

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/13/14**

**Title: 8th Australian Light Horse**  
**Regiment**

August 1916

8th Z.H.

Vol 1

P 54

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30.7.16.	Bally-brunn	Moved into camp vacated by 11th Z.H. B Sqn went out to dig wells at ARAS & SIMARA.	Ref Map KATIA 1/125,000.
31.7.16.	" 1400 2000	A Sqn went to wells. B Sqn returned.	
1.8.16.	0800	CO., Capt Weame and brigade sent to wait at SADA, ARAS & SIMARA.	
<del>1.8.16.</del>	1400 2000	B Sqn went to wells. A Sqn returned.	
2.8.16.	2000	CO's party returned.	
<del>2.</del>	1400 2000	C Sqn went to wells. B Sqn returned.	
3.8.16.	1400	A Sqn and 1 section for Mankun the Sqn went to wells	KATIA

C.11054.

8th L.A.

VA 1

P 55

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
4. 8.16.	Ducyhin	0500. Regt moved out to join A Sqn	Regt Regs
		0730 Regt moved out.	<del>KATIA</del>
		0740 Regt moved back to go with brigade to Hill 70.	KATIA 1/125/000
		0800 Regt, class A sqn, formed advance guard to brigade.	
		1120 Reached Hill 70.	
	DUCIDAR	1700 Left Hill 70 for DUCIDAR, where A sqn joined from ARAS.	
		Regt moved out 2 1/2 mi E of DUCIDAR, where it took up a post line.	
		B & C sqns at post & A sqn support	KATIA

WMA

C.11056.

50 1000 100

S.H. Z. H.

Vol 1.

P 56

Date.	Place and Time.			Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
5. 8. 16.	DUEIDAR	0900	Moved out as rearguard to brigade in direction of HOD EL ENNA reached at 1015. Harem watered and fed. At 1230 brigade moved out toward HAMISAH. Enemy encountered between	Ref map: QATIA 1/100,000. KATIA 1/125,000.
	HOD EL ENNA	1015	NABID and HAMISAH at 1400. Heavy fighting on left of QATIA. 9th <del>710<sup>th</sup></del> drove enemy back to HAMISAH. 422 prisoners taken. As brigade on our left retired from QATIA at dusk, the brigade retired a short distance west of NABID and bivouacked for night. A Sqr went on to HOD EL ENNA.	
6. 8. 16.	HAMISAH	0600	Regt (less A Sqr) went forward at dawn overtook HAMISAH. No enemy there left.	

*Wings*

C.11056.

C.11056.24

3

8th L.A.

Vol 1.

P 56.57

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
		an wounded Turk and an un wounded in total. Both sent back to Bde under escort.	Ref Map QATIA 1/102,000
	HAMISAH 1130	A sign marked in.	
	1500	Regt left HAMISAH and joined Bde column moving towards SABIA.	KATIA 1/125,500.
	ABU DARIM 1800	Arrived at ABU DARIM & bivouacked for night.	
	BALLYBUNNA	1 Lt V. S. J. MAUNSELL and 20 other ranks from Training Regt marked in.	
	SABIA 2800	Bde moved forward towards SABIA at dawn, regiment forming advance guard. Enemy encountered in strength on hills east of SABIA. Our advance was held up by their light machine gun & later artillery fire.	

C.11056.

MAUN

GAZ. H.

Vol 1.

PSE.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
7.8.16.	SABIA	Our casualties were - Killed - Lt R.W. Ingraham and two other ranks. Wounded - Lt J.S. Austin and six other ranks. 1500. Released by gth and returned to base with dark when we moved back to HQ HED HISH for the night.	Ref memo PATIA 1/100,000. KATIA 1/125,000.
8.8.16.	HED HISH	Moved out at daylight and after many hours reached HILLAZI about 1100. Country very rough. Good water at HILLAZI.	
	HILLAZI 1100		
	HAMMAM 1900	Bismarked	
9.8.16		0400 Moved out as ad camp moved to Hajar, C syde vanguard in direction of SALMANA, N. Z.M.R. Base attacking BIR EL ARD	SABINAT 26 BARD AWIL 1/125,000.

C.11056.

8<sup>th</sup> L.H.

Vol. 1.

P 59

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
9.5.16.	BADA 0730	<p>Enemy encountered holding strong position S of BADA, including a road at. Rept heavily engaged all day trying to drive them out. Enemy strong in artillery and machine guns. Enemy men strong counter attack at dusk but was beaten off. Relieved by 10<sup>th</sup> L.H. about 2000 and returned to HILLALI at 2200.</p> <p>Casualties - Killed Sgt R. G. Buckland and 6 other ranks.</p> <p>wounded. 33 other ranks, &amp; 5 of whom subsequently died of wounds.</p>	<p>Ref Maps KATIA + SAGHAT 22 BARR } 1/25, 000</p>

*[Handwritten signature]*

P60

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
10. 8. 16	HILLALI	Rested.	KATIA
11. 8. 16	0600	Moved to HASSANIYA, then in afternoon to receive 9 <sup>th</sup> L.H. on attack here.	1/125,000
12. 8. 16	BADA	<p>Two patrols from B again, under Cpl Jellett &amp; Cpl Mann, went out at midnight a foot to reconnoitre enemy around red act. Returned at 0400 and reported all clear.</p> <p>Two patrols from C Sqdn, under Cpl Miles and Lt Cpl Bowman, went out a foot at midnight to reconnoitre ground on our left front. They returned at 0400 reporting enemy at foot about 600 yards in front.</p>	

M.A. 18

C.11056.



2/02.14

N.M.

PGB

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
12. 8. 16	SADA 0400 0600 1400 1930	A Sqn went forward and occupied redoubt. Remains of regiment followed. Moved N to BIR EL ABD where artillery demonstration took place. Enemy retiring on SAC MATA. Returned to HILLAZI.	Perhaps KATIA. S & B 3/15/16
13. 8. 16	HASSANIYA	Moved to HASSANIYA, where Brigade camped. Carried out scout duties, patrols and outposts.	
18. 8. 16		Lt AUSTIN returned from hospital.	
24. 8. 16	M.M.A.	Promotions - Lt J. SPROAT to Capt (in 10/7/16) Platoon Leader to Lt (in 20/7/16) Sst Gunn to Lt (in 20/7/16)	R0634

C.11056.

DATE	PLACE	
4.8.16.	BALLYBONION	Heavy firing from N.E. At 0530 regiment ordered to proceed at once to join A Squadron at HOD EL ARAS & HOD ABU SIMARA. Moved out at 0730 and at 0745 ordered to return and go with Brigade to Hill 70 KANTARA. A Sqn instructed to join us <sup>at DUCIOAR</sup> . Transport and details left under Lt D'Empy. B Sqn advance guard to Bed. Arrived at Hill 70 about 1200 and occupied camps of Bartolomey Mt.
	DUCIOAR	At 1700 regt moved with Bed to DUCIOAR, where A Sqn joined us. Rest in outposts about three miles east of DUCIOAR.
5.8.16.	DUCIOAR	Moved out from DUCIOAR as nearward to Bed at 0400, and proceeded to BIREL NUSS, where horses were fed and watered. Moved on again at 1200 in direction of HAMISAH.
	BIREL NUSS	Enemy encountered between NAGIO & HAMISAH and driven back by 9th & 10th L.H. Over 4000 prisoners taken and several machine guns. Regiment not in action.
	NAGIO	Brigade occupied NAGIO until after dark, when it retired to a point two miles west of NAGIO and bivouacked for the night.
6.8.16.	NAGIO	Regt, less A Sqn, arrived at 0300 and reoccupied HAMISAH, which was found unoccupied. One Turk, unarmoured, was found in the hod, and one other unarmoured and one wounded on high ground west of hod. A large quantity of machine gun ammunition, pack animal saddlery together with machine guns captured the previous day was buried.
	HAMISAH	Remained at HAMISAH until 1500, when we moved out to join brigade marching from NAGIO towards HOD EL SAGIA.
	HOD ABU DARCH	Bivouacked at HOD ABU DARCH.

Ref. Map  
KANTARA  
1/80,000  
QATIA  
1/100,000



*[Handwritten signature]*

DATE PLACE

7.8.16. HOD ABU DAREM  
HOD es SAGIA

Moved out at 0600.  
High mound east of HOD es SAGIA was found to be strongly held by enemy. Heavy rifle fire was opened on us and later artillery fire. We were unable to push forward. By midday the rifle fire had ceased except for some independent sniping. In the evening we were relieved by 9<sup>th</sup> L.H.  
Our casualties were - killed, Lt R.W. Urmbarty A Sqn, 228 Sgt James A.W. B Sqn.  
1640 Sgt H.P. Wright }  
wounded - Lt J.S. Austin } A Sqn  
102 Lt Col Murray P.L.H. }  
1396 Sgt Col. Curtis C.C. }  
16411 Sgt Vaughan W.F. } B Sqn  
1519 - Livingston D. }  
1577 - Hornway J.C., C Sqn

HOD AYISH

Camped for night at HOD AYISH.

8.8.16

Joint column moving out past SAGIA, which had been reported by 10<sup>th</sup> L.H. as evacuated.  
Watered at HILLALI about midday  
Bismarked at HAMMAN. B.H.Q. at HILLALI.

HAMMAN

9.8.16

Left HAMMAN at 0400 and acted as advance guard to Bde moving on SALMANIK.  
Our screen (from C Sqn) came into contact with enemy about 1 mile west of HOD es SAQA. Enemy found to be holding a strong position on high mound south of SAQA, including a redoubt on the highest point. The enemy quickly picked up the range with their guns and kept up a heavy fire all day, principally with shrapnel, searching our position very thoroughly. Their main object seemed to be to get at the houses, which were subjected to heavy fire throughout the day, no matter where they were moved to, the high mound occupied by the enemy offering good observation of our movements.

Ref Map  
QATIA  
1/100,000.



SARKHAT es  
BAROAWIL  
1/125,000.

10/10

929

Ref Map  
SATIA  
1/100,000.

Date  
9.8.16.  
Place  
Hood BADA  
Continued

We were supported by 2 squadrons from 9th L.H. and two sections from M.G. Squadron.  
No progress was made. Towards evening the firing increased, but just before dark, as we were about to be relieved by the 10th L.H., a sharp ~~enemy~~ attack was made by the enemy, advancing on men against our left centre. They were apparently short of ammunition ~~and~~ or too much exhausted to advance ~~up~~ the steep slope on to our position, and the attack died away as darkness came.  
We then withdrew, leaving the outposts to the 10th, and returned to HILLAL.

Our casualties for the day were - Killed 2/Plt R.G. Bursland  
att'd M.G. Sqdn

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 673 Sgt Dawson E.    | 1075 Sgt Bloomfield W.G. |
| 1075 Cpl Shaw A.S.   | 390 Sgt Hodley R.        |
| 1196 L/Cpl Lamb V.J. | 1552 Jpr Chambers A.L.   |

- |         |                      |                        |
|---------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Wounded | 63 Sgt Gray J.       | 162 Jpr Brock ARA      |
|         | 18 Sgt Thomson J.F.  | 1188 " Field T.        |
|         | 69 L/Cpl Murphy A.A. | 1190 " Flannery D.     |
|         | 171 Sgt Johnston A.  | 32 " Hill J.F.         |
|         | 1178 Jpr Canning D.  | 1676 " Jones J.        |
|         | 2027 " Canning J.F.  | 1193 " Helms W.B. X    |
|         | 1728 Sig Watson J.J. | 1185 " Tomson J.       |
|         | 2683 Jpr Cameron J.  | 2000 " Marshall J.P. X |
|         | 1450 Jpr Reid L.W.   | 2007 " McCook J.E. X   |
|         | 7367 " Scott E.A.    | 1198 " Marshall G.     |
|         | 529 " Berthwick A.H. | 2009 Sdqn Well C.W.    |
|         | 119 " Benjamin J.C.  |                        |



X died of  
Wounds.

Memo

Date

Place

2004 Jpr McEwan G.R.

2007 - Martin C.

C Sqdn 348 Sgt Currie J. T.

1524 Jpr Moody J. C.

384 - Hindley F.

1555 - Dawson R. G.

886 - Ely W. L. X

730 - Elliott J. A. X

Machine Gun 292 Lt Col Campbell G.R.

Squad 991 Jpr Smith D.

10.8.16. HILLALI

Remained in lod all day.

11.8.16

Moved out at 0500 to HASSANIYA, thence to HASSAN DIN supporting 9th L.H. who were holding out there. Enemy aeroplane dropped two bombs close to us just out of HASSANIYA and soon afterwards brought down one of our aeroplanes.

12.8.16. BADA

Relieved 9th at 1700. A Sqdn in reserve, B on right, C on left.

At midnight 11/12<sup>th</sup>, two patrols from B Sqdn (under Cpl Jackson & Cpl Mann) went out a foot to reconnoitre Turkish position. They got into trouble at redoubt, and returned to report at 0400. Two patrols went out at same time from C Sqdn (Cpl Miles & Cpl Dawson) and reconnoitred country north of redoubt. They reported seeing a few Turks on outpost.

At 0400 A Sqdn went out & occupied the redoubt. They reported all clear at 0530, when the remnants of the regiment & the 9th L.H. pushed forward.

X died of  
wounds



12/16

Date	Place	
12.8.16		In the afternoon the brigade moved over to BIR EL ABO, where a demonstration was made by the artillery.
		Returned to HILLAH at night.
13.8.16	HASSANIYA	Moved to HASSANIYA and established camp $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of hod.
20.8.16		Lt Austin returned to duty.
25.8.16		At midnight 24/25 brigade moved out in direction of GEISI, rept moving rear and left flank guard.
		Travelled over and among heavy sand dunes until 0900, when an unmanned hod about 1 mile east of GEISI was reached. Country clear. A sqdn was sent out at 1200 to reconnoitre and search country, near the marsh, between the roads N of BIR MOSEIFA. They did not return to HASSANIYA until the following day. Remainder of rept returned to camp about 2000.
		Following promotions appeared in orders: Lt Col. Spruce to be Capt and 2nd in command of C Sqdn. 10.7.16.
		422 W.O. Mueser M.G. to be Hon Lieut Col. 20.7.16.
		348 Sgt Currie J.G. to be Capt 20.7.16.
30.8.16		C Sqdn moved to OGHARATINA.
10.9.16	HOD EL AMARA	Rept moved with brigade to HOD EL AMARA, & camped in hod. Coy Sqdn rejoined here.
12.9.16		2nd Lt Banks, 15th Hussars, attached for weeks experience in desert warfare.
15.9.16		At midnight 15/16 moved with brigade to SALMANA
	SALMANA	Arrived SALMANA 0600 and bivouacked for day. Fied only enemy aeroplane, but no casualties.
		Left SALMANA at 1700, marched through night arriving at a point 2 miles S of MAZAR
17/9/16	MAZAR	at dawn on 17th. Brigade attacked from S. and 2nd Bde from W. Enemy in considerable force. As camel corps did not arrive attack could not be pushed home. Withdrawn from firing line.

Ref Map  
QATIA  
1/100,000.

SARHAT  
EL SARDAVIA  
1/125,000.



13