

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

Formation Headquarters

Item number: 1/58/7

Title: General Staff, Headquarters
Australian Mounted Division

January 1918



AWM4-1/58/7

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ORIGINAL. ✓
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~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF
General Staff, Australian Mtd. Divn.

FOR

January 1918.

- JAN 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

*G. Lloyd Jones Capt. G.S.
Australian Mtd Div*

Signature of Officer Commanding

William *Lieut. Col. G.S.*
Australian Mtd Division

WAR DIARY

of

General Staff,

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Australian Mounted Division.

JANUARY 1918.

E7/1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	January.			
	1st	0900	Desert Mounted Corps agreed to 4th A.L.H. Brigade passing to their direct command at 0800 on 2nd instant.	
			5th Mounted Brigade and Notts Battery R.H.A. horses arrived at EL BURJ at 1000 and the Brigade and Battery left for LATRON at 1200.	
		1600	Horses of 3rd A.L.H. Brigade, "B" Battery H.A.C. and Divisional Troops arrived LATRON.	
			4th A.L.H. Brigade occupied in making road passable for wheels as far as MIDIEH and thence to front line for pack horses and camels.	
			Order from Desert Mounted Corps received that 4th A.L.H. Brigade would probably be relieved by a Brigade of Anzac Mounted Division about the 6th or 7th instant and on relief they would march to DEIR EL BELAH to rejoin the Division.	
	2nd	0800	4th A.L.H. Brigade passed to direct command of Desert Mounted Corps.	
			Administrative instructions with march table for the move of the Division (less 4th A.L.H. Brigade) to DEIR EL BELAH issued.	
		1000	3rd A.L.H. Brigade, "B" Battery H.A.C. and Divisional Troops horses arrived from LATRON, and Brigade and Divisional Troops left KEFR RUT and BIR MAIN respectively at 1200, arriving LATRON at 1600.	
		1600	5th Mounted Brigade arrived YEBNAH.	
		1700	D.H.Q. established at KATRAH.	
		1830	Order issued for march of the Division (less 4th A.L.H. Brigade) to DEIR EL BELAH. The trek to extend over 4 days, with halts over night at ESDUD, MEJDEL, GAZA. 5th Mounted Brigade group to commence their march on 4th instant, 3rd A.L.H. Brigade group and Divisional Troops on 5th instant.	
			1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.	

- JAN 1918

Appendix No. 88

G. Lloyd Jones
Capt. F.S.

WAR DIARY

of General Staff,

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Australian Mounted Division.

E7/2

JANUARY 1918.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	January.			
	2nd	2115	Details of 4th A.L.H. Brigade group ordered to march to DEIRAN starting 0900 on 4th instant where they will come under direct orders of Desert Mounted Corps.	
	3rd	1500	3rd A.L.H. Brigade group and Divisional Troops arrived KATRAH and bivouaced South of the town. Desert Mounted Corps order received: 2nd A.L.H. Regiment will relieve 4th A.L.H. Brigade (on line Point 1179 - NALIN) on the 6th instant. On completion of relief 4th A.L.H. Brigade to march to rejoin Australian Mounted Division, reverting to the command of G.O.C. Australian Mounted Division on arrival at GAZA on 10th instant.	
	4th	0900	5th Mounted Brigade left YEBNAH and arrived at ESDUD at 1400.	
	5th		3rd A.L.H. Brigade and Divisional Troops moved to ESDUD. 5th Mounted Brigade moved from ESDUD to MEJDEL.	
		1530	Divisional Headquarters established at DEIR EL BELAH. Square Q.31.b 8.2 (GAZA - SHELLAL 1/40,000).	
	6th	1120	3rd A.L.H. Brigade group and Divisional Troops arrived MEJDEL.	
		1400	5th Mounted Brigade group arrived GAZA.	
	7th		3rd A.L.H. Brigade arrived GAZA 1300, Divisional Troops at 1400.	
		1600	5th Mounted Brigade reached DEIR EL BELAH and camped about 055 L.36.c (GAZA - SHELLAL 1/40,000)	

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

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JAN 1918
G. L. Jones
Capt. 58

WAR DIARY

of

General Staff,

Australian Mounted Division.

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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JANUARY 1918.

E7/3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELAH.	January 8th	1500	3rd A.L.H. Brigade group and Divisional Troops marched into DEIR EL BELAH and camped at 055 Q.31.a and Q.31.b respectively (GAZA - SHELLAL 1/40,000).	Appendix No. 89
			Order issued: Detailing programme of intended "Winter Training" - to commence on 21st instant. The present week to be occupied in restoring units to a state of efficiency by clipping and shoeing horses, re-equipping, overhauling leather work, arms etc.	
	9th			
	10th		Special order issued by Divisional Commander thanking all ranks of the Division for their good work during the past operations.	Appendix No. 90
		1400	4th A.L.H. Brigade group arrived GAZA and reverted to command of G.O.C. Australian Mounted Division.	
	11th		4th A.L.H. Brigade marched into DEIR EL BELAH and camped about Q.26 (GAZA - SHELLAL 1/40,000).	
	12th)		Routine work.	
	13th)			
	14th		Divisional Schools of instruction commenced. Intelligence course: 1 Officer from each Regiment and Brigade Intelligence Officers (Instructor G.S.O. 3). Bombing course: 1 Officer from each Regiment. (Instructor Infantry Bombing Officer).	

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- JAN 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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JANUARY 1918.

E7/4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELAH.	January. 15th)			
	16th)		Routine work. Brigades occupied in re-equipping and reorganisation, Horses being clipped and trimmed up.	
	17th)			
	18th		Syllabus of proposed training for week 21st - 26th instant received from units. Training to be confined to smartening up drill and preliminary mounted work at the walk.	
	19th		Divisional Schools of Intelligence and Bombing finished.	
	20th		G.O.C. Desert Mounted Corps attended commemoration service held at Divisional Headquarters.	
	21st		Corps Commander inspected the Division, dismounted. Brigades formed up in hollow square formation in front of their Brigade areas, and after inspection, marched past in column of troops. Brigades commenced Winter Training, 5th Mounted Brigade on rifle range. Captain Kavanagh, G.S.O. 2, proceeded on leave to the United Kingdom.	
	22nd		Divisional M.G. class commenced under Lieutenant-Colonel Partridge, Corps Machine Gun Officer, Desert Mounted Corps, and Captain Forbes, Machine Gun Officer G.H.Q. 2 Officers and 1 N.C.O. from each Machine Gun Squadron attended. Major Anderson, Brigade Major 3rd A.L.H. Brigade, arrived and took over duties of G.S.O. 2 temporarily.	

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Capt. G.S.

- JAN 1918

WAR DIARY

of

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Australian Mounted Division.

Army Form C. 2118.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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JANUARY 1918.

E7/5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELAH.	January.			
	22nd		Captain Wilkinson, "O" Attache, proceeded to 3rd A.L.H. Brigade to take over duties of Brigade Major <i>temporarily</i> -	
	23rd			
	24th		Divisional Gas Officer proceeded to RAFA for purpose of attending the conference of Divisional Gas Officers on the 25th.	
	25th			
	26th	1000	Divisional Commander attended demonstration of barrage and indirect machine gun fire which was carried out by the Divisional Machine Gun class. Divisional Machine Gun class finished. Letter sent to three Brigades allotting Machine Gun range as follows :- <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> 3rd A.L.H. Brigade. - week commencing 28th January. 4th A.L.H. Brigade. - " " 4th February. 5th Mounted Brigade. - " " 11th February. </div> Wire received from Desert Mounted Corps altering Corps Commander's conference from the 28th January to the 27th January.	
	27th		Letter written allotting training and recreation areas.	

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- JAN 1918

Appendix
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G. Lloyd Jones
Capt. G.S.

WAR DIARY

of General Staff,
Australian Mounted Division.

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

JANUARY 1918.

E7/6

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELAH.	January 27th		Wire received from Desert Mounted Corps postponing Corps Commander's conference.	
	28th		3rd A.L.H. Brigade commenced firing on the Machine Gun range.	
	29th		Divisional Commander inspected 19th Brigade R.H.A. at stables. Lieutenant Spencer, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, arrived at Divisional Headquarters for purpose of training instructors in Bayonet fighting. Divisional Gas Officer returned at close of conference of Divisional Gas Officers at RAFA.	
	30th		Divisional Commander and G.S.O. 1 proceeded to Corps Headquarters for purpose of attending conference and Staff ride. Letter written arranging a Divisional Course of Bayonet fighting for purpose of training Officers and N.C.Os. as Instructors. Instructor - Lieutenant Spencer. Each class to consist of 9 Officers and 9 N.C.Os. 3rd A.L.H. Brigade class to commence January 31st. 4th A.L.H. Brigade class to commence February 5th. 5th Mounted Brigade class to commence February 9th. Each class will last 4 days and will be from 0900 + 1215 each day.	
	31st		Letter received from Desert Mounted Corps authorising the carriage of 15,500 rounds S.A.A. per Machine gun. Letter from Desert Mounted Corps stating special Gas Course to commence at RAFA on 3/2/18. Divisional and Brigade Gas N.C.Os. to attend.	

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G. Hughes Jones
Capt. G. S.

JAN 1918

WAR DIARY of General Staff,
Australian Mounted Division.

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

JANUARY, 1918.

E7/7

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices									
	<p><u>AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.</u></p> <p><u>Fighting Strength.</u></p> <table> <tr> <td></td><td><u>Officers</u></td><td><u>Other ranks.</u></td></tr> <tr> <td>1st January 1918.</td><td>261</td><td>5,735.</td></tr> <tr> <td>31st January 1918.</td><td>278</td><td>5,833.</td></tr> </table> <p>-----</p> <p><i>William</i> Lieutenant-Colonel, General Staff, Australian Mounted Division.</p>		<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other ranks.</u>	1st January 1918.	261	5,735.	31st January 1918.	278	5,833.	
	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other ranks.</u>									
1st January 1918.	261	5,735.									
31st January 1918.	278	5,833.									

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JAN 1918

Stephens
Capt. F.S.

- JAN 1918

E7/8

WAR DIARY

OF

General Staff, Australian Mtd Divn.

FOR

*JANUARY,**1918.*

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
88.	Move of Division to BELAH.
89.	Winter Training.
90.	Special Order by Div. Cdr.
91.	Allotment of parade and recreation grounds.

F. Hugo Jones
Capt. 95

- JAN 1918

E7/9

SECRET.

Copy No. 18.

G/819.

1. The Division less 4th L.H. Brigade and "B" Battery H.A.C. will march to DEIR EL BELAH in accordance with the movement table attached to the Administrative Instructions which have been issued to-day.
 5th Mtd. Bde. commencing their march on 4th inst.
 3rd L.H. Bde.)
 and Div. Tps.) " " " " 5th inst.
 Headquarters 19th Brigade R.H.A. and Notts Battery R.H.A. will leave KATRAH on 6th inst.; "A" Battery and the E.A.C. will join the remainder of their R.H.A. Brigade at MEDJEL on 6th inst. Instructions as to the move of "B" Battery H.A.C. will be issued later.
 The O.C. 19th Brigade R.H.A. will command the Divisional Troops group during the march.
2. Brigades will report to D.H.Q. their arrival at halting places and location of bivouacs and watering places each day and state the hour of departure for following day's march.
3. Brigades will march so as to afford as small a target as possible to hostile aircraft.
4. Orders for the march to BELAH of the 4th L.H. Brigade after concentration at WADI SUKERIER, will be issued later.
5. Divisional Headquarters will close at KATRAH at 1430 on 5th inst. and open at BELAH at the same hour.
6. ACKNOWLEDGE.

(Sd) A.C. Robinson, Lt. Col.,

for Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff,

Australian Mounted Division.

2-1-18.

Issued at 1830.

Copies to :-

- | | |
|-------|-------------------------|
| No. 1 | 3rd L.H. Brigade. |
| 2 | 4th L.H. Brigade. |
| 3 | 5th Mtd. Brigade. |
| 4 | 19th Brigade R.H.A. |
| 5 | Signal Squadron. |
| 6 | Field Squadron. |
| 7 | Camp Commandant. |
| 8 | Ausdiv Details, BELAH. |
| 9 | Divisional Train. |
| 10 | Ausdiv Details, SINEID. |
| 11 | "A" |
| 12 | "Q" |
| 13 | A.D.M.S. |
| 14 | Descorps. |
| 15 | M.F.O., G.H.Q. |
| 16 | D.A.D.A.P.S., Descorps. |
| 17 | File. |
| 18 | War Diary. |
| 19 | War Diary. |

C. Lloyd Jones
Capt: G.S.

MOVEMENT TABLE OF MARCH TO BELAH.

Date. Jany.	Return to led horses.	REST.	ESDUD.	MEDJEL.	GAZA.	BELAH.	REMARKS.
2							Loading Station :- E S D U D.
3							5th Mounted Brigade.
3							2nd Jan. 20 G.S. wagons Brigade Train to report at 1600.
4							3rd Jan. Bde. Train takes to ESDUD 20 G.S. Wagons loads.
5							Train returns with rations for 4th Jan.
6							4th Jan. Brigade marches with 20 G.S. Train wagons attached
7							Divisional Troops.
8							4th Jan. 8 Train wagons to ESDUD
9							5th Jan. and return. Div. Troops march with 19 Train wagons attached.
10							3rd L.H. Brigade.
							4th Jan. 20 Brigade Train wagons to ESDUD and return.
							5th Jan. Brigade marches with 20 Train wagons attached.

5th Mounted Brigade

= Lead Pencil.

Divn. less 4th and 5th Bdes.

=

and "A" Batt. and B.A.C.

=

Capt. J. J. Jones
Jan 1918

- JAN 1918

E7/10

ORIGINAL -

Appendix 89

E7/11

SUBJECT :- WINTER TRAINING.

GT/85

ORIGINAL - JAN 1918

3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

4th A.L.H. Brigade.

5th Mounted Brigade.

19th Brigade R.H.A.

Field Squadron.

Signal Squadron.

A.D.M.S.

A.D.V.S.

1. Immediate steps are to be taken to restore the Division to a state of efficiency; the following points are of especial urgency -

- (a) Horses to be clipped.
- (b) Horses to be shod up.
- (c) All deficient equipment to be drawn up.
- (d) Arms and equipment to be cleaned up and restored to a thoroughly smart condition.

2. The above and all other necessary reorganisation is to be pushed on in order to allow Winter Training to be in full swing in units by Monday, January 21st.

The object of Winter Training will be -

- (a) To restore the Division to a state of thorough efficiency.
- (b) To restore Squadron and Troop organisation.
- (c) To re-establish the required number of specialists.
- (d) To fit Officers and N.C.Os. for the higher duties which, owing to losses, they are now called upon to perform.

3. (a) Commanders will continually bear in mind that the primary aim of all training is to develop power throughout the Division to manoeuvre mounted and attack with rapidity, precision and decisive effect against either a mounted or dismounted enemy.

(b) Training with such secondary weapons as the bomb and the bayonet (dismounted), though necessary, should not be allowed to assume an undue importance.

4. The responsibility for all instruction of Officers, N.C.Os. and men of each unit, other than that given at Army schools, rests in principle with the unit commanders. It is desirable to disturb this principle as little as possible, the true functions of Brigade and Divisional Staffs being advice and supervision.

In order, however, to provide unit commanders with instructors in certain subjects, and also to relieve them, the following arrangements will be made.

- (a) In order to provide instructors for units, a Divisional class will be held early in each of the following subjects :-
 - (i) Advanced Machine Gun work - Indirect fire and A.A. barrage.
 - (ii) Bombing and Rifle Grenade class.
 - (iii) Intelligence class.

-/ (b)
G. Leo Jones
Capt. G.S.

- JAN 1918

E 7/12

(b) In order to relieve unit commanders, Brigade classes will be held as follows:-

- (i) Signalling classes.
- (ii) Intelligence and Scouting classes.

5. The arrangements for holding the above mentioned Divisional classes to train Instructors for units are detailed in accompanying appendices.

- Appendix A. - Advanced Machine Gun work.
- " B. - Bombing and Rifle Grenade class.
- " C. - Intelligence class.

6. Under Divisional arrangements efforts will be made to provide, where necessary, special instruction in the use of -

- (a) the sword or bayonet as a mounted weapon.
- (b) the rifle and bayonet dismounted.

7. All units of Divisional Troops will be trained under the direct instruction of formation and unit commanders and Heads of Administrative services concerned. If required periodically for training with Brigades, they should be especially applied for from D.H.Q.

8. Leave for Officers, and N.C.Os. detailed to attend Divisional classes should be deferred until the class is completed and until they have thoroughly introduced the system of instruction into their units.

9. Special provision for range practices for rifle and hotchkiss rifle is detailed in Appendix D attached.

10. Instructions as to allotment of training grounds for mounted work will be issued later.

11. In order to enable training in units to be in full swing on January 21st, preliminary steps should be taken in hand early. G.Os.C. Brigades, Os.C. R.H.A. Field Squadron and Signal Squadron, A.D.M.S. and A.D.V.S. will forward to reach D.H.Q. by 1800 each Friday commencing January 18th, the programme of work of each unit of the Brigade for the following week in accordance with the pro forma attached as Appendix E.

12. The Divisional Commander directs that Sunday be regarded as a day of rest (except for range practices) and that one whole afternoon per week be allotted for recreation.

(sd) R.H. Osborne,
Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff,
8th January 1918. Australian Mounted Division.

Copies to :-

Desert Mounted Corps.
A. & Q.

SIGNAL -

Appendix A.

E 7/13

Divisional Advanced Machine Class.

- JAN 1918

1. Duration. January 14th - January 17th (both inclusive).
2. A C.M.G.O. is being applied for to give instruction; an Artillery A.A. officer is being applied for to lecture on A.A. barrage fire.
3. Students.
The two senior officers of each Machine Gun Squadron and one N.C.O. from each Squadron.
They will live in their own camp and come to the class each day.
4. Equipment supplied by D.H.Q. -
1 E.P. tent.
Tables.
Paper and Pencils.
Other equipment to be provided by Major HORLICK in anticipation of requirements of the C.M.G.O.
5. Following further details will be issued later.
(a) hour of parade on January 14th.
(b) location of E.P. tent.
(c) location of 2,500 yards range.
6. A 2,500 yards indirect fire range is being made under Divisional arrangements.
After the completion of the class each Machine Gun Squadron will be allotted the 2,500 yards range for a complete period of one week in the following order -

3rd L.H. Brigade.
4th L.H. Brigade.
5th Mounted Brigade.

Appendix B.

Divisional Bombing and Rifle Grenade Class.

1. Duration. January 14th - January 19th (both inclusive).
2. Instructors. An Infantry Divisional Bombing Officer and one N.C.O. are being applied for.
3. Students. One Officer from each Regiment; they will live in their own camp and come to the class each day.
4. Equipment supplied by D.H.Q.
1 E. P. tent.
Tables.
Steel Helmets.
A few German Cylindrical and Spherical Grenades.
108 live practice grenades (9 boxes of 12).
72 dummy grenades (6 boxes of 12).
6 unservicable rifles.
1,000 rounds blank S.A.A.
6 rifle grenade cups.
1 dozen gun-cotton primers.
Some "Time and instantaneous fuze".
Handbooks "Training and employment of bombers".
5. Digging to be done under Divisional arrangements -
6 Throwing pits, 6 feet deep x 4 feet wide.
6. Following details will be issued later.
(a) hour of parade on January 14th.
(b) location of E. P. tent and bombing ground.

G. L. Jones
Capt. G.S.

- JAN 1918

E 7/14

Appendix C.

ORIGINAL -

Divisional Intelligence Class.

1. Duration. January 14th - January 19th (both inclusive).
2. Instructor. G.S.O. 3. Australian Mounted Division.
3. Students. Brigade and Regimental Intelligence Officers (12); will live in Brigade camp and come to class daily.
4. Equipment supplied by D.H.Q.
1. E. P. tent.
Tables.
Paper and Pencils.
5. Following details will be issued later:-
(a) hour of parade on January 14th.
(b) location of E. P. tent.
6. After completion of class, Brigade classes in Intelligence and Scouting will commence at once.

Appendix D.

1. A rifle and Hotchkiss rifle range is being made under Divisional arrangements near the mouth of the WADI GHUZZE.
2. It will be detailed to one Regiment at a time for four complete days, as stated in para. 7 below.
3. (a) The whole unit will camp beside the range, marching there on the day previous to their first day's shooting, and returning on the day following their last day's shooting.
(b) The markers detailed for the first day's shooting of each Regiment should reach the range on the morning of the previous day and be in the butts during the afternoon practice, in order to take over target etc., when the afternoon practice is completed.
4. Casuals in each unit will shoot with the last Regiment of its Brigade.
5. The Divisional Commander directs that thorough preliminary instruction be carried out in each unit in the present camp before proceeding to the range.
It is however regretted that dummy cartridges cannot be obtained.
6. Final details as to the course and ammunition available will be issued later.
7. (a) The range is detailed to units as follows :-

A Regiment	5th Brigade.	January 21 - January 24.
"	3rd "	" 25 - " 28.
"	4th "	" 29 - February 1.
B Regiment	5th "	February 2 - " 5.
"	3rd "	" 6 - " 9.
"	4th "	" 10 - " 13.
C Regiment	5th "	" 14 - " 17.
"	3rd "	" 18 - " 21.
"	4th "	" 22 - " 25.
- (b) These dates may be altered from time to time if rain interferes.

E 7/15

JAN 1918

Appendix E.

TRAINING PROGRAMME for.....Regt. for week commencing.....

Battery
Field Squadron
Signal Squadron.
Field Ambulance.

Date	Nature of Training (morning)	Place	Time	Nature of training (afternoon)	Place	Time
	A Sqdn. B Sqdn. C Sqdn.					

War Diary

SPECIAL

Appendix 90
E7/16

AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION ORDER.

10th January, 1918.

After the last two months of operations, I am anxious that all ranks of the Division should know how much I appreciate their good work, which has enabled us to claim a very considerable share in the success of the whole operations since October 31st. Captures by the Division amount to 88 officers, 1854 other ranks, 35 guns and 8 machine guns.

My best thanks are due to all members of the Divisional Staff. Their untiring zeal and energy have been most marked. They have had many difficulties to contend with, especially in the feeding of men and horses at times spread over a very large area, but their forethought and resourcefulness have overcome all troubles.

All Brigades have consistently done good work. The cheerfulness and keenness shown by men on all occasions has carried them through periods of much discomfort, scarcity of water, and cold wet weather. I have the greatest confidence that no difficulties are too great for such men to overcome.

Opportunities have not presented themselves to all Brigades alike, but the gallant way the 4th A.L.H. Brigade, most ably handled by Brigadier-General Grant, captured BEERSHEBA at the gallop on October 31st was an exploit which, I maintain, had far reaching effects on the whole operations, and was in itself a very fine performance.

The attack on the guns at HUI on November 8th by the Warwick Yeomanry and the Worcester Yeomanry, gallantly led in person by Lieutenant-Colonel Gray-Cheape, stands out, too, as one of the features of the campaign, and well exemplifies what can be done by mounted troops on a quick decision and by rapid movement.

The repulse of the Turkish attack at EL BURJ on the night of November 30th/ December 1st, by the 8th A.L.H. Regiment, supported by the Gloucester Yeomanry, and later by a Company of the 1/4th R.S. Fusiliers, was another very noticeable instance of gallantry and stubborn fighting, which gained praise for the Division and the thanks of higher authority.

The 19th Brigade R.H.A. fulfilled its rôle with much credit; difficulties in getting over heavy ground with tired teams were very considerable, but Batteries were always handy when wanted; and Battery Commanders took good advantage of their opportunities, often with excellent results. The supply of ammunition entailed very severe strain on the B.A.C., which performed its duties admirably.

Very few of the Division had harder work than the Field Squadron. I specially commend Major Ford-Young and all ranks for their good services; the watering arrangements were practically a decisive factor in the success or otherwise of the operations, and I am well aware of the untiring efforts made by Field Troops to supply their Brigades.

All credit is due to Major Hill and his Signal Squadron; the ever important matter of communications was a difficult business with mounted troops constantly on the move; the work of all signallers, including despatch riders, has been highly commendable.

G. Lloyd Jones
Capt. G.S.

E 7/17

REPORT

The care of sick and wounded by Medical Officers and the personnel of Field Ambulances has, as usual, been all that was possible - at times under very difficult conditions. Arrangements for evacuations and general medical services, under the orders of Colonel Dixon, A.D.M.S., have been most satisfactory.

I deplore the loss of many gallant officers and men, though our casualties have been light in comparison to the results obtained.

	<u>Killed.</u>	<u>Wounded.</u>	<u>Missing.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Officers.	8	34	42	84
Other ranks.	105	365	14	484
				<u>TOTAL. 568</u>

The Chaplains of all denominations have carried out their duties with their ever ready devotion and zeal.

The losses in horses and evacuations have been high, but can hardly be wondered at under such conditions of scarcity of water and bulk forage. I am satisfied that Veterinary Officers and their subordinates have worked hard and have done all that was possible to keep animals in the field.

	<u>Killed and destroyed.</u>	<u>Wounded.</u>	<u>Evacuated.</u>	<u>Missing.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Horses.	506	160	1042	79	1787
Donkeys.	13	-	22	27	62
					<u>TOTAL. 1849</u>

It can be readily understood how difficult has been the task of the Divisional Train and Supply Sections. That we have been kept supplied so regularly in bad weather and over the worst of roads speaks volumes for the Officers, N.C.Os. and Drivers. I give them all credit for their good work.

In conclusion I thank most cordially all officers, N.C.Os. and men in the Division for the excellent work they have done. I feel confident that, when we go forward again, I may rely on them to continue to give me their loyal support and to uphold the good record they have established for the Australian Mounted Division.

H. W. Hodgson

Major-General,
Commanding Australian Mounted Division.

War Diary Appendix 91

3rd A.L.H. Brigade.
4th A.L.H. Brigade.
5th Mounted Brigade.
19th Brigade R.H.A.
Signal Squadron.
Field Squadron.
Divisional Train.



E 7/18

28 JAN 1918

Reference map: GAZA - SHELLAL 1/40,000.

1. Areas have been allotted to formations as follows :-

- (a) For parade and recreation grounds.
- (b) For 30 yards rifle ranges along sea beach.

2. (a) Parade and recreation grounds :-

<u>Divisional Troops.</u>	Q.32.c 5.1.
	Q.32.d 3.9.
	Q.32.a 4.7.
	Q.31.d 7.9.

<u>3rd A.L.H. Brigade.</u>	Q.32.d 3.9.
	Q.27.c 3.1.
	Q.26.d 0.9.
	Q.32.a 1.8.

<u>4th A.L.H. Brigade.</u>	Q.27.c 3.1.
	Q.27.b 4.5.
	Q.21.c 2.3.
	Q.26.d 0.9.

<u>5th Mounted Brigade.</u>	S.1.c 7.7.
	Q.32.c 5.1.
	Q.31.d 6.9.
	N.6.b 8.6.

Note:- Any ground in above areas which has been ploughed and sown this season must be carefully avoided.

(b) Frontage along beach allotted for 30 yards rifle ranges as follows :-

<u>Divisional Troops.</u>	L.30.b 1.0.
	L.30.b 6.8.

<u>3rd A.L.H. Brigade.</u>	Q.19.c 5.8.
	L.30.b 6.8.

<u>4th A.L.H. Brigade.</u>	Q.19.b 4.10.
	Q.19.c 5.8.

<u>5th Mounted Brigade.</u>	L.30.b 1.0.
	L.35.b 9.6.

(sd) R. H. Osborne,

Lieutenant-Colonel,
General Staff,
Australian Mounted Division.

27th January 1918.

Copies to :-

A. & Q.
Camp Commandant.
A.D.M.S.
A.P.M.

G. Lewis Jones
Capt. G.S.