

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/7/31

Title: 2nd Australian Light Horse
Regiment

October 1917

Original

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

E43/1
2^{NO} A. Light Horse Regt.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FUKHARI	1/10/17		Regiment put through Gas & Smoke Cloud by ^{British} Gas Officer	
"	2/10/17		By status of Training carried out.	
Kibo 10. FUKHARI	3/10/17	08.30	Leaving Camp Area at 0830 moved as a Brigade to Area on Beach to space U 31. G. EL SHELLAL 1/40,000. Arrived and settled in Camp Site by 1400.	SHELLAL 1/40,000
Raffa Beach	4/10/17		Improving & settling in Camps.	
"	5/10/17		By status of Instruction & usual Camp Routine.	
"	6/10/17		} By status of Instruction & usual Camp Routine	RAFA 1/125000
"	7/10/17			
"	8/10/17			
"	9/10/17			
"	10/10/17			
"	11/10/17			
"	12/10/17			
"	13/10/17			
"	14/10/17		W. Binckley Major C/O 2nd Regt.	

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E43/2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Raffa Beach	15/10/17		Syllabus of Instructions & usual Camp Routine.	
Raffa Beach	16/10/17		Syllabus of Instructions & usual Camp Routine.	
"	17/10/17		Syllabus of Training carried out, details of H/Quar & Sqdns present at a Flares demonstration: i.e. intercommunication with Aeroplanes.	
"	18/10/17 to 21/10/17		Camp Routine & Syllabus of Training carried out.	
"	22/10/17		Communication with Aeroplanes & Contact Patrols, carried out by means of Flares, with satisfactory results.	
"	23/10/17		Camp Routine.	
Fukhran	24/10/17		Leaving Camp Area at 1700 Regiment moved with Brigade to Fukhran, then establishing new camp. Settled in new Camp by 1900. Ref. Map Raffa 1/125,000.	RAFFA/125,000
Fukhran	25/10/17	1900	Regiment resting & establishing camp.	
"	26/10/17		Leaving Camp at 1900. Regiment goes up with Brigade & moved to a point 1 1/4 miles South of Esani on a bearing of 120° from Hill 630.	

- OCT 1917

W Birkbeck, Major. C/o 2nd ALH Regt

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E43/3

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Esani	27/10/17	1700	<p>At 1700 "A" Squadron under Capt. W. J. Handley moved to a point 840. SW of Et Hathina. His instructions read to complete cable to point 840., joining up with end handed over by supporting Sqdn. at B. in Khabeina & then entrench Hill 840 to hold ^{with} two troops.</p> <p>Support Sqdn. for this operation is being supplied by 3rd L. A Reg commanded by Capt. Thakabery, whose position is at B in Khabeina.</p> <p>2nd Reg. has been ordered to remain as Inlying Reg., pending the success of this operation.</p>	<p>REF. MAP. BEERSHEBA. 1/125,000.</p>
Esani	28/10/17	0500	<p>"C" Squadron commanded by Major C. Stodant M.C. moved at 0.500, to act as supporting Sqdn. to Sqdn holding p. 840 relieving Sqdn. of 3rd Reg.</p>	<p>- OCT 1917</p>
	28/10/17	2100	<p>"A" Squadron from p. 840 being relieved by Sqdn of 3rd Reg returned to Camp at 10.15. this morning having completed its tour of duty.</p>	<p>REF MAP</p>
Khalasa	28/10/17		<p>Continuing operations, 2nd Reg. (less "C" Sqdn.) moved with Bde. to a point 1 mile south of Khalasa, setting up bivouacs by 21.00. For this move "B" Sqdn</p>	<p>BEERSHEBA 1/125,000 Major C/o 2nd LHR</p>

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E43/4

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Khalasa	29/10/17	1900	<p>commanded by Major RM Franklin acted as Advance Guard to Column (Column consisting of D. HQ and 1st Lt. H Bde. & 1/3 MB & Brigade Batteries. "C" Sqdn. (2nd Reg) took duty as support Sqdn. ceasing at 19.00 instructions were left detailing this Sqdn to escort Ration Convoy leaving Esani at 17.00 on the 29th inst. proceeding to Khalasa when Sqdn. will rejoin its unit.</p>	<p>REF. MAP. BEERSHEBA 1/125000</p>
Khalasa	29/10/17		<p>Reg less "C" Sqdn joined Bde at 17.00. "A" Sqdn being left flank Guard to Column (during march).</p>	
KHALASA	30/10/17		<p>"C" Sqdn. having completed duty as escort Sqdn rejoined Reg at 0730 this morning. "B" Incep "A" Sqdn under Lt Joyner DW, has been detailed as Escort to B.A.C., & will continue as escort until cessation of present operations.</p>	<p>- OCT 1917</p>

W Birkbeck Major
C/o 2nd ALH Regt

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E.43/5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ASLUT ASLUT	30/10/17	1400	<p>"C" Sqn rejoined Reg in early morning from Khalasa. The Reg moved out of Bivouac area at 1700 travelling with the Division in N.E. direction on road MN + N.1. Ref. Beersheba 1/125000. "B" Sqn acting as night flank guard for Bde. The Division's first objection was high ground commanding water in Wadi Data between Bin Hassan & A'attam & Bin ab Hamman. At 1200 on 31/10/17 Reg. got orders to be prepared to meet Cavalry advancing on the left flank of the 1st Reg. At 1400 orders came for the remainder of the Reg. to go up on left flank at the foot & help in the assault on Tebe Data. As we advanced Major Mantwell, R.O. was killed by Dhapneb. We occupied same mud huts but our own Artillery shells</p>	<p>REF. MAP BEERSHEBA 1/125,000</p>
Bin ab Hamman	31/10/17	1200	<p>to be prepared to meet Cavalry advancing on the left flank of the 1st Reg. At 1400 orders came for the remainder of the Reg. to go up on left flank at the foot & help in the assault on Tebe Data. As we advanced Major Mantwell, R.O. was killed by Dhapneb. We occupied same mud huts but our own Artillery shells</p>	<p>REF. MAP. BEERSHEBA OCT 1917 1/125,000.</p>

4th Birkbeck
9th 2nd LH Regt
Major

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E43/6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p><i>BIR EL HAMMON</i></p> <p><i>HILL 960.</i></p> <p><i>BIREL SABA</i></p>	<p><i>31/10/17</i></p>	<p><i>1200</i></p>	<p><i>at end of them. After having some casualties; amongst whom was Lt. Wasson. The assault on TEL EL SABA. was successful & at dawn the Reg. bivouaced on banks of WADI SABA. in Hill 960. Our total casualties for the day 1 officer & 1 O/R killed, and 2 officers & eleven O/R wounded.</i></p>	<p><i>- OCT 1917</i></p> <p><i>G. Birkbeck Major</i></p> <p><i>C/O 2nd L. A. Reg.</i></p>