

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/17/25

Title: 12th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

April 1919



18,000-12/1-8723

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
~~DUPLICATE.~~
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

12th Light Horse Regiment.

FOR

April 1919

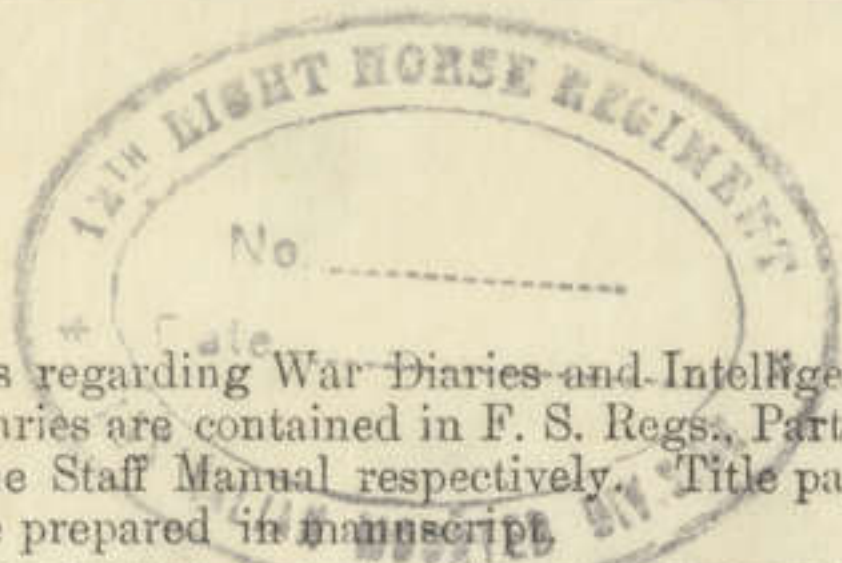


Signature of Officer compiling

A. J. Brown
12th L.H. Regt.

Signature of Officer Commanding

P. A. Chambers
12th L.H. Regt.



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.

WAR DIARY *Page 1*
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

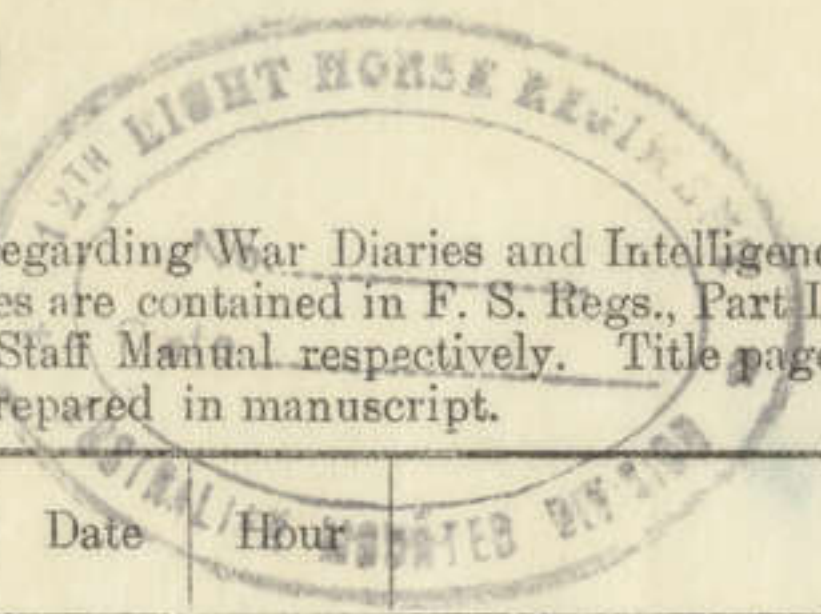
Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
El Badreshi	1.4.19	0600	Reveille.	
		0800	Regiment moved off in route for AYAT.	
BEIDA		1200	Lunch	
AYAT		1500	Arrived AYAT & bivouaced.	
"	2.11.19	0600	Reveille	
		0800	Issued horse feed & rations.	
		0910	Regt marched out in route for WASTA.	
		1200	Stopped for lunch at KEFA AMARA.	
		1315	Regiment resumed march.	
		1515	Captured a native putting stones on the lines between 81 & 82, N of Railway 100 yards.	
		1800	arrived at WASTA & bivouaced.	
WASTA	3.4.19	0600	Reveille.	
			Regiment remained at present stn refitting prior to move to MYA.	
		1700	Issued movement Order.	(App. 1.)

A. D. Brown
12.11.1919

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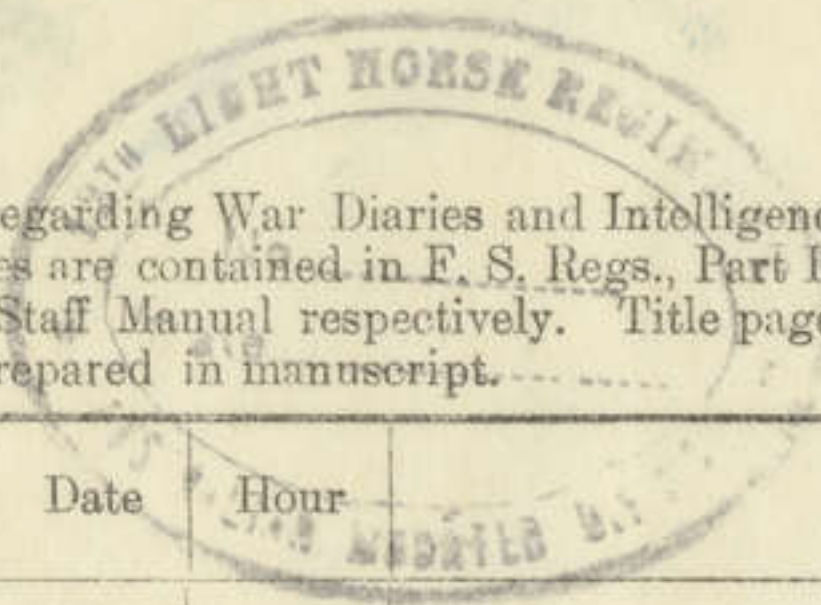
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Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WASTA	4.4.19	0620	Bivouac	
		0800	Capt Duffield (Political Adviser) & Capt J. H. Murray gave evidence at G.M.R. against a native captured on 2.4.19.	
		0900	Regiment moved out in route for MINYA less "C" Squadron	
BENI SUEF		1620	Regt bivouaced at BENI SUEF.	
	5.4.19	0600	Bivouac	
		0800	Regt marched out, order of march, 5th L.C., HQs, B Squadron. - During march to EL FASUN natives very hostile. Mines were put on Railway lines & troops jured at, had to fire over natives heads to quieten.	
		1400	halted at BIBA & filled water bottles.	
EL FASUN		1630	Arrived EL FASUN & bivouaced	
"	6/4/19	0600	Bivouac	
		0800	Moved in route for BENI MATA.	
		0900	Searched the following, EL FASUN, ESBAH, TAHER MAHAMAD, SHEATA & ESBEH FABICA.	
		1100	moved off again	
ABA-EL-WAQF		1730	arrived at ABA-EL-WAQF. - One of the Mines failed.	

Colonel
12th Aug 1919



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WAR DIARY

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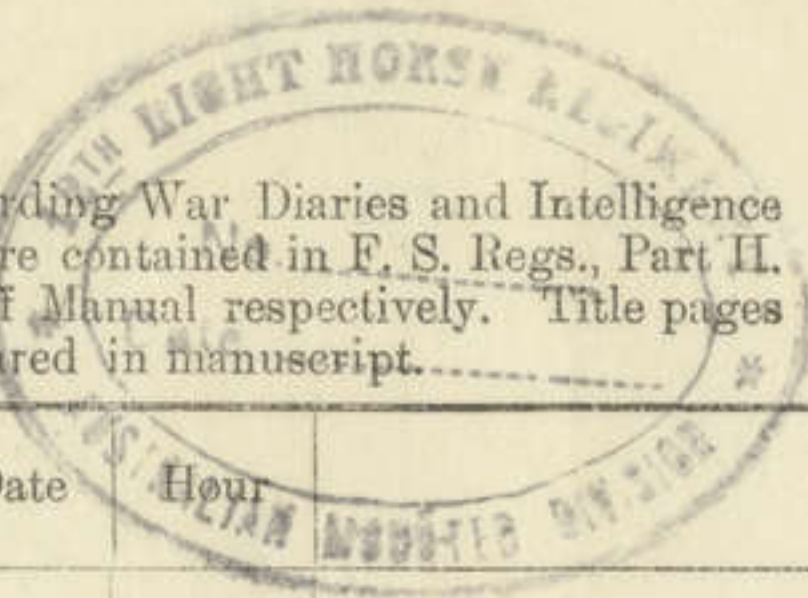
Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABA-El-Wah	7.4.19	0600	Reveille.	
		0800	Moved off.	
		1000	arrived at BENI MARIYA.	
		1200	halted for lunch at MATAI.	
		1300	Moved off again.	
SAMALUT.		1600	arrived SAMALUT & bivouaced. water & food plentiful & natives friendly.	
"	8.4.19	0600	Reveille.	
		0800	Moved out for EL MINYA.	
EL MINYA.		1400	arrived at EL MINYA & bivouaced on the banks of the Nile.	
			Reported SHEA'S Group & Galstons Force.	
			Lt Lindeman promoted 3rd Captain to date 24/2/19.	
	9.4.19	0230	2 Troops = 50 Capt Lindeman in charge sent out to raid a village TANA.	
		0900	shifted camp 200 yards further North.	
		1600	dismounted party arrive by rail.	
"	10/4/19	1000	1 Troop "A" Squadron embarked for MALLAWI, Lt Webb C.	

12th Aust L.H. Regt



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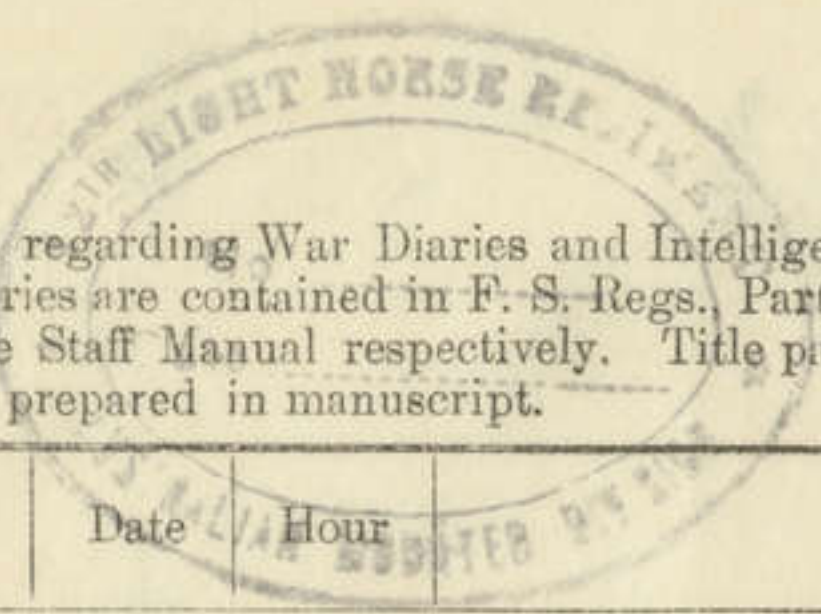
WAR DIARY *Page 4*
 or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
El MINYA	10/4/19	0600	Reveille.	
		0900	B Squadron detailed to raid a village at 0930.	
		1000	Left Collinus AVC marched out to Details Camp MOASCAR today.	
"	11/4/19	0600	Reveille	
		1000	Lt Ganner sent Cairo for pay & comforts for troops.	
		"	1 Troop A Squadron untrained for MALLAWI, Lt Webb 1/c.	
"	12/4/19	0600	Reveille.	
		0300	B Squadron left for BAHLUL a village 3 miles from BENI SUEF. The villagers were hostile and opened fire, this was returned by our troops & the enemy suffered the following casualties. 5 Killed 3 wounded. Village was searched, nine double Barrel Shot Guns & 2 muzzie loading pistols were found. 11 prisoners were taken (2 horses wounded).	
"	13.4.19	0500	Reveille	
		0700	A & B Squadrons detailed to search the villages of DAMSHIR & EL BURGHAYA. A Squadron only secured 1 muzzie loading Gun & a dagger, a little powder & shags on raiding EL BURGHAYA.	

12/4/19
12th April, L.H. Regt.



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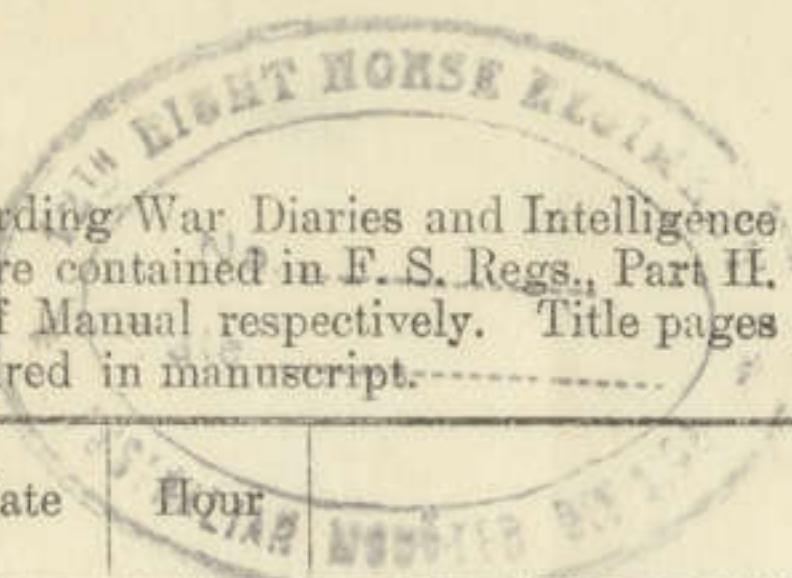
WAR DIARY *Page 5*
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
El MINYA	13.4.19	-	B Squadron raided DAMSHIR & captured 1 prisoner, ABDUL GHAFAR.	
			2/Lt Eyrre promoted Lt 16.4.19.	
			2/Lt Kayden promoted Lieut 17.4.19.	
		0900	Lt Walcott sent by Col Stans Force to BENI-MAZA on special mission by Armoured Train.	
	14.4.19	1000	2/Lt Rabb marched out to P. I. F. HQs for duty at Pay Office.	
		1400	12th Regt less 1 sqdn marched through MINYA as a demonstration, and returned to camp at 1600 - Inhabitants very quiet.	
"	15.4.19	1200	20th Regt marched in from Hoasear. Lt Easterbrook in charge.	
			Lt Hamer arrived back from Cairo with Pay, Cigarettes & tobacco from Regimental Funds.	
"	16.4.19	1100	The following Mounted Patrols sent to Minia. 1 Officer 1 Sgt 11 Banks & 1 Sgt 11 Banks to Patrol Streets to maintain order in case of Peace Demonstrations.	
"	17.4.19	-	The usual guards & pickets found, everything very quiet.	

*AT Minia at 1200
12th Aug. 4.19. R.H.*



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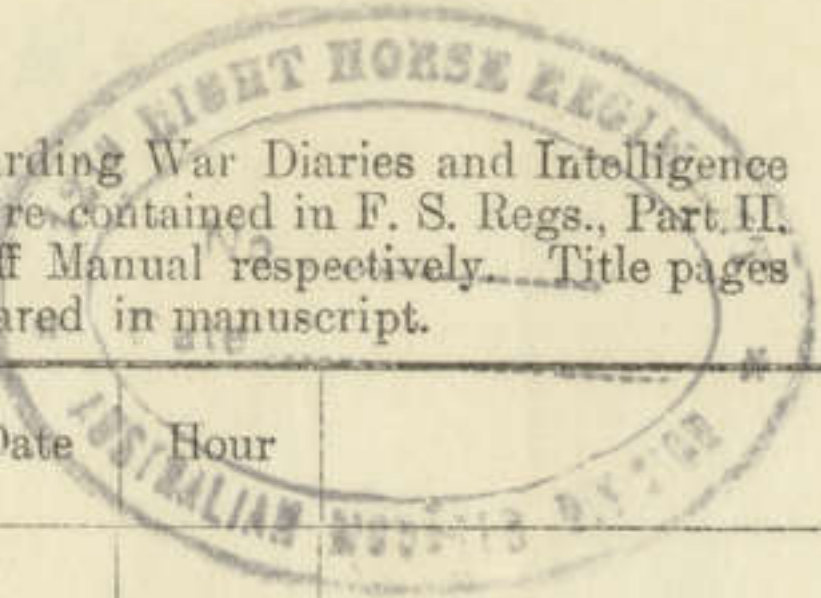
WAR DIARY *Page 6* or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
El Minya	19.4.19	0830	35 ^{of} R marched out to "A" Details for 10% V.K. leave.	
		1030	1543 ^{of} R Downey ^{to} C drowned in the Nile just near Camp lines, while bathing.	
		1430	1543 ^{of} R Downey ^{to} C buried in Greek Cemetery.	
		1830	2 ^{of} R sent to Moascar field Punishment Camps for Drunkenness.	
			46 Cases of Comforts received from Comforts Fund.	
"	19.4.19	0945	6 ^{of} R entrained for Moascar for early repatriation to Australia.	
			The following guards & picquets formed during the day - 1 NCO & 6 ^{of} R Police duty in Wassat. - 1 NCO ^{of} R Down Picquet from 1530 till 2130. - 1 NCO 6 ^{of} R Railway Guard. - 1 officer 20 ^{of} R in neighbourhood of Greek Church from 22.00 to 01.00 in case of friction between Greeks & Natives.	
"	20.4.19	1000	Mr J. Chambers promoted 2/Lt. See dated 16/3/19.	
"	21.4.19	1130	Lt Dobson & 8 ^{of} R marched in from Moascar -	
			Lt Dobson appointed Adjutant via Capt J. Huelly to 10 th Squadron.	
		1500	Situation - Normal.	

A. Dobson
12th L. H. Regt.



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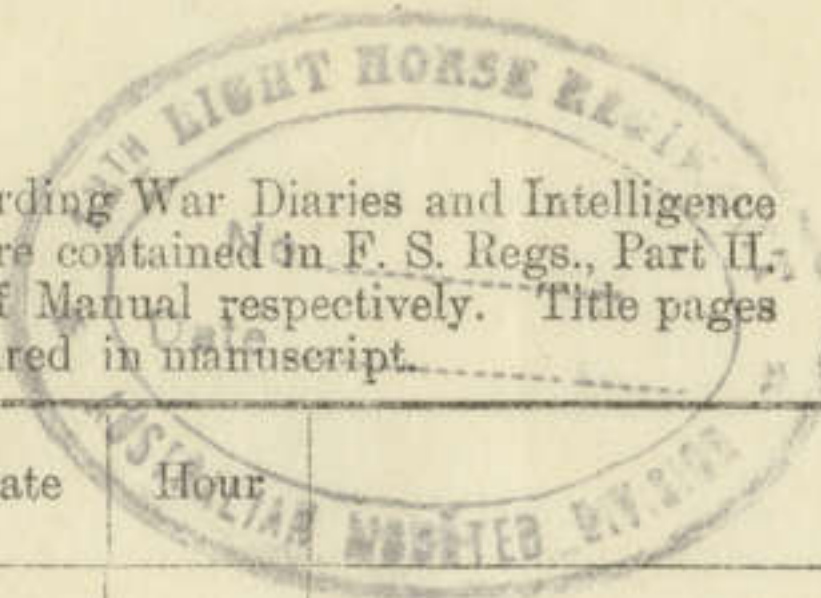
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Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
El Minya.	22.4.19	0730	"A" Squadron marched out to BENI MAZAR.	
		1500	Situation Normal	
"	23.4.19	0800	Regiment less 2 squadrons moved out	App 2
		1500	Situation Normal.	
"	24.4.19	1445	Regt returned to camp.	App 3
		1500	Situation Normal.	
"	25.4.19	0900	Col left to inspect 6 squadrons at BENI SUEF.	
		1200	Lt Walcott evacuated to Hospital.	
		1500	Situation Normal.	
"	26.4.19	1500	Situation Normal.	
"	27.4.19	0830	1 Off 20 of B moved out to visit TALLA, and returned at 1100 after searching the Quidas residence.	
		1445	Lt-Col P.A. Chambers Col, returned from inspection of 6 & A Squadrons at BENI SUEF + BENI MAZAR.	
		1500	Situation Normal	

2 Dubrov
12.4.19 A to H Ret.



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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>EI. MINYA</i>	<i>28.4.19</i>	<i>0800</i>	<i>B Squadron moved out to surround ITSA while the village was searched by the Native Police.</i>	
		<i>1500</i>	<i>Situation Normal.</i>	
		<i>1600</i>	<i>B Squadron returned. 1 Shot Gun captured.</i>	
<i>"</i>	<i>29.4.19</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Cleaning up Camp & Saddles for GOC's Inspections.</i>	
		<i>1500</i>	<i>Situation Normal.</i>	
<i>"</i>	<i>30.4.19</i>	<i>0710</i>	<i>GOC (General Sir John Shea, KCMG, CB, DSO) inspected the Regiment and made a tour of the Camp.</i>	
		<i>1600</i>	<i>Situation Normal.</i>	

G. I. Dawson
12th A.S.H. Regt.

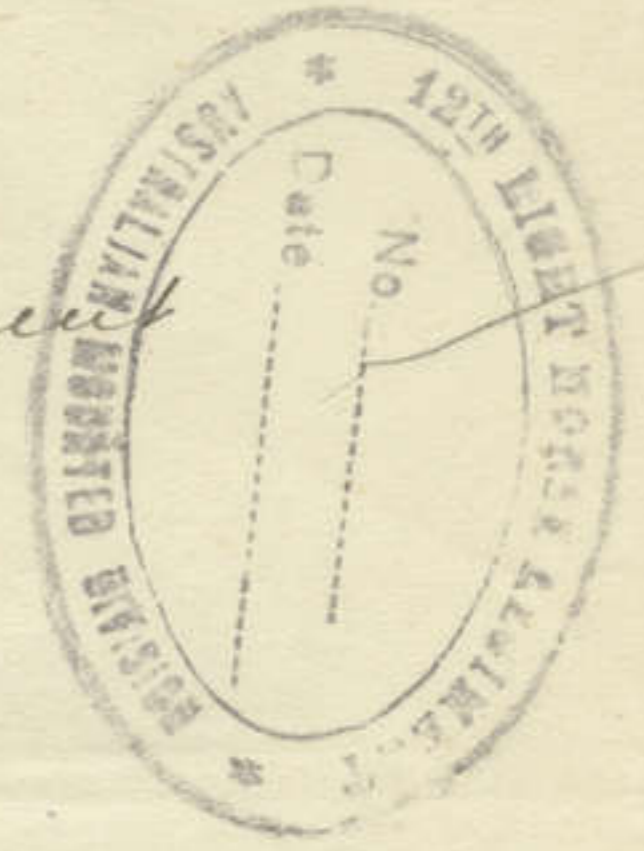
WAR DIARY

OF

12th Light Horse Regiment

FOR

April 1919



LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Movement Order by Major P.A. Chambers for move from Wasta to theinja. |
| 2. | Operation Order by Lt-Col P.A. Chambers, re visit of villages |
| 3. | Report with reference operations on 23 + 24 th insto. |

21 Oct 1919
12th Light Horse Regt.

Appendix 1

11

MOVEMENT ORDER
BY

MAJOR P.A. CHAMBERS COMMANDING 12th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

IN THE FIELD (WASTA)

3.4.19.

Reference 1/100,000 Map.

REVILLE 6030



- The 12th L.H. Regiment and B Co Light Car Patrol will proceed to EL HINYA starting from EL WASTA on the 4th of April 1919 at 0600, marching by the following stages.

Date	Destination	Distance.
4th April	DEHI SUF	18 Miles.
5th "	EL FAKH	20 "
6th "	DEHI NALA	23 "
7th "	SALALIT	16 "
8th "	EL HINYA	14 "

C Squadron of 12th Regiment will march to Dehi Suf with the Regiment, then report to Major Massey D.S.O. 29th Punjab, on the departure of this force.

Order of March Light Car Patrol.
 Headquarters.
 B Squadron.
 C Squadron.
 A Squadron.

- PACKING. Baggage will be stacked at head of Squadron Lines ready for loading at 0600. Heavy baggage will be sent by rail or by boat to EL HINYA after Regiment arrives at destination.
- RATIONS. 24 hours rations will be carried on men and horse balance of 2 days rations will be carried on mules.
- DISMOUNTED MEN. All Dismounted men will remain at EL WASTA in charge of heavy baggage. Lieut Townsend D.S.O. will remain behind and bring dismounted party to EL HINYA, the same proportion of H.C.O.'s as before will be left with dismounted party.

ISSUED at 1600
 Issued to

- No 1 C.O.
- " 2 2nd in Command.
- " 3 " A Squadron.
- " 4 " B "
- " 5 " C "
- " 6 S.B.
- " 7 C.O. Light Cars.
- " 8,9,10. WAR DIARY.
- " 11 File
- " 12 Adjutant.

(SDB) J H. FORLEY for Adjt.

12th Light Horse Regiment.

OPERATION ORDER NO E. 1.

SECRET

LIEUTENANT COLONEL P. A. CHAMBERS COMMANDING 12th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

EL MINIA.

22.4.19.

1. 12th L.H. Regiment less 2 Squadrons will visit the following Villages starting at 0800 on the 23rd Inst, and returning on the 24th Inst.

BENI AHMED.
RIDA.
BENI KHIYAR.
NAZLET EL IBEID
SAFT EL KHAMMAR (A Bedouin Village)
DIMSHAW HASHIM
TAHNASHA
MAQUSA



2. An Egyptian Police Officer (with 4 Mounted Police) will accompany you and through him you will summon the Omdah of each village to hand over any arms that may be in the possession of his Villagers . He should be warned that if there are any arms in the and they are not handed in voluntarily , it will be necessary to send troops later to make thorough house to house search.
3. The Omdahs should be treated with every courtesy , but at the same time they should be warned to carry on quietly at their cultivation and to do nothing likely to disturb the peace of the province.
4. No houses will be searched unless reliable information is received as to the location of any firearms or loot, in which case only Native Police will be employed to carry out the search .
5. The Q.M. will detail 2 G.S. Waggon to accompany the Regiment under the Transport Sergeant. No 1 Waggon will carry Blankets, bivouac sheets and Officer's valices. No 2 Waggon will carry rations , horsefeed and dixies.
6. Dress full marching order . 1 days rations less the meat and tea and sugar portion will be carried on the man. 2 grain feeds will be carried on the horse. Every available man will be mounted except the Sgt/Cook and the Headquarters Officer's mess Cook who will ride on the G.S. Waggon and act as guard.
7. Starting Point South of Q.M's Store . The Regiment will be formed up ready to move in column of half sections at 0800 sharp. Order of march Headquarters. "B" Squadron , Transport.
8. Parade States will be rendered to Regimental Orderly Room by 0700 .

Copies to

C.O.
"B" Squadron

Q.M.
War Diary (3 Copies)
File.

(SGD) A. DOBSON Lieut & A/Adjt.

12th Light Horse Regiment.

To G.O.C. Colstens Force.



1. In Compliance with your B.G. /136, the 12th Light Horse Regiment less 2 Squadrons, marched out at 0800 on the 23rd Inst.
2. 0900 arrived MARQUSA, interviewed Omda AHMED FADEY HASSANIN who stated that he had received intimation re handing in of arms and would comply. Attitude of natives good.
3. 1000 arrived BENI AHMED. The Omda TEWFIK had been arrested Sub Omda gone to MINIA to give evidence. Sheik Abdul RAHMAN kept column waiting 22 minutes before arriving, stated had received intimation re arms and would comply, also that everyone was quiet and orderly. Attitude of natives good.
4. 1120 arrived RIDA, interviewed Omda ISMAIL ABU BAKIR, who stated as above. Attitude of natives very good.
5. 1200 to 1300 midday halt and meal.
6. 1320 arrived KOM EL MARRAS, interviewed Omda GALINA KARAS (a Copt) stated same as others. Attitude of natives very good. 1400 arrived RIHANA, interviewed Omda MOHAMMED HASSEIN stated as above. Attitude of natives good.
7. 1415 arrived BENI MUSA, interviewed Omda ABDUL ALIF FAT EL BAN stated same as others. Attitude of natives very good.
8. 1440 arrived EL FUGGAI, interviewed Omda MOHAMMED FUKARI, speaks English, has a very good opinion of himself, stated same as others. Attitude of natives good.
9. 1515 arrived BENI KIYAR, interviewed Omda MOURSI HASSAN, stated had received intimation re arms etc but none in village, all handed in long ago. Attitude of natives very good. Met one Troop of "A" Squadron 12th L.H. Regiment here under Lieut Webb, who stated that Omda had behaved well. Lieut Webb then returned to ABU KERKAS with his troop.
10. 1650 arrived NAZZET EL ABEID and bivouaced near REST HOUSE interviewed Omda MOHAMED ESSAWY, sated had received intimation re arms etc, and would comply. Attitude of natives very good. April 24th. Marched out at 0800.
11. 0900 arrived SAFT EL KHAMMAR, interviewed Omda AHMED DIAB, stated as above. Attitude of natives good. 0950 arrived DIMSHAW HASHIM and BENI QAMJAR, interviewed Omda MAHOMET IBRAHIM, stated as above. Attitude of natives very good.
12. 1055 arrived TARNASHA. Omda ISMAIL ABU SEUD away at MINIA. Interviewed Sub Omda OMA SAAD, stated as above. Attitude of natives very good.

Remarks Throughout the trip there was no sign of any hostile feeling among the natives. Their attitude was diffident and their curiosity great. They evinced an anxiety to please and pushed their hospitality upon us, asking that we should stay the day, take lunch etc. The various Omda's declared that they were having no difficulty in collecting taxes. The Column demonstrated through MINIA on the forward and return journey and through each village in turn. The four Policemen arrived to time, and Major BOLTON accompanying the Column throughout, giving the utmost assistance.

P. A. Chamberlain, Lieut-Colonel
C.O. 12th L.H. Regiment.

MINIA. 24.4.19.