

21.4/1/15
21.5/1/9 (as Appx)

A D O S NZ DIV
D A D O S (E)

War Diary for Mar 1941.
Egypt - Greece.

W. B. many initials

Original

S.E.C.R.E.T

W A R D I A R Y

of

A.D.O.S. -- N.Z. DIVISION.

31 MAY 1941

From *1/3/41*.....

To. *31/3/41*.....

(Volume *No 13*.....)

OFFICIAL ARCHIVES		
	Initial	Date
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ARCHIVES ARMY H.Q.		
	INITIALS	DATE
RECEIVED		13/5/42
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CLASSIFICATION	21.4/1/15	

WAR DIARY

for March '41.

ADOS.

In lieu AFG 2118.

21.4

Drew 46 A/tank rifles and distributed them to units. This distribution completed unit ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ requirements. Further 10 WT sets were received and issued to 6 Fd. Regt.; though issued as complete sets, many were deficient essential components which prevented them working. The Div. is now complete with WT sets though all are not capable of functioning. Drew 884 RD tents from Tel El Kebir, also some .55 ammunition from Abu Sultan. 32 Bn. defeated Div. Cav. 12 - 6 in final of the Freyberg Cup. Distributed 500 RD tents to units about to move and returned 384 to BOO Maadi for distribution to units moving in the next flight. Storemen sent to No 9 BAD for tank hunting equipment for the Bns. All explosives were obtained, but haversacks, bottles, etc. for carriage of Molotov Cocktails were not available from Abbassia. Heaviest rain we have experienced in Egypt. Still endeavouring to obtain equipment for units leaving in the next flight. All superfluous records were returned to Base Ordnance, Maadi, and the office packed up preparatory to move from Helwan. Div. HQ moved out, but Capt. J Kelsey and I remained to meet Lieut- Colonel T J King, who has just returned from England. Spent all day in conference with the DDOS, 2NZE. Moved to Amriya after further conference with DDOS. Arranged to draw 2000 mosquito nets for 6 Bde. from Alexandria. N.Z. Reception Unit suddenly discovered that it had no 1098 equipment. Arranged to draw a certain amount from Amriya dump and Alexandria and took a convoy back to Maadi for the balance. Returned to Amriya. Sent another convoy to Maadi for further tentage for Reception unit. Cpl. Griffiths has been evacuated to hospital with pleurisy. Arranged for two reinforcements to be sent from Maadi to replace Cpl. Griffiths and Pte Mooney who was regraded and returned to Base. At Amriya. Worst sandstorm ~~for~~ our experience in Egypt. Did some shooting, both with rifle and Bren Gun. Warning order to move. Embarked on S S "Corinthia" for Greece. Calm and peaceful trip in convoy. Arrived in port at 2300 hrs. Disembarked at Pireaus. Visited HQ BFG and had conference with ~~the~~ DDOS. In the afternoon visited all N.Z. units still in vicinity of Athens and gave them instructions regarding obtaining deficiency of mosquito nets. Visited Voulos Camp for discussion with the Camp Commandant. Two visits to HQ, BFG for conference with DDOS, ADOS(E) and DADOS. Left Hymettus camp with 10 HQ vehicles and joined a 40 mile convoy. An interesting but uneventful day and we finally stopped about 120 miles out from Athens.

Appx. A-War
 Diary of
 DADOS(E)

Appx. B
 Summary
 of activities
 of LADN.
 [Signature]

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Page 2.

21.4

Another interesting day. This night we stayed just outside Lerissa. Reached Kalakouri about 1730hrs after a very slow trip over the Pass. Both office personnel and the office truck were still on the road so it was not possible to establish the office. Visited railhead and investigated the ammunition position; then at 1 N.Z.Fd. Workshops and Ordnance Fd. Park. In afternoon visited 4 Inf Bde HQ at Palleonelline. *Paleonellene* Staff and office truck arrived last night, so spent day establishing an office in a very respectable type of house. Cleared up all mail that had accumulated since leaving Helwan. Sent off consolidated demand for expendable stores for the whole Div. Visited HQ 6 Inf Bde at ^{Sph} Splendami, then OME 19 LAD and finally Ammunition Railhead at Katerini. Signalled to the BOD for MG equipment urgently required by Div. Cav. Conference with OC 1 Ord. Fd. Park then submitted draft proposals to A/Q in regard to procedure to be carried out when replacements of signal ~~MT~~ parts are required from the Ordnance Fd. Park. Submitted bulk demands for all anti-malarial stores and equipment. Signalled BOD for urgent signalling equipment required by 25 Bn. Visited 1 N.Z. Ord. Fd. Workshop. A serious fault has developed in Ford 15cwt CAS and DADOS(E) and C.C. Fd. Workshop are now endeavouring to design a suitable modification. Went to Salonika and made contact with unit purchasing officer. Spent a profitable day buying equipment and materials urgently required by 1 N.Z.Fd. Workshops.

W. Andrews
Major ADOS
NZ Div.

WAR DIARY

In lieu AF C2118

Appx A
(to ADOS)

WAR DIARY

DADOS(E)

MARCH, 1941.

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GENERAL ARCHIVES		
of DADOS(E)	Initial	J.
Received	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Read		
Filed	<i>[Signature]</i>	2/2/4
Classification	21-5-1/159	

March

- 1 Normal routine.
- 2 Normal routine. To Base to see No. 1 Fd W/shops which is in the process of formation, and which will move shortly.
- 3. Very busy day. Last minute rush prior to departure of most units. 2/Lt Cooper of 16 LAD reported. Conference with Capt. Pollock prior to departure of 1 Fd W/shops. with modification.
- 4 Final day before departure from Helwan camp. Working at high pressure. port on move to
- 5 Div. HQ move. Lieut-Colonel King DDOS arrives from England and ADOS and DADOS(E) have conference with him all day on policy matters.
- 6 Further conference with DDOS and SOME(Base). Depart for Western Desert and join Div. HQ. at Amriya.
- 7 Take convoy to Mustapha Barracks at Alexandria to load barrack stores for sundry units.
- 8 Contact 9, 14, 11 LAD's and 1 Fd. W/shops.
- 9, 10 Normal
- 11 Advised by DOS that 4 and 5 Ind. Bde. Group W/shops will be included in the 7th Flight.
- 12. WO 1 McKay, 17 LAD; Sgt Barry, 2 Cav; and Sgt Stratford, Base Ordnance; are selected for O C T U as potential OME's.
- 13 Cpl Griffiths DADOS(E) clerk evacuated to hospital.
- 14,15,16,17 Normal.
- 18 Leave Amriya with detachment of Div.HQ. Embark on S S "Corinthia" at Alexandria. Leave here at 1530hrs in convoy.
- 19,20 At sea.
- 21 Arrive at Athens. Disembark and move to Hymettus Camp. Call to see Colonel Miller ADOS(E) "W" Force and have long conference with him. Call on 9 LAD, Div Cav, 27(M G) Bn, 1 Fd W/shops and 14 LAD.
- 22 Inspect 1 N Z Fd W/shops with Colonel Miller.
- 23 Leave in convoy for forward area.
- 24 In convoy.
- 25 In convoy. Report at Div HQ at Katerine.
- 26 To 1 NZ Fd W/shops and A and B sections of Ordnance Field Park.
- 27 Prepare instructions to units on procedure regarding workshops practice, evacuation and replacement of vehicles, Ordnance Fd. Park and returns. To contact 11, 14 LAD's, 1 NZ Fd. W/shops and OPP.
- 28 With Capt Pollock to Salonika. Receive permission from Chief Purchasing Officer to buy spring steel which is obtained.
- 29 Hear that Ford steering sector needle bearings are failing in some vehicles. Examine this defect at 11 LAD. Arrange with 1 NZ Fd. W/shops to manufacture sufficient phospher bronze bushings as a local modification for this defect. Report this defect to ADOS(E) "W" Force. Col. Harding, O C of OPP reports and discuss policy of this unit with him. To 1 N Z Fd W/shops re steering sector modification and work in progress.
- 30 Normal routine at office. Contact 9, 13 and 14 LAD's.
- 31

J. O. Roney Capt.
DADOS (E)
N. 2 Division

No reports received. These units have only recently arrived from England and have moved 2 Apr 1941
successfully. Each LAD is equipped with a L. down truck.

Appx B

x Appx B: Summary of OME's Monthly Reports
for March 1941.
 (For inclusion in War Diary of DADOS(E))

<u>9 LAD</u>	Major 1st line repairs 2 Minor " " 100 Overhauls to B.O.W. Feb/March 76	All guns and trailers inspected and modified by BOW before departure of unit. All 15cwt Ford Generator spindles spot welded in accordance with modification. OME was in charge of units transport on move to Greece. LAD functioned successfully in assisting convey from Athens to forward position.
10 LAD	Major 1st line repairs 12 Minor " " 43 Overhauls to BOW 16	Unit moved with 5 Fd. Park Coy.
<u>11 LAD</u>	Major 1st line Repairs 7 Minor " " 56 Overhauls to BOW 87	Two major defects were discovered (a) Ford steering sectors. (b) Ford generator bushings. Local modifications to both defects are being carried out. These are not manufactured by 1 NZ Fd. W/shops. A certain amount of experiment is necessary with regard to the modified type of Ford Steering sector bushes and two different types are under observation.
<u>12 LAD</u>	Major 1st line repairs 3 Minor 2nd line repairs 17 Overhauls to BOW 97	This unit was handicapped in its convey work by its deficiency of Breakdown truck. <i>(Cont over)</i>
13 LAD	Major 1st line repairs 9 Minor " " 66 Overhauls to BOW 69	Modifications carried out: Marmon Herrington armoured car turrets " " " " spare wheel brackets
LAD moved with unit to which it is attached.		
14 LAD	Minor 1st line repairs 24 Evacuations to BOW 2	OME's inspection carried out on all Div Sigs vehicles during month. LAD moved forward with unit.
15,16,17 LAD's	No reports received. These units have only recently arrived from England and have moved and are functioning successfully. Each LAD is equipped with a B/down truck.	

18 LAD	Major 1st line repairs	4
	Minor " "	44

LAD functioning well. Has carried out inspection and service of Arty. equipment.

<u>19 LAD</u>	Major 1st line repairs	9
	Minor " "	33

This is one of the most successful LAD's in the NZ Div. The OME has insisted upon constant maintenance in the 6 Bde., and the effect of this is very marked.

1 NZ Fd. W^kshops

Formed on 28 Feb 1941 in five days. Moved from Egypt with the N Z Div. Opened to operate for the Div on 27 March, '41. For four remaining days of the month 60 2nd line repairs were accepted and of these 27 completed. This unit is not fully equipped and would not be able to function but for a captured Italian trailer fully equipped as a field workshop. Although this unit is designed to serve only a Bde. Group, it is serving the whole Division until the arrival of two British units.

F. A. Army Capt.
D4005 (A)
N.Z. Div
12 Apr 1941.