

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/7/4

Title: 2nd Australian Light Horse
Regiment

June 1915

Copy of June Diary

Date.	Place and Time.	2 nd Light Horse Regt	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1915			
June 1 st	POPES POST	Garrison Duty	Original Diary for June was sent 10 th July appears to have gone astray
" 2	"	Relieved by 1 st L. H. Regt. Went into Bwonaac	
" 3	MONASH VALLEY	In Bwonaac 2 men wounded	
" 4	"	" " 2 nd line defence Lt Col Adant and Capt Macartney wounded 1 man killed 1 man wounded	
" 5	"	1 man wounded	
" 6	"	In Bwonaac in rear of 2 nd line defence	
" 7	"		
" 8	"		
" 9	"		
" 10	"		
" 11	"		

C.111050.

Copy of June Diary

Date. 1915	Place and Time.	2 nd Light Horse Regt.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
June 12	MONASH VALLEY	In bivouac in rear 2 nd line defence	
" 13	"	Do Do 1 man wounded	
" 14	"	Do Do 1 man wounded	
" 15	"	Do Do	
" 16	POPPES POST	Went into Garrison 9.0am	
" 17	"	In Garrison	
" 18	"	Do (4) four men wounded	
" 19	"	Do (5) five men wounded	
" 20	"	Do (1) one man wounded	
" 21	"	Do	
" 22	"	Do (2) two men wounded.	
" 23	"	Relieved by 1 st L H R took up duty as local reserve	Segd. 7. G Capt + Adj

C.11156.

Copy of June Diary

Date:	Place and Time.	2 nd L. H. Regiment	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
1915			
June 24	MONASH	Local Reserve to POPES POST	
" 25	VALLEY	" " (1) one man wounded	
" 26	"	" " (1) one man wounded	
" 27	"	" " "	
" 28	"	" " Capt. A Martin wounded	
" 29	"	" " Major A W Nash killed	
		Capt Burkbeck slightly wounded	
		(1) one man " "	
30		Local Reserve (2) two men killed (2) two men wounded	
		On night of 29-30 June an attack was made by the Germans on Walkers Ridge & Valley between POPES POST & WALKERS RIDGE. This in the valley attack was met & repulsed by the	Sgt. & Lt. Capt & Adj
		Regt with casualties shown above for 29-30 June	

C.11(55).

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

Army Corps Headquarters

MEMORANDUM

6th June, 1915.

Cases have recently occurred in both Divisions in which the rifles and ammunition of dead and wounded men have not been brought back to our trenches even though casualties have occurred almost immediately in front of them.

It is absolutely essential that all should fully realise that the supply of rifles and ammunition is of vital importance to the enemy, and it therefore behoves us to do all we possibly can to prevent any of our own arms falling into their hands, and to deprive them of any of theirs which we can at any time capture.

If, as on some recent occasions, it is decided to withdraw from a trench or position which we may be holding, the Officer commanding is responsible that before withdrawal, all rifles, ammunition, and equipment from the dead or badly wounded, either of our own men or of the enemy, and all entrenching tools are first sent off to our own position before any withdrawal is commenced. If very hard pressed by overwhelming numbers, this of course may not be possible, but as a rule it is, and the commander on the spot must use his wits, and think of such things before he withdraws his men, as he will be held responsible for weapons which may be used against us and cause us heavy loss later on, if left behind to fall into the enemy's hands. The mere fact of leaving them behind allows the enemy to suppose that we have retired disorganised and demoralised and gives him an opportunity of regaining his moral which he has at present most certainly lost.

Should by any chance arms or ammunition be abandoned close to our line it is up to the Divisional Commander concerned to consider what can be done to recover these on the first possible occasion.

Reports are to be sent in whenever our own rifles are thus lost, and information should also be given to Army Corps Headquarters of the capture of any Turkish rifles or ammunition.

note & memo

J.C. C. Sqw

B

A

P.F.

A.W.H.

H.G.

C. W. A. G. Staff

Major

for Lieut.-Colonel,
for Brig.-General,
General Staff,

Australian and New Zealand Army Corps,

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

W

Army Corps Headquarters.

8th June, 1915.

Memorandum.

Though it is more probable that if the enemy decide to attack us again they will do so at night, yet the troops must always be on the look-out for an attack during the day, as it was in the daytime that the Turks recently attacked our force in the South.

At midday especially, it seems to be taken for granted that no attack is possible, but this is by no means the case, and it behoves all to be on the constant look-out for any sudden attack which may be made upon us. This of course most especially applies to any trenches which are in very close proximity to Turkish trenches, as in such places it may always be possible for an overwhelming body of the enemy to rush across and get into our trenches, unless the sharpest look-out is kept, and troops to repel an attack are handy and alert. This is a matter of the greatest moment, and I hope all will bear it in mind.

I am quite aware that our long stay here is distasteful, and is liable to make the troops think we are doing nothing. It must be remembered, however, that retaining as we are some 30,000 Turks around us, we are doing what our Commander-in-Chief wants, and if they attack us in great force, as they probably will do, we must make sure of giving them the same lesson as we did last time, when it is highly probable that their force in front of us would have to be withdrawn.

W. F. Birdwood

Lieut-General,
Commanding Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

APPENDIX

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ARMY CORPS.

W

Army Corps Headquarters.

8th June, 1915.

Memorandum.

With reference to the order which was recently circulated regarding the necessity of always bringing in the rifles of killed and wounded men, it should invariably be remembered that if a party is so pressed that it is quite impossible to bring extra rifles along with it, the bolts at least must be withdrawn and brought away, as by leaving the complete rifle to be captured by the Turks, it means we place in their hands the power to shoot a large number of our men, as we know that they have by now obtained a certain amount of our ammunition.

Askeu

Lieut-Colonel,
for Brig-General,
General Staff,

Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.

C. C. Smith
 B. W. A.
 A. J.

APPENDIX

Unit 2nd Light Horse Regt
Place Mohash Valley
Date 4th June 1915

FIELD STATE.

Army Form B 231.

To be rendered in accordance with Field Service Regulations, Part II.

UNIT	FIGHTING STRENGTH											RATION STRENGTH											
	This should not include details attached to unit, or personnel detailed to march with the Train, or any men unfit to go into action with unit											To include Fighting Strength, Personnel detailed to march with the Train, and all Personnel and animals attached for Rations and Forage											
	Personnel		Horses and Mules		Other Animals		Guns and Ammunition Wagons (stating nature)	Machine Guns	Ambulances	Tool Carts, Technical Carts (stating nature)	Remarks	Personnel	Horses and Mules		Other Animals	Mechanically Propelled Vehicles					Remarks		
	Officers	Other Ranks	Riding	Draught and Pack									Total, all Ranks entitled to Rations.	Heavy Horses		Other Horses and Mules	Motor Cars	Motor Bicycles	Lorries.			Tractors	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	
2nd LH Regt	17	354	497	66			In Egypt					19 officers											M.O. Chaplain 3 med orderlies
							X 1 water Cart																
							1 maldese Cart																
							1 Waggon L.S.																
							" " S.S. Limbers																
TOTALS ...	17	354										376											

Ammunition with Unit:—

.303 inch; approximate number of rounds per Man 220

.303 inch; " " per Machine Gun ✓

Gun or Howitzer; approximate number of rounds per Gun or Howitzer ✓

Supplies with Unit:—

Approximate number of days' rations for men of ration strength one

" " " forage for Animals " "

" " " fuel and lubricants for Mechanically Propelled Vehicles

Signature of Commander 2nd LH Regt

Date _____

Army Form B 231.

To be rendered in accordance with Field Service Regulations, Part II.

Ammunition with Unit:—

Gun or Howitzer: approximate number of rounds per Gun or Howitzer_____

Supplies with Unit:—

" " " fuel and lubricants for Mechanically Propelled Vehicles_____

Signature of Commander

Unit
Place
Date

2nd H. Regt
Mongash Valley
18th June 1915

FIELD STATE.

Army Form B 231.

To be rendered in accordance with Field Service Regulations, Part II.

FIGHTING STRENGTH

This should not include details attached to unit, or personnel detailed to march with the Train, or any men unfit to go into action with unit

RATION STRENGTH

To include Fighting Strength, Personnel detailed to march with the Train, and all Personnel and animals attached for Rations and Forage

UNIT

Personnel		Horses and Mules		Other Animals		Guns and Ammunition Wagons (stating nature)	Machine Guns	Ambulances	Tool Carts, Technical Carts (stating nature)	Remarks	Personnel	Horses and Mules		Other Animals		Mechanically Propelled Vehicles					Remarks
Officers	Other Ranks	Riding	Draught and Pack		Total, all Ranks entitled to Rations.						Heavy Horses	Other Horses and Mules			Motor Cars	Motor Bicycles.	Lorries.		Tractors		
																	3 Ton	30 Cwt.			
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)
17	329	497	59	7	In Egypt						352										Mo. Chaplain 4 med order
17	329										352										

Ammunition with Unit:—

303 inch; approximate number of rounds per Man 220
303 inch; " " " per Machine Gun —
Gun or Howitzer; approximate number of rounds per Gun or Howitzer —

Supplies with Unit:—

Approximate number of days' rations for men of ration strength one
" " " forage for Animals " "
" " " fuel and lubricants for Mechanically Propelled Vehicles —

Signature of Commander Edw. H. Goughes Capt