

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

Infantry

Item number: 23/62/2

Title: 45th Infantry Battalion

April 1916



AWM4-23/62/2

571

Tel-el-Keber. - 25-3-16.

Transferred 11 O.R. to 12th Bde M.G. Co.
£865/-/- paid to 45th Battalion.

" 21-3-16.

Eight (8) N.C.O.'s in 45th Bn granted Commissions.
Five of these had Peninsula experience.

" 23-3-16.

2nd in command Capt Rowland W.J.; transferred from
53rd Battalion.
Senior Company Commander Capt Chapman D.K.;
transferred from 49th Battalion.

" 25-3-16.

Capt Hopkins, C.B. seconded to the 14th Inf Bde
as Staff Captain.

" 27-3-16.

The 45th Battalion (12th Bde) left Tel-el-Kebir at
1800 en route to SERAPEUM via ISMAILIA.
21 Officers and 534 Other ranks, 50 Baggage camels
2 limbered wagons and 4 Riding horses marched 12
miles and bivouaced in desert 3 miles from MAHSAMA

MAHSAMA.

28-3-16.

Had breakfast at MAHSAMA. Rested until 1530,
marched 10 miles and bivouaced at MACHANA about
5 miles from MOASCAR.

MOASCAR.

29-3-16.

Reached Moascar after march through heavy sand about
0830. Rested there till 30-3-16.

SERAPEUM.

30-3-16.

Left MOASCAR 0600, reached camp (1 mile across
pontoon bridge) i.e. EAST of CANAL.
Reached SERAPEUM camp with all but 15 O.R. who were
sent to the Field Ambulance on march who however
returned to Battalion within 24 hours.

Camp had been occupied by 2nd Inf Bde, very badly
laid out.

*31-3-16. One hundred + one (60 OR) from 2nd Bde details absorbed
2-4-16. (60 OR) from 8th Train Regt + (29) from 8th Train Regt Bn 589*

3-4-16.

Left camp (taking tents and camp equipment by train)
and marched to RAILHEAD about 5 miles along
metalled road. Bivouaced at the RAILHEAD for night.

RAILHEAD.

4-4-16.

Took over front line trenches (A Sub-section No. 2
Section) from the LIGHT HORSE.

"D" Co relieved 9th L.H. Squadron at 62 Post.

"C" Co " " "C" Squadron 9th L.H. at 58 Post.

"B" Co " " 10th L.H. Squadron at 3 Post.

"A" Co. " " " " at 7 and 9 Posts.

Each company marched direct to Posts lead by guide
with baggage on camels (60 each).

Headquarters moved to 9th L.H. H.Q. at ROADHEAD
2 1/2 miles EAST.

The front line of trenches is about 12 miles long
from SOUTH to NORTH.

"D" Co. at No. 62 post had 4 platoons under
Capt Chapman D.K.

"C" Co had 2 platoons under	Capt Howden at No	58	post
" " " 2 " "	Lieut Young	"	55 "
"B" Co had 3 " "	Capt Knox	"	3 "
" " " 1 " "	Lt Meggitt	"	5 "
"A" Co " 2 " "	Capt Allen	"	9 "
" " " 2 " "	Capt Perry	"	7 "



RAILHEAD.4-4-16.

The work carried on included :a

- (1) Cleaning ~~xxxx~~ out of trenches.
- (2) Digging of new trenches.
- (3) Making revetments.
- (4) Erecting wire entanglements.
- (5) Doing Musketry.
- (6) Manning trenches at night.
- (7) Putting out observations posts in the day time.

At RAILHEAD was left the Quartermaster and Staff to send out supplies rations and water which were sent direct to the posts on camels every morning. The supply arrangements were excellent. The whole Battalion liked being out there on detached duty very much. But more strenuous training needed.

"

11-4-16.

Left Front line trenches to come back to RAILHEAD. The 47th Battalion relieved us.

"

13-4-16.

Lt-Col Herring, S.C.E. went on 5 weeks leave to France and England. Major Rowland temporarily commanding the 45th Battalion.

"

19-4-16.

Reinforcements of the 13th Battalion (13, 14, and 15th) including some original battalion men ~~104~~ total).

94

Sydney Criswell
Lt. Col.
C.O. 45th Battalion