

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/3/26

Title: 3rd Australian Light Horse
Brigade

March 1917

CONFIDENTIAL

-- WAR DIARY ----

of

Headquarters 3rd A.L.H.Bde.

From 1st March to 31st March 1917.

MAR 1917

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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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARSA ID.	1/3/17	11h	Brigade Field Day, on River bridge, Schima, several mistakes that always occur without the correction in the form of a bullet - Major Williams 10 th Hussars pointed out faults noticed.	
"	2/3/17	11h	Imperial Mounted Division Headquarters moved up to EL ARISH - Brigade comm. directly under their orders - During this fortnight the pay men were asked to give one days pay forwards the ANZAC MEMORIAL, all were willing I.M.D. Headquarters situated 1/2 mile E of UM HUZIBA - Lt BRISBANE returned having handed over to records all papers in connection with old Bde Fund.	
"	3/3/17	11h	General HODGSON and Staff rode over to B.H.Q. and met the Bde commander of the Bde - G.O.C. inspected the Lines, M. of Regt. not good.	
"	4/3/17	11h	Church Parade - N.Z. Band playing for other Denomination Service - but Section of 17 th King Comps left for A.S.N.Z. Div ⁿ , the Bde getting a new Lt, unfortunately as we had got them all over fit.	
"	5/3/17	11h	Major Williams started on another work with the Bde - Major CHARLEY left having a meeting of C.O.'s to talk over "details" hearing, this Bde appears to be the only one to have changed its Cadet Staff, Lt PENDER, 9 th L.H. left on 3/3/17 to take up the duties of Staff Captain 4 th A.L.H. Bde	
"	6/3/17	11h	G.O.C. Imp M ^{td} Div inspected the houses of the Bde in working order, taking the day to do it, houses looked well and the turn out in most cases good, then the G.O.C. was struck with the absence of polish - a weakness in some of the commands given - G.O.C. expressed his satisfaction at the look of the houses	
"	7/3/17	11h	Major Williams finished up by taking out 8 th L.H. on a conveyance scheme - Received back 12 th L.H. giving details of our move forward -	

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WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Ref Map EL ARISH } 1,125,000
RAFA }

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MASAHID.	8/3/17	9th	All units making ready to move, having been a standing camp the last part of chosen weeks, a great accumulation of gear etc - two trucks allowed to convey heavy things forward - Detail camp formed at EL ARISH - Shipped the A.I.F. baggage to the Station also the Y.M.C.A.; commets and transport being kept going continually.	Order No: 8
MASAHID EL BURJ.	9/3/17	9th	Gen DOBELL called on the Brigadier. Left MASAHID at 1100, camp in very fair condition, with exception of 2 nd L.H. & M.G. Coy. numerous dumps of fodder, much condemned, and empty cans, used to be suitable to burn - Watered in WADI - on moving off, inspected by G.U.C. EAST FORCE - N.Z. M.A. Btl. stayed in tent of our old camp - arrived EL BURJ at 1800 and settled into camp on the beach, good water prepared for us - reported 5 th M th Btl.	
EL BURJ.	10/3/17	9th	Settling into camp, sent out patrol to the south - 5 th M th Btl. moved out, Gen HODGSON inspecting them moving off - Detail camp closed at HANTARA and moved up to EL ARISH - Delivered 9 th L.H. and a certain number of the other two Regiments.	
- do -	11/3/17	9th	Fiendish day, wind & dust - bus Church Parade only under difficulties - Received orders to move on 13 th inst.	Order No: 9
- do -	12/3/17	9th	Hd 2 nd S.M. D moved - Brigade again inoculated against Cholera, making ready to move, heavy baggage to station - orders sent today as to within 4 miles of RAFA by night of 14 th - Third day of winds, hoars looking tired up - Sent in all mark VII Ammunition - Communications with S.M. D faulty -	
EL BURJ BIA ABU HANTHALA	13/3/17	9th	Brigade left at 1030 for HANTHALA, all transport going ahead and getting away in good order - Camped on old N.Z. lines which were very dirty - 5 th M th Btl. in same camp - watering arrangements only fair.	Order No: 10
do BIA ABU SHUNNAR	14/3/17	9th	Moved at 1000, camp left clean - two planes over us but no bombs dropped - 4 O.L. S.M. D remarked on baggage that must be cut down - Camped between A.M. D. 1 st 2 nd and 22 nd Btl. - Water excellent - Btl. without MARK VII Ammunition.	

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WAR DIARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BIR ABU SHUNNAR.	15/3/17	11	Settled into new Camp - 13d. Major and Scouts over the country KHAN YUNUS and vicinity, beautiful going -	
TIRAH KH. AKKABXKXB	16/3/17	11	9 th L.H. with two M. G. Sections and detail of F. Amb. under Lt. Col. SCOTT. D.S.O. acting as protection by working party (T.E) in KHAN YUNUS - during the day in touch with a party of 20 of the enemy - 8 th L.H. called out to act as support to 9 th L.H. taking up a position E. of RAFA - in communication all day with them from Trig 103 - Field Troop tried demolitions - looks as if our wheels are to be taken away from us -	Order N ^o 11.
"	17/3/17	11	Routine - Line to be taken up by 6 th Mtd Brigade gone over by Brigade Major.	
"	18/3/17	11	Two church parades	
"	19/3/17	11	The Brigade (less 10 th L.H., 4 M.G. sections and engineers) left to endeavour to round up enemy patrols visiting Khan Yunus moving wide on the right and left flanks and placing a line across 402. el. TAIRE - Brigade left 0200 which brought them on to the ground too late - four enemy captured - otherwise 10-15 mounted men seen east of WADI-el-GHUZZE - with positions beyond. 8 th L.H. remained out as protection to working parties in KHAN-YUNUS.	Order N ^o 12.
"	20/3/17	11	Preparing to move to TEL-EL-MARAKEB - Presentation of D.C. MEDALS by General Hodgson	
TEL EL MARAKEB	21/3/17	11	Moved to TEL EL MARAKEB getting into new camp at 1400 - went into H ^o 2 nd Dunt Column for meeting that never came off, instead told there was probably a "stump" on so we had knocked our heads about for nothing: wire was sent but never received - communications faulty - News meeting held, very few from the Brigade able to attend - Lt. WALKER 8 th L.H. won the ANZAC Medal.	Order N ^o 13. App ^s 2.
"	22/3/17	11	chess. To Dunt Column H ^o 2 nd to attend meeting of Australian S.O.C.'s & Regimental Commanders - D.C. Commendator spoke very feelingly on a number of points that affected the Australian Troops	MAR 1917 AUG 17

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL MARRAHEB	22/3/17	10 th	<p>It was all very nicely and clearly put, and undoubtedly the points made would require looking into, it will be a hard thing to do and will require work which is greatly tending in many instances - like most things it can be put down to our being "stuckness on the part of TROOP LEADERS" some of them will never be efficient - ^{10th L.H.} ^{10th L.H.} captured in patrol duty.</p>	
"	23/3/17	10 th	<p>Moved out at 0500 as part of the Division doing protection duties which reconnaissance was being carried out, went to and over WADI EL GHUZZE with up towards GAZA, which was held in fair strength - returning to camp at 1000. 10th L.H. on protective duty E of HAN YUNUS, they captured three Turkish officers during the night.</p>	
"	24/3/17	10 th	<p>Completed with rations for the expected "stunt" - bundles having a hard time of it - very difficult to keep up communications with F.M.D. - a lot of movement in the vicinity of HAN YUNUS -</p>	
and DEIR EL BELAH	25/3/17	10 th	<p>Moved to Deir el Belah leaving Camp at 1500 - whole of the Division concentrating at point named, being part of the force destined for the attack on GAZA. - watered at the lake - Received Operation Order at 2000.</p>	Order No 15
Round GAZA	26/3/17	10 th	<p>Moved at 0300, being the rear Regiment of the Division which followed the ATNS Division - Mounted Troops made little progress for the first 4 hours, due mainly to heavy fog and what appeared to be bad leading - Roughness of Country passed over in vicinity of WADI GHUZZE hindered the march - Infantry appeared to be well up and should have had good cover to within striking distance of GAZA. - Brigade acting Reserve to the Division which by noon was well round and to the N.E. of GAZA. - Two Brigades of ATNS Division put into the attack on GAZA from the North - at about 1530 a large force of the enemy reported marching to the relief of GAZA from the East and S.E. - The Division took up a position to delay advance - 10th L.H. detached - 8th gth + M.Guns all in the line. - Notts R.H.A (1st time in action with us)</p>	Order No 16

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WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Round GAZA.	26/3/17	JH	<p>made excellent shooting and together with the force mentioned delayed the enemy advance until nightfall, when the whole line remained as an Outpost - a ticklish situation - This move of the enemy was apparently the cause of a general retirement being ordered - The 3rd Brigade together with the 6th Mtd. Brigade being responsible for covering the retirement of the A.T.N.D. Division which pulled out at 2400, no notification having been received by the Brigade - Orders went badly astray - Our retirement order being received at 0230 - delay in moving off caused by difficulty in collecting units of the Bde. and getting in touch with the 6th - eventually withdrew at 0400 on a march which might have proved disastrous if it had been delayed a further half hour - As it was when about East by South of GAZA. the enemy Infantry supported by guns came down like a whirlwind on our left flank which necessitated fighting a delaying rear guard action which was greatly assisted by the Light Car patrol, not having our Battery, a chance of a life time was missed. The Bde. consider it was left very much in the air. The same can be said for the 6th Bde. The A.T.N.D. Division in its turn should have covered our retirement. - we had no communication with our Div. HQs. from 0200. - Communications were not good. -</p>	
	27/3/17	JH	<p>On arrival at concentration point ^{at} Bisanad for the day, eventually moving up on to the northern slope of the GOZ EL TAIRE for the night.</p>	
	28/3/17	JH	<p>Took over the observation line at 1500. The 10th L.H. later forming the outpost line. from ABRASAN el KEBIR to point 320. 6th Bde carrying on to our left. Ret all quiet during the night. Stampede of two troops of 10th Horse, luckily stopped from spreading.</p>	
DEIR EL BELAH	29/3/17	JH	<p>By midday Bde relieved by 6th Mtd. Bde. - ordered - moved on to Beach where man and horses benefited by a well earned swim - Moved into DEIR EL BELAH - Bisanad. Result of above operations appears to have been failure to take GAZA. - Our Casualties (Wounded Troop) slight, but Infantry appear to have suffered considerably. During the 3 days supplies came to hand more through the energies of those responsible in the Bde than through good management from higher formations. Men and Horses stood the strain well. Signallers did good work also Field Troop. Desert Column Commander.</p>	<p>MAR 1917 P. 9</p>

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
DEIR EL BELAH 29/3/17	29/3/17	JH	Complimented all ranks (order attached)	
30/3 DEIR EL BELAH.	30/3/17	JH	Resting - Making good deficiencies - Brought up Details, gear + recovered horses from MARAKEB. - G.O.C. attended conference at LHR.	
	31/3/17	JH	G.O.C. inspected Bde in Unit lines - quite the best turn out for some months. Horses inclined to be skin-sore on account of coming on to harder going - Horses doing well on green feed to supplement marching ration - Regiments well up to strength in Officers, men and horses. - 2nd Lt. Banks 15th Hussars attached to Bde for operations. app. 3. Sketch by T. J. Lucy.	

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Copy to No 2
MAR 1917
9/3/17
I. F.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.
PROVISIONAL MOVE ORDER.
by
Brigadier General J. R. ROYSTON C.M.C., D.S.O.,
Commanding 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

7th March 1917.

MOVES.

1. Divisional Headquarters, Headquarters Units, 3rd Aust Light horse Brigade and Notts Battery R.H.A. will move to EL BURJ on Friday March 9th by march route.
2. Those Units will move on the scale laid down in Provisional Establishment for a Mounted Division with Camel Transport.
3. The following tents may be added to the train echelon.
B. H. Q. 2 C.D.L. tents.
Regiment 1
All other tents will be handed into Ordnance, EL ARISH, before departure.
4. All maps (1/40,000) of EL ARISH and the Country to the West of it will be handed into B. H. Q. by 1000 on 8/3/17.
5. Approximate Marching out States and demands for Railway Transport for the train echelon will be sent to B. H. Q. by 1200 today, stating numbers of all ranks and quantity of baggage.
6. The ration for horse and men for the 9th will be carried. Indents for the following day will be at once forwarded to Brigade Supply Officer for transmission to Headquarters.
7. A small Divisional Dump is being arranged for in EL ARISH where all surplus stores etc. above the provisional establishment will be deposited.
A Quartermaster Sergeant Notts R.H.A. will be in charge of this Dump and units making use of this Dump should leave one man to represent their interest.
No animals are to be left at the Dump.
8. All tents will be handed into D.A.D.O.S. Imp. Wtd. Div. by 1200 on 8th inst. Supply Camels will be available. Units will notify B.H.Q. by 1200 tonight number required. Tents will be loaded ready to move by 0630 to fit in with drawing of Supplies.
Iron rations will be carried in bulk by train.

Sgd. J. C. DANGER. Major.
Brigade Major, 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

- Copies to No
1. File
 2. War Diary. ✓
 3. 3th L. H.
 4. 9th L. H.
 5. 10th L. H.
 6. Machine Gun Squadron.
 7. Field Ambulance.
 8. Signal Troop.
 9. Field Troop.
 10. 3th Mob. Vet. Section.
 11. Supply Section.
 12. C. T. C.



THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

PROVISIONAL MOVE ORDER. (Continuation).

by
Brig. Gen. J. R. ROYSTON C. M. G., D. S. C.,
Commanding 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

7th March 1917.

MOVES.

9. Camels as requisitioned for will ~~be ready for~~ be ready for 0550 on 8th inst; Units will send representative to draw same from C. T. C. ~~XXXX~~
10. All Tents Bombs and other baggage will be sent in on these Camels which will be ready to leave at 0630.
11. Each Regiment will be allowed one E.P. Tent at Detail Camp EL ARISH and one will be erected by M.G. Sqdrn for its own use and for the use of smaller units.
Two Storemen per regiment, One from M.G. Sqdrn and 1 from Engineers for other units will be the only personnel to remain at Details. 3th L. H. will ensure that one of their details is a L/Cpl who will be in charge of the Brigade Details.
A Quartermaster Sergeant of the Nettis Battery R.H.A. is in charge of Division Detail Camp.
12. If S.A.A. mark VII is obtainable Units will arrange with Ordnance to draw on their way through to EL BURJ.
13. Squatter latrines will be carried on the Camels especially allotted for Sanitary purposes.
Incinerator Sheet iron and single seater latrines and other unreplaceable sanitary material will go by train and be sent on the afternoon of the 8th inst under arrangements to be notified later.
14. Brigade Post Office and Ordnance will travel to EL BURJ in train Echelon.

Sgd. C. C. DANGAR, Major.
Brigade Major, 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

- Copies to
- No. 1. File.
 2. War Diary.
 3. 3th L. H.
 4. 5th L. H.
 5. 10th L. H.
 6. Machine Gun Squadron.
 7. Field Ambulance.
 8. Signal Troop.
 9. Field Troop.
 10. Supply Section.
 11. C. T. C.
 12. 3th Mob. Vet. Section.
 13. Scouts.
 14. B. H. Q.

Aug 10

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

M O V E O R D E R. No 8.

by
Brig. Gen J. R. ROYSTON C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Commanding 3rd AM L. H. Brigade.

8th March 1917.

Ref Map.
EL ARISH. 1/125,000INFORMATION. 1. Together with Divisional Headquarters Units this
Brigade will move to EL BURJ on 9th inst.MOVE 2. The Brigade will assemble on the North side of the
Railway line with the head of the column 100 yards East
of Kilo 150 at 1100.

ADVANCE GUARD. Brigade Scouts.

MAIN BODY. B. H. Q. and Details.
9th L. H. Regt.
Machine Gun Squadron.
10th L. H. Regt.
8th L. H. Regt. (less one Troop).
Field Ambulance.
Mob. Vet Section.
1 Troop 8th L. H. Regt.WATERING. All watering will be completed by 0900 at
which time gear will be lifted.
Mid-day watering will take place in the WADI.SUPPLIES will be drawn on arrival at EL BURJ, further
instructions will be issued.

DRESS. Full marching order.

TRANSPORT. (1), All wheeled transport under the Quartermaster of the
Duty Regiment to be loaded ready to move at 1000 and to
assemble at Kilo 150 N. of the Railway.
(2). Camel Transport with usual escort will be loaded
and ready to move under the C.T.C. Officer at 1000,
camels being drawn in the usual way - To assemble S,
of Supply Depot.BIVOUACS. On arrival bivouacs will be ^{made} as inconspicuous as possible.GENERAL. The Camp to be evacuated will be left scrupulously clean -
firewood will be carefully stacked, the skeleton of
bivouacs will be dismantled and stacked in main dump not
indiscriminately about the Hod. All tins to be burnt
and together with bottles to be buried.Sgd. C. C. DANGAR. Major.
Brigade Major, 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

Issued at 1200.

Copy No 1.	File	8. Field Ambulance
2.	War Diary.	9. Signal Troop.
3.	B. H. Q.	10. Field Troop.
4.	8th L. H.	11. Supply Section.
5.	9th L. H.	12. 8th Mob. Vet. Sec.
6.	10th L. H.	13. C. T. C.
7.	Machine Gun Squadron.	14. Brigade Scouts.

Copy No. *Au 2*
MAR 1917
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THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

M O V E O R D E R No 9.

by
Brig. Gen. J. R. ROYSTON C. M. G., D. S O O.,
Commanding 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

Ref MAP.
RAFA. 1/125,000

12th March 1917.

- 1. INTENTION. To move to SHEIK ZOWAIID.
- 2. MOVE. The Brigade will leave its present camp at 1030 the 13th inst, the Head of the Column (B.H.Q.) leaving camp at that time.
All Units will be formed up to the North and clear of their camps and take up their position in the Column as it passes.
- 3. ORDER OF MARCH. ADVANCE GUARD. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~. Bde SCOUTS.
MAIN BODY. B.H.Q. and DETAILS.
10th L. H. Regt.
M. G. Sqdrn.
8th L. H. Regt.
9th L. H. (less one Troop)
Field Ambulance.
Mob. Vet. Section.
REAR GUARD. One Troop 9th L. H.
- 4. WATER. Watering of horses will be completed by 0930, and drinking water required will be drawn between 0600 and 0700.
- 5. SUPPLIES. Supplies will be drawn for 14th inst on arrival at SHEIK ZOWAIID.
- 6. TRANSPORT. WHEELED TRANSPORT under Q. M. of Duty Regiment will be assembled opposite 9th L. H. Hd Qrs. by 0930 -
CAMEL TRANSPORT will be loaded ready at 0930 prepared to join in with the Column, head of which leaves B.H.Q. at 0930 via the Beach Road.

Issued at 1600.

Sgd. C. C. DANGAR. Major.
Brigade Major, 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Copies to No. | 1. File. | 8. Field Ambulance. |
| | 2. War Diary. | 9. Field Troop. |
| | 3. B. H. Q. | 10. Signal Troop. |
| | 4. 8th L. H. | 11. 8th MOh. Vet. Sec. |
| | 5. 9th L. H. | 12. Supply Section. |
| | 6. 10th L. H. Regt. | 13. C. T. C. |
| | 7. Machine Gun Squadron. | 14. Scouts. |

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

MAR 1917
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12

O R D E R No. 10.
by
BRIGADIER-GENERAL J. R. ROYSTON C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Commanding 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

Ref. Map.
RAFA, 1/125,000

13th March 1917.

1. INTENTION. To move to BIR ABU SHANNUR.
2. MOVE. The Brigade will leave its present bivouac at 1000,
Units falling into their position in the Column as comes
their turn -
After watering Units will form up facing East.
3. ORDER OF MARCH, Advance Guard. BRIGADE SCOUTS.

Main Body. B. H. Q. and Details.
 10th L. H. Regt.
 Machine Gun Squadron.
 8th L. H. Regt.
 9th L. H. Regt (less one troop).
 Field Ambulance.

Rear Guard. One Troop 9th L. H. Regt.
4. WATERING. Units will use the same troughs as today and will
have completed watering by 1000- Troughs will be
left filled.
5. SUPPLIES. Supplies will be drawn on arrival at the new Camp.
6. SADDLING UP. ~~Units will~~ Units will delay "saddling up" as late
as possible, today horses were saddled in many in-
stances far too long.
7. TRANSPORT. Wheeled Transport under Quartermaster of Duty Regi-
ment will be loaded ready to move at 0230 and will
assemble on Beach opposite Field Ambulance, and if
at the next camp before the Brigade, they will water.
CAMEL TRANSPORT will follow the Brigade - all camels
when loaded being forwarded N. of the lines, to be
taken over by the C. T. C. Officer.

Issued at 1630.

Sgd. C. C. Dangar. Major,
Brigade Major, 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies to No	1. File.	8. Field Ambulance.
	2. War Diary.	9. Field Troop.
	3. B. H. Q.	10. Signal Troop.
	4. 8th L. H.	11. Supply Sec.
	5. 9th L. H.	12. 8th Mob. Vet Sec.
	6. 10th L. H.	13. C. T. C.
	7. Machine Gun Squadron.	14. SCOUTS.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

Copy No 1749/30



O R D E R No 11.

by
Brigadier-General J. R. ROYSTON. C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Commanding 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

15th March 1917.

Ref. MAP.
RAFA 1/125,000

The 9th L. H. Regiment with One Section Machine Gun Squadron and a Medical Detail will have made good KHAN YUNUS and ABASAN el KEBIR by 1000, 16th inst.

(Lt. Col. W.H. SCOTT D.S.O. will be in command).

The above force will protect the R. E. working parties in KHAN YUNUS.

O. C. 9th L. H. will get in touch with O. C., R. E. who should be at KHAN YUNUS and will not withdraw his protective force until R. E. parties leave for RAFA.

COMMUNICATIONS. Anzac Mtd Divn will have a signal station at point 370 one mile South of KHAN YUNUS to trig 183 to D. H. Q. Two motor cycles will be at 370 for urgent work only. Telephone communication can also be got from 370.

Regimental Headquarters will be at 320 West of E of GOZ el THLRE.

NOTE. Parties of Officers from this and other Divisions will probably be working over the area,.

Sgd. C. C. DANGAR. Major,
Brigade Major, 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

Issued at 1930.

Copies to

1. File
2. War Diary.
3. 9th L. H. Regt.
4. 9th L. H. Regt.
5. Machine Gun Squadron.
6. Field Ambulance.
7. Signal Troop.

Copy No

MAR 1917

2
Aug
14

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

O R D E R No. 12.

March 18th 1917.

Ref MAP.

RAFA. 1/125,000.

INFORMATION. Enemy patrols are known to visit KHAN YUNUS and BENI SALA nightly - 15-20 mounted men were in touch with our protective Regiment on 16th inst and two parties of 10 - 15 men were seen today.

INTENTION. To endeavour to round up and capture any enemy patrols in the vicinity of KHAN YUNUS on the night 18-19th. To carry this out these mounted troops will occupy by 0545 the 19th inst a line running from SHEIK SHABASI (J2) through 330 (J3) to the TEL EL JEMMI - ABASAN AL KEBIR Road. On this line being completed a Drive towards KHAN YUNUS will be commenced.

Troops will not become seriously engaged to the East of the line mentioned.

TROOPS. The following troops will take part in the operations. B. H. Q. and Signal Detail, 8th L. H. Regt, 9th L. H. Regt 3 Sections Machine Gun Squadron, 2 Sections Field Ambulance and the Armoured Car Battery (4 Machine Guns).

The above will be divided into two forces, less Battery working independently.

LEFT.

In Command.
LT, Col. L. C. WAYGAR V. C.

8th L. H. Regt.
1 Section M.G. Sqdrn.
1 Section Field Ambulance.

RIGHT.

In Command.
Lt. Col. W. H. SCOTT D.S.O.

9th L. H. Regt.
1 Section M. G. Sqdrn.
1 Section Field Ambulance.

The armoured car Battery will leave RAFA at 0515 on 19th inst. Two cars will proceed by the KHAN YUNUS - GAZA Road and Two by ABASAN EL KEBIR to point 430 at which point they will turn North, both detachments co-operating with the drive as circumstances indicate.

The G. O. C. will accompany the Right Force.

MOVE.

The Left force will move via the Beach Road to DEIR EL BELAH at which point One Squadron will be detached, the remainder moving on to TEL EL SHABANI, from this point the line will be formed, a sufficient force being detached to guard against attack from the WADI. The DEIR EL BELAH Squadron will co-operate as the "Drive" proceeds.

The Right Force will proceed via RAFA - EL FUKHARI to the vicinity of ABU SITTU prepared to move into their position which will include 330, sufficient protection will be detached to guard against attack from the direction of the WADI.

Every endeavour will be made to conceal any movement until the line is being taken up which will not commence before 0530 from the points of assembly mentioned.

At the conclusion of the Drive the 8th L. H. will remain out as protection to the working parties at KHAN YUNUS and TEL EL MARAHEB.

1917

MAR 1917

P49/14

Watches will be set at Starting point.

COMMUNICATIONS. Anzac Mounted Division will have stations established on Points 183 (EF5) and 370 (HT) - B. H. Q. will move along the high ground of GOZ EL FAIRE.

PARADE AND STARTING POINT AT 0300.

RIGHT FORCE on Beach opposite B. H. Q. Trough.

LEFT FORCE. on Beach opposite 4th L. H. Lines.

AMMUNITION. 220 Rounds S.A.A. per man.

SUPPLIES. Full days rations for 19th inst.
Two small feeds for the horse.

DRESS. Drill Order and Greatcoats.

Sgd. C. C. DANGAR. Major.
Brigade Major, 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

Issued at 1900.

- Copies to
- | | |
|--------|-----------------------|
| No. 1. | File. |
| 2. | War Diary. |
| 3. | 8th L. H. |
| 4. | 9th L. H. |
| 5. | Machine Gun Squadron. |
| 6. | Field Ambulance. |
| 7. | Armoured Car Battery. |
| 8. | Signal Troop. |
| 9. | Signal Squadron. |
| 10. | I. M. D. |
| 11. | Scouts. |
| 12. | Spare. |

Copy No. 2

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

MAR 1917

RAA 15

O R D E R No. 13.

by
Brig. Gen. J. R. ROYSTON C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Commanding 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

March 20th 1917.

Ref. Map.
RAFA 1/125,000

1. INTENTION. The Brigade will move to a camp in the vicinity of TEL EL MARAHEB.
2. INFORMATION. 6th Mounted Brigade will be holding a line East of KHAN YUNUS.
3. MOVE. The Brigade will leave its present bivouac at 0930, the head of the Column passing No. 3 water trough at the above time, Units will fall into their position in the Column as comes their turn.
4. ORDER OF MARCH.

Advance Guard.	Brigade Scouts.
Main Body.	B. H. Q. and Details. 9th L. H. Regt. Machine Gun Squadron. 10th L. H. Regt. 8th L. H. Regt. (less 1 troop). Field Ambulance. Mob. Vet. Section.
Rear Guard.	One troop 8th L. H.
5. WATERING. Units will have completed watering by 0900.
6. SUPPLIES. 1st Line Camels will probably be required to return to RAFA to draw rations for 22nd inst.
7. TRANSPORT. Wheeled Transport under Quartermaster of Duty Regt will follow the Brigade, that is if this transport has not been detailed to proceed to RAFA to bring forward the 3 days rations required to be held in case of emergency (further instructions will be issued on this point).
CAMEL Transport will be loaded and ready formed up on the beach by 0730 under the C.T.C. Officer with usual unit escort, head of the column being opposite 8th L. H. lines.
8. POSITION OF CAMP. On nearing the conclusion of March, Representatives of Units will come to the head of the column and report to the Staff for instructions as to site.

Sgd. C. C. DANGER. Major,
3rd A. L. H. Brigade. Bde Mjr.

Issued at 1200.

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Copies to | 1. File. | 8. Mob Vet Sec. |
| | 2. War Diary. | 9. Field Troop. |
| | 3. 8th L. H. | 10. Signal Troop. |
| | 4. 9th L. H. | 11. C. T. C. |
| | 5. 10th L. H. | 12. Scouts. |
| | 6. Machine Gun Squadron. | 13. B. H. Q. |
| | 7. Field Ambulance. | 14. Spare. |

2 101

MAR 1917

L. H. BRIGADE
No. 4243
Date 20/3/17
A. I. F.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

On going into Camp at TEL EL MARAKEB the Brigade will be responsible for the following:-

1. By day - R. E. working parties on well and water in KHAN YUNUS.
2. By night - Stores and works of R. E. in KHAN YUNUS.
3. Protection of the Brigade Camp by day and night.
4. In case of attack covering the withdrawal to RAFA of the Egyptian Army Reservists and 23rd Sikh pioneers employed on Railway construction, at present camped at KILO 209.

To carry out the above One Regiment and 2 Machine Gun Sections will be on duty for 24 hours (duties being relieved at 0800 daily).

10th L. H. and 2 Machine Gun Sections will take over duty at 1600 on 21st inst and the 8th L. H. on 22nd inst at 0800.

The line to be held will be from 50' on Beach - 320 East of E in GOZ el TAIRE to and including ABASAN el KEBIR.

It is left to the discretion of O. C. Regts as to their dispositions but the G.O.C. wishes patrols pushed forward at night and an "All clear" or otherwise report sent in by 0530, 1200 and 1800 daily.

Observation posts and special patrols should suffice during the day.

The Brigade furnishing the eastern protection to RAFA send daily patrols in the direction of EL FUKHARI, EL GUBBA -

COMMUNICATIONS. 320 mentioned will be made the Regt Headquarters, a line will be run from B. H. Q. to this point by the Signal Troop.

The Duty Regiment will supply One Troop under an Officer to patrol R. E. Works and Stores in KHAN YUNUS. Special Instructions will be issued to this troop.

It is thought that Infantry should be in KHAN YUNUS within three days when these dispositions will be modified.

Sgd. C. C. DANGAR. Major,
Brigade Major, 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

- Copies to
1. WAR Diary.
 2. File.
 3. 8th L. H.
 4. 9th L. H.
 5. 10th L. H.
 6. Machine Gun Squadron.
 7. Spare.

MAR 1917
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THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

O R D E R No 15.

by
Brig. Gen J. R. ROYSTON, CMG. D.S.O.,
Commanding 3rd A. L. H. Bde.

25th March 1917.

Ref Map. RAFA 1/125,000

1. The enemy are reported to be holding a position East and South of GAZA.

2. The Division on light scale of transport, will move to DEIR EL BELAH tomorrow March 25th inst.

3. The Division will march to DEIR EL BELAH according to the following March table.

UNIT.	STARTING POINT.	TIME OF PASSING.	ROUTE.
D. H. Q.)	1530	
3rd L.H.Bde.) Beach 300 yds	1545	Coast road to
5th Mtd Bde.) N.E. of 3rd Bde	1615	
6th Mtd Bde.) Camp at MARAKEB.	1645	DEIR EL BELAH.
3rd L.H.Fld Amb.)		1715	

4. The Brigade will be formed up in vicinity of their lines prepared to fall into their position in the Column according to the below mentioned programme.

- B. H. Q. and Details.
- 10th L.H.
- Machine Gun Squadron.
- 9th L. H.
- 8th L. H.
- Mob. Vet Section.

On arrival at DEIR EL BELAH representatives of Units will report to the head of the Column to be shown bivouac areas.

5. The 1st Line camels of units will march to DEIR EL BELAH in the same order of march as their units, they will rendezvous directly in rear of their units by 1530, being collected by the C. T. C. Officer - on joining up with remainder of Division Camels they will come under the Senior C. T. C. Officer.

6. Troops will move on light Mobile Scale and will be prepared to be out from their camps for at least 5 days.

7. The Brigade will have water at DEIR EL BELAH, ~~XX~~ on night 25th - 26th.

8. During the operations the rations carried on the improvised packs will not be touched without direct orders from B. H. Q. - Units must understand that they are now rationed from breakfast to breakfast (inclusive). Rations for 26th - 27th are expected on a wheeled echelon on the night 25th - 26th.

9. Reports during march on 25th to Head of Brigade.

Sgd. C. C. DANGAR. Major,
Brigade Major, 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

Issued at 1000.

- Copies to No.
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. File. | 8. Fld Ambulance. |
| 2. War Diary. | 9. Signal Troop. |
| 3. B. H. Q. | 10. Field Troop. |
| 4. 8th L. H. | 11. 8th Mob. Vet Sec. |
| 5. 9th L. H. | 12. C. T. C. |
| 6. 10th L. H. | 13. Scouts. |
| 7. Machine Gun Sqdn. | 14. Spare. |

114723 Mtd. Rtd. to KHURBET
el RESCIN and will close the
enemy from HUT exclusive to the
GAZA - BIN SABA Road in doing
so the GAZA BIN SABA and
GAZA - NEJILE Roads to the enemy
is heat

The 4th Division is occupying
HEIKH Abba on 26th inst
The 3rd C.C. Brigade will continue
the 2nd M.D. night flank GAZA - Bin
SABA ROAD exclusive to the WADI
UZZEE

Armoured Cars will be operating
on the GAZA - Bin SABA Road.

The Linc will move in the following
order of march.

5th Brigade less 1 Regiment will form
column and
and will follow the rear of the A+
115 Linc R.H.A. at 0315 - from the
swale here at EL DEMETTA
followed by Linc H.C. followed by
the 6th Pde.

2nd A.L.H. Pde will follow the 6th Pde
+ C.H.I. to be followed by the R.H.A.
Mob Vet Sections will follow the R.H.
in the order of their Bdes. at 0500.

Order No 16 Cpl No 5

Brig Gen F. H. Royston C.M.G. D.S.O.
3rd L.H. Bde 29th March

1 The ENEMY strength about 4000,
with some Guns are still holding
GAZA.

2 Enemy Concentration of all arms
are reported to be:-

- a) HAREIKA - Tel of SHARIAH
strength about 5000
- b) BIN SABA - about 4000
- c) AKKA - Tel of NEJILE area
about 7000

Desert Column is attacking GAZA
at dawn

5th Division all out GAZA at
dawn on 26th March.

The 4th N.Z. Mtd. Division will
pass the Wadi GAZZEE, S of
SHEIKH NUSHAN and will
watch the enemy approach from
HUT and will close any line of
the west of the GAZA Garrison
on HUT to the Sea.

The I.M. Division will follow the

MAR 1917

Pu 9

3rd Light Horse Brigade

The 1st Line Transport of A.M.D.
Kno. will follow the 1st Sect of I.M.D.
The 1st Line Transport of I.M.D. will
follow in the order of their units of
the 1st Line Transport of the A + NS 200
and will proceed under C.C. of Coy
C.T.C. to SHEIKH ARBAS and
Park there.

4 The starting point is the single tree
at EL DEMEITA

5 The B.A.C. will follow the R.H.A.

6 a Dressing Station will be formed
in the vicinity of Div HQ at
KHUR BET EL RESIN.

7 A Vet Dressing Station will be es-
tablished near Div HQ on the GAZA
SABA ROAD

8 Report during March to D.H.O. in
rear of 6th Bde.

9 Acknowledge by intelligence attached
to Bde will be according to P.M.
by date 2nd.

10 No lights to be used before dawn
11 Extreme care will be exercised in
any that will be reported immediately
12 Should the action develop the
to hold in reserve.

~~Thrust~~ H.A.P.
B/M 3rd A.L.H. Bn

MAR 1917

Aug
19

3

MAR 12 11
Aug 20

1 Squadron of
9th Regt. H.A. Cavalry
Gen R. staff moved
proceeding from here
previous to general advance

Column halted
before attack

x Gen R. early
observation

3 Buildings
DS

Pass

Long low Sandhill
part of 1st Brigade changed here
were repulsed.

153

To Bz/afan

Road + Telegraph

Sand covered Sandbanks

Top of Trig Abu Leheimen
Very Rocky

Some NZlanders the 10th Regt
were on extreme left.

Rough sketch taken on clear day
Situation of 3 buildings - road telegraph correct.



High Sand

300 L.H. BRIGADE
No. 453
Date 25/8/17
A.I.F.



“I AM THE MAN.”

[“What is wanted is a moral deed, to free the world . . . from the pressure which weighs upon all. For such a deed it is necessary to find a ruler who has a conscience . . . I have the courage.”—Extract of letter from the GERMAN KAISER to his Chancellor, dated October 31st, 1916, and recently published in “The North German Gazette.”]

G.O.C. 5th. Mtd. Brigade. G.R.A.
6th. do. O.C. Signal Squad.
— 3rd. Aust. L.H. Bde. O.C. Field Squad.

9/20
MAR 1917
Aug 21

The following is an extract from a letter from General CHETWODE for your information :-

"Will you express to all ranks under your command my admiration of their splendid behaviour before the enemy. It was no light task to delay the advance of greatly superior hostile forces throughout one whole day on a front of nearly 12 miles, and at the same time to be able to put in a strong attack by two Brigades to assist the Infantry in the attack on GAZA. Two hours more daylight would have enabled the cavalry to finish the job, and it must have been most disheartening to your men after such a fine effort to have the prize snatched from their grasp by darkness.

"The harder the task I give to the mounted troops of the Desert Column the better they carry it out and no man could wish to command finer troops."

I wish to add my gratitude and admiration of the fighting qualities of the troops of the Division which was displayed on the 26th. Though the Division could not share in the brilliant exploits of the Australians and New Zealanders at GAZA, the task they had to perform of keeping off largely superior forces and the manner in which this task was carried out, so that the enemy advance of more than double our numbers was held up all day, made me realize what a fine fighting instrument the Imperial Mounted Division is, and made me proud to be the leader of such troops.

I should like all ranks to know my admiration of their fighting qualities, and my gratitude to them for the willing and cheerful spirit which animated them throughout the recent operations.

H. W. Hodgson

Major General.
Commanding Imperial Mtd. Divn.

30th. March 1917.

Minutes of Meeting of C.O. held at B.H.Q. Officers
Mess at 1530 5/1/17.

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7



Proposed by Col Scott and seconded by Col. Haygarth that Lt. H.L. Brisbane be appointed Hon Secretary to the 3rd L.H. Brigade Fund.

Carried.

Proposed by Col Haygarth & seconded by Captain Worthington that two Officers be appointed as Auditors to the Fund Major Daly & Lt. A. Latham.

Carried.

Proposed by Major Dangars & seconded by Major Robertson; that the committee should consist of Brig. General Rayston (President), Col. Haygarth and Secretary.

Carried.

Proposed by Col Haygarth & seconded by Col. Scott that Major Dangars be appointed Vice President & given the necessary powers to act in the absence of the President (Brig. General Rayston.)

Carried.

Proposed by Vice President & seconded by Lieut. Latham, that when the Auditors have passed the 3rd L.H. Brigade Details Contn account as correct, the amount be drawn from the Anglo-Egyptian Bank & paid to the Field Cashier & be known in future as the 3rd L.H. Brigade Fund.

Carried.

Proposed by Col. Scott & seconded by Col. Haygarth that £13/9 be drawn from the account to pay for CORONA TYPEWRITER which is in use by B.H.Q.

Carried.

Minutes of Meeting continued

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Proposed by Col. Scott & seconded by Lieut
Gallan that the Committee be appointed Signatories
to the account and that all cheques must
bear at least two signatures of the three
signatories.

Carried.

Proposed by Major Robertson & seconded
by Cpt. Worthington that Major J. Lauren, late
secretary for the 3rd L.H. Brigade Details Centre
account be directed to write to the Managers
of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank & advise him of
the appointment of the three new signatories.

Carried.

Meeting closed 1030.

Masaid

5/1/17

H. J. Brisbane
Hon Secy.

THIRD AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE. 277

The following Officers were serving with the Brigade
on the 1st JANUARY 1917.

BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.

Brigadier-General J. R. ROYSTON C.M.G., D.S.O.,
B. G. C. 3rd A. L. H. Brigade.

BRIGADE MAJOR. Major C. C. DANGAR. (Special List late
13th Hussars.).

STAFF CAPTAIN. Captain W. S. KENT HUGHES.
(8th A. L. H. Regiment).

ORDERLY OFFICER. 2nd Lieut. D. F. P. ROTH.
(12th A. L. H. Regiment).

VETERINARY OFFICER. Captain S. A. MOUNTJOY.
A.V.C.

SIGNAL TROOP.

Lieutenant W. J. LATHAM. 3rd Signal Troop A. E.

SUPPLY SECTION.

Captain F. W. DICKENSON A. S. C.

2nd Lieut. L. G. HOWSAM. A. S. C.

3rd Field Troop, ENGINEERS.

2nd Lieut H. L. BRISBANE. 1st Field Squadron.
2nd Lieut. H. W. LOCKINGTON. N.Z.M.R. Brigade.

8th MOBILE VETERINARY SECTION.

Captain H. WORTHINGTON, A.V.C.,

8th A. L. H. REGIMENT.

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List of Officers serving with the Regiment on 1st January 1917

Lieut. Colonel L. C. MAYGAR. V. C.,

Major W. J. DAY.
Major H. J. SHANNON
Major A. McALLISTER.
Major A. CRAWFORD.
Major A. McG. McLAURIN

Captain A. E. WEARNE.
Captain H. H. BEATH .
Captain J. SPROUT.

Lieutenant A, WATT Adjutant.
Lieutenant Y. H. WALKER.
Lieutenant L. A. MacPHERSON.
Lieutenant F. O. THORN.
Lieutenant G. FAY.,
Lieutenant J. J. D'ENYAR.
Lieutenant W. McGRATH.

2nd Lieutenant N. St J. MAUNSELL
2nd Lieutenant W. D. GLANFIELD.
2nd Lieutenant S. L. MULHOLLAND.

Hon. Lieutenant H. J. MULDER. Quartermaster.

Captain C. M. O'HALLORAN A. A. M. C.
Chpalain Captain H. J. CLARKE C.of E.

9th A. L. H. Regiment.

Officers serving with Regiment on 1st January 1917. 227/11

Lieut. Col. W. H. SCOTT D.S.O.,

Major T. J. DALY.
Major H. M. PARSONS.
Major T. A. SIEKMANN.
Major K. A. MCKENZIE.

Captain C. BLEECHMORE
Captain J. C. CHANTER
Captain B. B. RAGLESS
Captain B. D. GIBSON. A.A.M.C.
Chaplain Captain R. FINIGAN:

Lieutenant A. H. H. NELSON
Lieutenant E. M. LUXMORE
Lieutenant W. S. PENDER.
Lieutenant H. WILLIAMS.
Lieutenant J. H. McDONALD.
Lieutenant S. H. AYLIFFE
Lieutenant H. McFARLANE
Lieutenant F. J. LINACRE
Lieutenant W. E. H. PASCOE
Lieutenant E. PHELAN.
Lieutenant R. WILKINSON Adjutant.

2nd Lieutenant R. C. SHARP.
2nd Lieutenant L. R. HOGAN
2nd Lieutenant L. M. S. HARGRAVE.

Hon. Captain T. H. DARLEY. Quartermaster.

10th A. L. H. REGIMENT.

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12

Officers serving with the Regiment on 1st January 1917.

Lieut. Colonel T. J. TODD D. S. O.

Major H. C. H. ROBERTSON.

Captain C. G. DUNCKLEY.
Captain H. B. HAMLIN.
Captain J. RODSTED.
Captain G. ROSEVEAR. Adjutant.
Captain F. C. BURKE-GAFFNEY. A.A.M.C.

Lieutenant A. G. HUGHES.
Lieutenant A. H. SWEETAPPLE.
Lieutenant H. G. PALMER.
Lieutenant W. C. PALMER.
Lieutenant R. W. MacCALLUM
Lieutenant J. W. NORRISH
Lieutenant J. K. LYALL.
Lieutenant W. M. LYALL.
Lieutenant A. D. MACKELLAR
Lieutenant E. RUSE
Lieutenant C. E. WOODROW.

2nd Lieutenant W. J. HENDERSON
2nd Lieutenant F. W. COX.
2nd Lieutenant B. J. Liddlelow.
2nd Lieutenant A. U. MARTIN.

Hon. Captain R. A. CAPRON. Quartermaster.

3rd A. L. H. BRIGADE MACHINE GUN SQUADRON.

List of Officers serving with the Squadron on 1st January 1917 ²⁷⁷

Major C. L. NICHOLAS.

Lieutenant H. W. HARPER.
Lieutenant T. M. HARDY.

2nd Lieutenant A. N. M. BROWN.
2nd Lieutenant A. J. PHILLIPS.
2nd Lieutenant F. W. F. LUKIS.
2nd Lieutenant L. G. LAWRY
2nd Lieutenant T. G. BRYANT.

3rd L. H. FIELD AMBULANCE.

Officers serving with Unit on 1st January 1917.

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13a

Lieut. Col. W. A. FRASER.

Major E. R. WHITE.
Major M. W. CAVE

Captain M. YUILLE
Captain R. C. BASSETT.
Captain W. Evans.

Lieutenant W. H. A. PYE. No 6 Dental Section.