

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/16/36

Title: 11th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

September 1918



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AUSTRALIAN

IMPERIAL

FORCE

W A R

D I A R Y

of

11th

LIGHT

HORSE

REGIMENT

for

1st. to 30th. September 1918

PAGES

88 to 100 (both inclusive)



Compiled by

A. L. H. Jones

Captain

ADJUTANT

11th. Light H. Regiment

J. W. Parsons

Commanding 11th. L.H. Regiment

- SEP 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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
LUDD	SEPT 1	0630	Roman Catholic Church parade.	
		1100	Combined Church parade.	
			Officer's Cadet Course commenced at ZEITOUN, No 888 S.S.M. BARTLETT E.W. left on 28.8.18 to attend this course.	
		1500	Recommendations for awards and mentions for inclusion in C in C's despatch for period ending 31.8.18. forwarded to Brigade. Following names submitted: For award Lieut. C.J. CLIFFORD, 255 L/Cpl COOPER C.W.S., 1455 Sgt SMITH G.W. For special mention Lieut. A.Y. BARTLAM, 1444 L/Cpl KIRWAN S.J., 1577 T/Cpl GREIVE C.W.W. & 1218 L/Cpl ROBINSON F.W.	
	2		Weekly syllabus commenced, detail below is programme for Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday. Wednesday devoted to musketry, and Friday to a tactical scheme & Saturday to cleaning saddlery & equipment:- 0800 - 0900 Mounted swordmanship training 1400-1500 Training of extra Hotchkiss Riflemen, signallers, Stretcher bearers, M.C.Os. 0900 - 1000 Squadron drill & manoeuvre.	
		0600	Hotchkiss Riflemen (6 per rifle) with all Hotchkiss rifles sent to new Brigade Rifle Range under Capt C.P. STUMM M.C. to complete the range and fire practices if possible. Range was completed, but owing to the lateness of the hour firing practices could not be carried out.	
		1300	Lieut H.L. MARSLAND M.C. visited the Regt. en route from Aust. Headquarters (EGYPT) CAIRO, to H.Qrs, Desert Mounted Corps.	
	3		Training carried on in accordance with above syllabus. 2/Lt H. SHERIDAN transfd to 8th L.H. Regt	
		1000	Two horses, rides, & 1 horse L.D., evacuated ex 9th. M.V. Section & struck off strength.	
	4	0600	Regiment proceeded to the range in parties to carry out range practices, 1st. party under Capt. C.P. STUMM M.C. left at 0600 1/2	
		0700	Major J. LOYNES & 41 O/R. reinforcements, from Australian Div Mtd Div Training Regt, MOASCAR, marched in. Some of these men had previously been with the Regt. some had been with Imperial Camel Corps and re-posted to the Regt, while 18 were posted from general reinforcements from Australia.	
		1000	Capt. Hon Capt & Q.M.R.A. FROST reported from PT SAID REST Camp	
		1700	Results of range practices are shewn below:- 100 yds grouping 303 fired 178 passed 125 failed. Average score 7 (Third class target 8" 200 " application 303 " 14 " 289 " " " 8.1 bull's eye) 200 " rapid 230 " 62 " 168 " " " 6.9.	

SEP 1918

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A. Linn
 Capt.
 Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.



WAR DIARY

or by Lieut Col F. W. PARSONS D.S.O.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regiment

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LUDD	Sept 5	0800 0900 1000 1300	<p>Capt C.P. STUMM resumes duties of Adjutant vice Lieut G. Nutting to "C" Squadron. Rifles buckets were drawn today and issued one for each man armed with a sword. Notification was received from Brigade that the Court Martial against R.Q.M.S. Jardine for negligence in loss of rifles etc when the Regiment was at Solomon's Pools in June this year would not be proceeded with. Local leave was given for twelve other ranks per Squadron to visit surrounding villages excepting those villages placed out of bounds.</p>	
	6th	0800 1500	<p>Ablution day for the Regiment today. Training was carried out in Sword work mounted, and troop and squadron Drill. One officer per squadron and one N.C.O and two other ranks per troop paraded under an Officer of the Field Squadron for instruction in the use of "Chursas" a device for lifting water from deep wells.</p>	
	7th.	0700 0900	<p>The Regiment paradeddismounted for a lecture on venereal disease and the prophylactic treatment for same. A proportion of men per troop attended a lecture and demonstration on explosives and demolitions given by an officer of the Field Squadron. A Voluntary musketry practice was carried out today by Two Officers and six other ranks per Squadron to test faulty ammunition, the course fired over, and faulty rifles. Lieut G.S. James and thirty seven other ranks marched in from Training Ismailia and were taken on strength and posted ten each to "A" and "B" Squadrons and fourteen to "C" Squadron. Lieut James was posted to Haqrs and assumed duties of Signalling Officer vice Lieut Clifford.</p>	
	8th.	1130	<p>Church Parade today for Protestant Denominations was held.</p>	
	9th.	1430	<p>All bayonets and swords were sharpened at the I.O.M. Workshops today. Training today Sword Exercises mounted. Squadrons Drill and Troop Drill with manouvre. The A.D.V.S. inspected horses for evacuation today and out of a number of fourteen submitted nine were evacuated A Regimental Board of Enquiry on P.H. Helmets lost assembled today.</p>	

SEP 1918
Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.
Capt. [Signature]



WAR DIARY

or by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

COMMANDING 11th. Light Horse Regt.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LUDD	Sept 10th	0730 1000 1100 1430	Sword exercises mounted with Regimental and Squadron Drill from 0730 to 1000 Major P.J. Bailey attended a Court Martial in the Machine Gun Squadron lines as President Lieut P. McCowan Tpr Bloxham and Johns, and Sig Opl Bligh attended at Dieran at a presentation of ribbons by the C. in Chief to those officers and other ranks who were the recipient of immediate awards. Lieut J.S. Bartlett reported to the Supply Officer for Instruction in Requisitioning. Nine Hides were marked for evacuated by the A.D.V.S	
	11th.		Musketry Practices were carried out today by the Regiment, the Ranges fired over were 100 yards grouping for those men who did not qualify on the 4th. Instant 500 yards Application and 500 yards Rapid. The shooting this week and over these ranges were much better than last week. Major Loynes was in Charge of the Rifle Range during the shooting by the Regiment. All 1st. Line Transport was marked with a kangaroo as the emblem of the Division. The Commanding Officer reported to the 5th. Cav. Division and attended a lecture on the Topography of the country over which the Regiment would in all probability carry out operations shortly. Major E. Costello reported from three weeks leave in Egypt.	
	12th.	0730 1500	Training today Brigade scheme, practising the attack and pursuit mounted. The Regiment left Camp at 0700 and returned to Camp at 1100. Notification was received from Brigade that the establishment of the Regiment whilst in a standing Camp was increased to 27 Officers and 507 other ranks. Lieut G.L.M. McDonald Troop was detailed as a troop to practise in and be thoroughly trained in trench Ramping Lieut Nutting's Troop was detailed as a relay troop. Training was carried out accordingly Lieut Farlow and One N.C.O per troop attended at the Field Squadron today for instruction in explosives and demolition.	
	13th.	0900 1000 1500	The Commanding Officer Inspected "B" Squadron and Headquarters in full marching Order today. The Commanding Officer inspected "A" Squadron at 1400 "C" Sqn at 1500 and the Transport at 1600 One other rank marched out to School of Instruction today at Zeitoun. There was no training carried out today as the Regiment was inspected by the C.O.	

C. J. Parsons
Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.
Capt.

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WAR DIARY

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by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
 (Erase heading not required.)
 Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regiment

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
LUDD	Sept 14	0700	The Division was inspected today by the Divisional Commander. Parade was in Full Marching Order.	
		0900	The Division moved out on Divisional Scheme embodying the same principles of attack mounted as laid down in the Brigade practised formerly	
	1700	One Other rank marched out to school of instruction Zeitoun. Lieut Carlisle marched in from Hospital and taken on strength.		
	15	0900	The Regiment was inoculated for Cholera today.	
0930		Three riding horses were paraded to the AusDiv Hqrs for inspection by the G.O.C Division as a demonstration against allowing only one blanket to be used under a riding saddle when the man is mounted in FULL Marching Order. This extra blanket was subsequently allowed by the G.O.C Major W.F.J. Koch reported from School of Instruction Zeitoun		
16	0800	Drill Mounted mounted was carried out today. Training comprised Regimental Drill and Manoeuvre. One Troop from "C" Squadron and One Troop from "C" Squadron were trained respectively in Ramping and Relay work. Preparation were made under instructions received from Brigade, and pending forthcoming operations, to return all g roundsheets, and officers spare baggage to the Descorps Reinforcement Camp at LUDD. This was done and arrangements were made to carry bivouac sheets and Cardigan jackets on "B" 2 echelon.		
		1940	Ausdiv Operation No. 28 was received from Division and Brigade Operation Order No. 8 from Brigade. This Regiment was detailed as rear guard and as convey to Ausdiv Transport.	
17	1930	Preparations were made throughout the day to move at 1930 tonight to J 31 (Ref Jaffa Sheet XIII 1" to 1 Mile). Lieut Carlisle and 36 Other ranks remained in present Camp and reported to Descorps Reinforcement Camp at Ludd. Lieut Carlisle to report to School of Instruction at EL ARISH and attend a three weeks Scouts course there.		
		The Regiment moved out at this time. Order of March Hqrs "C" "B" and "A" Sqdns. Echelons were divisionalised under Officers appointed by the Brigade.		

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Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.
 Capt. J.W. Parsons



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or by
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.
Lieut Col. J.W. PARSONS D.S.O.
Commanding 11th. L.H. Regiment

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
JAFFA	Sept 18	2330	The Regiment arrived at J 21 at JAFFA and bivouaced for the night. Major W.F.J. Koch with "C" Squadron was detailed to escort a convoy of Camels from J 21 to X 22 near the Nahr El AUJA tomorrow the 19th. Instant. The Balance of the Regiment to escort the wheeled transport of the Division and be responsible for its safety as far as the Nahr Iskanderuneh tomorrow the 19th. Instant.	
	19	0630	A meeting of all officers was held at R.H.Q. when the plans of the forthcoming operations as known were discussed.	
		0930	"C" Squadron moved out at this time as escort to the Camel Convoy.	
		1030	The Regiment less "C" Squadron moved off as escort to the wheeled transport of the Division with instructions to take the transport as far as X 22, and there await further instructions. Two troops from "B" Squadron with pioneer packs were sent ahead as a ramping party to clear all obstacles from the track and make good the road.	
NAHR Auja		1130	Arrived at Nahr Auja and watered horses and moved on to X 22 central which was reached at about 1330. From hereon the road became very bad, one Squadron was placed on the left as a protection and also to assist any waggons that might get stuck in the heavy sand. the other Squadron was posted in rear to help along stragglers.	
		1330	The Transport arrived at Nahr-A X 22 when horses were offsaddled and fed. A halt was made here for one hour.	
		1445	The convoy moved off passing via the Twin trenches and the eastern track of Birket Ramadan. As the road was particularly bad for wheeled transport and the wagons were having a good deal of trouble in keeping up, it was reported to the D.A.Q.M.G. of the Division and instructions were received that one Squadron was to push ahead with the Divisional Train and B1 echelon as quickly as possible, the other two Squadrons to help along as best as possible the balance of the train. The Camels were placed under the escort of a troop with instructions that when the destination was reached and the forage and rations off loaded the camels were to be returned as quickly as possible to Ras El Ain. The Transport of nearly all B2 Echelons were so over loaded and the B.A.C. so heavy that it was decided when Birket Ramadan was reached to halt for the night and give the horses a night's spell, water the following morning and then push on. The road was particularly bad from X22 and so bad that at times and in fact nearly all along the route it was found necessary to detach whole troops to help the horses through the sand, the men dismounted and manhandling	

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[Signature] Capt. 8576
Adjutant 11th Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.



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Army Form C. 2118.

OF by Lieut Col. J.W. PARSONS D.S.O.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Commanding 11th. L.H. Regiment

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Birket Ramadan	19	2330	the wagons through the worst places. Arrived at Birket Ramadan at this time and bivouaced for the night. Train and Bl echelon under escort of "C" Squadron pushed on ahead. X	The Divisional
	20	0500 0600	Horses were commenced watering from the shallow pools in the Birket. Attempts were made to make use of the large cumbersome "Onursas" that had been issued to the Regiment at Ludd, but these were found to be totally unserviceable for this kind of work. The water was not deep enough, nor in the case of narrow wells, was the mouth of the wells large enough, and if it were not for the forethought in bringing oil drums that had been made into buckets, it would have been impossible to water the horses. The column moved off, and after proceeding about five miles, it was decided with the consent of the O.C of the Transport to off load all ordnance articles, and dump them in a separate heap. It was decided to do this as the wagons were getting stuck in the sand, in some cases right up to the axels, and even with double banking the teams it was not possible to pull them along. Further the transport of two Divisions had been over the same track a few hours previously and had cut it up very badly, making the going every so much worse, so that it was necessary to make a detour to avoid their tracks and pick up fresh ground, in the hope that the surface would be harder and stand the weight of the wagon. At the place where the articles were dumped, there were numerous wagons of the other divisions abandoned on the road, some with full loads, others that had been emptied of any necessary articles and then abandoned and the teams used in the other wagons. It was here that the Mobile Section of the 4th. L.H. Field Ambulance was left behind, these wagons afterwards rejoined the Regiment at the Nahr Iskeranduneh. By so gett-is- unloaded some of the wagons it was possible to push on slowly, but only with great difficulty and the help of the escorting troops. Nahr Iskeranduneh was reached at 1230. The Divisional Transport of the Fifth Cavalry Division was bivouaced here and the Regiment was delayed from 1230 until 1600 whilst this transport was crossing the Wadi.	
Iskeranduneh	20	1230	Arrived at Nahr Iskeranduneh and watered and fed up and rested until the transport of the Fifth Cavalry had crossed. This crossing was particularly bad and dangerous, over a narrow bridge left behind by the enemy. It was badly ramped at both ends and with no railings to the bridge each wagon was in danger of going over the side, in facts several	

Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.

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or by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Commanding 11th. L.H. Regiment

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Iskeranduneh	20th	1600	<p>wagons were lost over the side and the animals drowned. Although the time taken by other Division to cross occupied several hours, yet it gave the transport horses of the Ausdiv Convoy plenty of time for resting and the progress made during the next few stages shewed that the rest was well spent.</p> <p>A Message was received from Brigade that the Column was to march direct to Lejjun via Kerkur and that the B.H.Q. had left LIKTERIA for Kerkur that afternoon.</p> <p>The Crossing of all transport completed it was decided to push on via Zelefe and Tell Ed Drur. An officers patrols had previously moved out and on his report that the going was good nearly all the way it was decided to take this track.</p> <p>Left Nahr Iskanderuneh at 1745 and arrived at Kerkur at 2230.</p>	
Kerkur		2230	<p>The column arrived at Kerkur and bivouaced for the night. The facilities for watering were bad and it was decided to water the transport horses only and the riding horses of the Regiment at the first opportunity on the road. The horse forage expired at breakfast and as it was uncertain when the next ration would be obtain four pounds of tibbin per horse was requisitioned for from the inhabitants of Kerkur</p>	
	21st	0600	<p>The column moved out for Lejjun. The column was split into two groups, one comprising the B.A.C. under the escort of one Squadron and the other the B 2 and other units under the escort of the other Squadron. This was done as the road to be used was the main one from Kakon to Lejjun and likely to be a good deal of traffic on this road. The road was fairly good and progress made was in good time.</p>	
Lejjun		1230	<p>A Motor despatch rider reported to the Regiment from the Division with instructions that the Regiment was relieved of duty of escort and to rejoin as quickly as possible the balance of the Regiment namely "C" Squadron and the Brigade which were then at Jenin. Trouble was experienced in getting some of the transport up the steep pass just before reaching Lejjun, several of the wagons had to be double banked. Two day's rations and forage were drawn at Lejjun, and the horses watered and the Regiment less "A" Squadron which had not yet arrived moved out to report to Brigade at Jenin.</p> <p>Instructions were left for "A" Squadron to ration and follow on.</p> <p>The duty of escort with the transport through from Jaffa was right throughout tedious to both man and horse of the escorting troops. The men particularly until the Nahr Iskanderuneh was reached dismounted and helping the wagons over the sand in some cases for half a mile. The road was bad especially where other transport had been over the same track and out it up.</p>	<p>SEP 1918</p> <p>Capt. J.W. Parsons</p> <p>Adjutant - 11th Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.</p>

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WAR DIARY
 -or by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
 Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regt
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LEJJUN	Sept 21st	1400 1900	Moved out from LEJJUN and reported to Brigade at Jenin at 1750. "A" Squadron arrived at this time, and the Regiment was now complete.	
JENIN	22nd	1200 1400 1700	<p>Instructions were received from Brigade that the Regiment would relieve the 10th. L.H. Regiment, and would hold an outpost line across the Jenin- Nablus Road, the relief to be completed by 1400.</p> <p>The line was taken over from the 10th. Light Horse at this time. "A" and "B" Sqdns were in the line with "C" Squadron in support at R.H.Q. at V 34 c</p> <p>Gift stores arrived from the Y.M.C.A. and were distributed. "A" Echelon reported to the Regiment.</p>	
AFULEH	Sept 23rd	0500 0830 0945 1300 1700	<p>Stand to, and all clear reported. Mounted patrols moved out to Beit BAK, and reported all clear of the enemy</p> <p>Instructions were received from B.H.Q that the Brigade would move to El AFULEH at 0900</p> <p>The Regiment withdrew from the line and proceeded to rejoin the Brigade which had moved at 0900. One troop from "E" Squadron was detailed to escort the Machine Guns who had instructions to follow on.</p> <p>Arrived at AFULEH and encamped for the night.</p> <p>Received instructions from Brigade that the Regiment would guard for the night some four thousand prisoners who were expected to arrive from Beisan at this time, and that these prisoners had to be watered that night by the Regiment and handed over at 0600 to a Squadron of the 12th. L.H. Regiment who were to take them to Lejjun. The prisoners arrived at 1715 and a compound was erected for the night and prisoners watered.</p>	
Beisan	24th.	0600 0830 1000 1100 1400	<p>Instructions were received that the Brigade would march at 0830 for Ras El Ain and relieve the 3rd. Light Horse Brigade who were holding an outpost line here.</p> <p>The Brigade moved off and arrived at Ras el Ain on the road to Beisan at 1000.</p> <p>On arrival at Ras el Ain instructions were received that the Brigade would march to Beisan and would there receive further instructions as to operations.</p> <p>The Brigade moved off for Beisan after resting an hour and filling waterbottles.</p> <p>Instructions were received that the Brigade would move to Jisr Mejamie and would bivouac for the night and the following morning at dawn attack Semakh where the enemy, it was reported were holding with about five hundred strong with six machine Guns.</p>	

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Capt. [Signature]
 Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.

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or by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regt

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Table with columns: Place, Date, Hour, Summary of Events and Information, Remarks and references to Appendices. Contains entries for Beisan (24th Sept) and Mejamie (25th Sept).

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SEP 1918

Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F. Capt. [Signature]

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

by Lt. Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regiment

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sumakh	Sept 35	0430	<p>it very strongly held by the enemy particularly about the Railway Station where a dismounted bayonet charge by the two Squadrons met with a very stubborn resistance. After charging through the village "A" Squadron and part of "B" Squadron dismounted on the eastern side and under a bayonet charge organised by the O.C of "A" Sqdn the Railway Station was attacked. The enemy had overwhelming odds in their favor, in addition to outnumbering the attacking party they were securely barricaded behind stone walls twelve inches thick, and were armed with machine guns, automatic rifles and bombs. In further addition to this the enemy fought with a determination stimulated with a liberal issue of rum. In fact in nearly every position vacated by the enemy in the outer defences, which were overrun by the mounted troops in the charge mounted, a bottle of rum was found, and in several places especially about the machine positions the bottles were partly full, and numbered half dozens. The enemy sniped out of the windows from the Railway Station and the Railway Carriages, and the troops attacking these places had practically no concealment. In one case alone it is recorded one of men of this Regiment after being arrested by a German officer refused to acknowledge the arrest and grappling with the German, eventually killed him with a sword and made his escape. Captain W.F. Whitfield who led one bayonet attack was shot at point blank range and killed by an automatic rifle and the intensity of the fighting for the station might perhaps be gauged by the fact that within a radius of thirty yards there were twenty of the enemy killed with the bayonet. It has further been reported that Captain Whitfield was treacherously killed, through part of the enemy holding up their hands whilst the remainder continued firing from the loop holes and windows in the Railway Carriages. The Machine Gun Squadron in the meantime had surrounded the village from the east and to the north and supported the dismounted bayonet charge, but on account of the stone buildings and the effective concealment of the enemy, the fire was not very effective. The barrage opened up by this Squadron when the attack was first made kept down the enemy machine gun fire and considerably helped in the final capture of the town. From the commencement of the mounted charge to the actual surrender of the town was exactly two hours. The following Officers were killed Capt W.F. Whitfield Lieut F.G. Farlow M.C. Capt H.J. Gee M.C and eleven other ranks, and two Other ranks died of wounds. The following is a list of the casualties.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">- SEP 1918</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Adjutant</i> Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F. 95/11</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or by Lieut Col. J.W. PARSONS D.S.O.
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
 Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regt
 (Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices																														
Semakh	Sept 25th.		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CASUALTIES</u></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 30%;"></th> <th style="width: 15%;">Killed</th> <th style="width: 15%;">D of W</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Wounded</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Destroyed</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personnel Officers</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Ranks</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">24</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">37</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7 Officers</td> <td style="text-align: center;">and 37 O/Es</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Animals Rides</td> <td style="text-align: center;">61</td> <td style="text-align: center;">-</td> <td style="text-align: center;">37</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Whilst the attack on the village was in progress a hotchkiss gun section from "A" Squadron was detached and posted on the Railway running East to Deraa. This section prevented a good number of the enemy escaping via that way. A motor boat trying to escape was very effectively fired on by both Machine guns and Hotchkiss guns. This boat was set on fire, one of the occupants only escaping by swimming ashore and surrendering the next day. Lieut Wilson and his troop who had been detached as escort to Machine guns galloped a trench situated on the west side of the village and captured one machine gun and forty seven other ranks. This trench if it had held out could have made it very uncomfortable for the machine guns that subsequently moved up on the western side of the village.</p> <p>Attached hereto and marked appendix "A" is a nominal roll of the killed and wounded in the attack</p> <p>Attached also hereto is appendix "B" shewing material captured in the village.</p> <p>The Total number of prisoners taken at this place were 23 Officers 341 O.Rs.</p>		Killed	D of W	Wounded	Destroyed	Total	Personnel Officers	3	-	4	-	7	Other Ranks	11	2	24	-	37				Total	7 Officers	and 37 O/Es	Animals Rides	61	-	37	2	100	
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 (A8004) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2.16/14

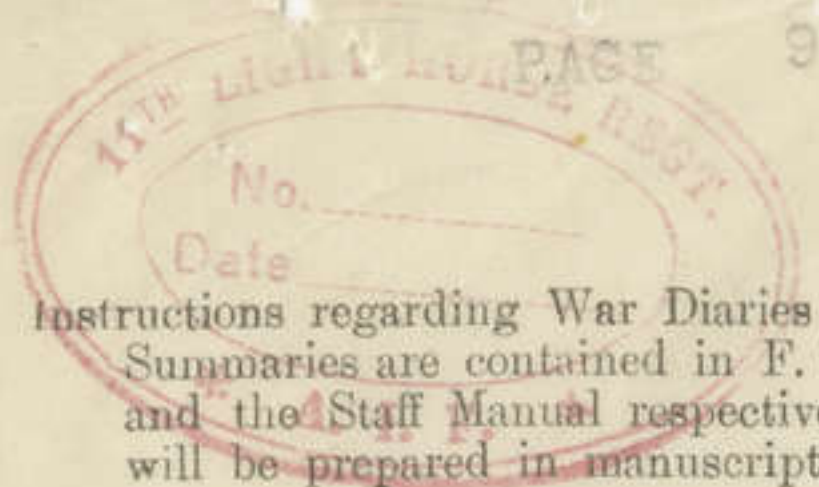
SEP 1918

Appex "A"

Appex "B"

Adjutant 11th Light Horse Regt

Capt. L.F.T.



WAR DIARY
-or-
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O Army Form C. 2118.

Commanding 11th. L.H. Regiment

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Semakh	Sept 25th		The remainder of the day was spent in reorganising the Regiment burying the killed and cleaning up the village which was left in a filthy condition by the enemy.	
	26th	0400	Stand to all clear, a few enemy snipers were present throughout the day on the high ground to the east of the village. Recommendations for promotions of officers to fill the following vacancies were forwarded Capt. T/ Major Koch to be Major vice Major L.S. Alexander seconded as Brigade Major 4th. L.H. Brigade. Lieut H.L. Marsland to be Captain vice Koch and to remain seconded Lieut J.K. Johnstone to be Captain vice Marsland promoted and seconded Lieut A.W. Manning to be Captain vice Gee killed in action and to remain seconded Lieut G.H. Hoffman to be Captain vice Captain ^{Whitfield} killed in action.	
		1000	Attached hereto is a list of those officers and N.C.O.s and other ranks whose names were submitted for immediate award. This list is marked Appendix "C"	Appendix "C"
		1500	A message was received from Brigade that B.H.Q. was moving to the Jewish village of <u>Daganya</u> just east of Samakh	
		2300	A message was received that the Brigade would march to Tiberias tomorrow at 0600	
Tiberias	37th	0600	The Regiment moved out for Tiberias fording the Jordan just north of <u>Daganya</u> .	
		0815	Reached Tiberias at 0815 when two days supply was drawn to carry the Regiment over until breakfast inclusive of the 29th. Instant, plus one days iron ration for the man.	
		0830	Instructions were received that as soon as rationed the Brigade would move northwards towards Damascus	
		0940	The Brigade moved out for Safed. The road after leaving Mejdal was very steep and in very rough repair.	
Safed		1615	The Brigade arrived at Safed and halted for a few minutes when advice was received that the Brigade was to march at once to Jisr Benat Yakub where the enemy were temporarily holding up the advance of the 3rd. L.H. Bde across the Jordan	
Benat Yakub		1700	Arrived at Jisr Benat Yakub and bivouaced for the night	

CP/In...
Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.E.
9/29/18



WAR DIARY

or by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regiment

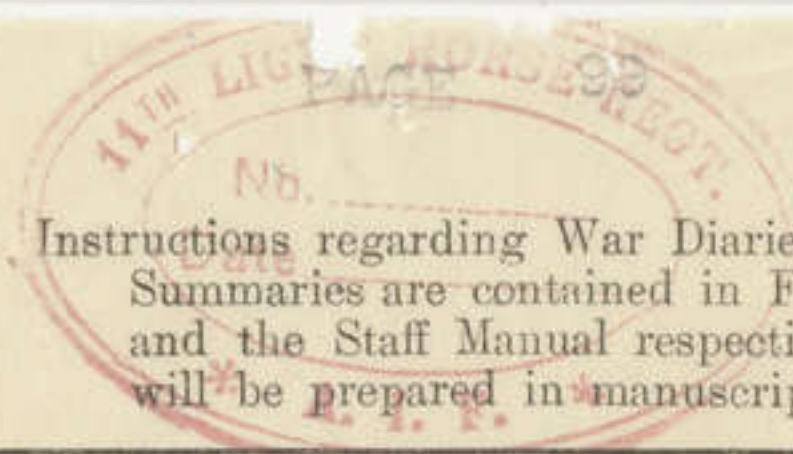
Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Benat Yakub	Sept 27th.	2030	Received instructions that the Jordan had been forded and that the Regiment would move at 0500 tomorrow	
	28th.	0500	The Regiment arrived at the ford at Jisr Benat Ya ^k ub and commenced watering. Horses were watered at the Jordan crossed by 0600.	
		0600	Instructions received that the Regiment was to move to Deir Es Saras off saddle feed and await further orders.	
		0800	Two enemy aircraft bombed ^{and machine gunned} the Regiment about this time. One direct hit was obtained with one Other rank Casualty, two rides killed and one wounded, in addition to several minor wounds in other horses.	
Abu Rumet	28th.	1040	A message was received from Brigade that the Regiment would march as advance guard to the Brigade to Abu Rumet, with instructions that flank patrols will watch closely to the north and north west, and a patrol will reconnoitre El Delhamiye which at the time was reported held by the enemy. Capt Moyle with two troops reconnoitred the last mentioned place and reported that the village was clear and the natives appeared friendly	
		1045	The Regiment moved off for Abu Rumet following closely behind the 5th. L.H. Brigade.	
		1500	Abu Rumet was reached at this time and at 1530 KUNEITRA was reached. Horses were watered in the Wadi to the north of the village and under instructions received from Brigade the Regiment proceed to Mansourah and camp ed about eight hundred yards south of this village	
Mansoura	29th.	0430	All clear.	
		0830	A message was received from Brigade that this Regiment would relieve the day patrols of the 4th. Light Horse Regiment guarding Roads from Summ ^a ka and Hor. "C" Squadron was detailed for this work and the 4th. Light Horse Regiment was relieved at 0930	
		0900	Ten sheep were requisitioned for and taken delivery of from the inhabitants of the village of Mansoura.	
		1500	Instructions were received from Brigade that this Regiment would remain at Juneitra and with two Regiments from two other Brigades form a Brigade under the Command of the G.O.C 4th. Light Horse Brigade who would assume the duties of G.O.C Lines of Communication from	

SEP 1918

Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F. *Capt. A.I.F.*

11/1/18



WAR DIARY

or by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
 Commanding 11th. Light Horse Regiment
 (Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Kuneitra	Sept 29	1500 1700 1800 30th. 0700 0900	<p>Safed northwards to Damascus exclusive.</p> <p>The Regiment ^{moved} to a position about eight hundred yards north of the village of Kuneitra leaving "C" Squadron to watch the village of Mansoura and the Road from Skek and Banias. This Regiment was allotted a sector extending from Tell Abu ANHEDA inclusive to Harfa Exclusive and was made responsible for the defence of and communications in that sector. All looting by the natives had to be stopped and severe measures taken against any caught in the act. It had been reported that Circassian Cavalry were active north of our line east of the Jordan and that these forces should be watched and prevented from interfering with the lines of communication. The following patrols were established. One troop at Mansoura, One troop on the road to Skek where the <u>U</u> of Mansoura cuts the road, Standing patrol on the saddle between Tell Uram and Tell Enheda, one troop on the main Road to Abu Kinet where track crosses road from Mansoura, and one troop to be stationed at Nahr Mughaniye where the road crosses this wadi</p> <p>Instructions were received from Brigade that a troop with the interpreter were to be sent to reconnoitre to Banias and reconnoitre in vicinity as to the attitude of the inhabitants and the presence of the enemy. This troop to move out tomorrow.</p> <p>Lieut J.K. Johnstone and troop moved out at this time for Banias and reported back at 1730 that the place was unoccupied by enemy troops and the inhabitants were very friendly.</p> <p>Five other ranks were evacuated sick to hospital.</p> <p>On account of the number of guards etc on various places in the vicinity of Kuneitra the patrols that had to be found throughout the day and night, with the exception of one troop all the men of the Regiment were on some duty or other, so that at no time was it a possible to relieve for more than twenty four hours one guard or picquet on any one place.</p> <p>The following is a distribution of the Regiment on this day.</p>	

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 75,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

- SEP 1918

C. J. Parsons
 Capt.
 Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.
 852
 1/5

11th LIGHT HORSE REGT.
PAGE 100
No. _____
Date _____
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will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

or by Lieut Col J.W. PARSONS D.S.O

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Commanding 11th. L.H. Regiment

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information					Remarks and references to Appendices																																																																																																																
	SEPT.		<table border="0"> <tr> <td colspan="3">Distribution</td> <td>Officers</td> <td>O.R.</td> <td>Animals</td> <td>Mules</td> <td>Donkeys</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Present with the Regiment and rationed</td> <td>17</td> <td>366</td> <td>404</td> <td>8</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Attached and rationed</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Detached locally</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>O.R.</td> <td></td> <td>Animals</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Brigade Hdqrs</td> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Descorps Hdqrs</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>8</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>9th. M.V.S.</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>B.V.O.</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Sig Squadron</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Sch. Inston El Arish</td> <td>1 Officer</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Escort</td> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">Total</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"></td> <td>18</td> <td>3 83</td> <td>427</td> <td>8</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </table>					Distribution			Officers	O.R.	Animals	Mules	Donkeys	Present with the Regiment and rationed			17	366	404	8	10	Attached and rationed				2	3			Detached locally											O.R.		Animals					Brigade Hdqrs	7		6					Descorps Hdqrs			8					9th. M.V.S.	2		1					B.V.O.	1		1					Sig Squadron	1		1					Sch. Inston El Arish	1 Officer							Escort	4		4			Total											18	3 83	427	8	10	
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<p>In addition to the above animals the following number of captured animals are being carried along by the Regiment to mount all ranks namely eighteen.</p>																																																																																																																								

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SEP 1918

C. H. Parsons
Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.
Capt.

852
16

SEP 1918

852
17

WAR DIARY

OF

11th. Light Horse Regiment

FOR

1st. to 30th. September 1918

191

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

Appendix

"A"

Nominal Roll of Killed and Wounded
in the attack on SEMAKH

Appendix

"B"

List shewing material captured in the
the village of SEMAKH

~~Appendix~~

~~"C"~~

~~Detailed List with Description of
actions of those Officers and O/Rs
whoses names have been submitted for
immediate award.~~

removed - J.S.J.

C.P. Quinn

Capt

ADJUTANT · 11th. L.H. Regiment.

852
18
- SEP 1918

A NOMINAL ROLL OF CASUALTIES IN 11th. LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT
on 25th. SEPTEMBER 1918. **B**

KILLED IN ACTION.

Capt. E. J. GEE M.C.
Capt. W. F. WHITFIELD.
Lieut. F. G. FARLOW M.C.

No. 911 Sgt. McCarthy J.
" 38 Cpl. Thorn K.S.W.
" 333 Tpr. Pledger H.P.
" 1320 " Fraser E.C.
" 835 " Donaldson A.
" 2382 " Taylor H.
" 1200 " McKay E.
" 1175 " Dodds D.J.G.
" 96 " Bloomfield W.
" 114 " Rynne J.
" 56918 " Lewis W.J.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

No. 159 L/Sgt. Hughes W.E.L.
" 1548 Tpr. Donaldson W.

WOUNDED.

Lieut. C. J. Clifford.
Lieut. P. McCowan M.C.
Lieut. A. Y. Bartlam
Lieut. J. S. Bartlett.

No. 138 Tpr. Ella J.M.
" 388 SSM Woodbine W.
" 848 Tpr. Wells S.J.
" 261 " Doherty W.
" 404 " Duffy J.
" 56910 " Graham J.R.
" 1091 " Flynn D.J.
" 345 " Roach T.J.
" 1888 " Hans en E.
" 2379 " Sorensen M.A.
" 1947a " McGeorge R.
" 3480 " Cant H.C.
" 1209 " O'Hearne L.
" 2355 L/Cpl. Thorpe J.
" 2373 Tpr. Mann W.G.
" 394 " McGuire W.
" 1799 " Young R.H.
" 2002 " Albeitz A.
" 2313 " Golde n F.
" 2330 " Wallace C.M.

WOUNDED (Continued)

No. 869 Tpr. Marnane M.
" 1614 " Kelly J.
" 3470 " Barlow R.R.

INJURED.

No. 1313 Tpr. Bourke J.H.
" 3557 " Carney D.
" 3499 " Winters J.
" 1031 " Paterson J.P.
" 3760 " Dewing E.R.
" 263 Sgt. Dougherty C.R.G.
" 1087 Col. Dickson R.G.
" 757 T/Cpl. Campbell J.A.

WOUNDED and Remaining on duty.

No. 1309 Tpr. Bensted A.G.



C. J. Clifford

Capt.
Adjutant 11th. Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.



APPENDIX "B"

11th L.H

LIST OF CAPTURED MATERIAL AT SEMAKH. 35.9.18.

ROLLING STOCK.

2 Engines (1 unserviceable)
8 Carriages.
12 Goods Wagons.

1 Aeroplane (C IV .8016/17)

1 Light Field Gun 3064

Machine Guns 7.

No. 1678
25368
26378
25629
3739
3758
3634

Automatic Rifles. 3.

No. 1687
3203
2388

3 Feed Blocks
10 Spare Barrels. M.G.
1 Mounting. "
1 Range Finder.

140 Rifles
53 Boxes Ammunition

1 Motor Lorry.

1 Disinfector.

1 Wireless Set.

1 Trailer with Electric Lighting Plant.

10 Cookers.

Quantity of Steel Rails & Firewood.

[Signature]
Adjutant 11th Light Horse Regt. A.I.F. Capt.

SEP 1918

8/21/18

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	No. Date	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
				<p>APPENDIX "C"</p> <p><u>Lieut Charles Joseph CLIFFORD</u> At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 when the Regiment charged Semakh this officer galloped forward with the first troops and charged through the line of Machine Guns. He then collected seven men of "B" Squadron under a withering fire from the Railway Station and village and led them across to attack a Field Gun and Machine Guns which were firing into our men from the right. He was wounded in the right hand and had his sword smashed away from him. He nevertheless continued encountered four Germans which he attacked with his revolver in his left hand killing one and taking three others prisoners. After handing these three prisoners over he again attacked four turks with an empty revolver and captured them.</p> <p><u>Major Edward COSTELLO</u> At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 this officer was in command of "B" Squadron and attacked the enemy's position covereing the east and southern part of the town. His dash and energy went a long way to make this attack a success. After going through the enemy's lines, the enemy still resisted from the town under covering fire from the town. Major Costello collected his men under slight cover and dismounted them for a bayonet charge. These men were under fire at point blank range from an enemy 12 pounder field gun. This gun was subsequently captured and also a Machine Gun which had shot down all who charged it mounted. It was here that Capt H.J. GEE was killed Lieut A.Y. Bartlam badly wounded. After losing these two officers and having his horse shot from under him this Squadron leader still carried on repelling a small counter attack, he then cooperated with the attack from the west on the town. Major Costello has down good work in the past and has previously been recommended for a Military Cross.</p> <p><u>Major James Loynds</u> At SEMAKH on the 25th. September 1918 this Officer was in command of one of the Squadrons that charged the town mounted. His coolness and dash in the charge was a good example to the men and went a long way towards the success of the operation. Major Loynds organised a bayonet charge from the west of the town by collecting all the men he could and by his resourcefulness and untiring energy was able to stop what might easily have been a repulse.</p>	

* A. I. F. *

Adjutant 11th Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.

*Honour
wards*

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;">C</p> <p>No. 338 Sgt Walter Herbert QUINN for bravery and good work done in the ack-on in the attack on Semak on the 25th. September 1918. This N.C.O was without an officer as Troop Leader and took command of the Troop of his troop when the attack mounted was made on the station. Encountering some very rough ground and losing most of his men through wounds and injuries he quickly seized up the position although under heavy machine gun and rifle fire and got the remainder of his troop into the shelter of some houses. Leaving his horses there he went out and succeeded in disposing of the force forward but with only two or three men killing many and capturing a small party of the enemy. He assisted in getting in a wounded officer who was being attacked by four of the enemy. This N.C.O throughout the operation displayed splendid dash and courage.</p>	

Ch. Quinn



WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erase heading not required.)

11th Light Horse Regt
Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
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APPENDIX "C" (2)

Lieut James Kenneth JOHNSTONE At Samakh on the 25th. September 1918 when the attack was made on this village by the 11th. Light Horse Regiment this officer led the first line of half a squadron with great dash and determination in the charge on the machine gun defending the town. His were the first troops to pass through the town and reported that it was too strongly held in the station buildings to be captured mounted. When the bayonet charge was organised by Major James Loynes on the west of the town this officer led the way into the town and did good work in subduing the enemy who were fighting stubbornly with bombs and rifles. This officer has done good work in the past.

No 20 L.Cpl CORY C.B. At Semakh on the 25th. September for bravery and good work done in action. In the early part of the attack this N.C.O exhibited great dash and determination in the charge for the Railway station. He took charge of two sections and did valuable work in reconnoitring the position held by the enemy. He then took up a position in rear of the Railway Station and caused severe casualties on the enemy and blocking them from entering a dense shubbery which they were attempting to gain. Throughout the whole action he exhibited great dash and bravery

No. 871 L.Cpl Smoothy L At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 for good work done in action This N.C.O exhibited great dash in bringing hotchkiss rifle fire to bear on a motor boat which was making off across the lake in a Westerly Direction. After a few bursts from the gun an explosion was heard on the boat and it afterwards burst into flames and very quickly became a wreck. This N.C.O then brought his hotchkiss rifle into action against the enemy's Machine Guns which had opened on it from the east. This fire was of great assistance in gaining superiority of fire over the enemy.

No. 10 L.Cpl Baker F. At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 for good work done on this day. This N.C.O after taking part with his troop in the charge for the Railway Station he acted as galloper to Major E Costello his Squadron Leader during the remainder of operations. The Squadron having become short of officers through casualties this N.C.O rendered most valuable assistance by carrying messages to the N.C.Os in charge of troops. He moved about with great dash and judgment under heavy fire and his conduct was most exemplary to those troops who had lost the officers.

Capt. Adjutant 11th Light Horse Regt. A.I.F.

11th LIGHT HORSE REGT.
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WAR DIARY
 or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p style="text-align: center;">Appendix "C"</p> <p>No. 1311 Tpr KEMPSTER F.O.L at Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 when the charge was made through the town by this Regiment this man was captured by a German officer. He broke away killing the officer and escaped to his troop. When the town was subsequently attacked this man's valor and energy stood out on its own in helping to clean up the station buildings.</p> <p>No. 492 Sgt CARR T.L. at Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 when the Regiment attacked the village of Semakh this N.C.O and four other ranks showed great coolness and daring in rushing a trench full of enemy. He succeeded in capturing this trench and also one machine gun and forty seven prisoners. His resourcefulness and energy stood out and showed a splendid example to the troop.</p> <p>The Name of Lieut Robertson of the 4th. Machine Gun Squadron was also submitted for immediate award for good work done in this attack.</p>	

C. Carr
 Adjutant 11th Light Horse Regt. A.I.F. Capt.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p><u>No. 1772 Tpr Clive Dare DONFIELD</u> At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 for good work done in the attack on this place. He shewed great energy and courage in subduing the enemy. He had heard orders given to capture intact any motor boats lying at the pier and he consequently as the troops charged through the place galloped down to the pier and was just in time to jump on to a motor boat as it was leaving. But in doing so his rifle fell into the water and yet notwithstanding this he quite undaunted attacked the engine driver with his fists. Three or four more men coming up from below he decided to jump overboard as he was unarmed and could not expect any assistance from the shore.</p>	
			<p><u>No. 923 Tpr James Joseph COYNE</u> At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 this man shewed great dash and courage in cleaning up the enemy in the upper storey of the buildings. He gathered up prisoners quickly when they shewed signs of surrendering and this by his courage and energy he gave a lot of assistance in overcoming a stubborn enemy.</p>	
			<p><u>No. 300 Sgt Koper KING</u> At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 for good work done in action. During the early part of the attack this N.C.Os troop leader became a casualty and he immediately took command of the troop and kept it in action and well organised throughout the whole operation. This materially assisted in gaining superiority over the enemy. This N.C.O Exhibited great tact courage and judgment</p>	
			<p><u>No. 368 Sgt Arthur WILSON</u> At Semakh on the 25th. September 1918 for good work done in action on this day. During the early part of the attack this N.C.Os Troop Leader became a casualty and he took command of the troop and kept it well organised throughout the whole of the operation. This materially assisted in gaining a superiority of fire over the enemy</p>	