

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

Cavalry

Item number: 9/4/1 Part 1

Title: 1/1st East Riding Yeomanry,
ANZAC Mounted Division

March 1917

1/1st E Riding Yeo. Anzac Mtd Div.

On His Majesty's Service.

March 1917

ORIGINAL.
photostat copy.

CONFIDENTIAL.



WAR DIARY

OF

1/1st E. RIDING. YEO. ANZAC MTD-DIV.

From *1st MARCH*

To *31st MARCH 1917*

VOL. No.

R. 25,000-5/18-11212.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

1062

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~~

(Erase heading not required.)

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47 1/1 East Riding Yeomanry.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
SHEIK ZOWAID	1917 March	0600	Reconnaissance patrols report "all clear." 0615. Orders issued for outposts to withdraw.	HDPZ.	
		0800	The Regiment (less itnwp) paraded for operations. Force, as follows, under command of Lt Col Thorton G WILSON DSO. 1/1 LINGS YEO. 1/1 ERYEO (less itnwp) 18th MG SQDN (less 3 sections) 22nd Mt BDE signal Tnwp. Detachment Field Ambulance. Orders to make good the country E of SHEIK ZOWAID as far as the TURCO-EGYPTIAN frontier. Ref map. 1/125000 SINAI - RAFA.		
		0945	Troops in position. LINGS YEO (less 2 SQDNs) KARRH IBN MUSLEH. D SQDN LINGS EL GUBBA. A SQDN LINGS. posts 310 & 280, E and NE of RAFA. Remainder in support at Δ 255. TOWAIL EL GHIR		
		10.00	one itnwp B SQDN ERY reported at Divl HQ as escort to GOC. in C.		
		10.12	troops in position reported to Divl HQ. one itnwp sent as escort to survey to 2 M S of KHAN YUNUS		
		11.45.	A SQDN LINGS YEO in touch with enemy cavalry patrol. nothing further to report.		
		16.20	orders received for return to camp. Troops returned to bivouac by 20.00.		
		2nd.	-		NIL.
		3rd.	07.40		4 officers proceeded on reconnaissance with NZMR Bde. direction EL ABREISA.
			09.30		Regiment continued to march disengaged.
		4th.	-		NIL.
		5th.	06.30		Regiment paraded with 2nd Light Horse Bde A I F for reconnaissance to make good KHAN YUNUS. KHAN YUNUS entered no enemy seen. returned to camp at 19.30.
		6th.	1800		Regiment in position on outpost. on outpost night 6th/7th. nothing to report.
		7th.	-		NIL.
		8th.	-		NIL.
9th.	1500	The Mark VII rifles & ammunition were exchanged for Mark VI rifles of the 3rd ALH Bde. rifles received in exchange were in very bad condition, a large percentage being unusable			

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1/1 EAST RIDING YEOMANRY

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIR EL MELALHA	1917			
	March 10 th	1100	The regiment moved with the Bde to BIR EL MELALHA, reaching bivouac area 1500	Appendix 8 HOPZ.
	11 th		NIL	HOPZ.
	12 th	0800	The regiment paraded for reconnaissance (with the Bde). Went back at WELI SHEIK NUTAN returned to camp by 1800. no encounter with enemy. one officer detailed for special report on the WADI GHUZZE.	Appendix 9 HOPZ.
	13 th		NIL.	HOPZ
	14 th		NIL.	HOPZ
	15 th	0900	Regiment paraded with 1 SQDN STAFFSYES and detachments Field amb and AVC to cover working parties at KHAN YUNUS and ABASAN EL KEBIR. KHAN YUNUS was good by 0905. Troops took up position on line running NW and SE through pt 320. by the E of GOZ EL TAIRE. Officers patrol crossed WADI EL GUZZE. no enemy seen. Regiment returned to camp by 18.30	HOPZ. Appendix No 10.
	16 th	10.00	Fire practice with Mauser rifles taken over from 3 rd ALH Bde commenced. grouping at 1000	HOPZ
	17 th	10.00	As over 200 rifles required repair only snare parties could be put through the practice. Transport personnel and animals with 6 limbers returned to regiment from ABD.	HOPZ.
	18 th	"	do	HOPZ
	19 th	"	do	HOPZ
	20 th	"	do	HOPZ
	21 st	"	do	HOPZ
	22 nd	"	standing by for orders to move.	HOPZ.
	23 rd	"	do	HOPZ
	24 th	"	do	HOPZ

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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1/1 East Riding Yeo.

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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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELA. S. PALESTINE	19:7 Mar 25	02:30	Regiment marched to DEIR EL BELA. arrived 06.30.	
		07:30	moved off for reconnaissance by BDE of WADI GUZZE. Regt in support at the E of EL JURA (reference map. AFRICA 1/125000. RAFA. North H-36. E III.)	
		16:30	regiment took up outpost line from Pt 330 to Pt 310 inclusive until relieved by infantry	
		22:30	returned to bivouac area.	HDPZ
		26	02:30 Proceeded with ATNZ DIVN: crossed WADI GUZZE at SHEIK NEZHAN: marched to BEIT DURDIS (reference map SYRIA. JERUSALEM 1/250,000).	
		14:30	Bde concentrated and proceeded to position SE of GAZA. 1 1/2 miles E of ALI EL MUNTAR in conjunction with ATNZ DIVN.	
		15:30	Orders received for the Bde to attack ALI MUNTAR from the E, an infantry attack on GAZA from S and W having been in progress some hours.	
		15:45	ERY and LINES advanced towards position to be occupied at Gallop. ERY (less A SQDN retained as Bde support) on left flank. Dismounted attack. sector of ALI MUNTAR allotted occupied at 16.30. casualties 1 killed and 2 wounded. 9 animals killed & wounded. mounted advance and dismounted attack made under cover of supporting artillery and MG fire.	
		20:00	Regt withdrew with Bde to starting point of attack where DIVN concentrated	HDPZ
		23:50	return march to DEIR EL BELA commenced.	
		29	0800 reached bivouac DEIR EL BELA	
		0900	proceeded via sea beach to TEL EL ATTUL on E bank of WADI GUZZE. STAFFS YEO & LINES YEO took up outpost line ERY in support.	HDPZ.

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1/1 East Riding 400.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELA	1917	17-30	Orders received to reconnoitre alternative outpost line from SHEIK TRASHIDA to SHEIK SHADASI ⁱⁿ the sea.	HDPZ
		2400	Regiment withdrawn to new outpost line. reconnoitred on outpost with LINDSAY	HDPZ
	28.	0856	Orders received for regt to reconnoitre trenches from GAZA - TEL-EL-ATTUL road ⁱⁿ view, to the sea.	HDPZ
		09-30	regiment marched. B SQDN conducted the reconnaissance. remainder of regt and 2 sections 18 MG SQDN in support. Enemy front line trenches found strongly held. reported accordingly. orders received from Eastern Force HQ NOT to become seriously engaged as no supporting troops available.	
		12-45	Orders received to return to bivouac on last outpost line. withdrawal commenced but delayed to rescue rescue British aviator who had fallen into the sea - rescue effected under fire.	
		16-00	regiment returned to bivouac area.	HDPZ
	29.	0800	regiment returned to DEIR EL BELA, and bivouached.	HDPZ
	30.		Rested	HDPZ
31.	10-45	moved out and occupied outpost line from Pt 330 to Pt 310 relieving rest of Imperial Mounted Division. on outpost night 31 March / 1st April.	HDPZ	

J. Wilson. Lt Col
Comd 1/1 East Riding Yeomanry

by
 Brig. General G. de L. Ryrle C.M.G.
 Commanding 2nd. L.H. Brigade A.I.F.

4/3/17

Reference Map 1/125,000 RAFA

1. INFORMATION Aeroplane reconnaissance reports on March 3rd.
 "Redoubt one and a half miles ESE of ABASAN EL KEBIR
 "strongly held.
2. INTENTION To make good KHAN YUNUS by 1100 on 5th March. HILL 320
 EL FUKHARI and ABASAN EL KEBIR will also be occupied
 if possible.
3. MOVES The Brigade (less 7th L.H. Regt.) will leave Camp at
 0600 on 5th March.
 Head of Main body will pass starting point on beach,
 N. of Divisional Headquarters, at 0600.
 Order of march:
 Advance guard: 6th L.H. Regt. (less 2 troops)
 Right flank guard: 1 Squadron 5th L.H. Regt.
 Left flank guard: 2 troops 6th L.H. Regt.
 Main body: Brigade Headquarters
 2nd. Signal Troop
 5th L.H. Regt. (less 1 Squadron).
 M.G. Squadron
 2nd. Field Troop
 7th Mobile Vet. Section
 2nd. L.H.F. Ambulance

 One Regiment 22nd. Mounted Brigade will join the
 Brigade on SHEIKH ZOWAIID - RAFA road 1 1/2 miles
 N.E. of SHEIKH ZOWAIID at 0700. On joining the
 Brigade, this Regt. (less 1 troop) will march in
 rear of M.G. Squadron.
 O.C. Regt. will detail one troop as rearguard to the
 force.
4. AMMUNITION 200 rounds per man and usual amount for Lewis and
 Machine guns will be taken.
5. RATIONS &
 FORAGE Unexpended portion of day's ration and one extra
 ration will be carried by each man.
 2 feeds per horse will be taken.
6. MARCHING OUT
 STATES Marching out states will be rendered to B.H.Q. at 0630.
7. REPORTS Reports to Head of Main body.

Major

Brigade Major 2nd. L.H. Brigade A.I.F.

Issued at 1400.

Copy No. 1	A & N.Z. Mtd. Divn.	8	M.G. Squadron
2	File	9	Field Ambulance
3	Diary	10	Signal Troop
4	5th L.H. Regt.	11	Field Troop
5	6th L.H. Regt.	12	7th M.V. Section
6	7th L.H. Regt.		
7	22nd. Mtd. Brigade		

Orders By Br. General F. A. B. Fryer,
Commanding 22nd. Mounted Brigade. E.E.F.
9th. Mch. 1917.

Ref. Map SINAI PENINSULAR N. & H. 36 Scale 1/125,000

E.111

- A.G.
1 Sqn E.R.Yeo. (less 1 troop)
Main Body.
Bde Hdqrs.
Signal Troop.
Field Troop
E.Riding Yeoy. (less 1 Sqn and 3 troops.)
M.G.Squadron
Lincoln Yeoy.
Stafford Yeoy. (less 1 troop)
Bde. Field Amb.
Mob. Vet. Sect.
Rear Guard.
1 Troop Staffs.Yeo.*
R.Flank Guard.
2 Troops E.R.Yeo.
1. (a) The 22nd Mounted Brigade will move to BIR EL MELALHA tomorrow the 10th. inst.
(b) The Brigade will march at 1100
(c) Starting point in Valley N. of Bde. Hdqrs.
(d) Order of march as per margin.
(e) Camels will be sent for from the Camel Lines at 0730 and will concentrate in Valley N. of Bde. Hdqrs. by 0900.
(f) The 1/1 East Riding Yeomanry will provide an escort of 1 troop for protection of the Camel Transport. Each Unit will provide 1 E.C.O. and 1 Section as Escort for its own Camels.
 - 2 All Units will water before starting in the usual order. Watering must be finished by 0930. The Field Troop will remove troughs on completion of watering.
1 Troop 1/1 East Riding Yeomanry will assist them in the above and act as escort to the Field Troop Camels. The Field Troop will join the Column E. of Sheikh Zowaid Village.
 3. The route will be along the JERUS LEM telegraph line as far as RAFA and then by track leading North through POINT 100 to BIR EL ESHSHA, then N.E. along Beach to bivouac area.

Stephen Williams

Captain, Brigade Major.

22nd. Mounted Brigade. E.E.F.

Issued at... 16.4.17

Copy No.1 to	Staffs. Yeo.	1	Lin old Yeoy.
5	E.Riding Yeo.	4	18th M.G.Squadron.
5	Bde.Fld.Amb.	6	Mob. Vet.Section.
7	Bde.Sig.Troop	8	C.T.C.
9	Field Troop	10	D.H.Q.
11	Filed.		

* This Troop will report to O.C. Field Troop RE at 0930.

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SECRET.Order No. 22.appendix IX
copy No. 4

4 87

By Br. General H. B. Fryer,
Commanding 22nd Med. Bde.

11th March 1917.

Ref. Maps. - SINAI Peninsula - Sheet RAPA North H 36
E 3.A.G.
Ob. Lt. Col. F. D. Gibbes
1/1 Lincoln Yeo.
Field Troop
(detachment).MAIN BODY.Bde. Stags.
Signal Troop.
1/1 Scuffs. Yeo
(less 2 Squads.)
18th M.G. Squad
(less 2 Sections)
6 Sand Carts
3 ed. ambles.
1/1 E.R. Yeo.
(less 2 Troops.)R.G.
2 Troops E.R. Yeo.R. Flank Guard.1 Squad Scuffs. Yeo.
1 Sect. M.G. Squad.L. Flank Guard.1 Squad Scuffs. Yeo.
1 Sect. M.G. Squad.1. Information: Deserters report GAZA is held by 3 battalions with 4 mountain guns placed in olive groves NE of the town. Hostile cavalry patrol proceeds daily from GAZA through GOZ EL TAICE towards BENI SELAH.

2. In accordance with instructions from Divl. Stags. (copy attached) the 22nd Med. Bde. will carry out a reconnaissance in AREA 12.

3. The Brigade will march at 0800 starting point beach N of Lincoln bivouac area.

4. The Brigade will march as per margin.

5. Bounds will be as follows:-

(i). KHAN YUNIS - PT. 310 S.W. of U of UM EL KELAB to EL GUBBA.(ii). PT. 330 N. of BENI SELAH - EL FUKARI to PT. 410 N.W. of E in EL GAHBI.(iii). PT. 310 S. of SHEIKH NAKRUR - WELI SHEIKH NURAN to 500' contour W. of E in EL SHAUTH.

b. Lincoln Yeo. forming the advance guard will carry out the reconnaissance commencing from boundary (iii) as laid down in above instructions and in Des. bol. letter of 250-47 A, dated 13/2/17. The ground to be reported on will be divided into the following 3 sectors, 1 squadron to each sector:-

(a) Southern boundary of AREA 12 to road running from WELI SHEIKH NURAN to EL SHEHAL (inclusive).

(b) From Northern boundary of (a) (exclusive) to line running from ABU SITTA to PT. 310 (inclusive).

(c). Remainder of AREA 12.

The eastern boundary of each sector will be the eastern or right bank of the WADI GHUZZI.

P.T.O.

8
bontd.

Appendix No. IX

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7. 1 Officer from each Squadron of the Lincoln Yeo. will carry out the special reconnaissances required. An Officer from Bde. Hdqrs., E.R. Yeo, Stafford Yeo. will also be placed at the disposal of O.C. Lincoln Yeo. to assist the above. These latter will report to O.C. Lincoln Yeo. at 0730 and will proceed with the Regiment.
All reports to be forwarded to Bde. Hdqrs.
8. On the arrival of the Main Body at WELI SHEIKH NURAN the R. Flank Guard will hold the 500 contour line in the neighbourhood of EL SHAUTH and the L. Flank Guard the ground near PT. 340 W. of ABU SITTA.
9. All detached bodies must be careful to keep up communications.
10. The Main Body will commence to withdraw at 1430. The Lincoln Yeo. will form the Rear Guard and the Flank Guards will be reversed.
11. Repore Centre will be at the head of the Main Body and eventually at WELI SHEIKH NURAN where the Main Body will halt.

Issued at 1/5/45

Major Dumbell
Captain. Brigade Major
22nd. Mounted Brigade.

- | | | |
|------------|----|--------------------|
| copy No. 1 | to | Divisional Hdqrs |
| 2. | | Staffs Yeo. |
| 3. | | Lincoln Yeo. |
| 4. | | O. Riding Yeo. |
| 5. | | Machine Gun Sqd. |
| 6. | | Div. Signal Sqd. |
| 7. | | Bde. Signal Troop. |
| 8. | | Field Troop R.C. |
| 9. | | Bde. Fld. Amb. |
| 10. | | Staff Captain. |
| 11. | } | Filed. |
| 12. | | |

0/19

By Br. General F. A. B. Fryer,
Commanding 22nd. Mounted Brigade. E.E.F.
14th. Mch. 1917.

Ref. Map SINAI Peninsular RAFA Sheet. North H. 56
E. 1111

1. INFORMATION. A patrol of Turkish Cavalry were reported on the 14th. inst. in the vicinity of DEIR EL BELAH.
2. The 1/1st. East Riding Yeomanry will make good KHAN YUMIS by 0900 tomorrow the 15th. inst. to cover the work of R.E. party erecting Oil Engine Plant for well there.
3. One Squadron 1/1st. Staffordshire Yeomanry will make good ABASAN EL KEBIR by 1000, and cover Field Troop whilst it examines wells in the vicinity.
4. The Field Troop will thoroughly examine and report on any Wells or water in the vicinity of ABASAN EL KEBIR. A special report is required on old Roman Well, one mile from Village on bearing of 15°.
5. The O.C. 22nd. M.B. Field Amb. will detail two Sand Carts to accompany the 1/1st. East Riding Yeomanry.
6. The above force will be under the Command of Lieut. Col. the Hon. G.G. Wilson, D.S.O. Commanding 1/1st. East Riding Yeomanry.
7. Signalling communication will be established between the 1/1st. East Riding Yeomanry and the 1/1st. Staffordshire Yeomanry and Divisional Signal Post on POINT 310. X
8. On completion of work the troops will return to Camp after reporting to the Officer Commanding 1/1st. East Riding Yeomanry.

C. Macg. Dunbar.

Captain. Brigade Major.
22nd. Mounted Brigade. E.E.F.

Issued at... 1530

Copy No 1 to Stafford. Yeoy.	No 2 Lincoln. Yeomanry.
3 E. Riding Yeoy.	4 18th. M.G. Squadron.
5 22. M.B. Field Amb.	6 Mob. Vet. Section.
7 22. M.B. Signal Tp.	8 Field Troop. R.E.
9 Filed.	10 Filed.

X (later) 370 8