

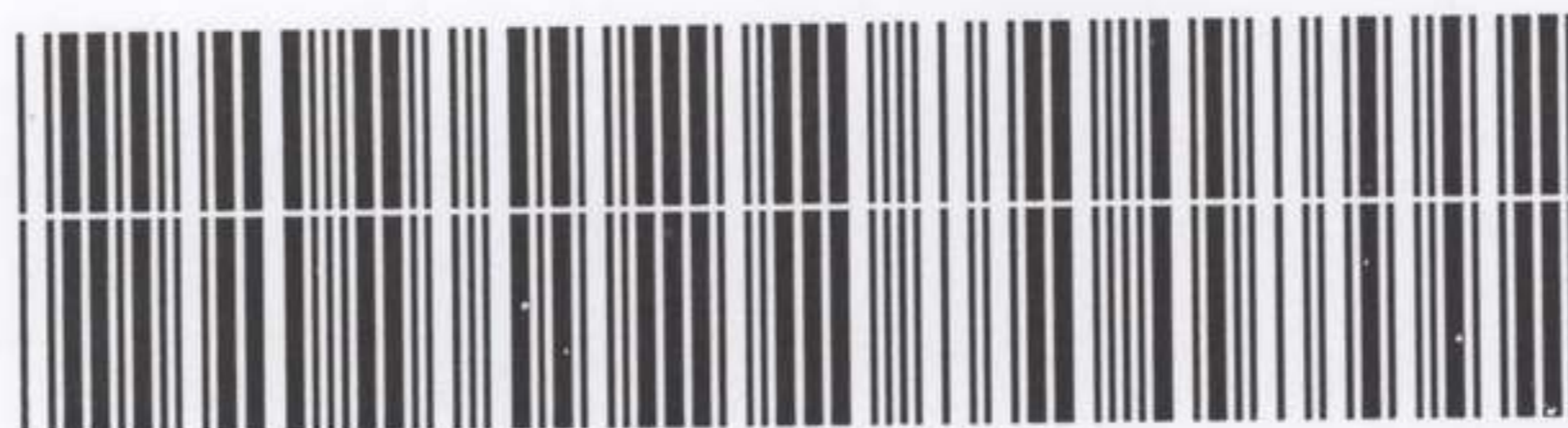
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Artillery

Item number: 13/39/1

Title: Headquarters, 12th Australian Field
Artillery Brigade

March 1916



AWM4-13/39/1

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Page 1.

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12th. Aus. Field Artillery Brigade.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el Kebir. Egypt	6/3/16		<p><u>FORMATION OF 12th. F.A. BRIGADE (D.A.R.O., No. 4 1916)</u> <u>4th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.</u> <u>POSTING OF PERSONNEL.</u></p> <p>To Command Major Rabett. R.L.R., C.M.G., late 2nd. Battery 1st F.A. Brigade, 1st. Australian Division, A.I.F. To be Adjutant Lieut. Ellis J.R. late of the 9th. Battery 3rd. F.A. Brigade 1st. Australian Division A.I.F. The following Officers were posted to the Brigade but not to Batteries:-</p> <p>Lieut. Mc. Kay R.C. Late 2nd. F.A. Brigade from 1st. DIV. A.I.F. 2nd. " Flemming J.A. " " " " " " " " " " Collins E.A. " " " " " " " " " " Scarrott L; " W.O. Class 1. 3rd F.A. BDE. " " " " Peterson L.G. " " " " 2nd " " "</p> <p>The following N.C.O's and men were transferred to the 12th. F.A. Brigade from the 1st. Australian Division A.I.F.</p> <p>N.C.O's ----- 11 Other ranks ----- 12 (including batemen and grooms)</p> <p><u>BATTERIES.</u> Allotment of numbers.</p> <p>The following numbers were allotted to Batteries of the 12th F.A. Brigade</p> <p>45th. Battery 46th. " 47th. " 48th. "</p>	

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13th. Aus. Field Artillery Brigade.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el Kebir	6/3/16		<p><u>ADMINISTRATION.</u> In accordance with D. A. R. O's. this Brigade together with other Brigades of Artillery forming part of the 4th. Australian Division Artillery will be administered and rationed as a Divisional Unit until further orders.</p> <p><u>GENERAL.</u> In common with other Brigades of the 4th. and 5th. Australian Divisional Artillery, this Brigade had an exceedingly small nucleus of Artillery Officers and other ranks and the other ranks consisted chiefly of gunners and drivers only just promoted to non-commissioned ranks and batmen and grooms to the Officers. Of the Officers 2nd. Lieut. Paterson was almost immediately re-transferred to the 2nd. Brigade A.F.A. and of the remaining six, three had seen Active Service as officers.</p> <p>Major R.L.R. Rabett with 2nd. Battery 1st. F.A. Brigade, chiefly at Cape Helles, Gallipoli with the 8th Army Corps.</p> <p>Lieut. J.R. Ellis as Section Commander 9th. Battery, 3rd. F. A. Brigade at Anzac.</p> <p>Lieut. R.C. McKay had been at Anzac for about the 1st. month with the 2nd. B.A.C.</p> <p>Lieut. Collins and Flemming were re-inforcement Officers only recently posted to Batteries at Tel-el-Kebir after the Gallipoli evacuation.</p> <p>Lieut. Scarrott has served as an N.C.O. during the whole of the occupation of Anzac.</p> <p>Immediately upon the formation of the Brigade regular steady squad drill was commenced and varied with semaphore signalling and marching drill and lectures on various subjects.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Continued.	Summary of Events and Information	12th. Field Artillery Brigade.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el-Kebir.	6/3/16		Every effort was made to inculcate smart soldiering bearing and self respect. The Brigade was divided into four squads each under a Subaltern Officer pending organisation into Batteries and etc.			
			<u>TRAINING.</u> Training to be carried out under Brigade command until formation of batteries.			
EGYPT.	7/3/16 to 5/4/16 inclusive		<u>BRIGADE ROUTINE ORDERS.</u> Brigade Routine Orders and other xxxxxx records of 12th.F.A.Brigade, giving information required for WAR DIARY having been lost, or destroyed during move of 12th.F.A.Brigade from TEL-EL-KEBIR to SERAPEUM.W. the following entries during that period are made chiefly from D.A.R.O's			
	8/3/16		<u>ENTRY MADE</u> 1-6-1916 <u>TRANSFER.</u> 2nd/Lieut.Paterson L.G. transfered from 12th.F.A.Brigade to 2nd.F.A.Brigade.			
			<u>BATTERY COMMANDERS.</u> Circular memorandum No.26 recieved providing that"of the total number of Battery Commanders provided under PartVII Establishment eight may be Majors".			
	10/3/16) 11/3/16)		<u>TRANSFERS.</u> One other rank transfered to 12th. F. A. Brigade. Three other ranks transfered to the 12th. F. A. Brigade.			
	12/3/16		<u>PROMOTIONS.</u> Major R.L.R.Rabett (C.M.G) to be Lieut.Colonel temporarily. Lieut. J.R.Ellis to be Captain temporarily. 2nd/Lieut. J.A.Flemming to be Lieutenant.			

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12th. Aus. Field Artillery Brigade.

Place	Date	Hour	Continued	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	12/3/16		<u>PROMOTIONS.</u>	2nd/Lieut. E.A. Collins to be Lieutenant	
	13/3/16		<u>GENERAL.</u>	Inoculation commenced against Typhoid and Para-Typhoid.	
				Helmets and Drill Clothing issued as available.	
	13/3/16		<u>TRANSFERS.</u>	From 4th. Infantry Brigade to 12th. F.A. Bde.	
	14/3/16			Other ranks 14	
	15/3/16			From 2nd. Division Artillery	
				Warrant Officer Slack J.	
Tel-el-Kebir. Egypt.	16/3/16		<u>TRANSFERS.</u>	From 1st. Division Artillery to 12th. F.A. Bde	
				Lieutenant Callinan L.H.	
				Other ranks 2	
				From 4th. Infantry Brigade to 12th. F.A. Bde.	
				Other ranks 88	
	17/3/16			From 12th. Infantry Brigade	
				Other ranks 93	
				From 13th. F.A. Brigade	
				Other ranks 4	
	18/3/16		<u>ADMINISTRATION.</u>	From this date administration will be carried out independently by this Brigade.	
	22/3/16		<u>GENERAL.</u>	The Brigade was inspected (at Foot Drill) by H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES and in honour of his visit was granted a half holiday.	

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12th. Aus. Field Artillery Brigade.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices														
	22/3/16		<p><u>TRANSFERS.</u> 43 Other Ranks were transfered to 12th. F.A.Brigade from the following Units:-</p> <table><tr><td>7th. Battery 3rd. F.A. Bde.</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>9th. " " " "</td><td>14</td></tr><tr><td>24th. " F.A. Brigade</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>3rd. F.A. Brigade Amm. Colmn.</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>103rd. Battery</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>21st. Howitzer Brigade AMM; Cl. 5</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>43</td></tr></table>	7th. Battery 3rd. F.A. Bde.	5	9th. " " " "	14	24th. " F.A. Brigade	6	3rd. F.A. Brigade Amm. Colmn.	12	103rd. Battery	1	21st. Howitzer Brigade AMM; Cl. 5		Total	43	
7th. Battery 3rd. F.A. Bde.	5																	
9th. " " " "	14																	
24th. " F.A. Brigade	6																	
3rd. F.A. Brigade Amm. Colmn.	12																	
103rd. Battery	1																	
21st. Howitzer Brigade AMM; Cl. 5																		
Total	43																	
	23/3/16		<table><tr><td>From 2nd. A.G.H.</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>22nd. A.D.M.S.</td><td>1</td></tr></table>	From 2nd. A.G.H.	1	22nd. A.D.M.S.	1											
From 2nd. A.G.H.	1																	
22nd. A.D.M.S.	1																	
Tel-el-Kebir.			<p><u>COLORS</u> <u>4th. DIVISION ARTILLERY.</u></p> <p>Distinguishing badges for fourth Australian Division Artillery will be as below, patches will be worn by all ranks on both sleeves of Jacket and Great-coat, one inch below the centre of the shoulder seam blue to the front Diameter 2 inches join of colors at an angle of 45° to the vertical.</p> 															

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12th. Aus. Field Artillery Brigade

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el-Kebir EGYPT.	24/3/16		<u>PROMOTION.</u> Bombadier G.M. Goldfinch to be 2nd. Lieut. and posted to the 12th. F.A. Brigade.	
	25/3/16		<u>TRANSFERS.</u> 1 Other Rank from the 8th. A.L.H. to 12th. F.A. Brigade Lieut. N.P. Webbe transferred from the 45th. Battalion to the 12th. F.A. Brigade.	
	26/3/16		6 Other Ranks from the 2nd. Inf. Bde 3 " " " " 1st. Div. Art. From the 4th. D.A.H.Q. Other Ranks " Div. Artillery 1 " "	
	29/3/16		<u>GENERAL.</u> Parade hours arranged for summer giving rest period from 11.30 am. to 3 pm. A. M. C. Detail organised.	
	30/3/16		<u>TRANSFERS.</u> Lieutenant Marsden E.J. from 1st. Aus. Div. Artillery to 12th. F.A. Brigade.	
	30/3/16 to 1/4/16		<u>GENERAL.</u> Brigade organised into 4 Batteries and Ammunition Column.	
			<u>TRANSFERS.</u> 2nd/lieut. Smith O.A. dated 1/4/16 " " Lewis L.F. " " From 1st. Aus. Remount Unit 23 Other Ranks " "A" Details Ziztoun 6 " " 3 Naval Bridging Train 16 " " " 8th. L.H. 303 " "	
	4/4/16		<u>MOVE.</u> Arrangements for move of the Brigade, to Serapeum. West. begun.	
			<u>TAKEN ON STRENGTH.</u> Lieut. E. W. Richards is taken on the Strength having reported on completion of leave of absence in England posted to this Brigade. <i>TRANSFER DATED 12/3/16</i> Lieutenant Levy dated 4/4/16	

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12th. Aus. Field Artillery Brigade

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-el-Kebir EGYPT.	30/3/16		<p><u>GENERAL.</u></p> <p>On this date the Brigade was practically at full strength and Battery organisation was progressing favorably. All personnel being divided equally according to qualifications, N.C.O's, Farriers, Fitters, Saddlers, Wheelers, Signalling, Drivers, Men able to ride and otherwise etc. Artillery personnel equally divided.</p> <p>Complete syllabus of training drawn up:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. For young officers b. " N. C. O's c. " Rank and File <p>All personnel graded and drilled in squads under Battery arrangements. Young officers drilled two hours before breakfast by the Adjutant and lectures and drill 4 hours in the afternoon.</p> <p>Lectures given to officers by Brigade and Battery Commanders on all subjects including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interior Economy by the C. O. & ADJT. Military Law, Kings Regs. by the Adjt. Gunnery, Laying etc. by Capt. Ellis & Capt. Richards Field Artillery Drill and Manoeuvre by the C.O. and Practical Gun Drill, other officers by Capt. Richards Laying by Capt. Ellis Driving and Equitation by Lieut. Fleming and W.O. Slack <p>Lectures by the Medical Officer and Vet.O.</p> <p>50% of N.C.O's in N.C.O's class daily other 50% drill with Battery.</p>	