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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/3/38

Title: 3rd Australian Light Horse Brigade

March 1918

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Headquarters,

3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

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. (Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	March 1918.	Summary of Events and Information	Page I.	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	I		IOth L.H. Regiment on Musketr 4th L.H. Brigade held their Brigadier General L.C. WILSO		and of the Brigade.	
	2		Camp, and fenced off into Ri Of-ficers from the other Bri men of the Brigade turned or contested, particularly the was good throughout, the Cha Divisions. Programme atta	Horse Show. The ground had been preparing, Saddling Paddock an-d Officers' Resignates of the Division, and the Yeomanry at en masse and showed great keenness. Best G.S. Wagon and Limber and the Troop impionship Jumping event drawing entries iched. Ek ending 9th instant issued.	Division, attended and the All events were well Competition. The Jumping	appendin
M.	3		C. of E. and O. D. Church Pa IOth L.H. Regiment completed	rades held at 0900. the 4 days Musketry Course.		
	4.		Mounted Use of the Bayonet (Regiments ordered to each er inst. Each Regiment to put last 4 days.	ect three Courses of dummies and to con through 240 men per day on I hours ins and Awards for 6 Officers and 20 Other	mmence training on the 5th struction. The Course to	Appendin II
My.	5		Routine Work and training.			A T
	6		Routine Work and Fraining. Divisional Dismounted Sports	held.		1018
			A7092 Wt. W128_9/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & F. Ltd. For	rms/C2118/14.		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Summar and the	ies are co Staff Ma	intained in	aries and Intelligence n F. S. Regs., Part II. ectively. Title pages ceript.	INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Head (Erase heading not required.)	iquarters, 3rd Australian L.H. Brigade	
Place	Date	Hour	March 1918.	Summary of Events and Information	Page 2	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	8		for daily classes t-o be h 4 Classes each of 20 men f	revious Dismounted Bayonet Fighting Incheld by C.S.M. WILSON. From each Regiment to carry out 2 hours ructors, supervised by C.S.M. WILCOX.		Appendin.
M	7		Routine Work. Half-holid Race Meeting at GAZA. 2 between the Flying Corps a	lay for Brigade to allow all ranks to a Flying Corps Officers visited the Brigand Mounted Troops.	attend 22nd Mounted Brigade gade to discuss co-operation	
NA.	8		and rode through the lines an improvement in the cond Order issued stating that push forward all Instructibefore that date. Order received from Divisi	ral CHAUVEL) inspected the Training beas. Solvential the harness. Collective training would commence about and Schools and individual work and individual work and individual training to be selected. A Rehearsal Parade to be selected. A Rehearsal Parade to be selected.	f the camp but wished to see out the 18th inst. Units to to endeavour to complete it ot the Division, Mounted, and	appendin
	9		Rifle Competitions, Best The Brigade was well repr 3rd Brigade 48 points, 51		ximum number of points -	E 196 3
	IO		C. of E. and O.D. Church Chaplain KING) took the Ragty: of 9/2006 for the Chaptain		ain WEBB (having relieved Camp.	

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Headquarters, A. J. Brigade.

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	C1 0 T3 1 T T T	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	II		Routine Training. Divisional Commander held a meeting of Brigadiers and all Commanding Officers to discuss tactical training etc.	
M	12		Rehearsal Parade for Duke of CONNAUGHT Inspection held. The march past at the walk and trot was practised.	
	13		The G. O.C. and three Regimental Commanders left at 0545 by motor to see the work being carried out at KELAB School of Instruction.	
M.	14		The Division, mounted, was inspected by H.R.H. the Duke of CONNAUGHT. The Brigade (strength I400) moved on to the Divisional Parade Ground at I000 forming up in mass. After H.R. H. had ridden down the lines the Division marched past at the walk, in column of Squadrons, then formed hollow square and medals were presented, after which three cheers were given for the King. After riding along the ranks of the Brigade H.R.H. complimented the Brigadier on the hard and smart appearance of all ranks.	
WA.	IS		A Divisional Staff Ride held for Brigadiers and all Commanding Officers. The scheme involved the attack on an enemy, who dispersed, and the subsequent pursuit. A Wireless scheme was also carried out between Corps, Division and the 3rd and 4th Brigades. Divisional station was established at BELAH with 3rd Brigade (with a trench W/T set) at the EL of GOZEL TAIRE. Code and cipher messages were exchanged until 1500 when the exercise ceased. One Ford Motor Car received for Brigade Headquarters. Meeting held at D.H.Q., of Brigade Majors and Signalling Officers, to discuss with R.F.C. Off-cers means of communication between Cavalry and Aeroplanes.	1018 MAN 1018
	16		Lieut. LATHAM, Brigade Signal Officer, and I Signal N.C.O. per Regiment left for three days attachment to I4th Squadron R.F.C. to study method of Intercommunication between Cavalry and Aircraft". AHalf Holiday given to all ranks to attend Race Meeting held by 7th Mounted Brigade at GAZA. A number of Brigade horses were entered for the open events.	30

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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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. Headquarters, 3rd A.

(Erase heading not required.)

quarters. * A. I. F. 3rd A.L.H. Brigade	Army Form C. 2118.
Page 4	Remarks a references Appendic

Place	Date	Hour	March 1918 Summary of Events and Information Page 4		Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	17		Church Parades cancelled owing to wet weather. Order issued reference coming week's Tactical Training. Regimental Schemes, ba Divisional S-chemex carried out on the I5th inst., to be carried out Ist With 2nd With Troops, Artillery and Machine Guns and lastly by individual Troops a	out Troops,	Peppendin JL
M.	18		The Brigadier and Commanding Officers selected training areas for the respective schemes. Regiments carried on with Mounted and Dismounted Bayonet Exercise.		
	19		Regiments carried out schemes, involving advance guard work and pursuit, with Off	icers and	
My.	20		The same schemes carried out with troops, artillery and Machine Guns. The Brigade Transport was inspected by the D.A.D. of S. & T. The turnout was egood, all harness and wagons being in splendid condition. Without exception and vehicles were passed as servicable.		Masser din
	21		Individual Squadrons carried out work involved in the scheme of 20th inst. Divisional Exercise, without troops, No.2 received and appreciation made out. involved the breaking through entrenchments ny Mounted Troops, after an Infar galloping between enemy redoubts and attacking them in the rear.	The scheme try attack,	VII
My.	22		Divisional Staff Ride, for Brigadiers, B.M.s, S.C.s and Commanding Officers, to the above Exercise. The scheme took place in the entrenchments S.E. of GAZA at AUSTRALIA HILL at MICO. Leave Party returned from Rest Camp PORT SAID and a fresh party of 3 officers at ranks left.	, finishing	1867 S/be3
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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	March Summary of Events and Information Page 5	parks and erences to opendices
BELAH	23		All Officers attended a Demonstration, given by one Squadron 4th L.H.Regiment and one Squadron 9th L.H. Regiment under Lt.Col.OCBORNE, G.S.O.I, of the Mounted Charge and melee with bayonets in lieu of swords. Order received from Division - The Brigade to resume Salvage Operations on Monday 25th inst.	
	24		C. of E. and Other Denominations Parades held at 0900. Order issued t-o Units reference Salvage Operations - 200 men from 2 Regiments daily to leave camp at 0700 and work in the trenches at SHALUF until I500. Transport to bivouac at SHALUF. Order issued reference Tactical Training for coming week. Each Regiment to carry out a scheme based on Divisional Tactical Exercise No.2 every third day.	
	25		Salvage work cancelled owing to wet weathe-r.	
My-	26		Salvage Operations. 200 men per Regiment and 75 men per M.G. Squadron. Working party left camp at 0700 and carried out 5 hours work on the trenches West of GAZA - BELAH Road. Work - mainly taking up wire entanglements.	
	27		Salvage Operations as for 26th inst.	
Shy.	28		Completed 3 days tour of Salvage Duty. To-tal weight material salved and carted to Dump at SHALUF Station - 42 tons.	
	29		M.G. Squadron carried out Indirect and Barrage Fire practice on the Range and were inspected by Lt. Col. PARTRIDGE, Corps M.G.O. Regiments carried out schemes involving the "Dismounted Attack in Depth".	18.2

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	March	Summary of Events and Information	Page 6	Remarks an references to Appendices
ELAH	30		6 Officers and 22 Other R Ist April. Memorandum on Training fo	Action and Mounted Bayonet Drill. anks left for Courses at School of Ins r week ending 6th April issued. an xxx Miximum: The Division will me the 5th.		
by.	31		Church Parades cancelled Tents etc. to be left sta	- All Units preparing for move. nding for incoming Unit (Yeodiv).		
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E39/8

- MAR 1918

WAR DIARY

OF

Headquarters, 3rd A.L.H. BRIGADE.

FOR

MARCH

1918.

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
I	Programme Brigade Sports.
2	Syllabus of Training for Week Ending 9t-h March.
3	Dismounted Bayonet Fighting.
4	"Collective Training".
5	Syllabus of Training Week Ending I6th March
6	Programme of Work " " 23rd March
7	"Appreciation" of Divisional Tactical Exercise.
8	Order - Salvage Operations.
9	Training Week Ending 30th inst.
IO	" " 6t-h April.
11.	Miscellaneous Summary.
12	Brigade Move Onder



To C. O., 8th L.H. Regiment 9th L.H. Regiment IOth L.H. Regiment.

WD. = 39/1/8

Attached is Programme of work to be carried out throughout the Brigade during the ensuing week. From now on all Mounted work will be in the form of Tactical Schemes and manoeuvres, the system being as follows:-

- "A" Day Divisional Staff Ride (Commanding Officers only).
- "B" Day Arrangement on the ground by the Brigadier and Commanding Officers of the ta-ctical scheme for the three following days.
- "C" Day Regimental Tactical Exercise without troops for all Officers.
- "D" Day Regimental Tactical Exercise with troops.
- "E" Day Squadron or troop Tactical Exercise with troops.
- ON "A" DAY A certain Tactical Exercise will be carried out, involving various situations for each of which solutions will
 be worked out and a general "Doctrine" laid down.
- ON "B" DAY This exercise will be worked out by the Brigadier and Commanding Officers and the situations adapted to the ground allotted to each Regiment.
- ON "C" DAY Regiments will carry out the exercise without troops, for all Officers.
- ON "D" DAY The exercise will be carried out by Regiments with troops artillery and machine guns. Great care being taken to explain the scheme to all ranks.
- ON "E" DAY Squadrons will carry out the exercise, bringing in the various situations of the previous days Regimental exercise.

 Opportunity being taken to thoroughly explain each situation and the resulting action to all ranks.
- On Friday I5th ("A" Day) the Divisional Scheme was the "Pursuit" and Advanced Guard Work generally.

The "Doctrine" laid down was as follows:-

- and be prepared to take risks which would not be justifiable at other times."
- 2. On gaining contact with the enemy the following should be the sequence of action by the Commander of each successive echelon (e.g. leading troop commander, vanguard commander, main-guard commander and leading Brigadier).
 - Ist. Report contact immediately.
 - 2nd. Reconnoitre vigourously by every possible means, and report back frequently as detailed information is gathered.
 - 3rd. Brush minor opposition quickly aside.
 - 4th. If opposition too heavy then take all possible steps to prepare an advantageous battle-ground for the commander who has to fight the battle.

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2.

3. The Attack,

- (i) Fire and movement to be as nearly at right angles to each other as possible.
- (ii) Hotchkiss Rifles of troops making mounted attack should be grouped.
- (iii) Move Hotchkiss Rifle Batteries up immediately mounted attack masks them; use them then for consolidation.

The Brigadier directs that these principles be transmitted throughout Regiments and that they will be worked on during the weeks training.

17/3/18

Copy to AUSDIV.

3rd A.L.H. Brigade Major,

3rd A.L.H. BRIGADE PROGRAMME OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 23/3/18.

MONDAY -MARCH 18th

Commanding Officers selection of ground for Morning. Tactical Schemes and discussion on the ground. Squadron Mounted Training. -

Dismounting for action, occupation of positions and manoeuvring of led horses, or

(2) Mounted Action.

Grazing of Horses. Afternoon Lectures and Instructional Classes.

TUESDAW - MARCH 19th

Regimental Tactical Schemes for all Officers to Morning be conducted by Regimental Commanders.

Mounted and Dismounted Bayonet Fighting Classes. To be carried out under N.C.Os., supervised by Regimental Orderly Officers.

Grazing of Horses. Afternoon Lectures and Instructional Classes.

WEDNESDAY - MARCH 20th

Regimental Tactical Exercises - with troops, Morning artill-ery and machine guns.

Afternoon Grazing of Horses.

THURSDAY - MARCH 21st

Squadron Tactical Exercises - to be based on Morning Wednesday's Regimental Scheme.

Grazing of Horses Afternoon Lectures and Instruct-ional Classes.

FRIDAY - MARCH 22nd

Divisional Staff Ride for Commanding Officers. Morning

Squadron Training - Mounted Action

Afternoon Grazing of Horses.

SATURDAY - MARCH 23rd

Checking and Cl-eaning Equipment. Camp Inspection.



PROGRAMME OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 9th MARCH 1918.

4		E391'
Date	Nature of Training	Time
	8th L.H. Regiment	- MAR 1918
Monday 4/3/18	Dismounted Training - Bayonet Fighting Hounted Training - Squadron Drill	0830 - 0915 0915 - II45
Tuesday 5/3/18	Dismtd Anti-Gas Training Mtd Squadron Drill	0830 - 0915 0915 - II45
Wednesday 6/3/18	Dismtd Cas Training Mtd Regimental Drill) 0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Thursday 7/3/18	Dismtd Bayonet Fighting Mtd Dismounting for Action	0830 - 0915 0915 - II45
Friday 8/3/18	Dismtd Bayonet Fighting Mtd Dismounting for Action and manoguring of led horses	0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Saturday 9/3/18	Divisional Sports	
	9th L.H. Regiment	
Monday 4/3/18	Dismounted Training - Bayonet Fighting Mounted Training - Squadron Drill	0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Tuesday 5/3/18	Dismtd Gas XXXXX Training Mtd Regimental Drill	0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Wednesday . 6/3/18	Dismtd Bayonet Fighting Mtd Dismounting for action and manoeuvring of led horses	0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Thursday 7/3/18	Dismtd Bayonet Fighting) Mtd Dismounting for action and manoeuwring of led horses	0830 - 0915 0915 - XI45
Priday 8/3/18	Dismid Bayonet Fighting Mtd Dismounting for action and manoeuvring of led horses	0830 - 0915 0915 - II45
Saturday 9/3/18	Divisional Sports	THE RESERVE THE PROPERTY OF TH
Monday	Dismounted Training - Gas Training *	0830 - D845
4/3/18	Hounted Training - Squadron Drill	0845 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Tuesday 5/3/18	Dismtd Gas Training Demonstrations in Dismounted work Mtd Regimental Drill	0830 - 0845 0845 - 0915 0915 - 1145

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Date	Mature of Training	Time
	Toth L.H. Regiment MAR 1918	E39/13
Wednesday 6/3/18	Dismtd Gas Training Demonstrations in dismounted work Mtd Dismounting for action and manoeuvring of led horses	0830 - 0845 0845 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Thursday 7/3/18	Dismtd Gas Training Judging Distance Mtd Dismounting for action and manosuvring of led horses	0830 - 0845 0845 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Friday 8/3/18	Dismtd Description of Targets and visual Training Mtd Dismounting for action and manoeuvr of led horses	0830 - 0915 ing 0915 - 1145
Saturday 9/3/15	Divisional Sports	
	3rd M.G. Squadron	
Monday 4/3/18	Dismounted Training - Anta - Gas Training Mounted Training - Subsection Drill	0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Tuesday 5/3/18	Mid Anti-Gas Training Mid Limbered Drill	0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Wednesday 6/3/18	Dismtd Elementary Training in Immediate Action Mtd Coming into and going out of action Particular attention to be paid to	0830 - 0915
	pace and interval	0915 - II45
Thursday 7/3/18	Dismtd Belt-filling by hand Mtd Tactical Exercises. Indication	0830 - 0915
	and recognition of Targets	0915 - 1145
Friday 8/3/18	Dismtd Gun Drill Cleaning of Saddlery, kit etc.	0830 - 0915 0915 - 1145
Saturday 9/3/18	Divisional Sports	



3.

Date	Mature of Training	Time
	3rd L.H.F.A.	
ionday 1/3/18	Mounted Ambulance Drill for whole Unit Stretcher and hand-seat drill for Tent Division and Bearers. Instructions in Handling of teams and wagons for drivers	0830 - 0945 0945 - 1045 1045 - 1145
	Grazing	
uesday 3/18	Mounted Ambulance Drill for whole Unit Stretcher and hand-seat drill for Tent	0830 - 0945
	Division and bearers. Drivers same as Honday Grazing	0945 - I045 I045 - II48
	Dismounted Troop Drill for whole Unit	0830 - 0945
ednesday 3/3/18	Gas Training	0945 - 1048
	Lecture on Anatomy by Capt. LEARY	1045 - II48
Thursday	Mounted Ambulance Drill for whole Unit Stretcher and hand-seat drill for Tent	0830 - 094
	Division and bearers with application of Ist Field Dressing and arm-sling	0945 - IO4
	Rifle Inspection and Drill for Drivers Grazing	1045 - II4
9riday 3/3/18	Troop Drill for bearers at all paces with instruction in linking, haltering, hobbling	
	and coupling broses. Wagon Drill for Drivers	0830 - 094
	Continuation of above drill Lecture on Anatomy by Capt. SHELLEY	1045 - 104 1045 - 114
Saturday 9/3/18	Divisional Sports.	No. Date Date
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- MAR 1918

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Subject: - DISMOUNTED BAYONET FIGHTING.

To

C. O., 8th.L.H. Regiment 9th L.H. Regiment 10th L.H. Regiment



This Office GI20 is cancelled.

Bayonet Fighting Classes will now be held as detailed below, the object being to put the fighting portion of the Brigade through a four days Course (2hrs. per day) without delay.

Thursday 7th 1000 - 1200 2 Classes of 20 men each from each Regiment

Friday 8th 0830 - I030 2 Classes from each Regiment 1030 - I230 2 Classes from each Regiment

Monday IIth

as for Friday 8th inst.

Thereafter as detailed.

Each Class will be made up of 20 mmm N.C.Os. and men from troops throughout the Regiments and the same men will attend the 2 hours Course daily for 4 consecutive days.

one Officer per Regiment will attend with each Regimental quota. If possible the same officer to attend with each quota throughout the 4 days Course.

Classes will report to the Brigade Instructor on the ABrigade Ground punctually at the times detailed.

The instruction will be carried out by Regimental Instructors under supervision of the Brigade Instructor.

6/3/18.

X Mear Band feut.

A/ Brigade Hajor,

3 rd A.L.H. Brigade.

E 29/16 - MAR 1918

appendin 4

Subject:- TRAINING.

To C. C. Sth L.H. Rogt. 9th L.H. Rogt. IOth L.H. Rogt.



Collective Training, consisting of Advanced Drill and Field Work, will commence on Monday 18th inst.

Units will therefore make every effort to push on individual and specialist training prior to this date.

During week ending 16th inst. the mornings (less 12th and 14th insts.) are to be devoted to the instructional classes in Hounted Bayonet Fighting Practice. Dismounted Bayonet Fighting. Bombing. Signalling and Hotchkiss Rifle work. As many men as possible being put through the same courses.

All horses not working will be grazed throughout the morning, manoeuvring of led horses being practised on the way out from and in to camp.

Horses working in the morning will be grazed during the afternoon.

In order to expedite the training, the Instruction is to be decentralised as far as possible, i.e. those Officers and H.C.Os. who attended Divisional and Brigade Schools will instruct selected Regimental Officers and N.C.Os. who will carry out the instruction of their respective troops.

Bombing. All that is required is that every man shall have a "working" knowledge of the Hills Hand and Rifle Grenades and be able to throw and fire them.

3rd A.L.H. Brigade Major.

Copy to 3rd M.G. Squadren.

8/3/18

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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PROGRAMME OF TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 16th March 1918

Date	Hature of Training	Time
	3rd M.G. Squadron.	F39/17
Sunday 10/3/18	Eusketry (on the Range)	MAR 1918
Honday II/3/I8	Dismounted Training. Anti-Gas Training Range Taking and Range Cards Nounted Training	0830 - 090 0900 - D93
	Squadron Drill at the Walk & Trot	0930 - 114
Tuesday 12/3/18	Rehearsal Parade	
Wednesday 13/3/18	Disatt. Elementary Training in Mechanism Mtd. Squadron and Sub-section Drill	0830 - 093 0930 - 114
Thursday 14/3/18	Inspection by H.R.H. the Duke of COMNAUGH	T
Friday 15/3/18	Dismid. Anti-Gas Training Belt filling by hand Mid. Changing Guns from Limbers to	0830 - 090
	Packs. Coming into and going out of action	0930 - 114
Saturday 16/3/18	C. Os. Inspection	
	3rd L.H.F.A.	
Monday 11/3/18	Mounted Ambulance Drill for whole Unit Stretcher and Hand-seat for Tent Div. and bearers. Instruction in handling of teams and wagons for drivers Grazing of horses	0830 - 094 0945 - 104 1845 - 114
Tuesday 12/3/18	Rehearsal Farade	
Wednesday 13/3/18	Dismounted Troop Drill for whole Unit Anti-Gas Training Grazing of horses Lecture to Tent Div. on treatment of Gas	0830 - 094 0945 - I04
	Casualties	1045 - 114
Thursday 14/3/18	Inspection by H.R.H. the Duke of CONNAUGH	T
Friday 15/3/18	Troop Drill for bearers at all paces with instruction in linking, haltering, hobblic and coupling horses. Wagon Drill with instruction in handling of teams, linking	ng
	coupling and hobbling, for drivers Continuation of above drill Grazing of horses	0830 - 0945 0945 - 1045 1045 - 1145
Saturday 16/3/18	Cleaning of Saddlery and harness and camp throughout. Inspection of Camp by C. O.	* D X
		A I. F.

apudit O.

DIRECTORS NOTED.

SITUATION I.

Question I -What ac-tion should Ist Troop Leader take. A. I. F.

- MAR 1918 (a) Inform Squadron Leader. - MAK 1918 (b) Immediately reconnoitre vigourously and find out approximate numbers and dispositions of enemy.

Immediate and determined reconnaissance should be second MOTH. nature to all mounted troops.

Date_/7/

SITUATION 2.

Question 2 - What general action should Ist Troop Leader take.

Answer 2 - Attack and drive enemy away.

Each successive echelon of an advanced guard should brush HOTE. aside minor opposition without appealing for help from the rear.

Question 3 - As Ist Troop Leader state your plan of attack.

(i) Troop has 2 main means of enforcing a decision, i.e. NOTES. Fire and movement. Fire - Rifles and Motchkiss. Movement - Use of horses legs or mens legs. He should use both to best advantage.

He should try and surprise.

(iii)He should make best use of ground

(iv) Following is suggested plan:-

> (a) Demonstrate with a detachment (e.g. one section) against side of hill most unsuitable for attacker i.e. against a concave or glaces like slope. (b) Having induced enemy fire in that direction, emplace Hotchkias Rifle and pin him to his position with fire.

(c)iMovement should have assistance of ground, e.g.

up a convex slope.

ii. Movement should be as nearly at right angles to fire as possi-ble as then either fire or movement mu-st take ene-my in enfilade. (d) Remember consolidation if necessary, and pursuit either by fire or movement.

SITUA-TION 3

Question 4 - What further action should Squadron Leader take.

(1) Inform advanced guard commander of his opinion. (11) Continue to reconneitre vigourously, both enemy and ground.

> (iii) Endeamour to seize all valuable tactical points - i.e. commanding ground and concealed avenues of approach.

MOTES. (i) Reasons for seizing tactical points.

(a) He knows that in direct pursuit attack is imperative. (b) He has decided he is not strong enough, therefore the

Reg iment or even Brigade must do the work. /* (c) Regiment has 2 guns and 4 machine guns. To employ them best their fire will have to be as \ nearly at right engles to the movement of the attack? as possible. Tactical elbow room will themefore be m required to assist best use of these comparatively lon-g range weapons.

(ii) Squadron leader should therefore seize tactical points on a comparatively wide front - i.e. on a wider front

than if he intended to attack himself. By this means he will nesist his Decimental Cammandan 2.

Question 5 - As advanced guard commander what action would you take.

State your plan fully.

Answer 5 - Attack and drive enemy out of the way.

NOTES ON P-LAN.

- (i) Study ground with field glasses to find -
 - (a) good fire positions
 - (b) covered lines of approach to fire positions and to enemy's position
 - (c) shape of ground occupied by enemy, i.e. where concave convex or glacis like.
- (ii) Try and arrange surprise.
- (iii) Fire and movement should be as nearly at right angles to each other as possible.
- (iv) Remember a reserve, consolidation, pursuit by fire or movement.
 - (v) How will you employ Hotchkiss Rifles :-
 - (a) To protect a flank or
 - (b) to consolidate or pursue by fire
 - (c) to give covering fire at shorter ranges than the machine guns.
 - (d) if you attack mounted do not trail them with you form them into 2 batteries of 4 rifles under squadron 2nd in command.

NOTES ON RECONNAISSANCE.

- (i) Personal always from high ground with glasses.
- (ii) Reconnaissance as to strength and dispositions of enemy Officers patrols Demonstrations Holding attacks.
- (iii) Ground Scouts.

NOTES ON MOUNTED ATTACK

- Points (I) (i) In enemy's position one locality may appear most valua-ble tactically.
 - (ii) Take special precautions get this point by
 - (a) sweeping it with fire.
 - (b) arrange that successive lines should sweep over it
 - (c) let your last line halt on it
 - (d) send up Hotohkies battery at once to consolidate.
 - (2) (1) Give an objective to each attacking squadron.
 - (ii) Squadron will probably have to dismount to complete job; keeping one troop mounted as reserve.

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- MAR 1918

3.

Point (2) continued.

- (iii) Hotchkiss battery follow squadron close, come into action close behind meley ready to:-
 - (a) shoot if things go badly in molec
 - (b) if meles successful at once consolidate position.
- (iv) Having consolidated with Vickers, Hotchkiss etc. rally all horsemen with a view to pursuit.
- (3) Reserve in hand always, either a reserve of movement or a reserve of fire e.g. a squadron or a Hotchkiss Battery.
- (4) (i) Be prepared for total failure or incomplete success.

Total failure.

Gallop out taking care not to mask your covering fire troops.

Incomplete success.

Withdraw a few yards if necessary, consolidate everything you can and report exact situation next senior commander.

(ii) Be careful to mention possibility of failure only to very few.

APPRECIATION OF DIVISIONAL TACTICAL EXERCISE NO.2

Reference Maps: GAZA - SHELLAL 1/40,000 GAZA 1/63,360

- MAR 1918

I. OUR OWN TROOPS.

Consisting of XXIst Corps, disposed as per scheme, and Australian Mounted Division in Corps Reserve bivouaced about 2 mi-les North of BELAH.

The fighting condition of the men is good - morale high. The horses are in good hard condition.

2. THE ENEMY.

Has a total force of 4 Infantry Divisions and one Cavalry Brigade. Strength and dispositions as per scheme.

not high and experience has shown that, although when well entrenched he will put up a strong resistance, if his rear is endangered he will surrender.

As regards numerical strength, his Infantry is outnumbered by our Infantry by 3 to I. His Cavalry is outnumbered by about 8 to I. If therefore he can be driven from his entrenchments he should have no hope of successful resistance in open fighting.

3. FACTORS.

(I) dountry.

From the line now held by our Infantry (along the Wadi GHUZZEE) to the line to be taken up by the Infantry by OIOO on Z day, the country is undulating but intersected by numerous Wadis. The two allotted lines of approach offer good going for slow movement and there is sufficient covered ground amongst the Wadis South of MANSURA Ridge to enable the Division to lie concealed during the Infantry attack.

en and in the vicinity of TANK Hill, is a shallow open valley about 3000-4000 yards in width, devoid of obstacles and extending to the North to low range of hills in vicinity of BEIT HANUN.

This valley appears suitable for rapid movement by mounted troops but offers no concealment from view or fire.

(2) Water

Ample water for horses and men is known to exist

(a) In ga-rdens to N. and N.E. GAZA.

(b) In Wadis East of GAZA.

(c) Unlimited supply in Wadi HESI, 8 miles

(3) Roads.

Good unmade roads, suitable in dry weather for transport and guns, exist and it is not anticipated that there will be sufficient further rain to interfere with this traffic.

4. COURSES OF (I)
ACTION OPEN
TO ENEMY.

To retire forthwith to prepared line on Wadi

In the event of which he would probably have

to sacrifice his heavy Guns and Stores.

(2) His broken Infantry to rally on his third line - ANZAC Ridge to the sea - covered by rear gone guards holding entrenchments South East of GAZA and on TANK Hill, at the same time the artillery being withdrawn to positions covered by his available Army Reserve in vicinity of Kh KUFIER.*

This movement to be preparatory to a system atic withdrawal of the whole force to the prepared

position Wadi HEBI - SIMSIM - BURIER.

4. COURSES OF ACTION OPEN would adopt. (continued)

The latter course appears the one which he

The enemy Infantry Reserve is I2 miles N. of GAZA or roughly 8 miles from cross-roads S.W. of BEIT HANUH. If twhis reserve & hour after commencement of bombardment it would not reach these cross-roads before about 0900. The 19th Regiment in reserve at Kh KUFIEH would, by thee time the front line is broken, be either engaged in the fight or in a support position on entrenchments on TANK RIDGE.

The possibility of the enemy taking up a permanent second position on or near TANK RIDGE has been considered but is not thought practicable. After being driven from the front line he could not organise a 2nd line of battle so near his first line which could

successfully withstand our Infantry assault.

5. MISSION.

The mission of the Division is (I) To endeavour to cut off the enemy holding GAZA defences.

Capture Artillery .

Reconnoitre towards BURIER.

6. COURSES OF O US.

The only course of action apparently open is ACTION OF ME to push rapidly up thee valley between GAZA and TANK RIDGE, the country East of Kh KUFIEH being impassable for Mounted Troops.

7 . PLAN .

To move from bivouac North of BELAH at mid-(1) night (2400) might 2-1/2 arriving at covered positions in rear of Infantry Assembly line South of MANSURA Ridge by 0400 (Z day).

When Infantry have occupied their objectives. (2) to push at a fast pace up the valley of W. MUKADDEME, "A" Brigade leading followed at short intervals by "B" Brigade and then "C" Brigade, pushing vigourously against enemy rearguard in the valley and ignoring the enemy detachments, if any, still holding out on the South Bastern defences of GAZA and TANK RIDGE.

"A" Brigade with I Battery R.H.A. to wheel to the left at about the junction of Wadis HABIB and ES SAFIEH and occupy an East and West Line covering the junction of the GAZA - JAFFA and GAZA - BURIER

roads.

(3)

"B" Brigade, with 2 Batteries R.H.A., to push forward along the GAZA & BURIER and GAZA - JAFFA roads harassing and operating vigourously against enemy rearguards and endeavouring to capture guns and to occupy a position North of BEIT HANUN to hold up enemy reserves from that direction. A strong reconnaissance to be pushed on towards BURIER to locate any reserve.

"C" Brigade to send I Regiment to watch the country from BEIT LEHI in a N.E. direction to the sea and I Squadron to push towards Kh KUFIEH from the N.E. to co-operate with Infantry Brigade of 54th Division advancing from the DONGA. The Brigade, less I Regiment and I Squadron, in

Divisional Reserve South of BRIT HANUN.

8. POINTS TO

Point I -POSITIONS OF ASSEMBLY. "A" Brigade in covered ground at Junction (8) of Wadis NUKHABIR and BEN about Sq.R.35.b. "B" Brigade in covered ground North of

HAPPY VALLEY about Sq.R.22.a. //

"C" Brigade in broken ground on Wadi

NUKHABIR about Sq.T.4.b.

Divisional Readquarters South of El

BURJALIVE.

All transport, less technical wagons, Co. Ammunition Column, to remain concentrated in Wadis in vicinity of EL ADAR until the

Whill move up to the at head of HAPPY VALLEY and WADI NUKHABIR - there to arrait further oders.

8. POINTS TO Point I (continued)

RE OBSERVED b. FORAGE
Rations and

- MAR 1918 = 39/73

OF ORDERS. (continued)

Rations and Porage to be drawn prior to moving from bivouac near BELAH, as under:-Perage. Hebile Ration, for use until breakfast Z plus I day and 2 special emergency rations (91-1bs each), one to be carried on horse and one in HE B I Echelon. Rations. Ditto.

C. WATER

Horses to be watered late prior to moving from bivouse. All water bottles and bags to be filled. Water Carts with B I Echelon.

Point II. COMMUNICATION AND LIASON WITH INFANTRY. Cable from Axist Corps to D.H.Q. near EL BURJALIYE This cable will be continued when the Division advances Exchange of Liason Officers with 54th Division and with supporting Brigade of S4th Division.

Point III. BRIGADE AND DIVISIONAL COMMAND POSTS. a. Command Posts prior to Infantry attack. D.H.Q. EL BURJALIYE. Brigade command posts with Brigades.

b. After "Breaking through" and occupying detailed Positions.

D.H.Q. on GAZA - BURKER Road I mile S.W. of BEIT HANUN . "A" Brigade at junction JAFFA - BURIER Roads. "B" Brigade on GAZA - BURIER Road I mile N.E. HEIT

HANUN . wor Brigade with Brigade in Divisional Reserve.

Point IV. PRELIMINARY RECONNAISSANCE. a. Z-I day. Reconnaissances by all Commanding Officers along HAPPY VALLEY and Wadi HUKHABIR.

Officers Fatrol from each Brigade to MANSURA

Ridge to observe forward country.

Air Reconnaissance of valley and country to the North.

b. Preparations for Advance.

I.Z-I Day . Engineers to supervise preparations of approach routes as Mfar as MANSURA Ridge.

Arrangements with Infantry to ramp and prepare openings through wire of our own trenches.

Engineers with working parties to follow closely on Infantry Advance to prepare routes and ramp captured trenches and cut wire.

Point V. Guides to accompany Engineers working parties and to geturn and direct formations to their allotted openings.

Connectin-g files between Brigades and Engincer working parties.

Point VI . - DECISION WHEN TO DEBOUCH,

By pre-arranged signal from Divisional Staff Officer with Engineers supervising work on ramps, that all routes are open to G.O.C. "A" Brigade.

"A" Brigade on receiving this word to at once move forward followed by "B" Brigade, Divisional Headquarters and "C" Brigade in artillery formation.

Point VII - USE OF OUR ARTILLERY AND MACHINE GUNS. I Battery R.H.A. to accompany "A" Brigade. 2 Batteries " "B" Brigade Machine Guns with respective Brigades.

Artillery to co-operate with Infantry in preliminary bombardment but to return to Brigades I5 minutes before mounted advance. Guns not to be used during "Break through" until objectives reached.

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8. (continued). Point VIII - PLAN AFTER DEBOUCHING.

Brigades to move as rapidly as possible to occupy

detailed positions and carry out allotted roles.

Details of plans decided on, control of transport, employment of reserves and action against hostile reserves as above.

Communications.

When Erigades have occupied allotted positions, visual communication with D.H.Q. will at once be opened up and, if the situation allows, cables run out. Co-operation of Heavy Artillery.

a. Arrangement with 54th Division supporting Brigade immediately the Mounted Division has broken through to concentrate their attack on TAHK RIDGE and thence sweep Southwards Northwards.

b. During the "break through" Infantry Machine Guns to place barrage along enemy trenches S.E. of GAZA and on TANK RIDGE.

Guns of enemy positions covering route of Hounted Advance, with if possible a smoke barrage along flanks of the "break through".

Lewilm

21/3/18

Commanding 3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

appenden P. Subject:- RESUMPTION OF SALVAGE OPERATIONS AT SHALUF TO L. No. 0. 0. 8th L.H. Regiment 9th L.H. Regiment

Ioth L.H. Regiment 3rd M.G.S.

- MAR 1918

The Brigade will re-commence Salvage Work on Monday 25th inst., daily working parties being supplied as under:-

Monday 25th March	9th Regt.	200 menx and horseholders.
Tuesday 26th	Transaction to the same	do.
Wednesday 27th	Sth Regt. 9th Regt.	do.
Thursday 28th	9th Regt.	do. do.
Friday 29th	8th Regt.	do.
Saturday 30th	8th Regt. 9th Regt.	do.

IO% picks and shovels and a proportion of wire cutters will be carried.

- A Field Officer will be in charge of each Regimental Party, the senior F.C. present being in charge of the Brigade Party.
- 3. Parties will parade daily, North of Field Ambulance Camp, at 0700 and will move off under the senior F.O. to SHALUF. Working hour-s :- 0900-1200, 1300-1500.
- IOth Regiment will detail a Field Officer to supervise 4 . the Salvaging for one week, commoncing 25th inst. This Officers duty will be to ensure continuity of work & allotting the daily task to each Unit, to supervise the carting and to obtain the daily estimate of material salvaged from the Engineers in charge of the dump.
- The task is to salve all engineering material, ammunition and other stores of any value, in and about the enemy and our own works in the allotted sector.
- Horses will be watered before leaving and on return to camp. They will be grazed (one man to four horses) during the working hours, the horseholde-rs being changed at mid-day. Mid-day meal for horse and man will be carried.

7. TRAMBBORT Sth. 9th and 10th Regts. will each detail 4 halflimbers (4 horses per half-limber), and M.G. Squadron 2 limbered wagons and 4 half-limbers, for the carting of salved material. 20 This transport will parade at B.H.Q. at 1430 tomorrow and will proceed to bivouac at SHALUF under an Officer to be detailed by 9th L.H. Regt. An N.C.O. will be in charge of each Units quota of transport.

24 hours rations and forage to be carried. Bach Units quota wil-1 take 2 fantasses for drinking

8. A Guard of I M.C.O. and 3 O/Rs., to be detailed by 8th Regt., will relieve the 5th Mtd. Bde. Guard on the SHALUF Engineers Dump at 0830 Monday 25th inst.

> Capte AfBrigade Hajor. A.L.H. Brigade.

23/3/18

water.

WD Subject: REGIMENTAL TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 30th INST. F 39 76

To C. O.. Sth L.H. Regiment 9th L.H. Regiment Toth L.H. Regiment 3rd M.G. Squadron

- MAR 1918



- In view of Salvage Operations, the scheme of Tactical Training laid down in this office G.473 of 17th inst. is cancelled and the following substituted:-
- will, during the morning, carry out "Individual" Instruction in Hotchkiss Rifle work, Signalling, Bombing etc., with those men left in camp.
- on every third day (Nef. 0.617) each Regiment will carry out a scheme, with troops, based on Divisional Exercise No.2.
- As it will be impossible to first carry out the scheme without troops, Regimental Commanders will, in lectures, thoroughly explain the scheme to all officers and troop-leaders.
- 5. The G.O.C. directs that the following details be studied and introduced into Regimental Schemes:-
- t. The organisation in each Regiment of a small pioneer unit provided with wire-cutters and tools.

 Each of these Units should be thoroughly practised in rapidly
 clearing tracks through such obstacles as awkward wadis, wire
 entanglements and trench systems.

 (Note The old British trenches South of GAZA and to the East
 are available for this training.)
- ii. The rapid crossing of defiles, i.e. wadis and tracks through trench systems.

 This will entail

(a) The approach to the defile from cover.

- (b) The rapid passing of the defile on what will necessarily be one or more narrow fronts.
- (c) The rapid extension immediately the defile is passed into whatever formation may be required at the moment. / in any kind of formation /

e.c. While the column of troops

column of lines of troop columns

Mote - The one essential is that squadron and troop leaders should be so trained as to be certain of maintaining absolute control of their troops in the noise and confusion of battle when moving at a fast pace.

- iv. The attack mounted against any enemy who may attempt to bar the way, i.e. against cavalry, infantry entrenched or otherwise, guns and machine guns.
- v. The rapid detaching of fire power to deal with any hestile threat, thus enabling the mounted troops to press on.
- vi. The assault on the final objective by every means, i.e. the mounted charge or the assault with the bayonet fixed.
- vii. The occupation of the final objective. This will probably necessitate

(a) facing in more than one direction

(b) the hiding away of horses in wadis, villages or trees

(c) the linking of horses and leaving about 10 horses in charge of one man while the remainder are employed in the firing line.

(P.T.O.)

- MAR 1918

viii. The formation in each Regiment of a special troop organised and specially trained in rapidly forming a line of relay posts in any direction.

Note - It is considered that this provision is most important and should greatly facilitate communication in an operation of this nature.

- ix. The special training of one or two officers and 3 to 6 men in each Regiment as Officers patrols and as guides across the defile.
 - Note They will be required to accompany partly mounted and partly on foot the commanders of attacking battalions. They should be specially selected for their boldness and intelligence.

 They should accompany the pioneer units mentioned in para. 5 (i) above, in their training as in actual proctice they will be required to work together.

24 /3/18.

3rd A L.H. Brigade

Capt.

W.D.

a Appenden 10.

Subject:- TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 6th PROXING.

To C.O., Sth L.H. Regiment 9th L.H. Regiment 10th L.H. Regiment No. 26 977

Date 30 - 3 - 18

- MAR 1918

Training for week ending 6th proxime will be as follows:-

Honday Ist April

a. Divisional Tactical Exercise - without twoops -

b. Regimental Training.

Squadrone in Dissounted Attack in Depth. Formations laid down in Descorps Letter G 500/I to be closely followed.

c. Salvage Duty. 8th L.H. Regiment.

Tuesday a. Divisional Exercise - with troops 2nd April b. Balvage Duty. 9th L.H. Regiment.

Wednesday a. Regimental Schemes based on work laid down in this office 3rd April b. Salvage Duty. 10th L.H. Regiment.

Thursday Repetition of Wednesdays Scheme.

Ath April

Regimental Commanders will submit the "General and Special Ideas" of the schemes to be carried out on Wednesday and Thursday, to this office by 1800 on Honday 1st April.

Friday Divisional Field Day.

Saturday Work will be notified later.

ANTI-GAS DRILL To be carried out daily by 10% of personnel.

INDIVIDUAL Signalling and Hotchkiss Rifle Schools to be INSTRUCTION. continued.

ROUTINE. Morning 0900 - 1145 Mounted Parade

Afternoon (Grazing Parades.
(Individual Instruction
(Anti - Gas Drill

A/Brigade Major.

3rd A.L.H. Brigade.

Copy to Headquarters, Australian Mounted Division.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

30/3/18.

110 11

3rd A.L.H.BRIGADE ..

The following is a summary of reinforcements received during the month of March 1918.

8th L.H.Regt. 7 0/R.
9th L.H.Regt. 3 Off 20 0/R.
IOth L.H.Regt. I Off I4 0/R.
3rd M.G.Squdn. 5 0/R.
3rd Field Amb. I6 0/R.
8th M.Vet Sect. 2 0/R.

TOTAL.

4 Off 64 0/R.

- MAR 1918

DIVISIONAL HOT BATHS.

Approximately 350 men used these Baths every fourth day.

LEAVE.

Parties of 3 Officers and IO Other Ranks proceeded on leave to Egypt on the 9th and 23rd of the month, period of leave being 7 clear Days.

CLOTHING.

Pantaloons Cotton in lieu of shorts were given fortnights trial but were not found satisfactory.

RATIONS and FORAGE.

Forage.	Horses	Mules	Donkeys.
Barley Grain. Bran	5 lbs 3 lbs 2 lbs	4½ lbs 3 lbs	4 lbs.
Maize Sucre Indian Hay	3 1bs 9 1bs	5½ lbs. 3 lbs	2 1bs. 6 1bs.
Treacle	I oz to	3 lbs of Indian I oz	Hay.

No Tibbin issue.

Horses over 16 hands 2 1bs extra Barley.

Rations. Full less IO per cent G.H.Q. order being in L. of C.

4 ozs Potatoes or Onions, 4 ozs Fresh Onions, Vegatables poor quality, Bread I lb loaf brown bread poor quality.

Fuel. 2 1b of Wood 2 1b coal.

To supplement wood isseu 6 wagons per week brought in firewood salvaged from Gaza for the Brigade.

mandusm.

Brigade Major.

3rd A. Bade.

11013

3rd A.L.H. BRIGADE ORDER NO I.

E 39/30

Reference I' Map Sheets I9, I6, I3.

- MAR 1918

- I. The Division (less Warwick Yeomanry) marches to SELMEH by Brigade Groups leaving BELAH on MONDAY Ist APRIL .
- 2. The Brigade Group will Move, in order of march as below, the head of the Column passing St. JAMES PARK at I500 (tomorrow Ist April.)

G.O.C.

Brigade Headquarters.

Scouts.

Signal Troop.

IOth L.H.Regiment.

Notts Battery, R.H.A.

8th L.H.Regiment.

9th L.H.Regiment.

Field Ambulance.

Mobile Veterinary Section.

Brigade Transport (less R.H.A. and Field Amb. Wagons, which will accompany their Units).

Units will report to Head of the Column at I430 that they are in readiness to move and will join the Column in order of march.

- 3. Transport. All Transport of the Brigade (less R.H.A.and Field Amb,) will form up East of the old Decan ville Railway Track at I430 and will move off in rear of the Brigade under Q.M. 9th L.H. Q.M. and Q.M. Sgts. will accompany their Transport which will report to Units on arrival at Gaza.
- 4. DRESS. Marching Order. Fully equipped for operations.
- 5. RATIONS Current days rations and forage and Iron Ration to be carried. Rations and Forage for 2nd inst. will drawn at GAZA under instructions to be issued later.
- 6. WATERING. Morning watering will be completed by 0930; evening watering at GAZA.

 TROUGHS. Water Carts will travel full.
- Establishment of troughs will be carried by Units on Ist Line Transport.
- 7. BIVOUAC PARTIES. AN Officer and one Man from each Regiment. M.G. Squadron and Battery. and an N.C.O. from Field Amb. Mob Vet Sect. and Signal Troop will report to Staff aptain at B.H.Q. at 1045.
- 8. CAMP AREAS. All Camps will be in readiness for Inspection by I300.
- 9. Brigade Headquarterswill closes at I400.

NOTE. Unless otherwise ordered the daily order of march will be :- B.H.Q. Scouts and Sig Troop. Duty Regiment. Notts Battery. Regt next for duty. M.G. Squadron . Remaining Regiment. Field Amb . Mob Vet Seet. Bde. Transport.

Signed R. WILKINSON .Capt.

A/Bde Maj. 3rd A.L.H.Bde.

Issued at I300 March 3Ist I918. Copies to := 8th,9th,&I0th Regts. 3rd MG.

S. 3rd Field Amb. 8th M.V.Sect.3rd Sig Troop A.D.C. File and War Diary.