

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

Provost

Item number: 3/8/1

Title: Egyptian Section, Australian Provost
Corps

August 1916



AWM4-3/8/1



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ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE~~
~~TRIPLICATE~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

EGYPTIAN SECTION, AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

FOR

AUGUST. 1916. 191

(VOLUME. 1.)

Signature of Officer compiling

J. P. ...
C. Q. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps
A. P. M. A. I. F. in Egypt

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. P. ...
Lieut Col,
C. Q. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps
A. P. M. A. I. F. in Egypt

AUG 1916

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Volume I.

Page I.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Original

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																								
CAIRO.	3/8/16.		<p>On August 3rd 1916 the main body of the Anzac Provost Corps left Cairo for overseas, leaving the following detachments behind, to be known as "The Egyptian Section, Anzac Provost Corps."</p> <p>(1). <u>Mounted Section at Heliopols.</u> consisting of:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>(a). Squadron Headquarters.</td> <td>-----</td> <td>2 Officers,</td> <td>7 Other Ranks.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(b). "A" Troop.</td> <td>-----</td> <td>1 " 46 "</td> <td>" "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(c). "B" Troop.</td> <td>-----</td> <td>1 " 28 "</td> <td>" "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(d). "C" Troop.</td> <td>-----</td> <td>1 " 30 "</td> <td>" "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>(e). "D" Troop.</td> <td>-----</td> <td>1 " 24 "</td> <td>" "</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>Total. 5 Officers, 135 Other Ranks</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>Of this strength, 13 other ranks are detached for duty at Port Said under the A.P.M. there.</p> <p>(2). <u>Infantry Section at CAIRO.</u> 2 Officers, 115 Other Ranks.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Total Strength, 7 Officers, 250 Other Ranks.</u></p>	(a). Squadron Headquarters.	-----	2 Officers,	7 Other Ranks.	(b). "A" Troop.	-----	1 " 46 "	" "	(c). "B" Troop.	-----	1 " 28 "	" "	(d). "C" Troop.	-----	1 " 30 "	" "	(e). "D" Troop.	-----	1 " 24 "	" "			<u>Total. 5 Officers, 135 Other Ranks</u>		<p><i>Note as sources from which this Diary is compiled, and date of compilation is attached as Appendix I.</i></p>
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		<u>Total. 5 Officers, 135 Other Ranks</u>																										
			<p><u>DUTIES.</u></p> <p>All Cairo patrols are furnished by the Infantry Section, assisted by a detachment of 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl and 20 other ranks from "A" Squadron. The Heliopolis Area is patrolled by the mounted detachment?</p> <p>Patrols in Cairo are mounted as follows:-</p> <p>No 1 Patrol. Sheppard's and Continental Hotels. 1 N.C.O and 6 men to parade at 0930.</p> <p>No 2 Patrol. Street Patrol. 2 N.C.Os. and 6 men. Parade at 1330?</p> <p>No 3 Patrol. Sheppard's and Continental Hotels. 1 N.C.O. and 6 men. Parade at 1630.</p> <p>No 4 Patrol. Street Patrol. 2 N.C.Os and 20 men. Parade at 1830.</p> <p>No 5 Patrol. Kursaal and Cinemas. 1 N.C.O. and 6 men. Parade at 1830.</p> <p>In addition to this the infantry section supplies a quarter guard of 2 N.C.Os and 8 men which mounts at 0900 daily, and the Mounted section provides a stable piquet of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men mounting at 1800.</p> <p>Nos 2 and 4 patrols send out 4 patrols of 2 men each, who patrol along EMAD EL DINE, CLOT BEY, WAGH EL BERKA and KAMEL streets and the Black Wassa from 1400 to 1900 and from 1900 to 2300 daily. The latter patrol is strengthened on Saturdays and Sundays to 3 N.C.Os and 30 men.</p> <p>No 5 patrol does duty at the Kursaal music hall and cinemas in the vicinity, one man being detached to the Casino de Paris and one to the "Abbaye des Roses" during performances.</p> <p>The Headquarters of the Patrols is the "Russell Soldiers' Home" in Sharia El Mahdi, where</p>	<p><i>JAB</i></p>																								

AUG 1916
E 38/1

AUG 1916
 INSTRUCTIONS PROVISIONAL

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Volume I.

Page 2.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CAIRO.	3/8/16.		<p>a room is reserved for the use of the officer and senior N?C.O on duty at the time. All offenders arrested by the patrol are brought to this room and the escort is provided with a slip showing the man's particulars and the offence for which he was arrested. The offender is then escorted to Kasr el Nil barracks if he is an Australian, or to Bab el Hadid if an Imperial Soldier and a receipt obtained from the N.C.O. i/c Guard. Soldiers charged with Drunkenness are not brought before the Officer i/c patrols but are escorted straight to the Guard Room. When a prisoner is confined he is thoroughly searched in the Guard Room and all documents of whatever nature are taken from him. No prisoners are allowed tobacco, cigarettes etc: when confined.</p> <p>Patrols No 1 and 3 are on duty at the main entrances to Sheppard's and the Continental Hotels for the purpose of preventing W.Os. N.C?Os. and men from entering these hotels. The management of each hotel supplies cold meals to all patrols on duty.</p> <p>Plans to illustrate duties performed by the corps in Cairo are attached as Appendix III ^X and II.</p> <p>There is also a detachment of 1 sergt and 12 other ranks at Port Said doing duty under the A.P.M. there in conjunction with the Imperial Military Police. Their duties are to assist the M.P. in enforcing discipline among the Australians in Port Said, and to look out for Australian Absentees.</p> <p><u>HELIOPOLIS?</u></p> <p>On August 4th 1916 3 officers and 67 other ranks of "A" Sqn, Lt A?J?Watts in charge, moved from Heliopolis to Cairo (Kasr el Nil Barracks), leaving a detachment of 49 other ranks under Lt Hyam to patrol the Heliopolis Area. This detachment has a large area to patrol comprising 1. Heliopolis Town. 2. Zeitoun. 3. Helmieh and 4. Abbassia.</p> <p>In the vicinity of Heliopolis is situated a Prisoners of War camp capable of holding 6000 prisoners. There is also the Australian Remount Unit, quite a large number of men and horses.</p> <p>At Zeitoun the schools of instruction have a considerable number of men and there are usually from 60 to 100 New Zealanders convalescing at the Aotea Home.</p> <p>The town and suburbs are continually patrolled by mounted men and the town alone by dismounted men from 0900 to 2100 daily. Dismounted men remain on duty in the town from until 2400. The strength of the patrol on duty from 1800 to 2200 in town is 2 N?C?Os? and 12 men. The Headquarters of the patrol is at Heliopolis House Hotel. All arrests are brought before the O.C. or the N.C.O. i/c Patrols. On occasions when Luna Park is open and Heliopolis is crowded with troops extra police are put on to cope with any emergency.</p>	<p>8 See App II.</p> <p>J.P.B.</p> <p>- AUG 1916</p> <p>E 35/1</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo.	6/8/16.		A large number of Turkish Prisoners of War taken at the battle of Romani arrived in Cairo. An escort of 50 mounted men, comprising 40 from Heliopolis and 10 from Cairo, took over a party of prisoners at Cairo station at 1530 and escorted them to Kasr el Nil Barracks xxx where a guard from the garrison troops took them over. Another escort of 50 infantrymen took over a similar party at 1245 and removed them to Bab el Hadid police barracks.	J.P.B.
	7/8/16.		The following special order was published by the C.O. "Members of the Corps are to be particularly careful and discreet in their dealings wit on duty with any member of the American Naval Contingent who are arriving from Alexandria today on leave. In the event of any disturbance whatever the Officer on duty at the Soldiers' Home should immediately be notified by telephone or messenger. This order will be read out to all patrols until further notice before leaving barracks on duty." This order being carefully carried carried out, no trouble was experienced with the Contingent in question.	J.P.B.
	8/8/16.		"A q Squadron provided an escort of 25 other ranks at Cairo station at 1245 to escort Prisoners of War to Kasr el Nil.	J.P.B.
	11/8/16.		Under the latest alterations in the Cairo Defence Scheme, in the event of an alarm the Heliopolis Detachment will report at the Garrison Adjutant's office at Abbassia. The infantry detachment at Cairo will report at Bab el Hadid as "Reserves".	J.P.B.
Heliopolis	16/8/16.		Escort of 35 Mounted men to report at Red Barracks Abbassia at 1530 to escort Prisoners of War to Aerodrome Camp Heliopolis? Duty carried out without incident.	J.P.B.
Cairo.	21/8/16.		A.P.C. Section Order No 19. "The following routine will be observed by the Infantry Detachment on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays:- Reveille-----0600. Fall In-----0620 . Move Off-----0630. Dress:- Fatigue, with rifles, belts and sidearms."	J.P.B.
	22/8/16.		Extract from A.P.C. Section Order No 21. "The following extracts from A.I.F. in Egypt Order No 4. dated 19/8/16. by Major General E.G. Chauvel, C.B. C.M.G. are published for general information:-	J.P.B. - AUG 1916 E 235/3

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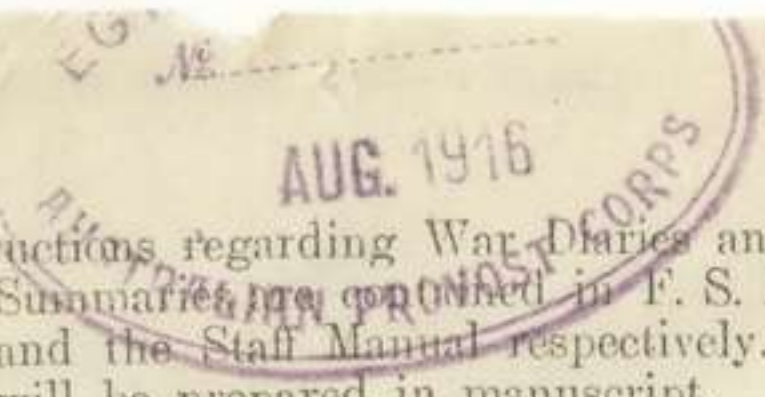
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo.	22/8/16. (contd)		<p><u>APPOINTMENTS.</u></p> <p><u>3rd L.H.Reg.</u> To be 2nd Lieutenant. <u>No 87. C.Q.M.S. LAWRENCE L.</u> Dated 24/7/16.</p> <p><u>1st INFANTRY BRIGADE.</u></p> <p><u>2nd Battn A.I.F.</u> To be 2nd Lieutenant. <u>No. 4793. Sgt MARTIN P.J.</u> Dated 23/7/16.</p> <p><u>4th Battn A.I.F.</u> To be 2nd Lieutenant. <u>No. 8085. Sgt McCarthy G.</u> Dated 22/7/16.</p> <p><u>Australian Remount Unit.</u> Lieut. P.A. Adams is absorbed. Dated 3/4/16. Lieut. A.J. Watts is absorbed. Dated 5/4/16.</p> <p><u>SECONDINGS.</u></p> <p><u>1st INFANTRY BRIGADE.</u></p> <p><u>2nd Battn A.I.F.</u> 2/Lt P.J. Martin is seconded to A. & N.Z. Provost Police Corps. 23/7 Dated 23/7/16.</p> <p><u>4th Battn A.I.F.</u> 2/Lt G. McCarthy is seconded to A. & N.Z. Provost Police Corps. Dated 22/7/16.</p> <p><u>Australian Remount Unit.</u></p> <p>Lieut. P.A. Adams is seconded to A. & N.Z. Provost Police Corps. Dated 3/4/16.</p> <p>Lieut. A.J. Watts is seconded to A. & N.Z. Provost Police Corps. Dated 5/4/16.</p> <p>This brings the Officer strength of the Egyptian Section A.P.C. up to 10. - One being in Hospital.</p>	<p>J.P.B.</p>
	26/8/16		52 other ranks of "A" Squadron marched out from Cairo to Meascar for absorption into their own units and were struck off the strength of the A.P.C. thus reducing the Mounted Section strength to 6 officers and 74 other ranks, of whom 1 officer and 8 other ranks are in hospital.	
	30/8/16.		Owing to the "Abbaye des Roses" theatre being placed "Out of Bounds" to troops from 21/8/16, by Delta District L. of C. Defences Order No 122, the patrol usually posted there was withdrawn. In the event of any trouble occurring at the theatre in future, the management will call on the Kursaal Patrol which is stationed within two minutes walk of the "Abbaye des Roses".	

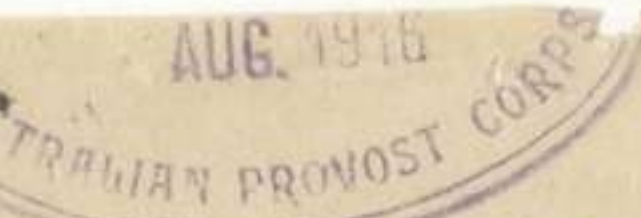
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J.P.B.

J.P.B.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo.	30-8-16.		<p>The following Circular Memo was issued by the C.O. to all officers of the Corps:-</p> <p>" Withreference to the duties of the officer in charge of the patrols.</p> <p>" It is understood that the Soldiers' Home is the Headquarters of patrols, wherex the officer in charge can be seen, up to such time as the officer in command considers fit to with- draw, which is usually about 11.p.m.</p> <p>" After the withdrawal of the patrol from the Soldiers' Home the Kursaal will be rec- ognised as the Headquarters of the officer in charge, and when leaving there, if it is necess- ary to do so at intervals, he will leave word with the senior N.C.O. or Private in charge, and it should not be necessary to be away for any length of time.</p> <p>" It is not imperative that the patrol which leaves the Soldiers' Home at 11.p.m. should be sent back to barracks, but they should be utilized at the discretion of the Officer in charge of patrols to patrol Cairo up to such time as he thinks fit. All troops, whether A.I.F. or Imperial, are liable to be called upon to produce their passes after 10 p.m. and frequent requests should be made to that effect."</p> <p>-----</p> <p>It has been decided by A.P.M. Delta Force that no M.P. are to search private premises unless accompanied by an officer, and that no native guides or informers are to be used in the detection of absentees. (A.P.M. Delta Force No. 349/16 of 26-8-16.)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>The above, therefore, slightly modifies the previous existing regulations in this respect, namely letter 168/16 of A.P.M. CAIRO, dated 7-5-16, which lays down that:- "No officer, N.C.O. or man of the Anzac Provost Corps has the right of entering any house, in Cairo, with the following exceptions:-</p> <p>"(1). When called in by the inmates of the house to render assistance.</p> <p>"(2). When called in by the M.M.P. on duty.</p> <p>"(3). When in direct pursuit of a criminal who is pursued as far as the entrance to the house.</p> <p>"(4). To give assistance to Australian Detectives on duty."</p> <p>The new order gives the members of the Corps considerably greater powers, and permits of the searching of native premises for Government Property provided that the searching party is under the command of an officer, which has not been possible hitherto although instances have occurred where raids could hve been made in the vicinity of the Kasr-el-Nil barracks with excellent results.</p>	<p>Remarks and references to Appendices</p> <p><i>J.P.B.</i></p> <p>AUG 1916</p> <p>E 38/5</p>

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Original

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>HELIOPOLIS.</u>	22-8-18.		<p>The Heliopolis Detachment supply a patrol of two mounted men daily from this date to visit the villages of EZBET EL SOUDANIEH and ZEBET EL ADBY, as it is reported that troops are in the habit of visiting these villages and that disturbances have taken place there.</p> <p>This patrol will mount at 1600 and will remain on duty until the villages are clear of all troops. No charges are to be made for the first two or three days but men are to be informed of the order that all native villages are out of bounds to troops, and instructed to circulate it among their comrades.</p>	JAB
	23-8-18		<p>As it is reported that certain Imperial N.C.Os. at the School of Instruction at Zeitoun are masquerading as Australians when on leave, a special patrol was detailed to watch the School of Instruction and accost all Australians leaving it and examine their identity discs and paybooks. This duty was carefully carried out but no offenders were detected.</p>	JAB
	25 7 26-8-16.		<p>On both these dates the Heliopolis Detachment supplied an escort of 1 officer and 20 other ranks as escort for prisoners of war from Helmieh station to Aerodrome p.o.w. camp on the occasion of the removal of prisoners from the Citadel, Maadi and Tura to Heliopolis.</p>	JAB

J. P. ... Lt Col.
 C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps
 A. F. ... A. I. F. in Egypt

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WAR DIARY

OF

EGYPTIAN SECTION, AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS .

FOR

AUGUST . 1916.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
I.	Preface to Diary.
II.	Map of Cairo to illustrate duties.

J. H. Dixon Lt Col.

C. O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps
A. P. M. A. P. C. in Egypt



Original

APPENDIX I. TO VOLUME 1. OF WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION, AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.
MONTH OF AUGUST 1916.

NOTE ON SOURCES FROM WHICH THIS DIARY IS COMPILED AND METHOD OF COMPILATION.

The work of compilation of the War Diary of the Egyptian Section Australian Provost Corps was not undertaken until August 1918, just two years after the formation of the Section. During that period the command of the Section has changed hands, and many changes have taken place in the Staff. Consequently the only sources from the compiler ~~was~~ able to draw his information are old correspondence files, reports, parade states and nominal rolls. Reports were called for from Officers Commanding Detachments in the early days of the Unit, but these necessarily contain only broad outlines, and much detail has been unavoidably lost.

As far as possible events have been described in the order in which they occurred, but occasionally, as in the case of the formation and improvement of the Field Punishment Compound at Moascar, details have been included in a general report rendered by the officer concerned at a later date, which it did not seem advisable to break up.

As the various Detachments of the Section are formed, reports dealing with the work performed by them are attached as Appendices, until finally the body of the Diary becomes little more than an index to the work of the Detachments as detailed in the Appendices.



J. P. Dineen
C.O. Egyptian Section, Australian Provost Corps
A. I. M. A. I. in Egypt

- AUG 1916

E 361/8