

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/4/13

Title: 4th Australian Light Horse
Brigade

January 1918

ORIGINAL.

4TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

W A R D I A R Y.

1/1/18 - 31/1/18.

VOLUME 2.

PAGES 24 - 26.

APPENDICES 195 - 197.

Geal Temple

Major,
Brigade Major,
4th A.L.H. Brigade.

- JAN 1918

ORIGINAL

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

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

4th L.H.Bde

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
MIDIEH	2/1/18	0800	4 th Bde passed under direct command of Descorts.	
		1000	Brig Gen GRANT. DSO arrived from Ainsdow & resumed command 4 th L.H.Bde	
		1200	BGGS Descorts inspected line.	
		1945	Orders from Descorts 1 st L.H.Bde and 4 th Bde led Horses marching to MIDIEH from SUKEREIR on 5 th to relieve 4 th Bde in hills.	
	3/1/18	1200	Candidates for schools proceeded to Cairo	
			Carrying course Officers General course 1 st Lieut Hampton R 4 th L.H Regt.	
		1452	Orders from Descorts one Regt and 6 machine guns only of 1 st L.H.Bde will arrive to relieve 4 th Bde. Situation for last 4 days very quiet. Small post at MESHAL.	
	4/1/18	0900	Instructions re march and marchable to BELAH received from 1000 ^{Descorts}	
	5/1/18	0900	11 th L.H Regt withdrew from front line to bivouac at KHA MIDIEH	
		1200	- - - - -	
		1400	M6 Sgn - - - - -	
		1420	2 nd L.H Regt arrived at KHA MIDIEH proceeded to NATIR & commenced relief of 4 th L.H	
		1530	4 th Bde led horses arrived from DEIRAN.	
		1635	Relief completed. 4 th L.H Regt & 6 machine guns bivouaced in Wadi NATUF	
	6/1/18	0900	Bde marched to DEIRAN. Heavy rain retarded march of transport but all wheels crossed with difficulty.	
		1300	arrived at DEIRAN washed & bivouaced. Heavy rains had flooded all wadis and coastal plain. Reconnaissance of W. RUBIN and country towards YEBNA made with view to crossing the next day. Rain continued all night	
DEIRAN				- JAN 1918
				<u>Lead by Major</u>
			A.P. & S.D., Alex./ ²⁰⁰⁹ _{50025A} /II: 17/5M. W.M. & Co.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
DEIRAN	7/1/18		New bridge at TEL EL SULTAN washed away. all crossings impassable except near old YEBNA bridge.	
		1130	Bde moved & crossed wadis to YEBNA thence to SUKEREIR over exceptionally boggy ground with difficulty.	
		1630	all units succeeded in crossing & reached sandy brownac at SUKEREIR weather became clearer.	
	8/1/18	8.1.18 1000	Weather clear. all dismounted personnel & baggage proceeded to ESDUD to go by rail to BELAH. Reconnaissance made of route to MEJDEL.	
	9/1/18	0800	Bde marched to MEJDEL arriving 1500	
	10/1/18	0900	Bde marched to QAZA arriving 1330 & came under AUSDIV	
	11/1/18	0730	Bde marched to BELAH arriving 1100	
	12/1/18	0900	Conference of COs reference General Camp Routine, Reorganisation and Winter Training by Brig Gen W GRANT DSO	
	13/1/18		Special Order of the Day by Brig Gen W GRANT DSO	APPEN 195
	14/1/18		Divisional Intelligence & Bombing class commenced.	
BELAH	15/1/18		6 Officers & 14 ORS proceeded 3 days clear leave to CAIRO.	
	16/1/18		Syllabus of Training for week ending 26 th Jan.	
	17/1/18		Lient T. F. MURRAY } to cavalry school.	
	18/1/18		2 Lient P. McCOWAN }	
	19/1/18		Lient D. F. P. ROTH }	
	20/1/18		2 Officers & 70 ORS to Port Said Rest camps	APPEN 196
			Major BISDEE VC appointed to command Anzac Provost Corps	JAN 1918

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices.
BELAH	21/1/18	1000	Desert Corps Commander inspected Bde dismounted in mass.	
	26/1/18		Lient A.W. Manning ^{11th L.H.} attached staff Major Bde major	
			Lient A. Dobson ^{12th L.H.} - - - Staff Captain	
			Lient A.E. Lisle ^{12th L.H.} - - - Intelligence Officer.	
	28/1/18		Syllabus of training week ending 2 nd Feb	
			Brig Gen W GRANT DSO proceeded on 3 week leave EGYPT.	Appen 197
			Lient-CO Bourchier DSO assumed command 4 th L.H. Bde.	
			Following names submitted for award and mention in despatch.	
			Major G J Rankin 4 th ALH Regt. award DSO.	
			Lient H L MARSLAND ^{11th} — — MC	
			Capt B Lowing ¹² — — MC	
			No 1955 Dr ET JOHNS ^{11th} — — DCM	
			767 2/Cpl JE HAMILTON ^{11th} — — DCM	
	30/1/18		Following officers granted awards.	
			Major EK PARRY 4 th Field Ambulance MC	
			Capt C P STUMM ^{11th d H Regt} MC	
			Capt HJ GEE — MC	
			Lient AR BRIERTY — MC	
			<i>John Henry Major Bde Major 4th L.H. Bde</i>	- JAN 1918
			A.P. & S.D., Alex./ ²⁰⁰⁹ _{50025A} /II : 17/5M. W.M. & Co.	

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- JAN 1918

ORIGINAL.

4TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

WAR DIARY APPENDICES.

JANUARY 1918.

Nos. 195 - 197.

S P E C I A L . O R D E R .

by

Appen 195

W.D.
ORIGINAL

Brigadier-General W. GRANT, D.S.O.
Commanding
4th Australian Light Horse Brigade.

- JAN 1918

6405
13th January, 1918.

During the past three months the Brigade has been called upon for special effort in the line and it is now my desire to express my appreciation to all ranks for their continued noble responses to the demands made upon them, especially during the period October 31st to January 11th.

The captures for the Division amounted to 88 Officers, 1854 O.R.'s., 35 guns and 8 machine guns; of these the Brigade is responsible for 60 Officers, 1258 O.R.'s. and 12 guns, a percentage of the total guns which bears eloquent testimony to the manner in which all ranks carried out their arduous duties.

To my Staff I tender my thanks for their loyal support and untiring effort under the most adverse circumstances.

The gallant conduct of the 4th and 12th Regiments at BEERSHEBA under Lieut-Colonel BOURCHIER D.S.O. and Lieut-Colonel D. CAMERON D.S.O. has been recognised by H.M. the KING in the form of honours conferred; thus rendering impotent any praise I might offer confer.

The speedy and brilliant way the Brigade came into action at TURMUS after a most strenuous period of fighting reflects the highest credit on all ranks units, as does also the tenacity displayed by all ranks at SHERIA against greatly superior numbers of the enemy.

All regiments have done consistently good work and with the co-operation of the Machine Gun Squadron, Field Troop, Signal Service and R.H.A. have succeeded in placing the Brigade upon a level with their far famed Australian Comrades in all theatres of the war.

I cannot too enthusiastically commend the work of those units of the R.H.A. which were placed at my disposal. At BEERSHEBA the Notts Battery under Major HARRISON and from SHERIA Northward "A" Battery H.A.C. under Major SMITH performed what in cold ink would read like the impossible.

The work of the Field Troop under Lieut. HARRISON entailed a series of self sacrifice and was ably conducted at all times.

The work of the Signal Service has been exceptionally well and energetically executed and in the main, almost without fault, though the conditions were necessarily extraordinary.

The Field Ambulance was called on for special exertion under the most adverse conditions, but at no time was the organisation and conduct of this unit under Major PARRY at fault. The untiring energy and competence of this unit has inspired me and my staff with the greatest confidence in its work.

The publication of the following casualty state causes me the deepest regret, light as they are in comparison to the Brigade's achievements.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.	Total.
Officers.	3	7	-	10
Other Ranks.	58	82 X	-	140
			Total	150
				=====

X 2 remained on duty.

My thanks are due to the Chaplains for their worthy handling of their noble duties, and I regret the loss of one officer from their ranks, who met his death in action at SHERIA.

The following state speaks of the arduous duties of the Veterinary Section whose work amongst the Brigade's animals was well conducted.

	Killed & Destroyed.	Wnded.	Evac.	Miss'g.	Total.
Horses.	157	85	313	3	558
Donkeys.	5	1	2	5	14
Camels.	22	-	6	-	28
			Total		600
					=====

W.Grant Brigadier General Major,
Commanding 4th A.L.H. Brigade.

ORIGINAL

Appen 196

Training Programme for 4th L.H. Regiments for week ending 26th January 1918

Date	Nature of Training (Morning)	Place	Time	Nature of Training (Afternoon)	Place	Time	
21.1.18	Words of Command. Communication Drill. Rifle Exercises.	Squadron Parade Grounds	0930 to 1100	Signals Lecture on Range Discipline followed by detailed drill.	Squadron Parade Grounds	1330 to 1530	
22.1.18	Rifle Exercises. Lecture - Stable Routine.	Do	Do	Loading and aiming. Firing positions. Lecture on Range Practices. Value of Grouping practice.	Do	Do	
23.1.18	Troop drill - dismounted - close order by "a" Words of command. "b" Signals.	Do	Do	Troop drill - dismounted - Extended order by "a" Words of command "b" Signals.	Do	Do	
24.1.18	Guards and Sentries	Do	Do	Loading - Firing - and Firing. Especially lying position "a" With rest. "b" Without "c" With Bayonet fixed.	Do	Do	
25.1.18	Loading. Firing and Tiring	Do	Do	Revision of weeks Training Gas drill.	Do	1330-1430. Do	1430-1530.
26.1.18	Weekly Inspections	-	-	Half Holiday.	-	-	

MORNING	Stables	0630 - 0730.
MIDDAY	"	1100 - 1200.
Evening	"	1600 - 1630.
Watering.		0930 & 1545.

(Signal). F.H. PHILLIPS. Lt

A/ Adjutant.

1 JAN 1918

26/1/18

TRAINING PROGRAMME for 11th Light Horse Regiment. for Week ending 26.1.18 -

Date	Nature of TRAINING (MORNING)	Place	Time	Nature of TRAINING (Afternoon)	Place	Time.
21.1.18.	Saluting and Lecture on Discipline by Troop Leaders.	LINES	0830 1000	Inspection of arms and equipment, and cleaning of same. Lecture on care of arms.	LINES	1300 to 1500
22.1.18.	Signals. Gas DRILL (1hour) Rifle Exercises.	"	"	Saluting and paying compliments with arms.	"	"
23.1.18	Lecture on Parade States and Duty Rosters.	"	"	Rifle exercises by each N.C.O. first giving detail and then putting Troops through each exercise in turn.	"	"
24.1.18	Rifle Exercises and Lecture on care of HORSES.	"	"	Signals. Saluting and paying compliments with ARMS - Guards and Sentries.	"	"
25.1.18.	Resumé of week's work - to embody those exercises which are noticed by Squadron Officers to be most needed by men.	"	"	Resumé of week's work to embody those exercises which are noticed by Squadron Officers to be most needed by men.	"	"
26.1.18	Cleaning saddlery and fitting same. Kit inspection.	"	"	No Parade. Preparation.	-	-

MORNING Stables. 0630 - 0730.
 Midday " 1100 - 1200.
 Evening " 1600 - 1630.
 Watering 1000 & 1515.

(Signed.) J. W. Parsons. Lt. Col.

C.O. 11th Australian L.H. Regiment.

JAN 1918

L.H.R.

— 12th A.L.H. Regt. Syllabus of Training.

Week ending 26-1-18.

Date	Nature of TRAINING. (MORNING.)	INSTRUCTOR	Place	TIME	Date	Nature of TRAINING. (Afternoon)	INSTRUCTOR	Place	TIME	
21 st	"A' Sq." } Rifle Exercises. "B" " do "C" " do }	Care of Arms Instruction in Saluting with and Without ARMS, Mounted and Dismounted.	Squadron Instructors	In LINES	0900 To 1030	21 st	TROOP DRILL - DISMOUNTED	Squadron officers.	In LINES	1300 To 1500.
22 nd	"A' Sq." "B" " Words of command and "C" " Signals.	"	"	"	22 nd	ID?	"	"	"	
23 rd	"A' Sq." "B" " Guards and Sentries. "C" "	"	"	"	23 rd	ID?	"	"	"	
24 th	"A' Sq." "B" " Gas Helmet DRILL. "C" "	Gas N.C.O Supervised by Regt Gas Officer.	"	"	24 th	TROOP DRILL - Dismounted. Special attention being paid to words of command and Signals.	"	"	"	
25 th	"A' Sq." "B" " Lecture on Care of ANIMALS Guards and Sentries. "C" "	Squadron Instructors	"	"	25 th	Judging Distances. Loading - Aiming - Firing Positions. Description of TARGETS.	Squadron INSTRUCTORS	"	"	
26 th	"A' Sq." "B" " Kit Inspection by C.O.	-	"	"	26 th	RECREATION.	-	-	-	

PHASE
TRANSITION

Reveille	- 0600.
Stables	. 0620-072
WATERING	0830.
TRAINING	0900-10
Stables	. 1100-12

ORDERS. obis
Breakfast.

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TRAINING. 1300 - 1500.
WATERING. 1530.
Stables 1600 - 1630.
DISMISS.

Signed F.R.MASSIE, Lieut + Adj't.

12th R.L.H. Regiment.

Syllabus of TRAINING - 4th Aust. Machine Gun Squadron. Week ending 26-1-18.

Date.	Nature of TRAINING. (MORNING).	Place	TIME	Nature of TRAINING. (AFTERNOON).	Place	TIME	REMARKS.
21.1.18.	Gas Instruction. Rifle Instruction. Semaphore Sig.	LINES	0830/0845 0845-0900 0900-1000	1 st hour Gun DRILL. 2 nd . General Description of Gun.	LINES	1330 1500	1 MAN PER SUB-SB 1½ hours daily for MORSE SIGS.
22.1.18.	TROOP DRILL AND RIFLE INSTRUCTION. BELT FILLING.	"	0830-0930 0930-1000	" " "	"	"	
23.1.18	Gas INSTRUCTION. LOADING - UNLOADING - SIGHT SETTING and LAYING.	"	0830-0845 0845-1000	1 st hour MECHANISM. 2 nd . STOPPAGES.	"	"	
24.1.18.	GAS INSTRUCTION. RIFLE INSTRUCTION. SEMAPHORE SIG.	"	0830-0845 0845-0900 0900-1000	1 st hour Sight Setting + LAYING 2 nd . Stoppages.	"	"	
25.1.18.	Gas Instruction Mechanism and DESCRIPTION of Gun	"	0830-0845 0845-1000	1 st hour CARE - Cleaning - Mechanism 2 nd . STOPPAGES.	"	"	
26.1.18	Cleaning and Inspection of Saddlery + Equipment.	"	0830 to 1000	No parade. Recreation			- JAN 1918 Signed by

Signed N.S. McMillan, CAPT.
for C.O. 4th M.G. Sqdn

ORIGINAL

Syllabus of Trainings. 4th A.L.H. Regiment: week ending 24/2/18

Appen 197

Date	<u>Morning</u> Nature of Training	Place	Time	<u>Afternoon</u> Nature of Training	Place	Time
Feb 28.	Marketry Syllabus by Troop leaders Mounted Drill - Sec. 44. 45. 46. 48. 50-52 & incl. watering Instruction class for NCO's Signalmen class A+B Squadrons - clustering in Range B " " Duties + Grazing horses Watering	Lanes	0830/0900 0930/1000 1100 0930/1130 0830/1100 "	Anti Gas Drill.	Lanes.	1030 1530
29.	N.C.O.'s Class Signalmen Class A+B Squadrons - clustering in Range C " " Duties + grazing Watering N.C.O.'s Class Signalmen Class		1000/1100 0830/1130 0830/ 1100 1000/1100 0830/1130	Briefing Classes as detailed	"	"
30.	R/C Squadron + H.Q. & Marketry on Range. H " " Duties + Grazing - Watering Junior N.C.O.'s Class officers Class Signalmen Class		0830/1100 1000/1100 1000/1100 0830/1130	100	"	"
31.	Casuals of each Squadron, Signalmen and Bal. Std C.R. Marketry. Mounted drill Sec. 70-87. incl. Grazing - Watering - Junior N.C.O.'s class officers Class		0830/1100 0830/1000 1000/1100 1000/1100	100	"	"
Feb. 1.	Weekly inspection Inspection by C.O.			Recreation.		
2.						

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JAN 1918

Schedule of Trainings. 11th A.L.H. Regt. Week ending 21/2/18

Date	Morning Nature of Training	Place	Time	Date	Afternoon		Indirect Place	Time
					Nature of Training	Indirect Place		
JAN. 28.	Preliminary Musketry.	Lodge	0830/ 0900		N.C.O. Class. Grazing	Lodge	1400 to	1500
29.	Slow mounted Troop Drill and Grazing.	"	"		Anti Gas Drill.	Gas Pit	"	"
30.	N.C.O. Class and Preliminary Musketry	"	"		I.C.O. Class. Grazing.	"	"	"
31.	Slow mounted Troop Drill and Grazing.	"	"		N.C.O. Class.	"	"	"
Feb. 1.	N.C.O. Bombing Instruction and Preliminary Musketry.	"	"		N.C.O. Class.	"	"	"
2.	Cleaning of Saddlery & equipment Inspection and O. S.	"	"		Recreation.	"	"	"
	Bombing instruction by three Brigade Instructors + they will take the Squadron in turns. "C" Squadron 0830/0930, "B" Sqdn 0930 - 1030. "A" Squadron 1030 - 1130. Signalling instruction. Classes daily under Regt. Sig. Office. 0830 - 1130. Rounds 0800. Halt in 0615. Morning Stables 0630 - 0730. Midday 1130 - 1200. Evening 1530 - 1630.							

JAN 1918

Syllabus of Training - 12th R.L.H.Rgt. week ending - 2.2.18

Date	Nature of Training	Instructor	Place	Time	Nature of Training	Instructor	Place	Time	
					Morning				
Jan 28.	Slow Troop Drill mounted. Grazing and Watering.		Grazing Areas.	0130 1130	N.C.O. Class. Troop Drill dismounted		Raw	Regt ^t Parade ground.	1400 1530
29.	Troop drill dismounted 0830/0930 " " Mounted. 0930/1045	"	"	"	N.C.O. Class. Bombarding		L' Gording E Mason L' Jenkins	"	
30	Slow Troop Drill mounted. Grazing and Watering		"	"	N.C.O. Class. Rifle Exercises - Heads of Command		R.S.M. Fuleyton	"	
31	Troop drill dismounted. 0830/0930 " " Mounted. 0930/1045		"	"	Short Gas Drill.		Gas Personnel	"	
Feb 1	Slow Troop drill mounted. Grazing & watering		"	"	N.C.O. Class. Bombarding - Grazing		L' Gording E Mason L' Jenkins	"	
2	Reporting for fit inspection 0830/1000 Kit Inspection Watering		"	"	Recreation				
	Recruit Roll Call		0600.		Parade over for Inspection		1400.		
	Stables		0615.		Water order over for morning		1530.		
	Food - Breakfast		0630.		Stables		1600-1630.		
	Parade		0730.		Bivouac		1630		
	Stables all saddles & equipment to be cleaned.		1130.						
			1200.						

JAN 1918

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Syllabus of TRAINING. 4th BATT. MACHINE GUN SQUADRON. W.E. 2-2-18.

Date	MORNING.		AFTERNOON		Place	TIME
	NATURE OF TRAINING		NATURE OF TRAINING			
JAN. 28 th	0830 TO 0930 LOADING - UNLOADING, SIGHT SETTING + LIFTING ELEMNT. AIMING DESCRIPTIONS	0930 TO 1130 SECTION DRILL GRADING + WATER	LINES.	0830 TO 1130	N.C.O.'S CLASS. "Barr + Stroud Range FINDER"	1400 LINES 1600
29 th	MECHANISM.	-DO-	"	"	Cleaning Ammunition	"
30 th	PREPARATION of Stoppages IA	-DO-	"	"	N.C.O.'S CLASS. "O. H. FIRE."	"
31 st	Rifle Exercises and Mechanism	SECTION DRILL - ACTION	"	"	N.C.O.'S. CLASS - Topography	"
FEB. 1 st	Care + Cleaning points Before - During + After FIRING RANGE DISCIPLINA	1/2 hours grazing SECTION DRILL - ACTION	"	"	Anti Gas Parade.	"
2 nd	Cleaning Saddlery and Equipment.	and Inspection	"	"	Recreations.	"

JAN 1918

JAN 1918

Schedule of Training - 17th Signal Troop - concluding 2/2/18

Date	Morning		Place	Time	Afternoon		Place	Time
	Nature of Training	Time			Nature of Training	Time		
Jan 28	Lecture - Various kinds of cells electric used - care & composition of strength shows placed in Circuit & Tele + Morse Flag reading Horses to be grazed	0900 1030/1130	Firing area	0920/1030 1030/1130 0900-1100	Troop will be mounted			1430 1530
29.	Morse Setting up + alarm wire	0900 1030		0900 1030	Grazing		meat.	
30.	Lecture Elementary map reading method of finding North. Setting & compass finding one man position by erection Conventional signs and use of Semaphore Reading - Horses grazed 0900-	0900 1030 1030/1130 1100			Anti Gas Instruction			
31.	Station work - line of Station found Camp & 3 men to each station Buzzer practice - sending & receiving 2 men to each phone	0900 1030 1030 1130			Troop will be mounted			
Feb 1	Tests in MORSE - Semaphore and Morse reading at 8 words per minute	0900 1130		0900/1100	Grazing			
2.	Complete kit Inspection				Recreation			

17/01/18

4th A.L.H. Field Ambulance

- JAN 1918

29/1/18

FINAL-

Syllabus of LECTURES for SENIOR N.C.O'S.

Monday 28/1/18	INTERNAL ECONOMY.	Major E.K. Parry
Tuesday 29/1/18	SANITATION.	Major E.K. Parry
Wednesday 30/1/18	TREATMENT of WOUNDS.	Lieut Col. Story
Thursday 31/1/18	Supplies	
Friday 1/2/18	OFFICERWORK	Major E.K. Parry
		Major E.K. Parry

Syllabus of LECTURES for OFFICERS.

MONDAY 28/1/18	INTERNAL ECONOMY	Major E.K. Parry
TUESDAY 29/1/18	Ambulance Formations and movements.	D°
WEDNESDAY 30/1/18	D°	D°
THURSDAY 31/1/18	Supplies and ORDNANCE	D°
FRIDAY 1/2/18	OFFICE WORK.	D°

Syllabus of TRAINING. 4th A.L.H Field Ambulance. Week ending 24/1

Date	(MORNING) Nature of Training	Place	TIME	AFTERNOON. Nature of Training.	Instructor	Place	TIME
JAN 28 th	Dismounted Troop DRILL. Slow mounted troop drill walking + grazing.	LINES	0830 10 0915. 0930 10 1130	LECTURE Haemorrhage and its arrest	Captain R Anderson	LINES	1400 TO 1445
29 th	STRETCHER EXERCISES	DO	DO	HORSE MANAGEMENT.	S/Sergt W STOREY	"	"
30 th	ANTIGAS TRAINING	DO	DO	The SKELETON.	Captain P Murphy	"	"
31 st	Hand Seat Exercises. { and improvised Ordnance or patients }	DO	DO	Care of Saddlery + Equipment	S/Serlt W STOREY	"	"
Feb 1 st	Wagon drill - Coupling horses.	,	DO	FRACTURES and Splints	Captain STAFFORD	"	"
2 nd Senior N.C.O.	Cleaning of Equipment.	"	DO	Recreation.			

Syllabus of Lectures for Senior N.C.O's on back.
" " " Officers.

Elcott J