

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/25/12

Title: 8th Infantry Battalion

January 1916



AWM4-23/25/12

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

8th Bde AIF

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LEMNOS				
Lemnos	1.1.16		Orders for embarkation received, rained heavily, Calo cheerless day.	
"	2.1.16		Commenced to embark at 1300, 18 officers and 820 men remainder of Bn were attached to 5 Bnd. Lieut Duffy to hospital. Taken aboard the <u>Empress of Britain</u> all aboard at 1700.	
H.M.S. Empress of Britain	2.1.16		The remainder of Bn + Bde came aboard, Brig Gen Forey's G.O.C. Troops.	
"	4.1.16		Sailed at 0800 every precaution taken against submarine attacks all available Machine Guns were placed in position at various positions of the ship, Strong armed guards were posted, strict precautions taken in muffling lights, no smoking or matches were allowed to be struck on deck after sunset, calm sea.	
"	5.1.16		Sea smooth. Nothing unusual occurred.	
"	6.1.16		Arrived off Alexandria at 0800, took pilot aboard, entered harbour & dropped anchor at 1000, berthed along side quay at 1630, orders received to disembark 8 th Bn being last to leave the ship, at 2000 entrained at 0100 for Tel-El Kebir arriving at 0700, & marched into Camp, Lt Col Field returned from wounded & Lieut Patron W. from Hospital, 48 details & transport joined up to the Bn.	
7.1.16			Lieut Roberts and 128 other ranks of 11 th Reinforcement taken on strength making the Bn strength up to 25 officers 1041 other ranks.	

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1-2
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tel-El-Kebir	8.1.16		Two hours setting up drill indulged in. Lieut Biggsley Q.M. appointed as Bde Q.M. 4000, despatched to Alexandria to obtain Lents (Bde) only, 29 Bull Lents in the Bn. Lieut Watson (Supernumerary list) appointed to act as Bn Q.M.	
	9.1.16		Sunday General Church Parade, the remainder of the day, the Bn rested. 185 bags mail were received for the Bn.	
	10.1.16		Commenced training in allotted areas. 20 men on Sick Parade Colds + Coughs were the chief trouble. 1 bag mail came to hand.	
	11.1.16		Training as usual. Inspection of lines	
	12.1.16		Training as usual. Half Holiday, much appreciated by all ranks. Bn on Dev. Duties 1128 men + 8 officers on Special Duties Bn Strength 25 Officers and 1043 other ranks	
	13.1.16		Training as usual. Leave is granted of one percent (1%) for a period of 36 hours.	
	14.1.16		Pay amounting to £2663.1.5. was distributed to the Companies. 16 bags mail received. Training ceased at 1200. 1st Aust. Div formed up in Review order. Rehearsal Parade by Brig Gen Smythe V.C. March past Saluting Base 27 men returned from Hospital from England. Strength 25 Officers 1064 other ranks.	
	15.1.16		Division inspected by Gen Murray. 7 bags mail received. Lieut's Grouns, Burdett + Stephenson absconded on strength of Bn. 3 men to Hospital. Large number of men on Sick Parade chiefly Colos.	

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1-20

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Tel-El-Kebir	16.1.16		Church Parade, March past Gen Chauvel's remains of the day Bn resting.	
	17.1.16		Usual Training, 14 bags mail received, 113 men absent without leave	
	18.1.16		" "	
	19.1.16		" "	
	20.1.16		Training Musketry, Elementary Shooting, 13 bags mail received	
	21.1.16		All leave cancelled officers recalled and Bn ordered ^{to be ready to proceed} to the Canal	
	22.1.16		Move postponed 24 hours, 15 bags mail received. Lt. Baker to Hospital,	
	23.1.16		Church Parade remains of day Bn resting.	
	24.1.16		5 th Bns and Bde Hd. go leave for Canal Lt Col Elliott left in command of the remains of the Bde. Training as usual.	
	25.1.16		Training as usual, leave granted at the rate of 37% all ranks Special trains	
	26.1.16		provided to Cairo, move postponed indefinitely 3rd Bde to move on 27 th inst	
	27.1.16		Training as usual, 17 men transferred to Camel Corps (Trust off strength).	
	28.1.16			
	29.1.16			
	30.1.16			
	31.1.16		Church Parade Remains of day Bn resting.	

Effective Strength.	OFF	OR.	TOTAL.
	23.	1029	1052

[Signature]

c/o Sht Battalion A. I. B.

