

AWM4

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

Provost

Item number: 3/8/33

**Title: Egyptian Section, Australian Provost
Corps**

April 1919



AWM4-3/8/33

EGYPTIAN SECTION
18,000-1271-8723
APR. 1919
AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS

APR. 1919
AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

FOR

APRIL 1919. **191**

(VOLUME..... 33.)

Date 28/6/19.
A.P.M. A.I.F. IN EGYPT

Signature of Officer compiling

J.P.D.

Signature of Officer Commanding

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



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.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Confidential.

or

Volume 33.

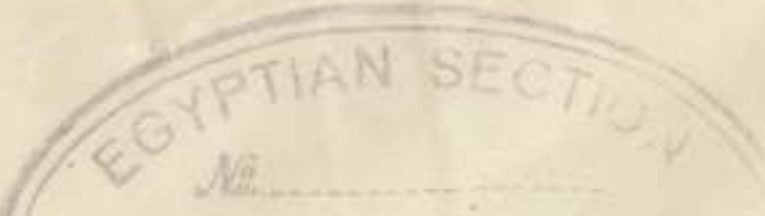
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Page 1.

Original

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	1.4.19.		On this date a further redistribution of the Canal Zone Detachments took place, particulars of which will be found in Appendix I to this volume.	JHB APP I
	7.4.19.		Police were concerned in two disturbances with natives, reports of which are included in Appendix II to this volume.	JHB APP II
	8.4.19.		Lieut P.J.MARTIN took over command of the Cairo Detachment from Capt. E.D.GRIGSON who was struck off the strength of the Corps on embarkation to Australia on the 12th.	JHB
	12.4.19.		Lieut: P.J.MARTIN promoted to the rank of Temporary Captain. On this date also arrangements were made with the A.P.M. Cairo and Delta for certain alterations to be made in the beats of the patrols in Cairo, entailing the employment of less men over a bigger area. The following shows the new distribution of patrols: <u>Patrol No 1.</u> Parade 1330. Dismount 1830. 5.0.Rs. <u>No 1. Beat.</u> Wagh el Berka. Street. <u>No 2 Beat.</u> Khazindar Square and Sharia Guinina. <u>No 3 Beat.</u> Sharia Kamel. <u>Main Station Duty.</u> 1.0.R. <u>A.I.F. Headquarters.</u> 2.0.Rs. <u>Patrol No 2.</u> Parade 1715. Dismount 2300. 18.0.Rs. <u>No 1. Beat.</u> Wagh el Berka Street. <u>No 2 Beat.</u> Khazindar Square and Sharia Guinina. <u>No 3. Beat.</u> Sharia Kamel. <u>No 4 Beat.</u> Sharia Nubar Pasha. <u>No 5 Beat.</u> Rue Emad el Dine. <u>No 6 Beat.</u> Sharia Kasr el Nil. <u>No 7 Beat.</u> Sharia Abbas. (See map attached to Volume 1. of this Diary.)	JHB.
	20.4.19.		All N.C.Os. of the Corps who have ben given Temporary Rank to replace N.C.Os. who have been repatriated, have now been granted ER rank on condition that they forego all claim to early repatriation, in accordance with A.I.F. Order 1561(II) of 21.2.19.	JHB



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.

Confidential, Original

OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Volume 33.

(Erase heading not required.)

Page 2.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																																
XX General.			<p>During the latter part of the month reports of assaults and robberies by Australians were again received. These generally took place outside the area patrolled by the police and the descriptions of the offenders and the circumstances were always extremely vague. It is still believed that certain illegal absentees are concerned in these cases, and every effort is being made to rtrace them. Towards the end of the month these reports ceased as the offenders evidently found the police watch becoming too close.</p> <p>Except for the cases referred to above discipline in the Cairo area was good. The following is the summary of charges made by the Detachment during the month:-</p> <p><u>Total charges... 155.</u> Charges against Australians:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Drunkenness.....</td> <td>11.</td> <td>Improperly dressed.....</td> <td>2.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A.W.L.</td> <td>43.</td> <td>Resisting arrest.....</td> <td>2.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out of Bounds.....</td> <td>9.</td> <td>Threatening language.....</td> <td>1.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No identity disc.....</td> <td>4.</td> <td>Irregular Pass.....</td> <td>1.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><u>Total.....</u></td> <td><u>73.</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>Charges against New Zealanders:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Drunkenness.....</td> <td>1.</td> <td>Out of Bounds.....</td> <td>2.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A.W.L.</td> <td>2.</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><u>Total.....</u></td> <td><u>5.</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>Discipline in the Corps was also good. One man was tried by F.G.C.M. and two came before their O.C. for minor offences during the month.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">@-@-@-@-@-@-@-@-@-@</p>	Drunkenness.....	11.	Improperly dressed.....	2.	A.W.L.	43.	Resisting arrest.....	2.	Out of Bounds.....	9.	Threatening language.....	1.	No identity disc.....	4.	Irregular Pass.....	1.			<u>Total.....</u>	<u>73.</u>	Drunkenness.....	1.	Out of Bounds.....	2.	A.W.L.	2.					<u>Total.....</u>	<u>5.</u>	
Drunkenness.....	11.	Improperly dressed.....	2.																																	
A.W.L.	43.	Resisting arrest.....	2.																																	
Out of Bounds.....	9.	Threatening language.....	1.																																	
No identity disc.....	4.	Irregular Pass.....	1.																																	
		<u>Total.....</u>	<u>73.</u>																																	
Drunkenness.....	1.	Out of Bounds.....	2.																																	
A.W.L.	2.																																			
		<u>Total.....</u>	<u>5.</u>																																	

J.H. Bisdar Lt. Col.

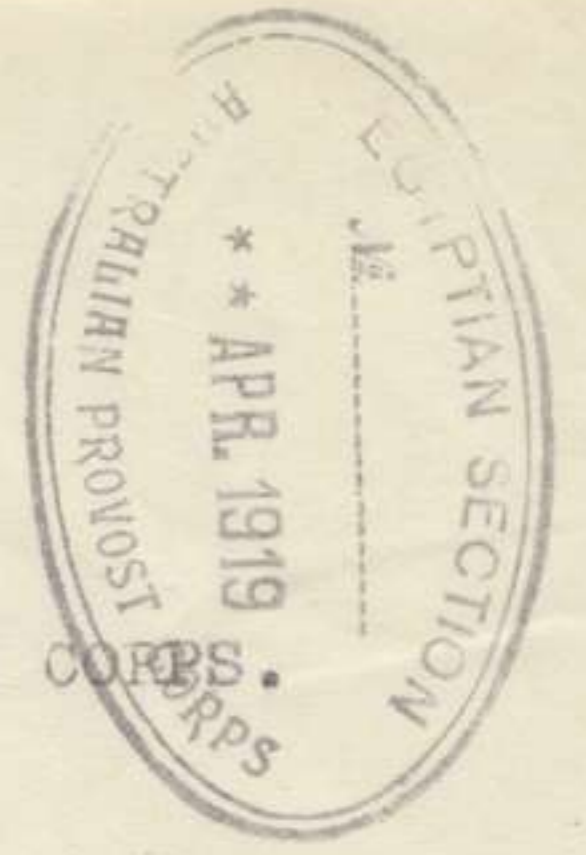
WAR DIARY

OF

~~EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.~~

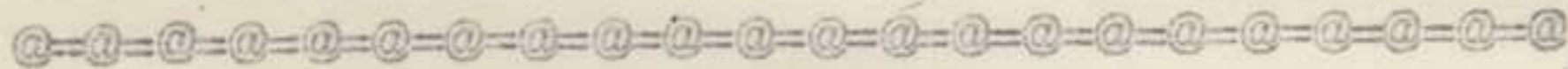
FOR

APRIL 1919. **191**



LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
I.	Report on Canal Zone Detachment.
II.	Egyptian Disturbances.
III.	Report on Anzac Mtd Division.





Original

APPENDIX I. TO VOLUME 33 OF WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOSTCORPS.

Canal Zone Detachments.

On April 2nd the following Orders were published in relative to the redistribution of the Canal Zone Detachments:-

"Captain Lawrence retains command of the Canal Zone Detachments with Headquarters at the F.P. Compound, Moascar.

"Liquet Fyfe with 10 O.Rs. will report to D.A.P.M. Ismailia and form the Ismailia Sub-Detachment.

"The D.A.P.M. Australian Mtd Division will supply the Guard over the Field Punishment Compound and patrol the area adjoining the area occupied by the Division, including the Australian Details Camp. The rest of the Moascar Detachment, including the Mounted Section are attached to Australian Mtd Divisional Headquarters for this purpose."

(Section Order NNo 722 of 2.4.19.)

Except for the above changes duties were carried on very much as usual; discipline among troops was good throughout the area. The chief difficulty lay in controlling the natives and preventing them from stealing arms. On one occasion a soldier of the A.R.U. reported that one of the native contractors who remove refuse from the camp in barges had been endeavouring to purchase a revolver from him. Capt. Mulliner interviewed this man and supplied him with a service Webley Pistol. Two days later the native was brought in under arrest having purchased the revolver for L.E. 1. One other arrest of this nature was made during the month and several natives were brought up for being in possession of Govt Property.

On April 7th Lieut Fyfe took command of the Port Said Detachment vice Lieut Martin to Cairo.

In the Canal Zone Sub-detachments all has been quiet.

<u>Port Said Rest Camp.</u>	Strength. 6 O.Rs.	Arrests	3.
<u>Port Said Town.</u>	Strength. 1 Off. 6 O.Rs.	Arrests	1.
<u>Suez.</u>	Strength. 6 O.Rs.	Arrests	7.

On April 30th Capt, Lawrence took over duties of D.A.P.M. Australian Mtd Division in addition to his other work as Captain Mulliner proceeded on 10% leave to U.K.

The F.P. Compound was carried on as usual no unusual incident occurring. Returns shew:-

Admissions. 48. Discharges. 42, Admissions Safe Custody. 12. Discharges Safe Custody. 11. Hospital 1.

Transfer to Gabbari. 1.

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

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

Original.



Report on Native Disturbances.

The police in Cairo were only concerned in the native risings on one day in April, i.e. the 8th. A collision occurred between troops on leave and rioters during the afternoon in Opera Square, during which Sgt SEAMARK and Cpl JAMES of the Corps were both wounded while endeavouring to restore order, The following is a report on the affair rendered by the A.P.M....A.I.F. in Egypt:-

"To: Commandant, Headquarters,
A.I.F. in Egypt.
-----p-----"

"At about 1800 on 8.4.19 I received information from you that about 50 Australians were reported to be creating a disturbance at the Opera Square. I proceeded there at once with Mjor ROURKE and on arriving there we heard some firing going on in Sharia Abdin and a considerable number of troops collected at the top of Sharia Manakh, there were about 1/2 dozen Australians amongst them, mostly men from Abbassia who were unable to return. They were ordered to report to Australian Kit Stores and went away quietly. We then searched Sharia Kamel, Opera Square and Sharia Abdin and found 10 more Australians in small parties of twos and fours, these were quite orderly and denied having taken part in any disturbance, two of them who were armed (having come to Cairo as train guard) had been put on duty keeping the crowd back by the Officer i/c picquets in Sharia Abdin, who stated that they had performed their work entirely to his satisfaction and that no other Australians had been there.

"On enquiries from Officers on the spot I ascertained that a party of British soldiers came down from the direction of Ezbekieh Gardens entirely out of hand. There may have been several Australians with them but none were specially noticed. Those I saw who were in the vicinity did not take part in the disturbance.

"During the afternoon I was continually amongst the men between the Opera Square, Ezbekieh Gardens and Shepherds Hotel. The conduct of our men was excellent, a number of our officers were constantly amongst them.

"In no case did I see any attempt to interfere with or annoy the procession, but they were ready at any moment to come to the rescue when trouble arose."

Sd. J.H.BISDEE, Lieut Col, A.P.M. & A.I.F. in Egypt."

At about 2130 another collision occurred between some Egyptian Soldiers and members of the Corps on duty in the Ezbekieh district. Shots were exchanged ~~but~~ but there were no police casualties.

Complaints were received from the natives of Bedrashein that members of Olden's Force, the punitive expedition which had been sent to that area, had been looting wholesale and had carried away with them a quantity of money and jewellery. It was recognised that this was probably merely a ruse on the part of the natives to obtain compensation for losses which they had brought upon themselves. In order to establish this fact quite clearly arrange-



ments were made to inspect the kit of every man in the Force immediately on his return to Cairo. As a result of the inspection the following report was rendered by A.P.M. ...A.I.F. in Egypt.:-

"To Headquarters, A.I.F. in Egypt.

"Acting upon instructions given to me personally by the G.I.C. Force in Egypt, I proceeded to the Australian Kit Stores at 1500 on 11 .4.19. to inspect the kits of all men returning from Olden's Force in Connection with the alleged looting of money and jewelry from natives at Bedrashein.

"I arranged for Lieut Martin, D.A.P.M. i/c Cairo Detachment ~~to~~ simultaneously to inspect the kits of those of the same unit who had returned previously to the 14th A.G.H.

"I now have to report that these men were met immediately on their arrival, their kits handed over and inspected and their pockets turned out in my presence.

" No native jewelry or articles of any kind were found.

"Mr Martin reports that he searched 90 men and their kits at the 14th A.G.H. but found no trace of any native property. There was no evidence of any money except what the men would normally have in their possession.

"Their C.O. Major Bell was much upset at such an aspersion being cast upon them. He stated that he and his officers were with the men all the time and would personally answer for their behaviour.

" I would like to add that when the object of the inspection was explained to the men they complied willingly and without any resentment whatever."

Sd J.H. BIDEEN , Lieut. Col. A.P.M...A.I.F. in Egypt."

Horses were procured for the 3rd Brigade police early in April and a systematic patrol of Zagazig and its environs was commenced. A picquet from regiments stationed in the town did duty from 0530 to dark under the supervision of one of the police. Orders were issued that all natives should remain in their dwellings after 1800, this time being afterwards altered to 1900 after which hour the police provided a dismounted patrol. Crowds were often dispersed by the dismounted patrols and on one occasion two police found it necessary to use their swords to break up a mob who were attacking the shop of a Greek merchant who had refused to comply with the threats of the insurgents and close his shop. On several occasions escorts were provided to prevent European children from being attacked on their way to and from school.

When the E.S.R. strike took place the Intelligence officer used police for raids in the endeavour to arrest the principal agitators. After much difficulty several of these were arrested and sent to Rafa under police escort. This had the effect of practically ending the trouble as far as Zagazig was concerned.

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

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



Original.

APPENDIX III TO VOLUME 33 OF WAR DIARY OF EGYPTIAN SECTION AUSTRALIAN PROVOST CORPS.

Report on Anzac Mtd Division.

D.H.Q. detachment (Kantara) has been providing a night area patrol, a mounted patrol to divisional units in Kantara and a dismounted post at Kantara theatre when necessary. This Detachment works in conjunction with D.A.P.M. Kantara and is ever ready to give any necessary assistance to police controlling the area.

On the night of the 24.4.19 a French steamer, the "Admiral Ponty" took fire three miles from Kantara towards Ismailia. Divisional stationed on the banks of the canal gave every assistance, and the Divisional police during the following two days took their turn with the Kantara police in guarding the ship and preventing soldiers from going aboard.

Anzac Divisional troops in Kantara have behaved splendidly and given no trouble.

1st. Brigade detachment arrived with their Brigade at Ghezireh on the 8.4.19 and have been patrolling Ghezireh Island by night and maintaining camp discipline during the day.

Sgt. Fosternelly, N.C.O. i/c reports that the 1st Brigade troops have conducted themselves very well and given no trouble.

2nd Bgde Detachment, (Damanhour) has been patrolling the town of Damanhour and its approaches and reports everything satisfactory. Seven charges were preferred by the detachment against Imperial soldiers for being out of bounds.

N.Z. Bgde Detachment (Tanta) during the early part of the month were doing duty between Tanta and Ismailia as Tanta was being fully policed by M.M.P.. and units stationed there.

The discipline of the police has been very satisfactory during the month.

The discipline and general behaviour of troops of the Division has been very good. There has been no interference with inhabitants of the country by ~~xxxxxx~~ troops.

@-@

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