

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/6/4 Part 6

Title: General Staff, General
Headquarters, Egyptian
Expeditionary Force

July 1916



AWM4-1/6/4PART6

185

OFF A

From General Milne.
To Chief, Egyptforce.

A.12 cipher.

13/7/16.
14/7/16.

Desp. 1740.
Recd. 0600.
Decd. 0645.

Personal. Realise fully you are doing everything possible to help us. My A.983 not intended to give use to opposite impression. Points on which help was desired were stated because of your kind offer in A.M. 756.

Copies to :-
C.-in-C.
O.
Filed G.S. 243.
" G.S. Cables.
W.D.



From Troopers, LONDON.
To Egyptforce.

[Handwritten signature]

186

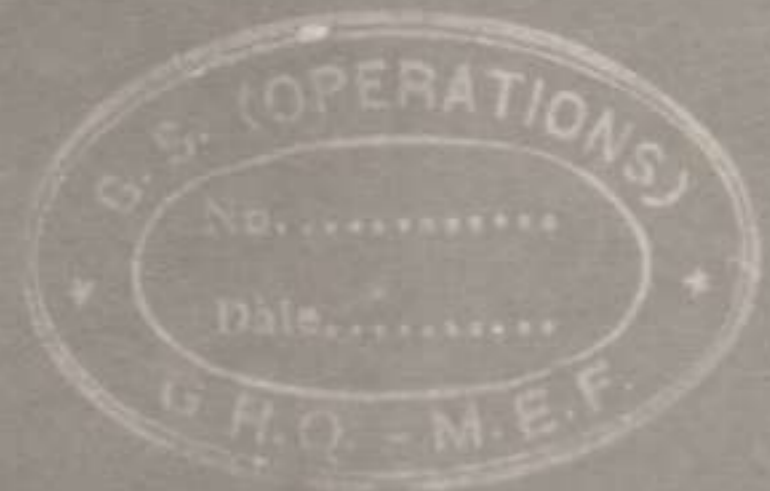
19515 cipher S.D.2.

13/7/16.
14/7/16.

Desp. 2150.
Recd. 0600.
Decd. 0625.

Do you recommend provision of hand carts for Lewis machine guns employed in EGYPT and SALONICA, and if so do you want provision made for full number of these guns authorised? The scale in FRANCE is three carts for each pair of guns. The carts are two-wheeled vehicles designed to carry one gun and 44 magazines containing 2068 rounds S.A.A. They are designed for man haulage now by means of drag ropes. The total weight of cart filled is 550 pounds. The wheels are bicycle pattern, 24 inch in diameter, with treads 2 and 3 sixteenths inch wide with flat solid rubber tyres.

Copies to :-
O.(b).
O.
Q.
Filed G.S.
" G.S. Cables.
W.D.



NR

App C

187

From :- A.S.C. SALONIKA.

Addressed troops, repeated BULFORDS.

Q.O. 928 cipher.

13/7/18.
14/7/18.

Dep. 1345.
Recd. 0430.
Recd. 0700.

In reply to your 19288 cipher S.D.S. Organisation and equipment on SALONIKA "B" scale except as follows :-

No Brigade M.S. Companies for 22 and 23 Divs. and no Divisional M.S. Coys. have arrived. Field Ambulance not organised owing to lack of drivers. Deficiency in A.S.V. horse transport drivers on SALONIKA scale 2,040. Requirements in animals to complete 3 Divisions to SALONIKA scale, horses 337. No. 2 Park Artillery Brigade is on wheeled transport scale. Lewis guns 232 required to complete battalions to scale of 9 guns, together with 212 gun sets and 504 Ammunition sets Machine Gun Pack saddle. 40,000 steel helmets required to complete to scale. 7th Mounted Brigade organised temporarily on War Establishments of 2nd Mounted Division, but without any Supply Column or Ammunition Park. No provision for Divisional M.T. Supply Columns or Ammunition Parks. If movement made along main road, additional M.T. units for these purposes required. In addition have sufficient pack saddle picketing gear, mules shoes, to equip only 3 Divisions on proposed pack scale.

Copies to :-

- O.
- O(a).
- O(b).
- C. in C.
- A.
- Q.
- H.S.A.A.
- Filed C.S. 243.
- C.S. cables.
- V.P.



W/D

App D
188

PRIORITY.

From : Signalmaster, KANTARA.

To : G. H. Q.

14/7/16.

Desp. 0651.

Recd. 0703.

Post Commandant RASHEESH reports aircraft seen flying north towards PORT SAID 0600, nationality unknown.

From : Signalmaster, KANTARA.

To : G. H. Q.

14/7/16.

Desp. 0651.

Recd. 0652.

Post Commander RASHEESH, aircraft seen flying north towards PORT SAID 3 a.m., nationality unknown.

From : Post Commander, RASHEESH.

To : G. H. Q.

G.S.

14/7/16.

Desp. 0610.

Recd. 0644.

Aircraft seen flying north towards PORT SAID 6 a.m., nationality unknown.

Copies to :-

- O.
- O(a).
- O(b).
- C-in-C.
- I.
- Q.
- A.
- M.G.R.A.
- E-in-C.
- H.A.
- D.A.S.
- Filed G.S. 177.
- " War Diary.



Copy G

SECRET

From : Chief, London.

To : Addressed SALONIKA. Repeated EGYPT

20095 cipher

Desp. 2020, 28/7/16.

Recd. 0600, 29/7/16.

Decd. 0620, 29/7/16.

ROUMANIA has apparently no present intention of declaring war against any power except AUSTRIA HUNGARY. This of course destroys basis of PARIS military convention and at most would immediately entail the SALONIKA forces observing and containing BULGARIA on GREEK frontier. I will keep you fully informed of further development. Meanwhile continue to guard against being committed to any serious action until negotiations are definitely settled and you receive necessary information and instructions.

G.S. Z/C.

W.M. 101
A.M.F.
General Officer Commanding,

No. 3 Section.

Western Frontier Force.



With reference to the War Establishment for a
Dismounted Brigade dated June 5th., 1916, no A.D.C. is
allowed for the Brigade Commander; this appointment
therefore lapses. In view, however, of the wide areas
over which most of these Brigades are operating, the
Commander-in-Chief approves of the employment of a Regimental
officer without extra pay as an orderly officer to the
Brigade Commander, as a local and temporary measure.

The issue of one riding horse and saddlery to each
of these officers is approved.

G.H.Q.,
E.E.F.,
29.7.16.

Major-General
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to
A
Q
A.M.S.

WP

SECRET

189
G.S. (OPERATIONS)
No.
Date

From : 84th Division.

To : G. H. Q.

G.3679 cipher.

14/7/16.

Desp. 1530.
Recd. 1400.
Decd. 1420.

Column returned ABU ZHINA this morning. Eight prisoners including Sheikh ABUDIACO (?). Camels, sheep and goats captured after small fight. One OMDAKHEL (?) recovered.

Copies to :-

- O.
- O(a).
- O(b).
- C-in-C.
- H.A.
- I.
- A.
- Q.
- H.G.R.A.
- E-in-C.
- D.A.S.
- Col. Vitale.

Filed Z.48.
" G.S. Cables.
War Diary.

WP

From G.H.Q.,

To No. 1 Section.

O.B.A. 519 cipher.

14/7/16.

Desp. 1620.

Your G.3679. Please repeat name of Sheikh and last sentence.

Copy to O.(b).
Filed G.S. Z/48.
" G.S. Cables.
W.D.

G.S. (OPERATION)
No.
Date

190

W.P.

From :- 54th DIVISION.

To :- G.H.Q.

SECRET

G. 3081 cipher.

14/7/46.

Desp. 1715
Recd. 1835.
Decd. 1845.

Your OBA 319.*

Sheikh Abudiasov. One Omdakhel recovered. Name is probably wrongly stated by ABU ZENIMA. Last sentence probably refers to Akhambakhel, deserter from an Indian Regiment. Wire was repeated as sent. Am making enquiries.

* asking for repetition of proper names in G. 3079 of today.

Copies to :-

O.
O(a).
O(b).
C. in C.
H.A.
I.
A.

Q.
M.G.H.A.
E. in C.
D.A.S.
Col. Vitale
G.S. Z/46
G.S. cables

W.D.



WA
From Egyptforce.
To A.H.Q., SALONICA.

app F
191

A.M. 757 cipher. 14/7/18. Deep. 1918.

Your letters G.R.S.A. 942/A of June 25th and G.R.S.A. 750/A of June 27th. Application is being made to War Office for sanction establishment Map and Survey Department and G.H.Q. Printing Section, which are hereby provisionally sanctioned. Establishment Map Department will be as asked for by Captain O'Grady in his S.509 of 2th June. Establishment G.H.Q. Printing Section, less drivers, as laid down in War Establishments, Part VII amended, is 19 c.r. Please wire complete list of trades required. Presume this will replace Printing Section R.E. given in SALONICA Establishments.

Copies to :-

O.
O.(b).
I.
A.
A.H.S.
E.-in-C.
Filed G.S. 58.
" G.S. Copies.
W.D.



MESSAGE SIGNALS.

No. of Message

Charges to Pay.

Office Stamp.

Yeg
Len

GHQ 14.11.16

Service Instructions

Handed in at

Office

1509

m.

Received

1551

TO

GHQ

Sender's Number

Day of Month

In reply to Number

AAA

ga 79

14

Daily water report and a
 subsection hq 5th Norfolk GAZELLE
 HEIGHTS 3 Gallons and all
 LIZARD posts and PETERS PEAK
 1 2 1/2 Gallons and PETERS
 PEAK 3 and MAREITA 2
 3 Gallons extra gallon by
 pipe and all other posts
 2 Gallons and B subsection
 all posts in front line
 3 Gallons or more and
 all water carried by camels

FROM

PLACE & TIME

No 2 Section
Dmaichi 1545

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message

Charges to Pay.

Office Stamp.

Sm D 18 KTA

4.11.16

Service Instructions

KTA

1600

1600

Handed in at

Office

m.

Received

TO

GHQ

Sender's Number

Day of Month

In reply to Number

AAA

HA 178

14

CA 243

No alteration to my ha 34
 of 2nd inst

FROM

PLACE & TIME

No 3 Section
1600

142

Form (Original).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123.
 (In books of 50's or duplicate.)

Prefix	Code	Words	Received	Sent, or sent out	Office Stamp
		£ s. d.	From	At	
Charges to collect			By	To	
Service Instructions					

Handed in at Office m. Received m.

TO

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
12680	14		AAA

port received less than
 3 gallons of water per
 man today



FROM 54 Div 1750
 PLACE & TIME

* This line should be erased if not required.

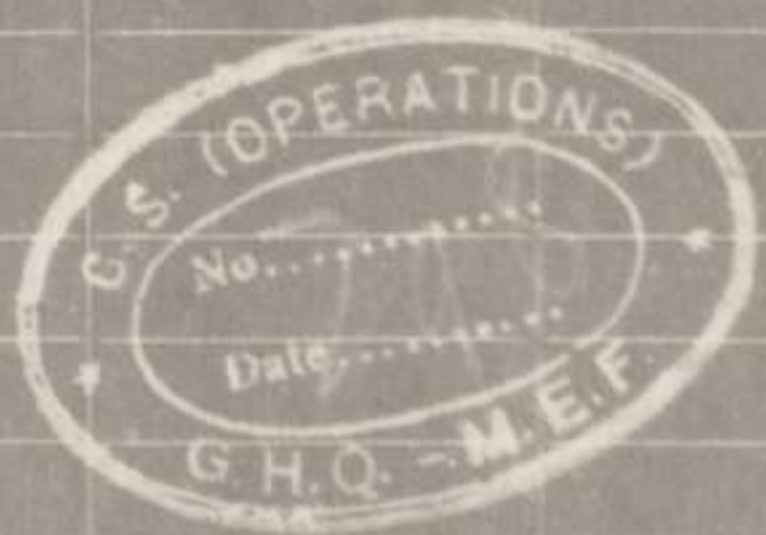
Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123

Charges to Pay		Office Stamp
£ s. d.		
Service Instructions		
Handed in at	Office	Received
TO		

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
2273	14		AAA

at all work and post
 in 24 hours men are
 receiving 3 gallons
 of water per day



FROM 520 422
 PLACE & TIME 1720

194

WA

App H

G.S. 104/1.

General Officer Commanding,
Royal Flying Corps Brigade,
MIDDLE EAST.

The attached copy of War Office cables on the subject
of the establishment of rank and file for your Headquarters,
is forwarded for your information.

(Sgd) C. P. Dawson
for [unclear]

G.H.Q.,
E.E.F.,
14.7.16.

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

195
From :- Troopers, LONDON.

To :- EGYPFORCE.

19442.

12/7/16.
13/7/16.

Desp. 1800.
Recd. 0600.
Decd. 0615.

Your A.M. 754. 9th.

The proposed establishment rank and file put forward for sanction for General Salmond's Headquarters is as given in my telegram code 9636.

From :- Troopers, LONDON.

To :- G.H.Q., EGYPFORCE.

9636. A.O. 1. A. (Decode). 12/7/16.

Desp. 2012.
Recd. 2037.

One Superintending Clerk (Warrant Officer), ten general clerks including one Flight Sergeant and one Sergeant, one acting Q.M.S., 22 drivers M.T. including one Sergeant, 4 motor cyclists, 4 telephonists, one cook. Proportion of Corporals 1st and 2nd class Air Mechanics, Corporals 3, 1st class Air Mechanics 16, 2nd class 19.

WA

APP G.S. 196

48 2/48

Date

G.H.Q. - M.E.F.

General Officer Commanding,
No. 3 Section, Canal Defences.

It is understood that it has not been found possible to increase the number of Egyptian labourers at ROMANI to 5,000 as ~~it~~ had been arranged; and that there are only 3,800 labourers there, it being impossible to send up the remaining 1,200 from QANTARA owing to water difficulties caused by the recent arrival of additional troops at ROMANI.

The Commander-in-Chief is most anxious that the full number of labourers should be sent up as soon as possible so that the work may be pressed on with the utmost speed.

Please report how this matter now stands.

G. H. Q.
14/7/16.

(Sgd) G.P. Dawnay *for*
for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

1916
G.S. 2.28/1.

General Officer Commanding,
Western Frontier Force.

With reference to my G.S. 2.28/1 of the 12th, the Staff of the late South Western Force will be disposed of as follows :-

Brigade Major and Staff Captain to SOLLUM with General Hodgson.

The two interpreters and one intelligence officer will be placed at your disposal. Presumably these will be attached to the staff of the 2nd Dismounted Bde.

The remainder of the South Western Force Staff will be dispensed with.

The present acting staff of the 3rd Dismounted Brigade will cease to act on handing over the command of the Brigade to General Hodgson at SOLLUM.

G. H. Q.
14/7/16.

(Sgd) G.P. Dawson
Lt. Col.
G.S.
for
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

copied to A.M.S.

I
A

SECRET.

G.S. 309. 198

General Officer Commanding,
Western Frontier Force.

1. With reference to your S.R./48/20 of 12th July, the Commander-in-Chief has been gratified by receiving so satisfactory a report on the 22nd Mounted Brigade, and he wishes that an expression of his satisfaction should be communicated to the troops concerned.

2. With regard to your recommendation that the Brigade should be concentrated as soon as deemed desirable, it is presumed that its concentration will necessitate the relief of the posts which it now furnishes by the 6th Mounted Brigade. It is not understood, however, whether the troops required for this relief are available - or whether they will be available until the occupation of the BAHARIA Oasis enables the garrisons in the Nile Valley East and South-East of that Oasis to be dispensed with or largely reduced?

In any case, however, the only instructions that have so far been received from the War Office are to " earmark " 1 Mounted Brigade, and to ensure that it shall be in an efficient state of training, if and when, it is required to be despatched to East Africa.

G.H.Q., E.E.F.
14/7/16.

(sd) G.P. Raymond
for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.



199
G.S. 1258.

General Officer Commanding,

Nos. 1, 2, 2a and 3 Sections. Western F.F.

Reference your G.S. 1258, dated 11/7/16. (No. 2 Sect. only)

Going to the large requirements in other theatres of operations, there is a temporary shortage of barbed wire available for issue to the forces in EGYPT. There is, however, an ample supply of plain ~~steel~~ wire, and this should be used as far as possible in the construction of entanglements. It is hoped that further supplies of barbed wire will be available shortly and obstacles can then be strengthened as required.

(sd) G. B. Sawney
Lt Col
for
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

G. S. C.
14/7/16.

W.D.

G.S. (OPERATIONS) 200
G.S. 3/11
Date
H.Q. - M.E.F.

apn

Secretary,
War Office, LONDON, S.W.

4
14th July, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that for some time it has been found necessary to employ improvised Advanced Mechanical Transport Depots on the Canal and Western Frontier.

These depots are required to deal with the distribution of Mechanical Transport Stores for vehicles distributed over two separate and widely dispersed areas, which, owing to the great distances and difficulty of communication, cannot be efficiently served direct from the Base Mechanical Transport Depot, ALEXANDRIA. Since the "Advanced Base Mechanical Transport Depot", as laid down in War Establishments Part VII, is far too large for our requirements, I would ask that the approval of the Army Council may be given to the establishment for a special Advanced Mechanical Transport Sub-depot in accordance with the attached draft, and further, that authority may be granted for the maintenance of two such Sub-depots in EGYPT.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) C. P. Dawson
Lt. Col. C.S.

for

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to
Q
Q (RS)
A

SPECIAL ADVANCED MECHANICAL TRANSPORT SUB-DEPOT.

(EGYPT) 1916.

DETAIL.	P	R	R	S & O	H	H	R	L.	REMARKS.
	Officers.	Warrant Officers	Staff Sergeants & Sergeants.	Artificers.	Rank & File.	TOTAL.			
Captain.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Subaltern.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Warrant Officer. Class II.	-	1	-	-	-	-	1		
C.Q.M.S.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1		
Sergeant.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1		
<u>Privates.</u>									
Clerical duties.	-	-	-	-	-	3	3		
Storemen.	-	-	-	-	-	(a) 4	4	(a) Inc. 1 Cpl.	
Drivers.	-	-	-	-	-	(b) 20	20	(b) Inc. 1 Cpl. 1 Lcpl.	
Cook.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
Batmen.	-	-	-	-	-	2	2		
<u>Artificers.</u>									
Fitters and Turners.	-	-	-	-	4	-	4		
Blacksmith.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1		
Wheeler.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1		
TOTALS.	2	1	2	6	50	41			

app 0



The Vice-Admiral, Commanding-in-Chief,
EAST INDIES AND EGYPT.

14th July, 1916.

Sir,

Since the development of events in the HEDJAZ, I have received instructions from the War Office to consider the possibility of operations in the direction of AKABA, and, if practicable, the occupation of that place. It is pointed out that the occupation of AKABA is very desirable, since the Sherif of MECCA may need our assistance by action in that direction, and, on the other hand, it would place us in a position to take advantage of any Arab success, if a favourable opportunity should occur later.

It is evident it will be impossible to reach AKABA except from the sea, and that any force there will have to be based on the sea entirely. The line of retreat of such a force, in the event of a large enemy concentration against it, would also be by sea; and, since only a small force could be spared for the occupation of AKABA in the present circumstances, the possibility that it might have to be withdrawn at short notice is one that must necessarily be taken into account. I am led, therefore, to the conclusion that the advisability of detaching a force to AKABA, with a view to the permanent occupation of the place, requires exceedingly careful consideration.

It seems, however, that certain advantages might possibly be secured by landing a small force at the head of the Gulf of AKABA, with a view to its maintenance ashore only so long as

/ would

would be required for the carrying out of certain minor operations which might be of assistance to the Sherif, and which might exert a useful moral influence by impressing the local Arabs. I find myself hampered, however, by the lack of detailed information about the country, and particularly by the lack of any even reasonably accurate map of the immediate surroundings of AKABA itself.

It would, therefore, be of great service of H.M.S. "Ben-my-Chree" could be sent to AKABA in order, if possible, to obtain a series of aerial photographs, so far as possible continuous, of the environs of the town. The area of which I wish particularly to be enabled to compile a rough map is one bounded on the south by the wadi falling into the sea immediately south of AKABA town; on the east by a north and south line about one mile inland; on the north by an east and west line about one mile north of AKABA town; and on the west by the flat bed of the Wadi Araba and the sea.

If I find it possible to do so, I should be glad to send a General Staff Officer to accompany this reconnaissance.

I should be much obliged if you would let me know your views, as early as possible, both as to the general question of any such operations in the Gulf of AKABA as are above outlined - including the question of naval support to, and co-operation with, a landing party; - and also as to the specific reconnaissance for which the services of H.M.S. "Ben-my-Chree" are asked.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) A. J. Murray

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

A.P. 704 A

Notes on the Senior Officers' Course

at the Imperial School of Instruction, ZEITOUN.

1. On the 21st June a letter was sent to General Officers Commanding the Sections of the Canal Defences, and Western Frontier Force, suggesting that it might be advantageous to hold occasional courses for Senior Officers, of three or four days' duration, at the School of Instruction, with a view to developing ideas on training in general, and to enable more senior officers to witness demonstrations in the use of machine guns, grenades, trench mortars, etc. The General Officers Commanding fell in very readily with this suggestion, and all sent in recommendations as to the various subjects which should receive attention at these courses. In accordance with these suggestions a short syllabus of instruction was drawn up by the Commandant of the School (see paper 'C'), and the first class of 12 officers assembled at the School on Monday afternoon July 10th. Two officers each were sent by No. 1, 2 and 2a Sections, and three each by No. 3 Section and the Western Frontier Force, and the majority of these made arrangements to live in Cairo though accommodation at the School was available for those who wished it. The Class lasted until Thursday morning July 13th. A more detailed syllabus of the course is given in the various papers marked 'C', and the report of the Commandant on the work of this first course is given in paper 'B'. From this report it will be seen that the experiment has been successful and that the continuation of these Senior Officers' Courses will be useful to the Force in Egypt.

2. I was present throughout this Senior Officers' Course myself and can endorse the Commandant's opinion that the officers who attended the course were satisfied that it had been beneficial to them. The various demonstrations were most excellently carried out by a skeleton battalion composed of the various classes under instruction at the School. Considering

/that.

that these young officers and men had never before worked together as a unit, they showed remarkable efficiency in carrying out the various movements, none of which had been rehearsed beforehand, and there is no doubt that they, as well as the senior officers, benefited by taking part in these tactical exercises in the last week of their course. I might remark, however, that the scheme for night operations, which forms a regular part of the instructional course for young officers and N.C.O.s, did not provide much that was new for the senior officers, who were most of them already familiar with this kind of operations. It will be seen that in the scheme for the second course (see paper 'D') these night operations have been made optional. During the course I gathered from various senior officers that they would have been ready to do rather more work than they were actually given to do. This point was raised at the final conference, and it will be seen that in the scheme for the second course (paper 'E') the syllabus has been made slightly longer, and it has been agreed that, in future, senior officers, during the hours when they are not actually attending Senior Officers' Classes, will be able to be present at any lecture or instructional class which happens to be going on at the time. It is, however, not practicable to arrange for more lectures for the senior officers themselves owing to the fact that the instructional staff at the School is already fully occupied with the ordinary instructional work. It would certainly be an improvement if, during the tactical demonstrations in the field, one senior instructional officer could be more constantly with the members of the Senior Officers' Class, but I quite recognise that under present conditions this is not possible, and that Colonel Colston and his senior staff did all that they could on these occasions to put themselves at the disposal of the Senior Officers. For this

/reason,

206

reason, moreover, it will not be practicable to increase the size of the Senior Officers' Classes, as the Commandant himself remarks; since he would be unable to enter into personal discussion with a greater number than 12. It is, therefore, exceedingly important that the Headquarters of Sections should select their best senior officers for these courses, which can only take place one a month, and should, so far as possible, send no officers below the rank of field officer. Colonel Colston himself laid stress on this point, and it should be noted that all three officers sent from No. 3 Section were captains.

3. The demonstration of an attack in open warfare was extremely useful, not only in showing to all who took part in it the best methods of carrying out such an attack, but also in proving the great mobility of the new Lewis gun in operations of this kind. A special report on this subject has been made by Colonel Colston and is attached hereto (see paper 'E'). A section of Stokes guns was also employed in this demonstration, but for some reason or other failed to reach its position early enough to co-operate in the attack. No doubt in subsequent courses further experiments will be made in this direction, but it seems unlikely that the Stokes gun would have sufficient mobility to co-operate with a first line attack in open warfare.

4. At the Conference which ended the Senior Officers' Course one or two officers reported that young officers and N.C.O.s who have been through the School of Instruction are apt to become discouraged on returning to their units by finding that not more than 2 hours a day, in some cases, are devoted to training. The importance of defence work is fully realised, but perhaps it is worth while drawing attention to the possibility that the good work of the School may be in some degree neutralised by this inactivity. Another point raised by a good many of the officers was that the demands upon the best men

in their units for special instruction in machine gunnery, Lewis gunnery, Signalling and Grenadier work, has now grown very large, and in part ^{in part} they seemed to feel it a grievance when a good man, who had successfully passed an Instructional course at the School, was retained there as an Instructor. Colonel Colston fully recognised their point of view, but asked ^{them} frankly ^{how} ~~did~~ they suppose he ^{could} ~~is equal to~~ carrying on the work of the School unless he retained ^{good} instructors when he ^{found} ~~finds~~ them; he always endeavoured to retain not good N.C.O.s but only privates, and pointed out that it was always open to commanders of units, in the case where a good private had been retained as an instructor, to send another private to be trained as an instructor in his place, whereupon the old instructor would be sent back. This complaint, which rests upon very human grounds, has frequently been made to the General Staff, who had thought it their duty to uphold the claims of the School so far as possible.

OCW. Williams

O(b).

15/7/16.

Captain,
G.S.

Report on 1st Senior Officers Course. 209 B.

General Headquarters,
E.E.F.

As far as can be judged, the 1st Senior Officers Course proved a success. The officers were all very anxious to learn and to pick up any tips they could.

They seemed to have very little of idea of troops working in the open, or under such condition as they are most likely to meet with in this country. At the short conference the Officers brought up various points for discussion, but none of them were of great importance.

The question of the work for future courses was gone into, I have drawn up a new, slightly longer syllabus, which I think will meet the case. It would appear rather essential that the number of Officers attending should not exceed twelve, as I want as far as possible to discuss points raised, personally with each.

Officers on leaving this morning assured me that the course has been most beneficial, and useful to them.

The chief point, I noticed, is that there appears to be little or no knowledge of how to carry out an attack in open Warfare, as far as I am able to judge, Brigade Commanders have not considered this question, which might be a most vital one.

(Sgd.) E.M.Colston, Lt.-Colonel.
Commandant,
Imperial School of Instruction,
EGYPT.

13/7/16.

C

209

On suggestions received from General Officers Commanding Sections and Western Frontier Force.

The following will be the Syllabus for the 1st Senior Officers' Course at the Imperial School of Instruction.

July 10th

Mon. 5 p.m. The Lewis Gun - Short explanation.
Lecture on its uses combined with Machine Guns.
Short tactical demonstration of Lewis Guns coming into action, showing its invisibility.

a.m.
Tues. 9.30 Tour of Camp, showing methods of instruction employed in all Classes.

10.30 Lecture by the Commandant - "Warfare in the Field"
Explanation of to-night's scheme.

p.m.
" 5 Tactical Demonstration Trench Warfare.
Two Companies
Machine and Lewis Guns
Stokes Battery
Grenadier parties.
Explanation of Scheme for Wednesday.

a.m.
Wed. 5.30 An attack in Open Warfare.
One Battn. (Eight Lewis Guns)
One Machine Gun Company
One Stokes Battery (as an experiment).
One Battery 18 pdr. Q.F.
One Section 4.5 Howitzers

p.m.
7-0. Night Operations. Night advance on Compass bearing.
Position of Assembly. Position of Deployment, and the further advance from, on enemies position.

a.m.
Thurs. 6.30 A Battalion advancing in any formation showing methods of producing Fire Action in the shortest possible time.

Conference.

IMPERIAL SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION, EGYPT.

MACHINE GUN PROBLEMS.

1. Role of Machine Guns in War.
2. Reason for the formation of Machine Gun Companies.
3. System of dual control of M.G. Sections - Solution.
4. Role of Lewis Guns.
5. Necessity for supplementing Fire Power of Infantry.
6. Methods of employment of Lewis Guns by Battalion Commanders.
- 7... Co-ordination of Lewis Gun Sections in a battalion. The Officer problem.
8. Co-operation of MACHINE GUN COMPANY COMMANDER with the LEWIS GUN OFFICER through Battalion Commanders.
- 9.. Question of Ammunition Supply.
10. Use of Lewis Guns in Trench Warfare.
11. Use of Lewis Guns in conjunction with Bombers.
12. Necessity of sending picked men to these Sections.

.....

IMPERIAL SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION, EGYPT.

NOTES FOR SENIOR OFFICERS ON LEWIS GUN;

- 5 P.M. A. I. Brief outline of working parts.
 (a) Weight of Gun about 26½ lbs.
 Magazine filled - 4 lbs. 5 ozs.
 (b) Explain forces working Gun.
 (c) " how first shot is fired.
 B. II Describe following parts :- (a) Magazine (b) Feed Arm,
 (c) Bolt, (d) Piston Rod, (e) Pinion Gasing (f) Explain
 how Gun is fired automatically.

- 6-15 P.M.B. Elementary Tactical Handling. (x)
 I. Illustrate methods of carrying Gun.
 (a) At the trail without equipment as at present issued.
 (b) Carrier made of old equipment. Handle as used on ordinary Hand bag.
 (c) Sling made of old equipment carried over shoulder as a Golf Bag.
 (d) At the slope.
 II. Ammunition. Method of carrying:- A leather carrier
 B in Haversacks.
 III. Advance in extended order as Infantry under Artillery Fire.
 IV. Advance by rushes from the open into broken ground.
 V. Coming into Action on slightly broken ground.
 (A) Discuss visibility when moving
 (B) " " " " in Fire position.
 VI. Guns moving to alternate positions.
 (a) Discuss movement in doing so.
 (b) Visibility when in position.
 VII. Class assemble at Gun positions.
 (a) Discuss position of numbers.
 (b) How Gun is mounted.
 (c) " " " " for Fire effect.
 VIII. Demonstrate position of readiness.
 (a) Guns in Limber.
 (b) Guns about 50 yds. in rear of Fire position.
 (c) Guns on Fire position; numbers withdrawn; Sentry posted.
 (d) Gun on Fire position; numbers at Gun ready to receive Range and Target.

.....

212

TACTICAL TRENCH DEMONSTRATION

THE ATTACK ON ENEMIES' TRENCHES ON A DEFINED FRONT A - B.
AS SHOWN ON SKETCH MAP. *Supported by Trench Mortars & Catapults
also Artillery*

FIRST ATTACKING FORCE in following order :-

- 1st Grenade Party. OBJECTIVE. Communication trenches leading off enemy's front line and either flank.
- 2nd Infantry. OBJECTIVE. Front line manning the portions in between the Communication trenches. Open fire on any target to their immediate front. This force follows immediately in rear of the Grenadier parties.
3. Grenade Carriers OBJECTIVE Communication trenches to feed grenade throwers.
Follow immediately in rear of Infantry.
4. Ammunition Carriers To supply Infantry in front line.
5. Men with sand-bags & shovels) OBJECTIVE Each flank to help to finish permanent ~~barricades~~ barricades, and straighten line out.
6. Two Lewis Guns OBJECTIVE One on either flank of front line to occupy the permanent barricades.

SECOND ATTACKING FORCE Attack in same order, each individual party having similar objectives as First Attacking Force, but on the 2nd line of the Enemy's position. However, instead of only two Lewis Guns, extra ones will be required for the junction of the Communication trenches into this line. This second line of the Enemy's eventually becomes our front line.

At the junction of each communication trench, a permanent barricade must be built and manned by a Lewis Gun. The communication trench as in the case of the portion of trench in front of the permanent barricades on the flanks is straightened to a distance of 25 to 30 yards (all traverses removed).

The second force ignores the enemy's front line and communication trenches off back to support line. Their duty is to charge right over Grenadiers and Infantry etc. to occupy enemy's second line and act precisely as the first force did.

The first Attacking force Move up with the 2nd.

A supporting party of 100 is detailed off to occupy and garrison the first line in between the two permanent barricades.

213

EXERCISE

BATTALION ATTACK

Ref. Cairo Map East

On the inst. a hostile force made a raid on Zeitoun, but on the approach of a punitive force from Cairo retired towards El-Khanka.

4th Infy. Bde
(three Battns
imaginary)
1 Bty. R.F.A.
1 Sec. Howitzer
1 Machine Gun
Company
1 Bty. Stokes
Guns

A Punitive Force strength as per margin bivouacked at Aerodrome, Heliopolis, on the night /

Scouts report that the enemy have taken up a position on the ridge about two miles north of the Aerodrome.

The Brigade is ordered to attack.

The 16th Battalion is detailed to attack the extreme left of the position 15th Battn. (imaginary) on the right of the 13th Battalion, the remaining two Battalions of the Brigade (imaginary) are in support and reserve.

O.C. R.F.A. will co-operate. (Escort for guns, imag) Machine Gun Company with escort of two platoons (imaginary) will work on the left flank with a view to enfilading the enemies position and cutting off his retreat.

The Stokes Gun Battery will also operate on this flank.

After the attack has commenced, position of G.O.C. will be at the Instruction Trenches.

Special points to be noted

Connection and Direction
Fire Direction
Re-inforcing.
Correct passing of signals by connecting files
The Assault
Reforming after assault for further advance
The use of Lewis Guns in open warfare
(Eight Lewis Guns will be working with Battn.)
The use of Machine Guns operating on a flank.
Possible use of Stokes Gun Battery in open warfare
Artillery Work of the forward Observing Officer.
Field Telephones (Operated by Telephone Class).

24

SCHEME FOR NIGHT OPERATIONS

An enemy force is reported to be camped at Nataria, covered by Outposts.

The 1st Brigade has reached Heliopolis two Companies of the 1st Batt are detailed to rush the enemies covering line on the night with a view to further operations on the following morning.

Our Objective Enemy's Outposts who are holding a line of small sand-hills and trenches between the Racecourse and the OSTRICH FARM.

Position of Assembly. E corner of Cemetery. Formation. Two lines of Platoons in fours at deploying interval, and at 70 yards distance.

Scouts in front and on flanks.

Communication maintained by connecting files.

Compass bearing 25 degrees (True) to position of Deployment, about 1200 yards distant.

Position of Deployment Where the line of march cuts the old railway embankment.

Formation for further advance. Two lines of Platoons extended to the left to single rank distance between platoons - 70 yards.

Bearing on Objective 294 degrees (True) about 1100 yds distant.

Notes The pace should not exceed $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour.

At position of Deployment it is essential that the lines should be correctly dressed on the new compass bearing before allowing the further advance to commence.

The Force should occasionally be halted for a short time to enable the march formation to be corrected.

Instructions Rifles should not be loaded magazines should be charged and cut-offs closed.

Until daylight bayonets only are to be used.

Absolute silence will be maintained until the moment of the assault. Troops will march as quietly as possible accoutrements must not be allowed to rattle.

No smoking is allowed nor are matches to be lit.

If obstacles are encountered which cannot readily be traversed or removed troops will lie down, until a passage has been cleared.

If hostile patrols are encountered, they must be rushed in silence with the bayonet.

If the enemy open fire all ranks must understand that it is their duty to press forward at once. Probably the enemy's fire in the dark will be high. The effect of the enemy opening fire will give direction.

BATTALION MOVEMENTS COMBINED WITH FIRE ACTION

To accustom young Platoon Officers to quive movement and the rapid and correct issue of Fire Orders and observation of Fire.

Owing to heat and the dust of this country, it is not likely that a Battalion will be moved in Mass formation for a great distance. Therefore Mass formation is ignored.

A battalion advancing at Deploying Interval. Deploy to the right or left. Remainder Form Fours left or right. Double march.

A Battalion advancing at Deploying Interval requiring to open fire to the right. Battalion right turn. Echelon outwards one Company to the right. Each Company will also have to carry out a further interior movement to enable it to get from close column of platoons into a company in line.

A Battalion in line required to bring fire to bear at an angle. Company on the flank is ordered to half left or right form. Remaining Companies can simply be doubled forward, and then formed half right or left.

The formation of Square from Line.

The formation of Square from Column

The formation of Square from Deploying Interval.

A Battalion advancing in Artillery Formation comes suddenly under rifle fire. loading lines at once extend, remaining lines if required will double up to loading line under orders from Platoon Commanders.

A Battalion advancing in Column requiring to open fire left or right. Companies left or right form. Or if the fire is required in the same direction as Battalion is moving Echelon outwards one company to the right. Remainder Form fours outwards Double March.

Preliminary Scheme for Senior Officers.

2nd Course.

-
- Mon 9-30 am. Lecture by Cmdt. - "Warfare in the Field"
Explanation of the various Exercises.
Tour of all Instructional Classes.
 - 5 - pm. The Lewis Gun - Short explanation.
Lecture on its uses combined with Machine guns.
Short tactical demonstration of Lewis guns
coming into action, showing its invisibility.
 - Tues 9 - am. Officers Class. Lecture on Trench Warfare,
or Machine Gun Class, lecture.
 - 5 - pm. Tactical Demonstration Trench Warfare.
Two Companies.
Machine and Lewis guns.
Stokes battery.
Grenadier parties.
 - Wed. 5.30 am. An Attack in open Warfare.
One Battn. (Eight Lewis guns).
One Machine Gun Company.
One Stokes battery.
One Battery. 18 pr Q.F.
One Section. 4.5 Howitzer.
 - 5-0 pm. The working of a Machine Gun Company.
 - 7-0 : Two companies will parade for Night Operations.
Senior Ofrs are welcome to attend if they
like to do so.
 - Thurs. 6.30am. A Battalion, advancing in any formation, showing
methods of producing Fire Action in the
shortest possible time.
 - 9-0 : Officers Class. Lecture on Field reports and
messages.
Also lecture to Machine Gun Class.
 - 5-0 pm. The working of a Machine Gun Company.
 - 6-30 : CONFERENCE.

LEWIS GUNS IN OPEN WARFARE.

This morning* eight Lewis Guns were tried working with a battalion advancing over open desert.

The result appeared to be most successful, they were left entirely with their Companies. In the first part of the advance in Artillery formation, each Lewis Gun Section advanced as a small file on its own.

On nearing the position and forming lines of skirmishers, the guns of the two leading Companies at once got into the firing line. Where, as far as can be judged, their fire would have been most effective on the arrival of the leading lines of the supporting companies, the guns of these companies also joined the firing line, the result being that just before the assault there were 8 Lewis Guns all in action.

When the assault took place the gunners followed on 20 paces in rear of the assaulting line, on taking the position, the infantry "pursued with fire"; here the Lewis Guns were invaluable pouring in magazine after magazine, thus giving a tremendous supplementary fire to the infantry. The gunners arrived on the captured position almost as soon as the infantry far quicker than Machine Guns could have got there, the Guns were also in action in a few seconds.

During the advance it was very hard to pick out the Lewis Guns, even when especially looking for them, the guns were carried at the trail, one man on each end in the Artillery formation, and then by one man with a sling. The desert here is not deep sand, but the guns easily kept up with the infantry rushes, and I am sure must have proved effective. Even if picked out by a hostile Machine Gun, it would mean that the Machine Gun was concentrating on the Lewis instead of the advancing infantry, therefore reducing casualties amongst the Infantry and allowing the infantry to push.

Always remembering the axiom that to advance is to win, and that it is the Infantry who will gain the day in Open warfare by closing with the enemy, any concentration of any hostile Machine Gun fire on a target other than our Infantry is bound to assist the general advance.

Probably in desert warfare, owing to lack of cover, any attack will have to be carried out very rapidly, once under rifle fire. It is impossible for the Machine Gun with its heavy tripod to keep up with the pace of the Infantry; the Lewis appears to be able to do so easily. This morning the firing line was pushed on very fast, with the idea of seeing what the Lewis Gun could do. The results were most satisfactory.

Ammunition for Lewis Guns was carried in the regulation leather carriers (nine drums) or in haversack three drums fitting in each haversack, with the latter method ammunition carriers cannot be observed, each man carries two haversacks.

In this attack exercise, a Brigade Machine Gun Company (8 guns) was used to co-operate on the left flank; this proved effective, the guns were quickly got into action at range of about 700 yards, then 400 yards, finally after the position had been assaulted, the limbers galloped forward, and took up a position from whence they could "pursue with fire". It must be remembered that a Machine Gun Company acting on a flank must have sufficient infantry escort.

* i.e. at the demonstration of an attack in open warfare made for the first Senior Officers' Class on 12th July.

12/7/16.

WAD

APP A

SECRET

From :- HUYPERCE.
To :- Troopers, LONDON.

A.M. 789 cipher. 15/7/19. Desp. 1040.

Your 18749 A.O.I. Weekly return B.F.C. (a) 22 including 5 pilots No. 17 Squadron (SALONIKA) and excluding 3 No. 1 Squadron A.F.C. (b) 4 excluding 2 pilots No. 1 Squadron A.F.C. (c) B.E. Secs. serviceable 31, including 12 packed for overseas, unserviceable 15; Bristol Scouts serviceable 6 including 3 packed for overseas, unserviceable 3; De Navillands serviceable 4 including 1 packed for overseas, unserviceable 3.

Copies to :-

- O.
- O(a).
- O(b).
- I.
- Q.
- A.
- Filed G.S. 104/5.
- G.S. cables.
- W.D.



W/D

app B

From : Chief, Egyptforce.

To : Troopers.

A.M. 791. cipher.

15/7/16.

Desp. 1430.

NY. A.M. 323 cipher of 26th. March. Work of advanced base depot has recently increased by addition of rest camp and by necessity of equipping all men discharged from hospital and disinfecting some of drafts arriving. Propose giving provisional sanction to following increase of establishment :- One Quartermaster in addition to Adjutant already provisionally sanctioned; one Subaltern for each of 3 companies. Request sanction for whole establishment of Advanced Depot, including these increases.

Copies to :-
 O.
 O(b)
 A.
 A.M.S.

Filed G.S. 181
 * G.S. Cables.
 War Diary.



220

From :- Egyptforce.
To :- A.H.C. SALONICA.

A.H. 798. cipher. 15/7/18. Desp. 1435.

Your letter G.R.S.A. 726/2A of June 24th. Provisional sanction granted for addition of one Quartermaster to Headquarters Advanced Base Depot, and one subaltern for each of 3 companies. Three companies and company commanders already provisionally sanctioned in my A. 8235 of 30th. February.

Copies to :- C.
C(b).
A.
A.H.S.

Filed G.S. 181.
" H.S. Cables.
W.D.



Form (Original) Army Form C. 2123

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Prefix Code: *10 15 1178*

Words: *10 15 1178*

Charges to collect: *10 15 1178*

Service Instructions: *10 15 1178*

Received: *10 15 1178*

Sent, or sent out: *10 15 1178*

Office Station: *10 15 1178*

At: *10 15 1178* m.

To: *10 15 1178*

By: *10 15 1178*

Handed in at: *10 15 1178* m. Received: *10 15 1178* m.

TO: *10 15 1178*

Sender's Number: *10 15 1178* Day of Month: *15* In reply to Number: *10 15 1178* A A A

No addition to my HQ 34 of 2nd subdepot



FROM: *No 3 Section*

PLACE & TIME: *1630*

* This line should be erased if not required. W. 2024-02. 50,000 Pads-4714. S. B. 141. - Form C. 2123.

Army Form C, 2123.
 (In blocks of 50's, if applicable.)

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Words: [blank] Sent, or sent out, Office Stamp.

At [blank] m.

To [blank] m.

By [blank]

Received From [blank] By [blank]

Office [blank] m. Received [blank] m.

Day of Month In reply to Number A A A

Sender's Number [blank]

Message Text:
 ... GAZELLE ...
 ... PETERS ...
 ... PETERS ...
 ... GAZELLE ...

Stamp: U.S. OPERATIONS, No. ..., Date ..., H.Q. - M.E.F.

From BIRDAR, KHAWIT.
 To Chief, Egyptforce.

974 cipher. 15/7/38. Desp. 1811.
 Read. 1838.
 Decd. 1850.

Your A.M. 785.

Much regret no suitable native N.C.O.s. or men available here, as all trained artillery personnel are already employed in DARFUR or ARABIA and details at KHARTOUM are only partially trained and unsuitable for work required. Suggest your obtaining artillery N.C.O.s. and men required from Egyptian Army gun crews at present employed on armoured trains in EGYPT.

- O.
- O(b)
- A.
- M.O.B.A.
- I.
- C.S.2./31.
- C.S. Cables.
- W.D.



* This line should be erased if not required. M437 500,000 Pads. H.W.V. 5.16 Form C. 3193

SECRET.

From :- A.H.Q. SALONIKA.

Addressed LONDON, repeated DEEPFORCE.

SECRET

G.O. 282 cipher.

16/7/19.

Deep. 1135.

Recd. 1630.

Decd. 1730.

Reference 1/300,000 sheets VODEHA MONASTIR. Following changes in dispositions in Servian Army have been ordered. One battalion from VARDAR Division to KOROHA on July 14th. On July 17th DRINA Division will occupy line GORNICHEVO-METERIO-TRPESI-GRANODIVO, covering OSTEROVO and VODEHA. SHUMADIYA Division will prolong this line to the North-east by POZAR-KUKURUZ-KOVIL-KOZUH. Both Divisions will entrench and prepare two lines of defence. 2nd Line DRINA Division OSTEROVO-1050-KRUNCLOVO, 2nd line SHUMADIYA Division, GULSTURJAR-550-GOSTELURE. TIMOK division will move July 18th to take over the line at present held by SHUMADIYA Division on the VARDAR from DURMUSLI Southwards.

Copies to :-

O.
O(a).
O(b).
C. in C.
I.
Filed G.S. 2/8.
G.S. cables.
W.D.



W8

app

G.S. (OPERATIONS)
 No.....
 Date.....
 G.H.Q. - M.E.F. 223

From:- TROOPERS LONDON.

To:- EGYPTFORCE.

19577.cipher.Q.M.G.S.

15/7/16

Despd. 1540
 Recd. 2115
 Descd. 2120

Your A.M.775, 15th. Proposal to raise 53rd Company to full strength approved. Following trades will be sent out - platelayers 75, draughtsmen and surveyors 4, carpenters 10, masons and bricklayers 11. Railway requirements in EGYPT should be met as far as possible by 4 Companies, 115th, 116th, 276th and 53rd now authorized supplemented by resources of State Railways. Probably unable to provide more.

Copies to : Q. O. O(b). A.
 Filed G.S. 81/1. G.S. Cables. W. D.

SECRET

app

G.S. (OPERATIONS)
 No.....
 Date.....
 G.H.Q. - M.E.F.

From :- Chief Egyptforce.

To :- Chief, LONDON.

A.M. 795. cipher.

15/7/16.

Desp. 2155.

Evening Report.

3 small forces operating from TOR and ABU ZENEIMA returned 14th after successful raid on enemy posts near GINEH, 25 miles S.E. of ABU ZENEIMA. 1 Sheikh, 10 other prisoners, 54 camels and 130 head of sheep and goats captured. Operations lasted 2½ days, 60 miles of difficult country being covered. A certain amount of opposition and considerable sniping encountered, but no casualties.

Copies to :- O. A. E-in-C.
 O(a). Q. Col. Vitale.
 O(b). M.G.R.A. Filed G.S.Z/39.
 C-in-C. D.A.S. " G.S.Cables.
 I. A.M.S. W. D.

W.D.

app H

224

G.S. Z/34/2.

General Officer Commanding,
No. 2 Section,
Canal Defences.



With reference to your G.Z/52 of the 5th inst., approval has been given for the issue of twelve 3.7" (four-pounder) trench mortars and 22 catapults, and the following ammunition is being issued :-

3.7" Trench Mortar -

- 50 bombs per mortar for armament.
- 50 " " " in reserve.
- 25 " " " for practice.

Catapult Grenades -

- 100 grenades per catapult for armament.
- 100 " " " in reserve.

The grenades allotted for catapults may be drawn on for practice.

(Sgd) G. F. Perkins

Raja G.H.

G.H.Q.,
15/7/16.

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

General Officer Commanding,
Western Frontier Force.



Information has been received from the War Office that a scale has been laid down for Lewis Machine Guns in FRANCE of 3 handcarts to each pair of guns. The carts are two-wheeled vehicles designed to carry one gun and 44 magazines containing 2,000 rounds S.A.A. They are designed for man-haulage by means of drag ropes. The total weight of the cart filled is 550 lbs. The wheels are bicycle pattern, 24 ins. in diameter with treads $2 \frac{3}{16}$ ths in. wide with solid rubber tyres.

The War Office is being informed that carts of this nature will be of no use in the Eastern desert. Please give your views as early as possible as to whether carts of this kind could be usefully employed in the Western desert, and any recommendations you may have as to the supply of the carts for the force under your command.

G.H.Q., E.E.F.
15/7/18.

Sp. Col. Rowland
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

App A



From:- A.H.Q. SALONIKA.

To:- G.H.Q. EGYPTORCE.

A.48.cipher.

18/7/18
18/7/18

Despd. 1555
Recd. 0615
Decd. 0645

Following sent THROOPERS and was being repeated to you when A.M.798 arrived. Begins - "Your 1984 telegram 19811, cipher. S.D.S. If scope of operations not far reaching provision of I.G.C. probably unnecessary, but if increase in existing Army contemplated or operations on a large scale proposed, then provision of I.G.C. and staff essential. Work of I.G.C. is now mainly performed by A.H.Q. so Base Commandants position not therefore affected by appointment. Should I.G.C. be found necessary urge selection of active and up-to-date officer. Above views are as stated in my 1995.C, May 18th".

Copies to : O. O(a). O(b). C.-in-C.
A. Q. A.M.S.
Filed G.S. Z/S. G.S. Cables. W. D.

W.D.

App B



From:- THROOPERS LONDON.

To:- EGYPTORCE.

19603.cipher.S.D.S.

18/7/18
18/7/18

Despd. 2115
Recd. 0600
Decd. 0620

With reference to your proposed W. E. for G.H.Q., EGYPT, there is a large increase of motor cars as compared with present authorized establishment. Will you please reconsider your proposals as it is essential that the number should be kept as low as possible and that wherever possible a pool (?) should be employed. Please explain in detail purposes for which any increase in scale of cars is required.

Copies to : O for action. O(a). O(b).
Q (2). A.
Filed G.S. 11/1. G.S. Cables. W. D.

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Prefix _____ m. Words _____ Charge _____

Office of Origin and Service Instructions _____

At _____ m. Sent _____ m.

To _____

By _____

Received at _____ Date _____

From _____

By _____

(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO **Westforce.**

Sender's Number **Q.B.223.** Day of Month **16/7/16.** In reply to Number **AAA**

Urgently require services of following Egyptian personnel for special duty lasting about one month.

1 Officer.

4 N.C.Os.

4 C.R.

Can you spare all, or any of these from crews of armoured trains under your command?



From **G.H.Q.**

Place _____

Time _____

The above may be forwarded as you corrected. **(Z)**

Censor _____ Signature of Addressee or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

W.P.

app C

227

From : EGYPTFORCE.
To : Troopers.

A.M. 797 cipher. 16/7/16. Dist. 1430.

Your 9856 A.O.1A code. May this personnel be despatched as early as possible. Should not 5 batmen be included.

Copies to:- O(b).
O.
A.
H.F.C.
Filed G.S. 104/1.
" G.S.Cables.
War Diary.

14 RFC H 2nd Br



SECRET

G.S.

OPERATION 228
G.S. 2/59/1

[Handwritten signature]

General Officer Commanding,
No. 2 Section.

With reference to your G.Z. 65, the Commander-in-Chief has noted your proposals to take over the whole of No. 2a Section. It has now been decided that the northern boundary of your section will be a line running due east from Kilo. 58 on the Canal.

The Commander-in-Chief generally approves your proposals for the occupation and defence of EL FERDAN, but considers that, in view of the fact that you will now have available

- 1 Brigade
- 1 West Indies Battalion
- 2 Batteries

the infantry garrison of the bridgehead should be increased.

Arrangements are being made to relieve the 159th Brigade in the Coastal Section, Western Frontier Force, and to transfer it to the Canal Zone. D.Q.M.G. G.H.Q. will communicate with you regarding the details of this move, and you should inform him direct where you wish the Brigade sent.

The 43rd Division will come under the orders of the General Officer Commanding, No. 3 Section, who has been informed that part of this division may temporarily be retained at FERDAN and attached temporarily to your section under direct arrangements to be made between yourself and General Officer Commanding No. 3 Section, if he is unable ^{immediately} to accommodate the whole of the Division within the limits of his section.

(Sgd) G.P. Dawney Lt Col G.S.

G. H. Q.
15/7/16.

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

SECRET

G.S. 2/57/2



General Officer Commanding,
No. 2a Section,
Canal Defences.

When the relief of the 159th Brigade by 3rd Dismounted
Brigade has been completed, ^{the former} ~~this~~ brigade will rejoin its
division in the Canal Zone, and the following changes in the
organisation of the Canal Defences will take place.

1. The boundary of No. 2 Section will be extended northward to a line running east from the Canal at Kilo. 58.
2. No. 2a Section will be abolished and the division under your command will come under the orders of General Officer Commanding, No. 3 Section.

The date from which this reorganisation will take effect will be notified to you later.

(Sgt) G.P. Dawney Lt. Col. G.S.

G.H.Q.,
E.E.F.,
15.7.16.

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

SECRET

4/2/59

General Officer Commanding,
No. 3 Section, Canal Defences.

1. Orders have been issued for the relief of the 159th Brigade, 53rd Division, which at present forms the garrison of the Coastal Section, Western Frontier Force, by the 3rd Dis-mounted Brigade from No. 2a Section. When this relief has been effected, this brigade will be sent to join its division in the Canal Zone, and the following changes in the organisation of the Canal Defences will take place :-

- (i) No. 2a Section will be abolished.
- (ii) The northern boundary of No. 2 Section will be extended to a line running due east from Kilo 58, and you will be responsible for all ground north of that line.
- (iii) The 42nd Division will become part of the forces under your command.

2. With reference to (iii), if you are unable to find accommodation for the whole of 42nd Division within the limits of your Section, there is no objection to part of the division remaining at FERDAN and being attached temporarily to No. 2 Section until you require it. In this case you should arrange direct with General Officer Commanding, No. 2 Section, reporting any arrangements made to this office.

3. BALLAH has been included in No. 3 Section in order that the right flank defence of the Section may be under your own command.

4. Before the decision to include BALLAH in your Section was reached, the following proposals for holding this sub-section were approved by the Commander-in-Chief, ^(this is notified) and are forwarded (for your information only).

Outposts and Railhead.

- 2 Battalions.
- 1 Regt. Light Horse.
- 1 Battery.

Bridgehead.

- 1 Battalion.
- 1 Battery.

The date from which this reorganisation will take effect will be notified to you later.

(Sgd) G.P. Dawson Lt Col

G.H.Q., E.E.F.
15.7.16

Maj.Gen. C.G.S.,

G.S.
Z.28/1.



Secretary,
War Office, LONDON. S.W.

15th July, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the South Western Force has ceased to exist as a separate force; the troops in that area coming under the direct command of the General Officer Commanding Western Frontier Force. The Staff of the late South Western Force is being disposed of as follows :-

The General Officer Commanding, with his Brigade Staff, to resume command of the 3rd Dismounted Brigade, the present acting staff of which relinquish their acting appointments.

The two interpreters and one intelligence officer with Headquarters, South Western Force, will continue to be employed in the Western Frontier Force.

The remainder of the staff will be dispensed with.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) G.P. Dawney L.O. 25

for General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

232
COPY.

SECRET.

S.E./43/12.

General Headquarters,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter O.S. 2/23/1 dated 15th July 1916, the South Western Force ceases to exist on the 15th instant, on which day Brigadier-General Hedgcock hands over his command and leaves ASSIUT for the Coastal Section.

All troops South of MINIA Section are now included in one Section named the "Southern Section" under Brigadier-General Hoare, with Headquarters at GARA.

ASSIUT and GARA Sections cease to exist from the same date as South Western Force.

(Signed) C.M. Debell,

Savoy Hotel,
CAIRO.
15th. July, 1916.

Major-General,
Commanding Western Frontier Force.

Copies to :-
I.
A.
Q.
A.M.S.
H-in-C.
M.G.R.A.
D.A.S.

SECRET

From :- A.H.Q. SALONICA.

To :- Chief Egyptforce.

G.C. 288. cipher.

16/7/16.
17/7/16.

Desp. 2300.
Recd. 0600.
Decd. 0605.

By G.C. 175 June 12th.

31st. Infantry Brigade commenced to move to-day
in relief of 29th Infantry Brigade now on STRUMA from ORLJAK
to SUHA BANJA. Relief will be completed by July 29th.
31st. Brigade responsible for defence from midnight July 24th
26th.

Copies to :-
O.
O(a).
O(b).
G-in-C.
I.

Filed G.S. 3/6.
" G.S. Cables.
W.D.



Service Instructions	Charges to Pay	Office Stamp
	£ s. d.	G.H.Q. 17.VI.16.

Handed in at _____ Office 740 m. Received _____ m.

TO _____

Sender's Number Day of Month In reply to Number **AAA**

Enemy aircraft flying over Romani
 Northeast



FROM _____
 PLACE & TIME _____

Prefix	Code	Words	Received	Sent, or sent out	Office Stamp
Charges to collect			From	At	
Service Instructions			By	To	
				By	

Handed in at _____ Office 740 m. Received 743 m.

TO _____

*Sender's Number Day of Month In reply to Number **AAA**

Hostile aeroplane over
 Romani at 0735 flying
 Northeast.



FROM _____
 PLACE & TIME _____

Sent, or sent on
 At 10.17 AM
 Office Stamp
 TELEGRAPH OFFICE

Received
 From
 By

Charges to collect
 Service Instructions

Handed in at
 Office
 Received

TO
 GWA

Sender's Number
 Day of Month
 In reply to Number
 A A A

Every aircraft man takes part
 flying in a SE direction



FROM
 PLACE & TIME
 Bodanis Post

From :- Egyptforce.
 To :- A.H.Q. SALONICA.

app B(2)

A.M. 799. cipher. 17/7/16. Desp. 1430.

Your letter S.A. No. 1383 (A) of 5th July. Corporal A.S.C. in charge transport Brigade H.Q. provisionally sanctioned.

Copies to :-
 O.
 O(b).
 Q.
 A.

Filed G.S. 282.
 " G.S. Cables.
 War Diary.



W.D.
222
G.S. 50/8.



Secretary,
War Office, LONDON, S.W.

17th July, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, owing to the large number of drivers and animals (24 and 40 respectively including Train transport) with the Headquarters of an Infantry Brigade under SALONICA "3" War Establishment, experience has proved the necessity of appointing an A.S.C. Corporal in charge of the transport of a Brigade Headquarters. I therefore request that this increase, to which I have given provisional sanction, be approved. The increase is similar to that approved in your letter No. 121/Mediterranean/976 (S.D.2 of 16th June.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Ed)

G. P. Dawney
Lt. Col.
for S.S.

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copy to G
A

SECRET.

From :- Sirdar, ISHAKIY.

To :- Chief, Egyptforce.

982. cipher.

19/7/19.

Desp. 1347.

Head. 1450.

Desp. 1410.

On April 2nd., I wrote a letter No. S.G. 500 to Communications, GAISE asking that certain stores and equipment should be held in immediate readiness for despatch to SHARON in the event of a British Brigade being sent there. I have received a telegram from Communications No. 190 G., dated July 14th., asking if I still require this to be done. I do not, unless there is any possibility of a suggestion being carried out which I made in paragraph 10 of my telegram 982 to the High Commissioner to the effect that if a Brigade of British troops were sent to SHARON, I might scrape together a brigade Meser troops for service in ARABIA. I only put forward this proposal as a possible means of helping the Sheriff and did not advocate it so I presume its adoption is an unlikely contingency.

Copies to :- O For action.

O(a).

O(b).

G-in-C.

Q.

A.

I.

Filed O.S. 2/11.

" O.S. Cables.

War Diary.



SECRET

SECRET

From A.H.Q.
To G.H.Q. Egyptforce.

Dist. 1000
Recd. 1800
Decd. 1815

G.C. 391. Cipher 17/7/20

Progress made on roads but six more rollers
on order rush needed. Lack of lorry transport for
material retarded progress on hospital and other
buildings and on all Engineer works. Stocks of building
material insufficient. Orders been placed.

Copies:

O.
O(b).
O(a).
G.in C.
Q.
E.in C.
A.
Z/S.
G.S. Cables.
W.D.

Filed



"C" Form (Original).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message

Prefix Code *100* Words *100* Sent, or sent out Office Stamp

Charges to collect

Service Instructions.

At *10:10* m. Received

To *10:10* m. Office

By *10:10* m. Received

Handled in at *10:10* m. Office

TO *General Somerville*

Sender's Number *17* Day of Month *17* In reply to Number *103223-1AAA*

*Local strength only one officer
Six men 26 Summers
Can spare temporarily two
Corporals for Summers area
where and when should they
report*



FROM *Westforce*

PLACE & TIME *1650*

* This line should be erased if not required.
W 1000-M 151 75,000 Pads H & S 2/14 Form C. 212B (10/18)

From : WESTFORCE.
To : TROOPERS. Repeated SALONICA.

A.M. 008 cipher. 17/7/16. Desp. 1835.

Your 18088 S.D.S, dated 29/6/16, propose to form local company R.S.A. at ALEXANDRIA, composed of section 84th Siege Battery and reinforcements referred to in your cable. Please wire authority for 84th Siege Battery at SALONICA to be brought up to strength by reinforcements, and for existing section at ALEXANDRIA to cease to form part of it; also allot number for new local company. Addressed Troopers, Repeated Salonica.

Copies to:-
C.
C(a).
C(b).
A.
Q.
M.C.R.A.
Filed 2.54/1.
" G.S.Cables.
War Diary.



MESSAGS AND SIGNALS. No. of Message

Prefix Code *73* Words *73* Received *[Signature]* Office Stamp
 Charges to collect *[Signature]* From *[Signature]* At *[Signature]* Sent, or sent out
 Service Instructions *[Signature]* By *[Signature]* To *[Signature]* m.
 Handed in at *[Signature]* Office *[Signature]* m.

TO *G.H.Q.* (OPERATIONS)
 U.S. No. *[Blank]*
 G.H.Q. - M.A.E.F.

Sender's Number *73* Day of Month *17* In reply to Number *[Blank]*
G.H.Q.
 Daily water report *aaa "A"*
 Sub-section Hq *5th Norfolk Coy*
 Heights *3 gallons*
 LIZARD *posts and PETERS PEAK*
1 1/2 gallons
other posts 2 gallons
U.B. Sub-section all posts in
front line 3 gallons or
more except KEMBLA H where
owing to misunderstanding
water was sent
was sent there later as
soon as mistake was reported

FROM *Prod Section*
 PLACE & TIME *Samaria 1645*

* This line should be erased if not required. W. 482-3487 500,000 Pads. H.W.V. 5-16 Form C. 3129.

FROM : A.H.Q. SALONICA.
 TO : BETHLEHEM.

A.25 cipher. 17/7/16.

Resp. 1805.
 Recd. 1900.
 Decd. 1906.

Your A.M. 787.

Printing Section B.E. as given in SALONICA establishments still required for printing work in field. G.H.Q. section required for printing at Base. Establishment for G.H.Q. section stated in my telegram 730 A. June 27th sufficient for requirements.

Copies to :- O(b). A. Filed G.S. SS.
 O. A.M.S. " G.S. Copies.
 B-in-C. I. War Diary.



W.D.

2/11/16

740

"C" Form (Original).
 MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message

Form C. 2123.
 (In books of 50's, duplicate.)

Prefix: *1* Code: *1* Words: *19* Received: *1911* Sent, or sent out: *1911* Office Stamp: *GHQ - 17.VII.16.*

Charges to collect: *1/00* From: *1/00* At: *1/00*

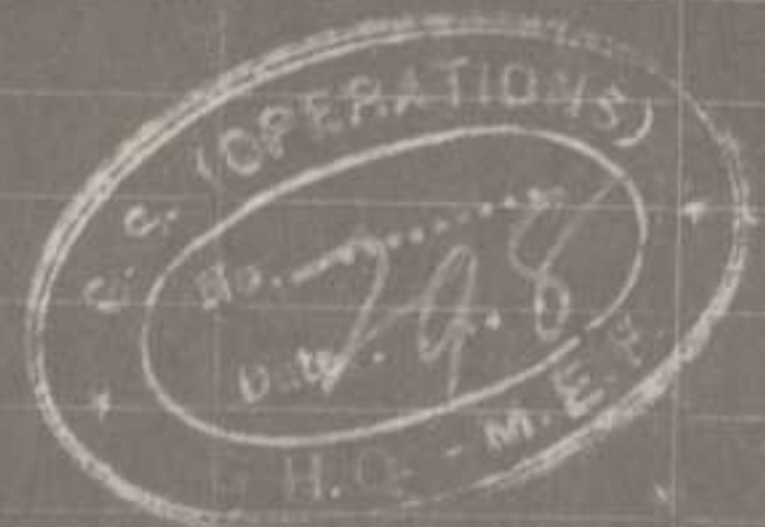
Service Instructions: *1/00* By: *1/00* To: *1/00*

Handed in at *SSB* Office *1020* m. Received *2231* m.

TO: *SHQ Ref.*

*Sender's Number: *5299* Day of Month: *seventeenth* In reply to Number: *AAA*

at all works and posts
 in 2A section men are
 receiving three gallons or more
 water per day



FROM: *SSO 42nd divn Elferdan*
 PLACE & TIME: *1900*

* This line should be erased if not required.

"C" Form (Original).
 MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message

Prefix: *1* Code: *1* Words: *19* Received: *1911* Sent, or sent out: *1911* Office Stamp: *GHQ 17.VII.16.*

Charges to collect: *1/00* From: *1/00* At: *1/00*

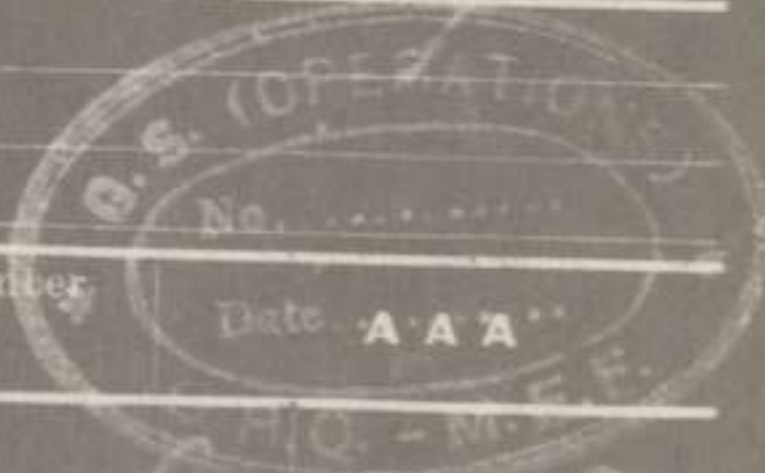
Service Instructions: *1/00* By: *1/00* To: *1/00*

Handed in at *1911* Office *1713* m. Received *1725* m.

TO: *GHQ*

*Sender's Number: *4371* Day of Month: *17* In reply to Number: *AAA*

no post received less than
 3 gallons of water per
 man today



FROM: *54 Divn 1705*
 PLACE & TIME: *1705*

* This line should be erased if not required.
 W1. 432 - M457 500,000 Pads, H W V 5/16 Forms C. 2123.

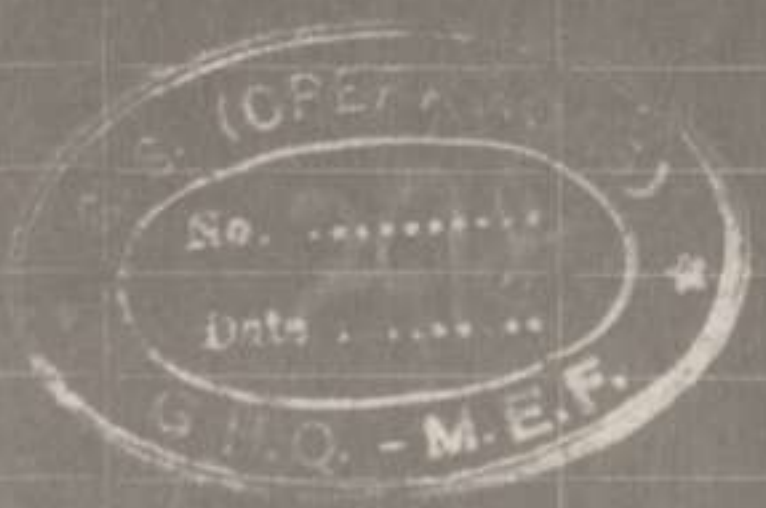
"C" Form (Original)
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS

Prefix <i>3</i>	Code <i>CAW</i>	Words <i>17</i>	Received	Sent, or sent out	Office Stamp
Charges to collect			From <i>RTA</i>	At <i>1500</i>	
Service Instructions			By <i>Full</i>	To	
				By	

Handed in at *RTA* Office *1500* m. Received *1500* m.

TO *200*

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
<i>HA 203</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>006243</i>	<i>AAA</i>
<i>no</i>	<i>attention to my</i>	<i>HA 34</i>	
<i>of</i>	<i>the 2nd</i>	<i>inst</i>	



FROM *no B Section*

PLACE & TIME *1500*

* This line should be erased if not required.
Wt. 482-M437 500,000 Pads. H.W.V. 5.16 Forms C.2123.

W.D.
G.S. 146/1. 743

General Officer Commanding,
No. 1 Section, Canal Defences.



With reference to your G.S. 216/2, dated 15th July, it is not intended that the Turkish prisoners now in your section should remain there beyond the necessary period of quarantine which is required by the medical authorities for all troops coming from a country where cholera is known to exist. This period is only 7 days, and when this has expired all prisoners will be handed over to the Inspector General of Communications for accommodation at MAADI. In these circumstances it is not considered necessary to send you L. of C. troops to find the guards required.

G. H. Q.
17/7/16.

(20) *W.P. Dawson*
A. G.
for
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

704

SECRET

G.S. Z/38.

off



General Officer Commanding,
No. 2 Section,
Canal Defences.

Reference your G.S. 1119 dated June 13th, please
see attached copy of letter from 2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps.

Copies of Force Orders Nos. 1 - 19 inclusive
herewith. Will you please acknowledge receipt and inform
this office regarding the 2nd A. & N.Z. Army Corps file
referred to in attached letter.

(Sgd) G.P. Dawson

G.H.Q.,
17/7/16.

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

No. G101,

745
25 a*

2nd AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Chief of the General Staff,
G.H.Q.,
--- E. E. F.,

Reference your G.S.Z/38 dated 18/6/16.

Copies of Force Orders Nos. 1 to 19 inclusive,
and of Naval Memoranda "A" and "D" are forwarded herewith.

Naval Memoranda 1147 "B", "C" and "E" were
included in this Office file No, 61/1/1, which was kept in
a safe in the Corps Headquarters Office.

The safe was handed over to the General Staff
Officer, 2nd Grade, to 53rd Division, and a receipt obtained
for its contents.

(Signed) C.W.Gwynn. B.G.G.S.
for

Lieut.-General Commanding,
2nd Australian and New Zealand Army Corps

g/7/16

516

PPA

From : Troopars London.

To : Egyptforce

19649 cipher F.W.S.

Desp 2030, 17/7/18.
Recd. 6600, 18/7/18
Desd. 0815, 18/7/18.

H.in-C. 1801, 14th.

Am accepting any size from 9 to 13 inch steel or wrought iron pipes as the chance of getting full quantity in 13 and 10 inch in time is hopeless. Can I go as low as 8 inch. The chance of getting 60 horse oil engines in time is bad also but steam engines could probably be got. If steam will do what fuels are possible and what impossible of use? Cannot yet give date of delivery but have stipulated that everything should reach you before end of September at latest. For pipe line would you like Donald to go out again? Williams thought he was worth the high price he got for his services. I will report further progress regularly. Have caterpillar tractors to carry the pipes or do you wish any action taken here? A 13-inch pipe 30 feet long weighs nearly half a ton.

H.-in-C. for action.

- O.
- O(a).
- O(b).
- O.
- Z/68.
- W.D.



747

From :- A.H.Q. SALONIKA.
To :- H.H.P.O.R.C.

AMB



QA 951 cipher.

17/7/18.
18/2/18.

Desp. 1805.
Recd. 0800.
Desd. 0825.

Your C.M.Q.T 1746

Now that five Divisions are to be organised on park basis consider it essential that provision for a M.T. Supply Column and sub-park be made for each Division and mounted brigade. Am replying to War Office to above effect. Provision of Divisional Supply Columns and Parks will render necessary only six horsed reserve Parks in all of 304 G.S. limbered wagons each. Distribution of one per Division and 1 for base work. Have at present two reserve parks. 29 pf G.S. limbered wagons will suit for base work. 34 Reserve Park now consists of 152 G.S. limbered wagons. This must be doubled to render it suitable for Divisional work.

Copies to :-

O(a) } for action.
O(b) }
O.

O(a). Filed Q cables.
H.G.R.A. G.S. 843.
A. W.D.

248



WAD

From : A.H.Q. SALONICA.
To : EGYPTFORCE.

QA. 952 cipher. 17/7/16. Desp. 1950.
18/7/16. Recd. 0815.
Decd. 0635.

YOUR C.M.Q.T. 1737. Memorandum referred to in War Office 19422 cipher D.S.D. July 11th is that containing details in connection with Pack organisation and not my 1292 C, no copy of which was sent to War Office. Requirements in Pack animals for 5 Divisions 10,000. This admits of Train for Mounted Brigade being formed. Each Mountain Brigade formed from 18-pdrs. Brigade will require 550 additional pack animals. No allowance for wastage made in above figures. This should be calculated at 10% animals of 210. Pack saddles required to complete 5 Divisions and Mounted Brigade on pack basis as follows :- Pack Saddlery for Vickers M.G. none required if clear that 5 Divisional Machine Gun Coys. coming from ENGLAND arrive equipped on pack basis. Lewis M.G. 252 gun sets, and 504 ammunition sets for use with 252 guns still wanted to complete to 8 per battalion. Artillery gun breech 25, gun chase 25, recoil cradle 25, carriage trail front part 25, ditto rear part 25, wheel and axle 25, ammunition 300. It should be recognised that when completed to SALONICA scale, the following additional establishment in drivers will be required :- R.E. 6, R.A. 980, Yeomanry 101, Infantry 2,958..

Copies to:- Q.)
O(b).) for action.
O.
O(a).
M.G.R.A.
A.
Filed 'Q' Cables.
" G.S. 243.
War Diary.

From Chief Egyptforce.

To : Sirdar.

A.M. 803. Cipher

18/7/18

Desp. 1600

Your 962 Cipher. I fear adoption of your suggestion cannot be considered a likely contingency. It was only in case of extreme urgency that I could have spared a British Brigade for KHARTOUM. Glad therefore you no longer require me to hold stores and equipment in readiness.

Copies to :-

O.
O(a).
O(b).
C. in C.
Q.
A.
I.
G.S.Z/Sl.
" Cables
W. D.

CORRECTION to 12634th cipher P.S.D. dated 12/7/18 From Troopers.

Last sentence should read :-

"Suggested that he should be replaced in EGYPT by Temporary Colonel G.F.Davies, your present D.D.S & T. if you concur"

Copies to :-

O.
O.(b).
O.(a).
C.-in-C.
D.Q.M.G.
D.A.G.
A.M.S.
I.
Filed G.S. Z/S.
" G.S. Cables.
W.D.



* as to appointment of Major-General Roe as I.D.G. SALONICA.

720

SECRET

SECRET.

From Troopers.

Addressed Chief Egyptforce, repeated SALONICA.

19664 cipher D.S.D.

18/7/18.

Desp. 1840.
Recd. 2115.
Decd. 2135.

Your A.41(7) Consider it necessary owing to new disposition of troops to appoint an Inspector General of Communications for SALONICA Army though no immediate intention of operations on a large scale. Major-General Kos, at present on leave in this country, will be appointed. This officer will be instructed to proceed direct to SALONICA. Suggested that he should be replaced in *Egypt* by *Temporary Colonel G. F. Davies* (~~undecipherable~~) administration of your present D.D.S.A T. (2) if you concur.

Copies to :-

- D.
- O.(h).
- O.(h).
- G.-in-C.
- D.Q.M.G.
- D.A.G.
- A.M.S.
- I.
- File d G.S. E/S.
- " G.S. Cables.
- W.D.



APPLE 751

From Troopers.
To Egyptforce.

1988 cipher S.B.S. 19/7/16. Desp. 1680.
Recd. 2148.

Questions have arisen about the Egyptian Labour Corps. Will you please say by whose authority it was raised, what establishment, if any, has been approved for it, from what source do the officers come, by whom it is administered and how paid?

Copies to :-
O. for action.
O.(a).
O.(b).
O.-in-C.
A.
G.
H.
Filed G.S. 248.
" G.S. Cables.
W.D.



Army Form (Original).
(In books of 50's in duplicate)
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message

Prefix: Code: Words: Sent, or sent out: Office Stamp: 1916
Charges to collect: From: At: m.
Service Instructions: By: To: m.
Handed in at: Office: m. Received: m.

TO	Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number
			AAA



FROM: 25047
PLACE & TIME: 1916

* This line should be traced if not required.

Prefix _____ Code _____ Words _____
£ s. d.
 Received _____ Sent, or sent out _____ Office Stamp. **G.H.Q. 18.VII.16.**
 From _____ At _____ m.
 By _____ To _____
 By _____

Charges to collect _____
 Service Instructions _____
 Handed in at _____ Office _____ m. Received _____ m.

TO _____

*Sender's Number _____ Day of Month _____ In reply to Number _____ **AAA**

HR CLY GAZELLE HEIGHT
 LIZARD 1
 PETERS PEAK 1
 yellow can
 white can
 yellow can
 white can
 yellow can
 white can



FROM **H6 202 Section, Serengeti**
 PLACE & TIME **1715**

* This line should be erased if not required.
 Wt. 432 - M437 500,000 Pads. H.W.V. 5.16 Form C.2123.

"C" Form (Original). (In books of 50's in duplicate.)
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message _____

Prefix _____ Code _____ Words _____
£ s. d.
 Received _____ Sent, or sent out _____ Office Stamp. **G.H.Q. 18.VII.16.**
 From _____ At _____ m.
 By _____ To _____
 By _____

Charges to collect _____
 Service Instructions _____
 Handed in at _____ Office _____ m. Received _____ m.

TO _____

*Sender's Number _____ Day of Month _____ In reply to Number _____ **AAA**

No post received less than
 3 gallons of water
 from today



FROM **502 Section, Serengeti**
 PLACE & TIME **1707**

* This line should be erased if not required.
 Wt. 432 - M437 500,000 Pads. H.W.V. 5.16 Form C.2123.

"C" Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

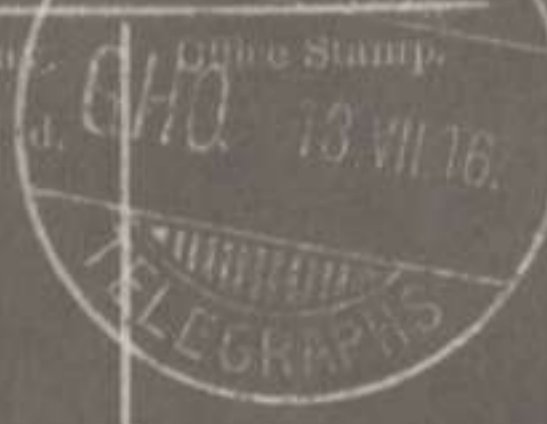
Army Form 120
(In books of 50's 16 duplicates)

No. of Message

Charges to Pay

E s. d.

Office Stamp



Service Instructions

Handed in at _____ Office _____ m. Received _____ m.

TO

Sender's Number

Day of Month

In reply to Number

AAA

FROM

PLACE & TIME

252

W.D.
G.S. 34/5. 754
Officer Commanding,
5th. Wing,
Royal Flying Corps.

The General Officer Commanding, 42nd Division is proposing to erect some kind of screen to conceal certain water-supply plant in No. 2a Section.

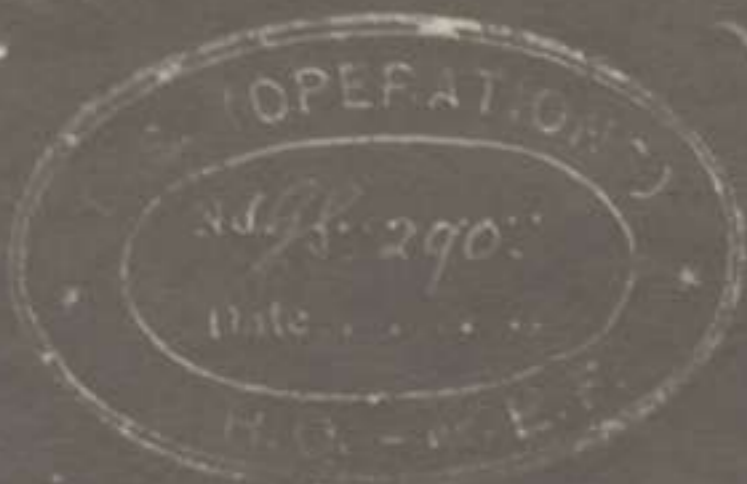
It is considered that it would be advantageous for an aeroplane to fly over these localities before the actual work is commenced, so that the special features needing concealment may be noted.

Will you please communicate direct with General Officer Commanding, 42nd Division with a view to arranging this flight.

G.H.Q.,
E.E.F.,
18.7.16.

(copy to Dawson)
J.C. Col. 2d.
fn
Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copy to E.-in-C.



EGYPTIAN

Chief of the Imperial General Staff,
War Office, LONDON. S.W.

18th July, 1916.

Sir,

With regard to the operations in the MAHAMDIYA - ROMANI area, I have the honour to inform you that the services of a selected officer are, in my opinion, essential to carry on and co-ordinate certain important work connected with the entrenched camps in that area. This work, which will become increasingly heavy as the preparations for forward movement develop, includes the planning, laying out, and organising of the forward base and entrenched camp at MAHAMDIYA, planning and re-organising depots and stores, including railway depots, reception and forwarding of large quantities of stores, and general co-ordination of all work and arrangements in connection with the above.

At present this work occupies nearly all the time of the D.A. & Q.M.G. No. 3 Section and his staff. In actual fact, however, much of the work in question is outside their true province, and corresponds rather to that of an Administrative Commandant on the Lines of Communication. I consider it essential that the Administrative Staff of the Section should, as far as possible, be relieved of these functions, in order to be free to attend to their normal duties which in the circumstances of a most difficult desert operation are already more than sufficient to occupy the whole of their energies.

The actual situation is that the line from KANTARA to

(ROMANI

ROMANI - MAHAMDIYA practically forms part of the Lines of Communication. Owing to its tactical position, however, it is necessarily in the area of the command of the General Officer Commanding, No. 3 Section, Canal Defences, and cannot be placed in charge of the Inspector General of Communications. This will explain why an Administrative Commandant is required, and why such an officer in this particular case must work under the General Officer Commanding, No. 3 Section instead of under the Inspector General of Communications, as would normally be the case.

I have available for appointment as Administrative Commandant, Colonel W.J.S. Ferguson⁵ (Retired Pay). This officer is at present performing the duties of Camp Commandant, Training Centre, TEL EL KEBIR, but he will shortly become available on the reduction of the Staff of that establishment. Colonel Ferguson's special qualifications render him specially suitable for this post, and I have, therefore, to request permission to appoint him accordingly, and that he may retain his present grading as A.A.G. while so employed.

The Administrative Commandant at ROMANI-MAHAMDIYA will require two officers to assist him. I therefore request that authority may be given for the appointment of two Assistants, both graded as Staff Captains.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) A. J. Murray

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

~~203~~
757

SECRET

G.S. Z/34/5. *QUT*

General Officer Commanding,
No. 2 Section.

With reference to G.S. Z/59/1 dated 15/7/16,
the attached copy of a letter from the General Officer
Commanding, 42nd Division is forwarded for your information
and consideration.

(Sgd) J. A. H. Gammell
Capt
48

G.H.Q., E.E.F.
17/7/16.

CW Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Subject. Filling in of three works, No. 2a Section.

G. H. Q.

E. E. F.

Ref. Map 1/40-000, sheet 002.

1. There are three works, Nos. 61, 62 and 63 at Point 259(Y.3) "the Punchbowl"; I recommend that they should be filled in and marked.
2. My recommendation is based on the following arguments :-
The effect of the Punchbowl has to be considered for two conditions -
 - (a) Where the enemy is in large numbers with a proportionate number of guns.
 - (b) Where he is numerically weak and has but few light guns.

(a) is not a practicable military operation in summer and for the present may be disregarded.

(b) is a possible, but improbable, venture; improbable because -

 - i. A waterless, roadless and foodless desert has to be crossed.
 - ii. For a small force to venture west of BIR EL MAHADAT is asking for capture.
 - iii. Its only object could be as a diversion to operations further north, or part of a demonstration to hold our troops in EGYPT.
3. Assuming, however, that he does send a force of 2,000 infantry and a battery, which seems the outside limit, what will be his objective ?
 - i. His line of advance in the winter of 1915 was BIR EL MAHADAT - THREE PEAKS.
 - ii. He probably knows that the Punchbowl, though prepared, is unoccupied, and that there is a gap of three miles in our defences, of which that place is the centre.

iii. Work 47, at the northern end of THREE PEAKS, is unsupported by other works, commanded by high ground on the line Point 293 - 309 - 207 - 161 - 131, and the capture of the sand ridge THREE PEAKS would lead to the fall of Work 46.

iv. An attack from BIR EL MAHADAT on any other part of FERDAN Railhead defences, or on BALLYBUNION, is too big an undertaking for a small force.

The enemy's most likely, if not only, course would be to hold Points 300 (Y.10), 293 (Y.23) and 250 (Z.19), and attack Work 47 from the direction of the Punchbowl.

4. How the Punchbowl affects it.

I am impressed with the belief that, as long as we have some mobile troops, any advance of the enemy in summer, within striking distance of No. 2a Section advanced works, would give us a golden opportunity for offensive action.

Our object being to cut him from his line of retreat, capture or destroy him, the more he can be induced to enter the gap at the Punchbowl the easier it will be to surround him. Once that is done he will have to surrender for want of water. For this reason I recommend the abandonment of the idea of occupying the works there on news being received of the enemy's approach.

But to leave the three works at the enemy's disposal would prolong the action and increase our casualties; for they are strongest against attack from the east and our main attack would come from an easterly direction.

No. 2a Section.

15/7/16.

(Sgd) W. Douglas,
Major-General,
Commanding 42nd Division.

App A

SECRET ⁷⁶⁰

From : G.H.Q.

To : G.O.C. No. 2a Section.

1116 cipher.

19/7/18.

Desp. 1130.

Indications of enemy concentration east of No. 3 Section. One infantry battalion from BALLAH, one infantry battalion from FERDAR will march to-night to reach QANTARA by 5 a.m. They will receive instructions from G.O.C. No. 3 Section on arrival at Canal Bridge QANTARA. 1st line transport will accompany. One day's rations and blankets will be taken. Move of 3rd Dismounted Brigade ordered for to-morrow is cancelled and brigade may be used as required for occupation of bridge-heads and especially BALLAH sub-section.

Copies to:-

- O. Filed G.S. S/SS.
- O(a). " G.S. Cables.
- O(b). War Diary.
- G-in-C.
- I.
- A.
- Q.



From : G.H.Q.

To : G.O.C. No. 3 Section.

SECRET

1110 cipher.

19/7/18.

Desp. 1110.

Two battalions 42nd Division will arrive QANTARA by road to-morrow 5 a.m. and will await your instructions at Canal Bridgehead. 158th Brigade complete but without Field Ambulance will be sent QANTARA by train arriving in 4 trains approximately 0030, 0130, 0300, 0400. All troops will bring 1st line transport including regimental reserve ammunition; one day's rations and blankets.

Copies to:-

- O. I.
- O(a). A.
- O(b). Q.
- G-in-C. Filed G.S. S/SS.
- " G.S. Cables.
- War Diary.





From : No. 2a Section.

To : G.H.Q.

G.708.

19/7/18.

Desp. 2254.
Feed. 2345.

7th Lanes, Fusiliers and 8th Manchesters are marching to KANTARA to-night. 7th Lanes, Fusiliers will march in two parties from BALLAH. First party to be at KANTARA by 0300. Both parties to report at 0500. 8th Manchesters will march from FERDAN and report at 0500 at KANTARA. Both units are carrying 320 rounds S.A.A. per man, Lewis guns, 1 day's rations, 1st Line Transport, 1 blanket per man. Post 104 is being relieved at 0500 to-morrow and garrison of 100 G. and F. found by the 7th L.F. will join their battalion at KANTARA after relief. Addressed No. 3 Section. Repeated G.H.Q.

Copies to:

- O.
- O(a).
- O(b).
- A.
- Q.
- G.S.Z/58.
- " Cables.
- W.D.

FROM KANTARA BY TELEPHONE.

TIME	PLACE.	OBSERVATION.
Afternoon reconnaissance)	JEFEIR. MAGEIBRA. AWEIDIA. HOD EL BAYUD.	Nothing. * *
Further details as soon as possible.	BIR JAMEIL. GANADIL. SALMANA. BIR EL ABD.	2 Bell Tents, 3 camps, 1 on the top of the hills, 1 at wells; 1 one mile N.E. estimated shelters 250 to 300. 2000 to 3000 troops, 2000 camels, 3 long lines of trenches. * - Drinking troughs at well 75 to 100. 150 to 200 large shelters. 1500 to 2000 men. 1000 camels. 1 long trench facing West to West of well. The camp was in 4 sections fairly close together. Nothing. *
		20 to 25 bell tents, 2 E.P. tents. 2 large black huts. 500 shelters. 3000 to 3500 troops. 2000 camels. Camel Column 750 strong, moving from MAZAR to BIR EL ABD. 3 circular trenches, 1 North of wells, 1 S.E., 1 S.W., all of them 200 to 300 yards of the wells. On flying towards KATIA the machine met our troops, 3 or 4 miles East of KATIA, and our Main body 3 miles behind the advanced. Dropped message on troops and at ROMANI - received at both places.
		* Two of these trenches are three or four hundred yards long.

267

"A" Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123.
(In books of 50's in duplicate.)

No. of Message
Charges to Pay £ s. d.
Office Stamp
HQ-19 VII.16.
TELEGRAMS

Service Instructions.

Handed in at _____ Office _____ m. Received _____ m.

TO

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
			AAA

FROM
PLACE & TIME

"C" Form (Duplicate).
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 2123.
(In books of 50's in duplicate.)

No. of Messages

Charges to Pay £ s. d.

Office Stamp

HQ-19 VII.16.
TELEGRAMS

Service Instructions.

Handed in at *Via* Office *1573* m. Received *1576* m.

TO

Sender's Number	Day of Month	In reply to Number	AAA
<i>Ha 223</i>	<i>14/7</i>	<i>CaC 243</i>	AAA

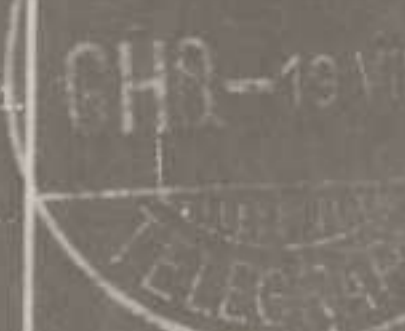
*No alteration to my
of 2nd instant*

G.S. (OPERATIONS)
298
G.H.Q. - M.E.

FROM
PLACE & TIME

*No 3 Section
1515*

"C" Form (Original). Army Form C. 2123.
(In books of 50's in duplicate.)
MESSAGES AND SIGNALS. No. of Message *R.M.*

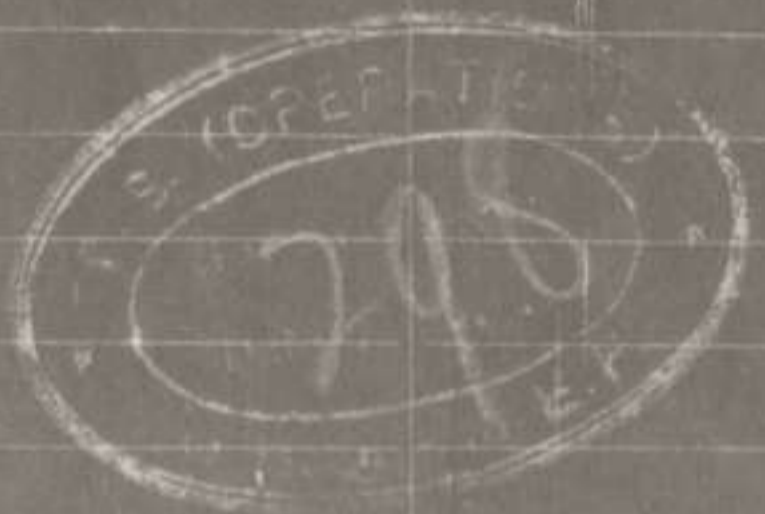
Prefix <i>44</i>	Code <i>44</i>	Words <i>44</i>	Received
Charges to collect			From <i>572</i>
Service Instructions			By <i>Hunter</i>
Sent, or sent out		Office Stamp	
At <i>11:30</i> m.			
To <i>44</i>			
By <i>44</i>			

Handed in at *44* Office *44* m. Received *44* m.

TO *GHP*

Sender's Number <i>G 3728</i>	Day of Month <i>19</i>	In reply to Number <i>AAA</i>
-------------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------------

No food received less than 3 gallons of water per man today



FROM *5th Div 1734*

PLACE & TIME

* This line should be erased if not required.
 WL 502-M437 500,000 Pads. H W V 5 16 Form C. 2123.

1916

WAS *APP C*



General Officer Commanding,
No. 3 Section, Canal Defences.

With reference to your A.1/121 of 16th July, the establishment of No. 3 Section as regards officers is attached hereto. Please state your requirements as regards (a) clerical staff, etc. (b) transport. The strictest economy should be observed in making these demands, which will be searchingly scrutinised by the War Office. It is particularly requested that the complete demands be not sent to General Headquarters till it has been ascertained that these are to the final satisfaction of all branches.

Sgt C. P. Dawney
for recd. as

G. H. Q.
19/7/18.

Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :- A.
Q.
A.M.S.

766

HEADQUARTERS, No. 3 SECTION, CANAL DEFENCES.

WAR ESTABLISHMENT.

Detail.	Personnel.					Horses.					Remarks.	
	Officers.	Clerks.	S. Sergeants.	A Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Total.	Riding.	Draught.	Heavy Draught.	Pack.		Total.
Commander (Maj-General)	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	3	
<u>STAFF.</u>												
<u>General Staff Branch.</u>												
Brig-Gen. Gen.Staff.	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	
G.S.O. 2nd Grade.	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	
G.S.O. 3rd Grade.	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	
<u>Adjutant & Quarter-master General's Branches.</u>												
D.A. & Q.M.G. (a)	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	(a) Brig-General.
D.A.A.G.	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	
D.A.Q.M.G.	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	
<u>Administrative Services and Departments.</u>												
D.D.M.S.	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	
A.D.M.S. (b)	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	(b) for sanitary duties.
<u>Attached.-</u>												
Chief Engineer. (c)	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	(c) Lt-Col.
<u>Personal Appointments.</u>												
A's.D.C. to Comdr.(d)	2	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	4	(d) 1 A.D.C. will act as Camp Commdt.
Total.	12	-	-	-	-	12	23	-	-	-	23	

267



From : G.H.Q.
To : No. 5 Section.

OBA 320. 19/7/16. Desp.

My letter G.S. 290 yesterday for commander
major-general read lieutenant-general, and for rank
chief engineer read brigadier-general.

Copies to:- O(b).
A.
Q.
A.M.S.
Filed, G.S. 290.
" G.S. Cables.
W.D.

WAD
App D
Officer Commanding,
Imperial Camel Corps.



With reference to your No. 766/16 dated July 13th,
~~paragraph 1~~, R.A.M.C. personnel cannot be supplied for the
Medical Officer's orderlies. Suitable men should be selected
from the reinforcements at your Headquarters, to carry out
these duties. If necessary one of the two selected might be
given the rank of Acting Corporal without pay.

2. It is regretted that the establishment of other ranks
cannot now be altered. The numbers mentioned by you as being
necessary for Lewis gun personnel seem somewhat excessive.
In an Infantry battalion, 1 N.C.O. and 12 men are allowed for
each pair of Lewis guns.

3. Would you please say how many horses you have on
charge at present, and whether any authority exists for their
retention?

G.H.Q., E.E.F.
19/7/16.

Sp. Col. Perkins
Major, G.S.
for Col. E.E.F.

269

WZ



APP E

General Officer Commanding,
Western Frontier Force.

With reference to your S.R./48/20 of 15th July,
it is not considered necessary in the circumstances to relieve
the 22nd Mounted Brigade at present.

The arrangements which you propose in the event
of orders being received for the despatch of this Brigade
elsewhere, are noted.

(Signature)
Lt. Col. C.S.
for Major-General
Chief of the General Staff
Egyptian Expeditionary Force

G.H.Q., E.E.F.
19/7/16.

REF ID: A66500
SECRET

270

G.S.
G.S. 2/54/1

Inspector General of Communications.

In continuation of G.S. Z.54/1, dated 8/7/16, and 9/7/16 respectively.

The Artillery of the Coast Defences of ALEXANDRIA will consist of the following forts and guns :-

<u>Fort.</u>	<u>Armament.</u>	<u>Personnel.</u>
Mex.	Two 4" Q.F.	3 off'rs. and 40 O.R.
Quarantine.	Two 12-pdr. Q.F.	2 " 40 55 "
Ras-el-Tin.	Two 4" VII.	2 " 35 40 "
Chatby.	Two 6" XI.	5 " 40 "
Headquarters (near Ras-el-Tin Fort).		2 " 10 "
<u>Total.</u>		<u>12 " 165 "</u>

The Maltese Artillery will man Chatby Fort. The remaining personnel, after the departure of the Royal Marine Artillery, vide G.S. Z.54/1, dated 5/7/16, will form one Garrison Company which will, in addition to the above, have one officer and 18 other ranks at SOLLUM and the same number at MATRUH. The personnel, ~~thus~~ totalling 14 officers and ¹⁹⁰ ~~169~~ O.R., will be found as follows :-

Maltese	2 off'rs.	40 other ranks.	
(Section 84th Siege	5 "	70 " ") One Garrison Company.
By.			
(From England.	7 "	80 " "	
	<u>12 "</u>	<u>190 " "</u>	

to which will be added one Maltese officer available in Egypt (Capt. Gatt) and one R.C.A. officer from the base.

/ The

The Section 84th Siege Battery at ALEXANDRIA will be struck off the strength of the Battery at SALONICA and will become portion of this local company, to which the number 103 has been allotted by the War Office. The Maltese detachment will be attached to this Company. The establishment of No. 103 Company is shown below :-

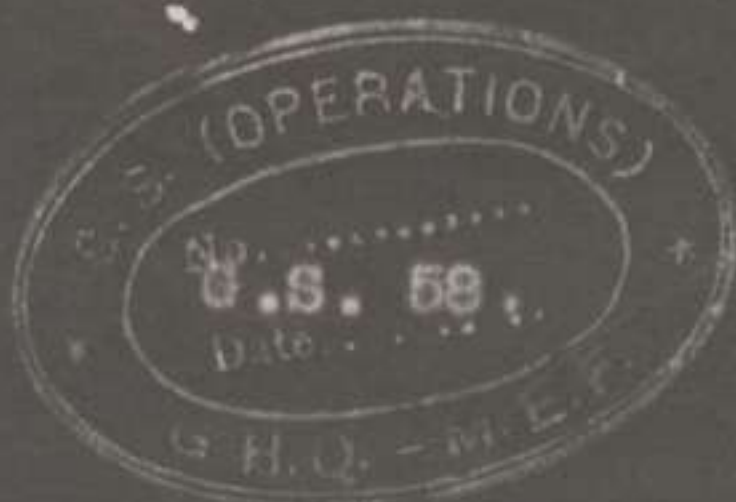
Major.	1.
Captains.	3.
Subalterns.	7.
B.S.M.	1.
Sergeants.	10.
Corporals.	9.
Bombardiers.	9.
a/Bombardiers.	9.
Fitters.	3.
Gunners.	<u>110.</u>
	<u>11 officers 150 men.</u>

(Sgd) G.P. Dawson f.b. Col.
G.S.

G. H. Q.
19/7/16.

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :- A.
M.G.R.A.
Q.



272

MG

Secretary,
War Office, LONDON, S.W.

19th July, 1916.

Sir,

I have the honour to request sanction for the establishment of a Maps and Survey Department for Army Headquarters at SALONICA in addition to the existing Topographical Section which is not adequate to meet the exigencies of the situation. It has been necessary to triangulate and survey the country round SALONICA without reference to the existing inaccurate 1/200,000 maps; and, in view of the urgency of this work, the whole preparation and issue of the new maps must be carried out at SALONICA. There are still some 1,200 square miles to be surveyed, and it is necessary that special measures be taken to ensure that the completion of this work is not hindered by the heavy routine work of issuing and draughting maps, supervising stores, and attending to general administration. For this reason I recommend, and have provisionally sanctioned, the following establishment for a Maps and Survey Department which will undertake the stationary work at A.H.Q., thus freeing the Topographical Section for work in the field :-

One officer.	Lieutenant or 2nd/Lieutenant.
One Chief Clerk.	Sergt. or A/Coy. Sergt. Major.
One A/Coy. Q.M.Sergt.	A/Sergt. or Sergeant.
Three detail and revision surveyors.	A/Corporals, 2nd/Corporals or Lance Corporals.
Five Draughtsmen.	A/Corporals, 2nd/Corporals or Lance Corporals.

The whole of the personnel required is available at
SALONICA.

/For

For the same reasons I have provisionally sanctioned, and request approval for, the formation of a G.H.Q. Printing Section (see War Establishments, Part VII, page 192, as amended) for Army Headquarters at SALONICA, in addition to the existing Printing Section R.E. which is required for printing in the field. The General Officer Commanding, SALONICA, only asks for an establishment of 14 other ranks with no drivers. Five of the men required can be found locally, leaving two photographers, two letterpress compositors, and five litho-printers to be found by Srd Echelon.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd) G. P. Dawson
Lt Col
A.S.

for General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Copies to :-

A.
I.
A.M.S.
E.-in-C.

SECRET

APP H 274

G.S.Z/34/1

General Officer Commanding,
No. 1 Section, Canal Defences.

The Commander-in-Chief, without wishing to interfere in any way with the selection of guns positions in your section, considers that certain broad principles should be adhered to.

1. It has been noticed, in certain cases, that 18-pdr. guns have been placed so far back on the West Bank of the Canal as to involve a serious loss of range. Positions for the defence of bridgeheads should give as long a range as possible beyond the bridgehead defences consistent with scope for bringing flanking fire to bear on the ground in their immediate vicinity.
2. Owing to the fact that posts are inevitably more or less clearly visible, there is little objection to the policy of placing field guns in entrenched works from the point of view that by so doing additional artillery fire will be drawn upon the defenders; while, with regard to attacks from the air, an entrenched camp will in any case form a more attractive target than an isolated battery.
3. No 18-pdr. guns selected for use as emergency anti-aircraft guns should be treated as purely for anti-aircraft defence; they should, in all cases, be considered as available for their normal work, and should be allocated to defence works with this end in view.

(Sgd.) G.F. Dawnay, Lt.-Col.

for Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

19/7/16.

copy to MGRA

275

APP I

G.S. Z/34/1
2.
3.

General Officer Commanding,
Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Sections.

Would you please say whether it has been found possible to carry out any tactical exercises on the lines indicated in this office letter G.S. Z/34/1 dated May 29²⁹ 1918.

The Commander-in-Chief attaches great importance to this form of training and is anxious that no opportunity may be missed for putting it into effect.

(Sgd) G.P. Dawney Lt. Col.
G.S.

G.H.Q.,
E.E.F.,
19.7.18.

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Added in the case of No 3 Section:-
"though he realises that this may not have been possible owing to the great amount of work of other kinds which the troops in No. 3 Section have had to perform."

General Officer Commanding,
No. 3 Section.

276
95.2/58
Date

1. The Commander-in-Chief has carefully considered your appreciation of the situation - which he has found of great value - as regards a further advance Eastward from KATIA.
2. With regard to the first step to be undertaken in furtherance of the second stage of this advance, the Commander-in-Chief agrees to your proposal to occupy a position in the neighbourhood of EL RABAH. This operation should not, however, be undertaken until the completion of the works now in progress at ROMANI - MAHAMDIYA, (which, he understands can be completed approximately by the end of this month), and until the railway and pipe line has been pushed forward far enough to be able to serve the force at EL RABAH.
3. The Commander -in-Chief does not wish to render immobile, by confining your troops to an offensive role behind entrenchments, one man more than is necessary. His policy, however, - in determination of which he is not free to consider purely military considerations to the exclusion of all else - is not only gradually to gain ground in Northern SINAI, but also effectively to consolidate the occupation of all ground so gained.
4. The force placed about EL RABAH should, therefore, be thoroughly entrenched, and the defensive arrangements covering railhead at that place should be fully adequate to enable the garrison to maintain their ground, and to protect the railhead until sufficient supporting troops from MAHAMDIYA can be brought up to repel any attack which the enemy may endeavour to make.

5. You should forward in due course to this Office a statement showing your plans for carrying out the Commander-in-Chief's intention with regard to the establishment of the new railhead defences at EL RABAH; showing especially, the strength of the force which you propose to employ; the works projected; your plans regarding the collection of material, etc., and the extent to which you propose to employ Egyptian Labour Corps instead of, or in addition to, military labour.

(Sgd) G.P. Dawney R. C. C.

G.H.Q., E.E.F.
19/7/16.

for Major-General,
Chief of the General Staff,
Egyptian Expeditionary Force.