

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/13/23

Title: 8th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

May 1917

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MARAKEB	2/5/17	0530	Left with Brigade AN.	
ABASAN		0900	Arrived & bivouacked AN.	
	6/5/17		2 Lieut H. J. urgent to hospital. AN.	
		1500	Moved out & concentrated with our Brigade & 1 Brigade Anzac Mt Division at Tel el Dara (2100) & proceeded thence under orders of Lt Col. Imp Mt Division to Point 680 with intention of attacking a enemy post at EL BUGGAR which they were believed to man overnight & to retire before our patrols each morning. AN. Other Brigades of the Division were to operate similarly against KH. KASIF and IM. SIRI. On arrival before EL BUGGAR it was found that the post had already withdrawn. As a large hostile force was seen concentrating on the hills beyond we effected a withdrawal arriving at Gamlu at 11:30. At 12:30 march was continued & new bivouac set at ABASAN reaches 15:00. AN.	Map BEERSHEBA 1:125000.
	7/5/17	0400	advised of death of Major McAllister at Tel el Dara 15/5/17 AN. Lieut L.A. Macpherson reported from hospital but immediately evacuated to field Amb. AN.	
	8/5/17			
	11/5/17			
GAMLU	12/5/17	0500	Regiment proceeded to GAMLU & at 0900 took over front line duty from 10th LH. Duty consisted of furnishing Outpost, Observation Posts and Patrols also trench digging. A Squadron of 9th LH (who in turn were relieved by a Squadron of 10th LH) were attached to us also one section of 3rd Aerial Mt Squadron and a party of Engineers. AN.	X 17
	16/5/17		2nd Lieut J.R. Peppercorn reported from Training Regiment AN.	
	17/5/17		Capt A.E. Weane reported from Hospital & takes over A Squadron. Capt Sproat AN returning to C Squadron	

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GAMLI	17/5/17	1700	Relieved by troops of Anzac Mounted Division + of 74th Infantry Division. AM	
"	"		Left for ABASAN. AM.	
ABASAN		2100	Arrived & took up bivouac site left on 12th inst. AM.	
	19/5/17		Lieut V. J. Mansell from Hospital AM.	
MARAKEB	20/5/17	0530	Left with Brigade for MARAKEB AM	
		0630	Arrived & bivouaced AM.	
	22/5/17	1600	Moved out with Brigade arriving ABASAN & watering there at 1630. Intention being to assist in covering raiding operations by Camel Brigade & Engineers on Railway line between ASLUS and AUSA. 29 men from the Regiment having been previously detailed to assist the Engineers in demolition work. AM	Ref BEERSHEBA 1.125 000
			The duty of Imperial Mounted Division being to take up attention of enemy at BIR SABA & the 3rd Brigade to make good the line Hill 650 to RASHID BEK AM.	
	23/5/17		The Regiment crossed WADI at GOSMARRUK at 0200 acting as advance guard to Brigade. We took up line at 0400 & remained in position till 1700 when forces were withdrawn. Enemy remained quiet & demolition work was carried out successfully AM.	
			Regt acted as Rearguard, arriving GAMLI at 2100 & bivouacking.	
	24/5/17	0400	Left for MARAKEB AM	

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MARAKEB	24/5/17	0630	Arrived & bivouacked on new site. <i>AN.</i> Lt Col H. J. Murgat awarded military cross 'for acts of gallantry & devotion <i>AN.</i> to duty in field' dated 17/5/17 (appointments, commissions award list 266 R044.7)	
	25/5/17		Lieut J. M. J. Taylor reported from duty with Divisional transport <i>AN.</i>	
	26/5/17		Part of wheeled transport returned to Regiment from duty with Division <i>AN.</i>	
SHEIK NURAN	28/5/17	0800	Left with Brigade for the neighbourhood of NABI SHEIK NURAN. <i>AN.</i> The Imperial Mtd Division takes over front line duty from Anzac Mtd Division, 3rd Lt Brigade being detailed as Reserve Brigade. <i>AN.</i>	
	30/5/17	1600	Left with 9th Lt Regt (Force under Lt Col Le Maygarve) left for MUNKHEILEH. after halting till 2330. Force proceeded to EL MAGAM with the intention of raiding any small forces of Turks that may be found there. <i>AN.</i> Not encountering any of such (though numerous fires were seen along strongholds & we were shelled during our reconnaissance) our force withdrew reaching bivouac at 0400 3rd post inst. <i>AN.</i>	BEERSHEBA 1-175000. + 17/5