14.2.16.	<p>Captain <del>Mac</del> MADDEN preferred to be allowed to transfer to the Light Horse rather than attempt to qualify for promotion. Capt. MCGEE request accepted my purpose that he should proceed as early as possible to qualify for promotion. g J H Saw <sup>by</sup> Lt. RENE (COLLE REEN) + told him the appeal against the G.B.C. decision to reduce him to the rank of Serjt under A.A. 183 <del>and</del></p>	<p>Friday.  more work could be done at this school if more time could be made available. — g J H</p>
1215	<p>Visited the Artillery School of Instruction under Majr SCHAWB. am satisfied + excellent work on a thoroughly sound system is being done by this officer.</p>	<p>— g J H</p>
1250	<p>Visited G.B.C. training (Major Gen Spence) and informed him of my visit to art school + satisfaction with the way the training was being conducted.</p>	
1440	<p>Called on G.B.C. at Base - Bgd. Gen IRVING. returned by 1815 train to TEL EL. KEBIR.</p>	
TEL. EL. KEBIR. 1000 15.2.16.	<p>met Lt. Gen. BIRDWOOD. + Gen COX at Railway Station TEL EL KEBIR. attended Gen BIRDWOOD on his inspection of 1st Aust Div Art. line. Engaged in office + routine work now. Told Gen BIRDWOOD difficulty of getting officers &amp; men back when evacuated, such - also covered major Gen Spence's report from DAC except through 3rd ECHÉLON - also mentioned shortage in guns + equipment. g J H</p>	<p>Showery all morning. g J H</p>



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Byd Gen J. J. Hobbs  
Comd 1<sup>st</sup> Div Art

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Hour, Date, Place

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

TEL. EL. KEBIR.  
16.2.16 1805  
ISMAILIA.

Office + routine work.  
Left for ISMAILIA + discussed with Byd Gen  
Gen Staff. H.N.Z. H.Q. the number of Officers  
N.C.O.s + men the 1<sup>st</sup> Div Art were to  
supply for the new H on S. Divisions.  
Instructed that 1 new Pde. would reqd. +  
2 Div Art. Companies + Staffs. also requested to  
supply as many Officers N.C.O.s + men beyond  
that as possible.  
I complained at this interview about  
difficulty of getting Achille Officers + men  
back from Pde.  
I brought to the notice of Gen BIRDWOOD  
the movable sand tyre mounted by the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Div Art. Co. for fitting in wheels of  
transport for travelling in loose sand in  
desert.  
Ordered by Gen Birdwood to make a  
test. Saw Byd Gen who authorized me  
to get another set of tyre made for fitting  
in a G.S. Wagon + to superintend +  
control these tests + to report as early  
as possible.

For number of Officers  
N.C.O.s + men to be  
provided by 1<sup>st</sup> Div Art  
See Appendix  
A. J.J.H.  
See appendix B.

7 me morning  
heavy shower during  
afternoon

TEL. EL KEBIR 2245

TEL E KEBIR. 0900  
17-2-16  
J.J.H.

Returned TEL EL KEBIR.  
Called meeting of Pde + Staffing Commanders  
+ explained to them the part 1<sup>st</sup> Div Art  
was to take with regard to the new  
formations of the new Divisions.  
Engaged rest of day (except for a visit  
to village near here where we have a post)  
9.

J.J.H.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

*Major Gen J. D. Hobbs  
C. Coy. 1st Div.*

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL KEBIR 17-2-16	in preparing list of officers n.e.GS men for new air units & in considering promotions caused thereby	Fine during day light shower about 1700
TEL EL KEBIR 18/2/16 <del>18/2/16</del> 0900	Interviewing applicants for commissions in Aust. Artillery. (Saw 40) 35 qualified. Forwarded full reports on officers n.e.GS + men who can provide for new air formations to Major Gen AN.ZN. H.Q. ISMAILIA. Engaged in office + routine work, and in making preparations for new formations - Read instructions re enquiry into complaint made re H.Q.S. new that L. PARRY OAKDEN D.P.A. drunk & absconding with bad language his N.C.O. - instructed <sup>C/O 3rd A.F. Bde</sup> after consulting G.O.C. 1st Aust. Div. G.O.C. formations A.I.F. + his G.S.O. 1) to place OAKDEN under close arrest & to investigate the case & forward summary of evidence to me - Inspected officers N.C.O.s of new Bde met G.O.C. 1st Aust Div & reported all that I had done both at CAIRO & with regard to new artillery formations & gave General A.D.C. copies of appendix A.	See Appendix A.
1650	Read instructions re enquiry into complaint made re H.Q.S. new that L. PARRY OAKDEN D.P.A. drunk & absconding with bad language his N.C.O. - instructed <sup>C/O 3rd A.F. Bde</sup> after consulting G.O.C. 1st Aust. Div. G.O.C. formations A.I.F. + his G.S.O. 1) to place OAKDEN under close arrest & to investigate the case & forward summary of evidence to me -	fine day.
1800	Inspected officers N.C.O.s of new Bde met G.O.C. 1st Aust Div & reported all that I had done both at CAIRO & with regard to new artillery formations & gave General A.D.C. copies of appendix A.	
1710	Interviewed list other applicants for commissions in Div Art - all qualified. Inspected new Bde (less about 30% of losses & drawn to be obtained from Reinforcements & addressed the Bde & explained reasons for new formations & asked all to maintain the given name the 1st Aust Div had earned.	J.D.H.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Bgdr Gen J. J. Hobbs  
Covey, 1 - Capt D. Clark

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TEL EL KEBIR. 19-2-16 - 1000. 1030 1100	Inspected 1st 3rd + 3rd A. Bde at Amud Checked in margin. Result generally satisfactory. by - met Gen bot who asked me to submit a scheme for dealing with waste waters - asked directed M.O. to report to me sent to Gen bot.	fine day.
TEL EL KEBIR-0930 20-2-16.	Engaged in Giza (Rouine) work. Went to EL-KORINE Village + inspected art. piequet Received + sent on summary of evidence against LT PARRY OAKDEN. D.A.P. in H.Q. TEL EL KEBIR	fine day.
CAIRO. 1600	Went with LT COL. ROSENTHAL to see Gen COX re. altering Camp of new formations of art for 4" + 5" batteries - at my recommendation decided to leave things as they were in order for new Bde. 12" - to make better use of our equipment + guns. proceeded to CAIRO to see GOC 1st Am Avn Cn Cn + conduct test of pedrail apparatus. Interview with GOC 1st Am Avn Cn. with regard to Reinforcement promotion + application for commission + for CR. TONBRIDGE + proceed to TEL EL KEBIR.	fine day.
CAIRO. 21-2-16 1000.	Use of "pedrail" apparatus for improving desert transport <del>Vehicle</del> Vehicle invented by GOC 2nd 1st Am Avn Cn. e.g. Wagon with 3400 lb load Saw trail of e.g. Wagon with 3400 lb load + 5" stowage with camel horse + mule teams. trial not sufficiently severe to give definite result arranged for further test at SERAPEUM - 11. J. J. H.	J. J. H.



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

*Bygd. Gen J. J. Hobbs  
Creech. 1st Lt. W. W. W.*

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CAIRO. 21.2.6 1150 1230 1300	Interview with Officers of D.A.C. for promotion + candidates for commissions in Artillery. Interview with candidates for commissions at Artillery School under Capt. Wards Interview with Maj Gen SPENOS. with regard to severance of School of Instruction under Maj SCHAWB. I proposed the operation should be entirely disconnected with D.A.C. Spoke to Maj Gen SPENOS about the urgency of getting reinforcements. He said he was unable to do anything without consent of 3rd Echelon. but if he got direct order from Adm + in any Corps would try.	<i>fine day.</i>
1500  1910	Interview with Bygd. Gen SELHEIM. Comd. Aust. in Base. re. difficulty of getting our men + officers back to units + in getting reinforcements. He allowed me to take Capt. CALLAHAN + GEE back. + said he would do all he could to remedy complaints mentioned. Saw Gen GODLEY on train. told him all that I had done. I told him we wanted 750 n. l. b. + men to complete new air reinforcement. He said he would see ash at once for them. Returned TEL. EL. KEBIR. 2015.	
TEL EL KEBIR. 22. 2. 16. 0900	Interview with candidates for commissions engaged on list of officers for promotions + appointments for new formations. Saw Maj Rebel + Maj CADDY with reference to their being passed over by officers whom I have recommended.	<i>J. J. H.</i>

1247 W 3299 200,000 (E) 8/14 J.B.C. & A.

Forms/C. 2118/11.



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Regd Gen J. S. Hobbs  
Cecy. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Art.

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Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

TEL EL KEBIR.  
22.2.16

1700

for command new Art formations. I explained  
to them both that I had selected men who  
in the interests of the Service were best  
(in my opinion) qualified for the positions.  
Selected place near Rifle Range to try  
portable sun platform plates.

fine day

TEL. EL KEBIR.  
23.2.16

1000

Engaged in office & routine work. & in connect  
ion with appointments, promotions & applications  
for commissions in new Artillery formations  
Interviewed with Maj Rabl who apologized for  
his remarks which I objected to in yesterday's  
interview

fine day.

1030

Standed over to General H.V. COX. K.C.M.G. C.B.  
C.S.I. Comd'g Aust. Div. Formations. new 12<sup>th</sup> Div. Art  
Bde & Officers selected for 4<sup>th</sup> Division. General  
COX after minute inspection & pressed his  
complete satisfaction with the Bde.

1530

attended 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Sports.

TEL. EL KEBIR.  
24.2.16.

J.G.H

Dispatched per. Maj Anderson. to G.B.C. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust  
Div all the papers in connection with the  
appointment of Officers & applications for  
commissions in the new Artillery units  
& to replace transfer from 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div Art.  
Engaged in office & routine work.  
Saw Lt PYBOS & HARE re. notice to them  
to the effect that they had been passed over  
underrated HARE saluted with reason  
nothing in writing from PYBOS.

fine day.

J.G.H

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

12  
Bdgt. Gen J. J. Hobbs  
Casey 101 - Aust bw ant

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL. EL KEBIR. 25. 2. 16.	Engaged in office + routine work. Saw Maj. CADDY re. my reply to my mem re promotion to Lt. Col. he refused to withdraw his minute. to the effect that I had made a misstatement. Saw Lt. Teare re his protest against being passed over. Saw Capt. Mc. Lee who withdrew his protest. visited ground for trial of platform (Lsn) plates with Bde. map.	fine day
TEL. EL KEBIR. 26. 2. 16 1948	Office + Routine work. Saw Gen COX re. new 12" 7A. Bde. as regd by Gen White + showed him Gen WHITE'S letter + my wire. Suspecting the Art. Linc. Went D.A. + M.C. + medical affairs re own Art. Camp Sanitary arrangements Trial of portable gun platform plates - find wheel plate should be 12" longer. another test must be made. Saw Lt. BUFFY who wished to know why he had been passed over for promotion. Was not qualified - he was saluted + did no protest. Further interview with Lt. TEARE who insist on his protest at being passed over going to higher authority.	fine day, Interview with Lt. MCKAY + explained why he has been passed over for promotion. he was satisfied J.J.H.
TEL. EL KEBIR. 0900 27. 2. 16.	Saw Lt. <del>TEARE</del> ELOYD who protests against being passed over for promotion + planned reason is this Bde doesn't consider him qualified. he insists on his protest going to higher authority. engaged on office + routine work. Interview with Lt. WALLIS re his protest being passed over for promotion. he withdrew his protest J.J.H. 14.	fine day but hot + windy J.J.H.



WAR DIARY

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Bptd. Gen J. J. Hobbs  
com. 1st Aust Div

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TEL EL KEBIR. 0930 28. 2. 16	Saw Gp 8. Battery ascertained from him Road predecessor for his Am Co from GAIRO. where engaged in office & routine work. Interview with Gp 6. Ball. at which I warned him that I had heard that he had criticised the recent recommendations for appointments & promotions he admitted he has to some extent done so. I warned him of the consequences of taking part in such a course & told him his duty was to melancholy suppress such conduct. I warned him of the very serious consequences that might ensue. Gp 2 <sup>nd</sup> F.A. Bde. & Bde main present.	Friday
1300 1535	Left for SERAPEUM. arrived there at 1530. Saw Det. of COX TAYLORS "PEDRAIL" apparatus attached on G.S. Wagon with both horse & mule teams. (4 animals) <del>also</del> 5" Stouitzer with 6 horse team. Am of spirit in satisfactory reporting to Army Corps. after further det of G.S. Wagon by A.S.C.	
2100	Saw G.O.C. 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust Div re. procs with regard to promotion from L. TEARE & LLOYD. & informed him of my interview with Gp 6. Ball. on previous day -	
SERAPEUM. 1930	Went round Battery positions on line of defence with B. G. R.A. 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust Corps. met. 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust Div at Bde Ball. Commanders I had sent out to make further inspection of ground. rel in CAMP. 1605.	Friday
J. J. Hobbs 1950	Interview with Gp 5. Ball. warned him against criticising recommendations re appointments & promotion Div at Returned to TEL EL KEBIR. arrived. 2040	J. J. Hobbs

J. J. Hobbs. Bptd. Gen  
C.D.A. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div



## APPENDIX A

 War Establishments Part VII New Armies.
 

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Total officers per Divisional Artillery  
(excluding attached) 84

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 Distribution by Ranks

Brigadier General.		1	
Lieutenant Colonels		4	
Brigade Major	Majors or Captains	1	
Battery Commanders		12	
			13
Bde Ammn Column Commdrs		3	
and Div Ammn Coln Section Commdrs	Captains	3	
Adjutants		4	
Staff Captain		1	
			11
A. D. C.		1	
Orderly Officers		3	
Batteries	Subalterns	36	
Bde Amn Coln		9	
Div Amm. Coln.		6	
			55
<hr/>			
Total officers required for Artillery 4 Divisions (less Corps and Army Staffs)			336
Total officers available First Aust. Div. Art.		114	
Estimate	" " Second " " "	90	204
Total required			132



Approximate numbers Officers, 1st Australian Division  
Artillery available to fill certain ranks.

For Lieut. Colonels	12	(a)
For Battery Commanders (Majors)	17	(b)
For " " (Captains)	20	(c)

(a)	(b)	(c)
Lt. Col. O. A. Tunbridge.	Major. J. W. S. Lucas	Lieut. C. R. Turner
" " A. J. Bessell-Browne	" R. L. R. Rabbett.	" N. Clowes
Major G. H. M. King	Capt. G. J. Crespin	" A. M. Forbes
" F. A. Hughes	" H. W. Riggall	" J. N. Newmarch
" S. M. Anderson.	" D. R. Harris	" P. J. Morgan
" C. F. Phillips	" G. McLaughlin	" R. F. Manton
" H. C. Caddy	" F. Biddle ⊗	" E. A. Olding
" W. L. Burgess	" W. C. N. Waite	" J. H. Ellis
" C. G. N. <del>XXXX</del> Miles.	" A. H. K. Jopp	" P. J. Ross
" G. I. Stevenson.	" H. F. Kingsmill	" V. H. Gatliff
Capt. A. F. Roberts Thompson. *	" C. A. Callaghan.	" P. J. McCormack
" F. Biddle ⊗	" R. S. Gee	" J. C. Selmes
	" D. T. Rogers	" G. O. Strachan
	" A. F. Roberts Thompson *	" A. W. Dodd.
	" A. P. Crisp	" S. E. Sinclair
	" F. Thornthwaite	" D. J. Toomey
	" <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>	" E. Shepherd
	" P. M. Edwards	" T. W. Garling
		" F. E. Forrest
		2/" H. Holdgate



1-18  
T2

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

Divisional Artillery Headquarters

Tel-el-Kebir

18.2.16

Brigadier General  
General Staff  
A & N.Z. Army Corps

With reference to your wife A.I.F. 1872 I sent you the following wire.-

"I left list prepared for General Carruthers at your office of cases giving particulars as I can only get officers and men by complying with A C Routine Order 534 2.2.16, and am not allowed to ask for any particular officer or man as at present trying to get Captain Callaghan 2nd Battery from Overseas Base "

I do not remember referring to any particular case or cases during our conversation last Wednesday afternoon. My complaint was of the time and unnecessary trouble if I may have the right to express that opinion, that it now takes to get our officers and men by the channel now laid down. I am not prepared to say that we cannot get Artillery Reinforcements at the present moment, owing to the fact that we have a considerable number of officers, N.C.O's and men in excess of our establishments and have not lately applied for men, but prior to that I understand there was considerable difficulty in obtaining reinforcements through the authorized channel.

Again I do think it is necessary, in the Artillery branch of the service at all events, to have the right to ask for a particular officer or n.c.o. who may, perhaps, be a skilled artificer and who for good reasons it is desired to get back to his old unit rather than have a stranger and an untried man.

What I desired last Wednesday to particularly draw your attention to and which was the point I had mentioned to General Birdwood the day before, was the fact that trained artillerymen were being detained at the Base for various duties (not artillery) instead of being returned to either Divisional



1-19  
T2  
Ammunition Column or their units here, to carry on their legitimate work.

Portable Sand Tyres

I have taken the necessary steps to get another set of these tyres made and I am trying to arrange an exhaustive test of both guns and transport wagons with horses and camel draught early next week, the result of which I will report in due course.

Signed J. T. Hobbs

Brigadier General  
Commanding Artillery 1st Australian Divm.



WAR DIARY

Vol I.

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.

Major C. G. H. Miles  
Bde. Major, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Art.

(Erase heading not required.)

2-1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el-Kebir	17-2-16	0900	<p>C.D.A. had meeting of Brigade and Battery Commanders and explained the reorganization which was as follows - The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Divisions were to be formed in Egypt; the Artillery was to have the same organization as the 1<sup>st</sup> Division, that is three brigades of three batteries and a Divisional Ammunition Column - The 4<sup>th</sup> Div. Art. was to be commanded by Lt. Col. C. Rosenthal CB, and the 5<sup>th</sup> by Lt. Col. S.E. Christian CMG. As many officers, N.C.O.s and men as possible from the 1<sup>st</sup> Div. Art. were to be transferred to form the nucleus of the Artillery of these two new divisions. I reported for duty at D.A.H.Q. preparatory to taking over the duties of Brigade Major. Got statements from brigades showing how many N.C.O.s could be transferred. Went through list of officers with their confidential reports to see how many could be transferred. Wrote to headquarters evening stating what could be done in the way of transfers. It amounted to providing two complete divisional staffs, five brigade commanders and adjutants, and officers and N.C.O.s for two complete brigades, as well as forming a complete brigade for the 4<sup>th</sup> Division.</p>	
"	18-2-16.	1400	<p>Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Hq. Brigade was to be temporarily transferred to the 4<sup>th</sup> Div. Art. as a training depot.</p> <p>Continuation of work of reorganization - made out composition of new brigade, the 1<sup>st</sup> Hq. Brigade, for 4<sup>th</sup> Div. Each of our existing brigades was to form one battery and a proportion of the headquarters and brigade ammunition column. Orders were sent to the brigades, and the new brigade was paraded at D.A.H.Q. at 1700.</p>	C.G.H.M.
"	19-2-16.	1400	<p>Received orders from Headquarters showing what was to be provided which was what was stated could be done. Sent orders to brigades re the officers and N.C.O.s to be transferred to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Divisions.</p>	C.G.H.M.
"	20-2-16	1400	<p>Continuation of work of reorganization.</p>	C.G.H.M.



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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Vol. I. 2.

Major C. G. H. Miles  
Bde. Major, 1st Aust. Div. Art.

2-2  
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el-Kebir	21-2-16		The 12th Fd. Brigade under Lt-Col. O. G. Tumbidge AMB was temporarily handed over to Col. Rosenthal.	
"	22-2-16		Preparing lists of promotions, transfers etc of officers to be forwarded to Hd. Qrs. Major Burgess took over command of 3rd Fd. Brigade via Rosenthal. Letters sent to officers who were being superseded.	<i>[Signature]</i> <i>[Signature]</i> <i>[Signature]</i>
"	23-2-16		Major-Gen. Sir. H. V. Cox, Commanding 4th Div. inspected new 12th Fd. Brigade.	<i>[Signature]</i>
"	24-2-16		Remainder of officers and N.C.O.s transferred to 4th Division.	<i>[Signature]</i>
"	25-2-16		Was present at an interview between the General and Major Caddy re the latter's protest about being superseded.	<i>[Signature]</i>
"	26-2-16		Major Anderson took over command of 1st Fd. Brigade via Christian. I took over duties of Brigade Major. Officers and N.C.O.s transferred to 5th Division. Was present at an interview between the General and Lieut. Gavin Duffy re the latter's protest about being superseded.	<i>[Signature]</i>
"	27-2-16		Was present at an interview between the General and Lieut. Wallis re the latter's protest about being superseded. Lieut. H. W. Parker returned from a reconnaissance of the road to Serapeum and handed in his report.	<i>[Signature]</i>
"	28-2-16		Col. Brown and I were present at an interview that the General had with Major Stevenson, re the latter's criticism of impending promotions. Was present at an interview between the General and Major Rabbitt re the latter's protest about being superseded. Went to Serapeum with the General by 1257 train. Saw test of "Pedrails" afternoon	<i>[Signature]</i>



WAR DIARY

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Vol. I. 3.

Major C. G. H. Miles  
Bde. Major, 1st Aust. Div. Act.

2-3 42

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el-Kebir	28-2-16		New brigade and battery commanders went to Serapeum to see the positions that had been selected for the guns.	C.G.H.M.
Serapeum	29-2-16		Rode over 1st Division area at Serapeum with the general and general Nicholl to show the latter the positions selected for the Artillery. Returned to Tel-el-Kebir by the 1938 train.	C.G.H.M.
<p>C.G.H.M. Major Bde Major, 1st Aust. Div. Act.</p>				