

Friday 22nd. Took over job as permanent mess orderly. Drew ration from depot.

Saturday 23rd. Tent inspection. Leave in afternoon.

Sunday 24th. Church parade 10 am. Medical parade 11 30 am. Leave in afternoon. Stayed in camp all day.

Monday 25th. News of departure of troops for Ishmalia. Busy packing kits etc. etc.

Tuesday 26th. Off for the front. Busy packing up. Issued with 150 rounds of ammunition. Left per train for Ishmalia by 4 30 pm train. No sleep last night, 24 hours rations (bread and water). Arrived at Ishmalia 11 pm.

Wednesday 27th. Bivouac last night. Two airplane scouts were first I saw in my life, can hear the guns in action at the Suez canal. Inspection of ammunition. Muster parade.

Thursday 28th. Bivouac last night. Revellie 5 30 am. Hair cut short. Four airships out scouting.

Friday 29th. Bivouac last night. Breakfast 7 30. Parade 8 30. Battalion attack practice. Inspection by General Walker. Practice of entraining in evening. Marched along Suez canal and Lake Tiusah, passed Indian and Egyptian troops. Went up town.

Saturday 30th. Bivouac last night. First parade 8 15. Pitching of tents, 12 men in each tent. Bathing parade in afternoon, in Lake Tismah off Suez canal. Part paid 10 piastres (2/-). Went to town.

Sunday 31st. Bathing parade in morning in Lake Tismah, afterwards had church parade on Indian football ground on banks of Suez. Bob R. and Les Stanley and self went to Suez canal for stroll in afternoon, saw about 10 boats pass through. Slept in tent last night but it was taken away from 8 section this morning for use as guard tent.

Monday 1st. February 1915. Nelson Company on fatigue in morning carrying ammunition, 600 boxes. Musketry parade @ 2 pm. Marched to Suez canal. Platoon drill and afterwards bathing parade till 4 30 pm. Paid 58 piastres (12/-). Went up town in evening. Can hear guns in action on Suez canal.

Tuesday 2nd. First parade 8 am. Every thing in readiness to take the trenches at Suez canal. Tremendous roar of guns at canal east of Ismalia. Natives fleeing from there homes. Left camp per train took trenches @ 5 pm. Was posted "Sentry over arms" all night, firing opened at 3 am. (Name of station Ein-Ghoslin).

Wednesday 3rd. The start of our first fight, first shots we fired at dawn. Many narrow escapes, shells bursting in all directions. Sgt Major Williams and Bill Ham wounded. Indians formed flank attack on east side of canal, many killed. Turks retiring tremendous loss. Tucker short (bread and water). Firing cooled down at dark, formed outpost at night, rained for couple of hours. Captured 300 Turks.