

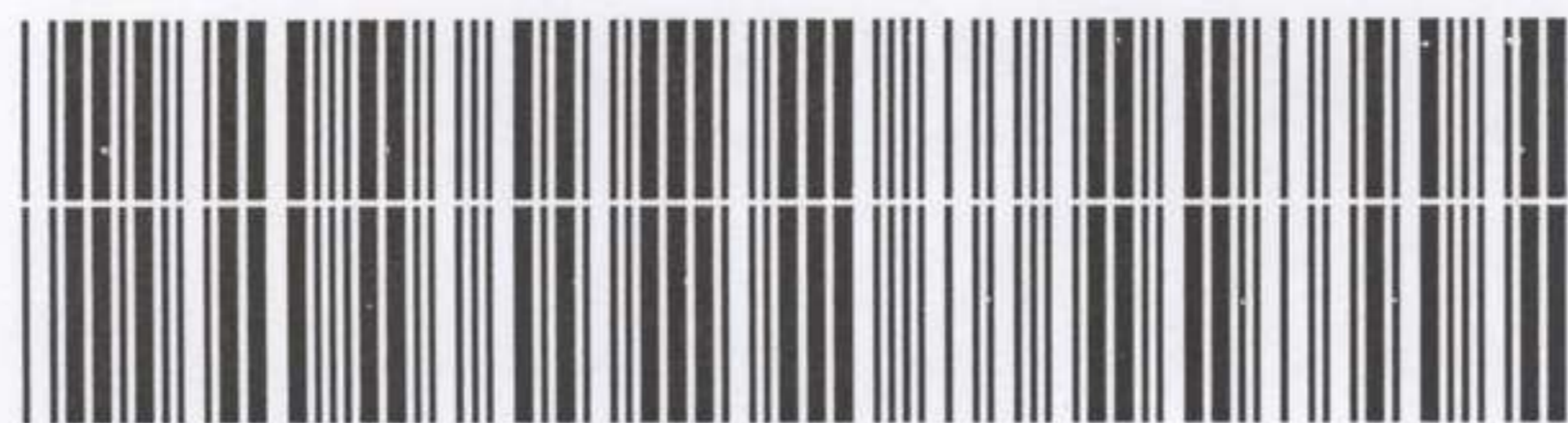
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/70/5

Title: 8th Battery, Australian Field Artillery

December 1914



AWM4-13/70/5

Date. 1914	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
<p> Apr 2 Dec </p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p>Suez</p>	<p> <u>Saddler Goodall</u> appointed actg. Saddler Supt subject to approval of Brigade Commander Inspection by M.O. vaccination </p> <p> Still at Suez. aeroplane from Military Encampment at Suez passed over the Fleet this morning Left for Port Said at 1. 30 pm Passing through Canal found that Indian Troops were in Garrison and had </p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11/2</p>

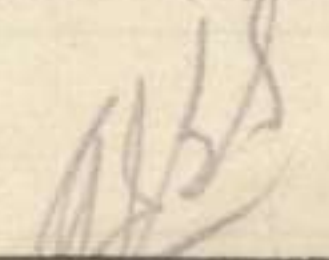
Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec	Dec 3	<p>erected field fortifications the whole length of the Canal. Informed we were to disembark at ALEXANDRIA. & go on to training at CAIRO!</p> <p>4 Arrived at Port Said, - tied up to buoys close to wharf. and no leave allowed. Major Parker went ashore on duty. Lt RICHARDS (late of 37th Battery) D.C. Troop Transport. "PERA" paid us a visit - also Capt. C.H. SPURGE (late 28th Battery) O.C. Troop Transport. "MAREERE" moved out to anchorage in roadstead</p>	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec	Port Said 5 to 9 th	Remained at anchor in PORT SAID to awaiting our turn to proceed to ALEXANDRIA to disembark I visited the "RANGITERA" and met 3 rd Lt Bugade Commander of whom the Battery was posted. I was not impressed with the condition of the ship. Particularly the horse decks. 7 th visited the "PERA" under Command Lt RICHARDS. This young officer deserved the highest commendation for the condition of his ship and horses.	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Nicer	Nicer Port Said	<p>8th I visited the 'MARERE' I found the ship & stables in a very unsanitary condition.</p> <p>9th Tailed for ALEXANDRIA at 8 pm.</p> <p>10th arrived at ALEXANDRIA at about 10.30 am & anchored in stream awaiting our turn to go alongside wharf.</p> <p>11th at 3.30 pm pilot came aboard to take us into the wharf. - tied up alongside by 5.30 pm. Preparations for disembarkation made for next morning.</p>	<p>ABB</p>


Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Decr. 17	Alexandria	<p>Disembarkation started at 6.30 am all Artillery horses landed by 7.45 am AMC horses which were stowed aft. were disembarked after breakfast. This completing the trip for horses by sea our Transport A.7. MEDIC established a record for the fleet. having on all 270 horses losing 1 throughout the voyage + having no sick horses for rest camp. The horses throughout were in splendid condition ^{very fit} excepting that they had lost a little</p>	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 14	Alexandria	<p>Condition. The first train to get away at 11.30. Contains^{arr} composed 8th Battery, Brigade a Col. with all their horses & guns & 4 Limbers & baggage. Lt: ROGERS EDWARDS and YONLES accompanied the Battery. During the morning & afternoon the 4 Companies of Infantry moved out in a route march. They entrained at 7. pm together with the A.M. Corps & Engineers for CAIRO. The N.W. Column under Lt RICHARDSON. entrained</p>	<p>113</p>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 12	Alexandria 12 Cairo	separately for MA-ADI. about noon. Battery arrived at CAIRO. 7.30 pm. Battery horses left CAIRO and were lead to MENA on evening of 12 th Unmounted parties by train. Both lead horses + parties that came out by train arrived about 11.30 pm.	
13	Cairo	Mena Camp. the day spent in drawing equipment etc + erecting Camp.	
13	Alexandria	Discharging baggage equipment + stoves loading on to train	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec.	Alexandria 13	<p>Cleared up kit and handed over to Major FRANCIS of A.S.C. & the small party which was to come on next day.</p> <p>Left by rail for CAIRO. and 15 members of the Battery.</p> <p>Arrived at CAIRO about 11.30 P.M.</p> <p>Proceeded by train to MENA. CAMP arriving there about 3. am 14/12/14</p>	
Dec	14	<p>Securing horses & squaring up Camp. Reported officially to Officer Commanding 3rd Brigade</p>	<p>MBB</p>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 15	Mena Camp	Increasing horses. squaring up Camp Being the last unit to arrive in Camp. having considerable trouble to collect advance stores which are distributed throughout the Artillery Division	
16		Increasing horses. Standing guard drill.	
17.		No 1871 <u>Gunner H. N. Parker</u> and No 1844 <u>Gunner C. R. Ker</u> transferred from 8 th Battery to Div. Artillery	Harris 1938

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec	17	<p>No 3064 <u>W^r Lutham</u> & No 3065 <u>Gunnis</u>. CW Steppingstone transferred from Wiv. Amm. Column to 8th Battery.</p> <p>No 1850 <u>W^r Famowitz</u> transferred from 8th Battery to Ind. Brigade HQ.</p> <p>Increasing horses Laying</p>	
	18	Increasing horses Laying	
	19	Ditto	

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
Dec 20	Mena Camp	Exercising horses Divine Service	
21		Exercising horses Laying + Fuse setting Checking skins requirement	
22		Exercising horses Laying + Fuse setting Horse No A17818 died from Enteritis	
23		Exercising horses Laying + Fuse setting	
24		No 1901. Gnr B Smartwark taken on	to the strength

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1917 Nov 25	Mena	<p>Christmas Day. Holiday in Camp Christmas Dinner in the Lines was carried out with ceremony. The Brigade Commander went the rounds & at each mess was received by a short speech by the senior N.C.O. of the Section to which he responded. I was then asked to drink the health & good luck to the Brigade</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">A.B.S.</p>

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1917 Dec 26		exercising horses Fuse setting Laying	
27		Diving Service	
28		exercising horses, Fuse setting Laying	
29		Teams exercised with Lumber only, Fuse setting + Laying	abb