

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/13/31

Title: 8th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

January 1918

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.

OR
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Confidential Original
Volume I 13 Page I

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KEFR RUT	1/1/18		Bivouaced at KEFR RUT all day awaiting arrival of led horses to take the Regiment out of the hills. Rained very heavy throughout the day. <i>Wm</i>	
KEFR RUT to LATRON	2/1/18		Horses arrived about 1000 and Brigade moved off at 1230 to LATRON where it bivouaced for the night. <i>Wm</i>	
LATRON to KATRAH	3/1/18		Moved at 0900 for KATRAH. Australian official Photographer took a cinema picture of the Brigade as it left LATRON. Arrived KATRAH about 1400 and bivouaced. <i>Wm</i>	
KATRAH	4/1/18		Day spent in resting horses & clearing up the old led-horse camp areas. <i>Wm</i>	
KATRAH to ESDUD	5/1/18		Moved at 0900 to ESDUD & bivouaced for the night. 2/11 A.H. Burlington to Hotchkiss Sun School, Beitoun. (10 days) <i>Wm</i>	
ESDUD to MEJDEL	6/1/18		Moved at 0930 to MEJDEL. Heavy rain throughout whole day & night. bivouaced MEJDEL. <i>Wm</i>	
MEJDEL to GAZA	7/1/18		Moved to GAZA 0900. Heavy rain in morning. bivouaced GAZA. <i>Wm</i>	
GAZA to BELAH	8/1/18		Moved to BELAH through ruins of GAZA. Arrived at BELAH about 1300 & Regiment settled on bivouac site. <i>Wm</i>	
BELAH	9/1/18		Regiment issued with 30 C.O.L Tents & Cockhouse material. Orders given to thoroughly re-equip & reorganise Major Shannon & 9 men to Port Said rest camp. <i>Wm</i>	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	10/1/18		Re-organising. <i>wms</i>	
"	11/1/18		2/Lt MACKAY & 5 NCO's (including R.S.M SINNOTT) to Cadre, Moascar Capt MULDER to Cairo on duty; buying boilers for cooks &c. <i>wms</i>	
"	12 th 4/13 th		Reorganising. <i>wms</i>	
"	14/1/18		Lt PEPPERCORN, MC. attended a weeks course on intelligence work at D.H.Q. 2/Lt NEWMAN. " " " " on bombing at D.H.Q. 2/Lt JENNER returned from Cavalry School Zeitoun.	
"	15/1/18		MJR Walker, MC. presided over a board held on two missing donkeys. Finding subsequently approved by G.O.C Div that they be struck off strength of Regiment. <i>wms</i>	
"	17/1/18		MJR CRAWFORD to Cairo on leave. Lt MULHOLLAND to MEJDEL to interview O.C 67 th F.C. reference transferring as observer. <i>wms</i>	
"	18/1/18		Lt MULHOLLAND returned from MEJDEL. Lt TAYLOR to CAIRO on duty reference material for officers mess. Officers mess opened for first time since ROMANI. 2/Lt CUTTINGTON, DCM returned from Hotchkiss Gun School Zeitoun. F.G. Court Martial held on 273 Dvr R.J. FINNIGAN. President - MJR C. Bleechmore 9 LH MEMBERS Capt. B.B. RAGLESS 9 LH. and Lt. W.D. Glatfield 8 LH. Capt L.A.V. Macpherson MC. acted as prosecutor. Accused acquitted. <i>wms</i>	
"	19/1/18		Capt Mulder returned from Cairo. Troops Paid. M/Gen HODGSON inspected lines in company with B.G.C. <i>wms</i> B.G.C inspected lines & men. Mjt Shannon returned from Port Said. Rest Camp & he also received a letter from GEN ^L BIRDWOOD informing him he had won D.S.O. 2/Lt Streeter to Cavalry School Zeitoun. <i>wms</i>	



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WAR DIARY

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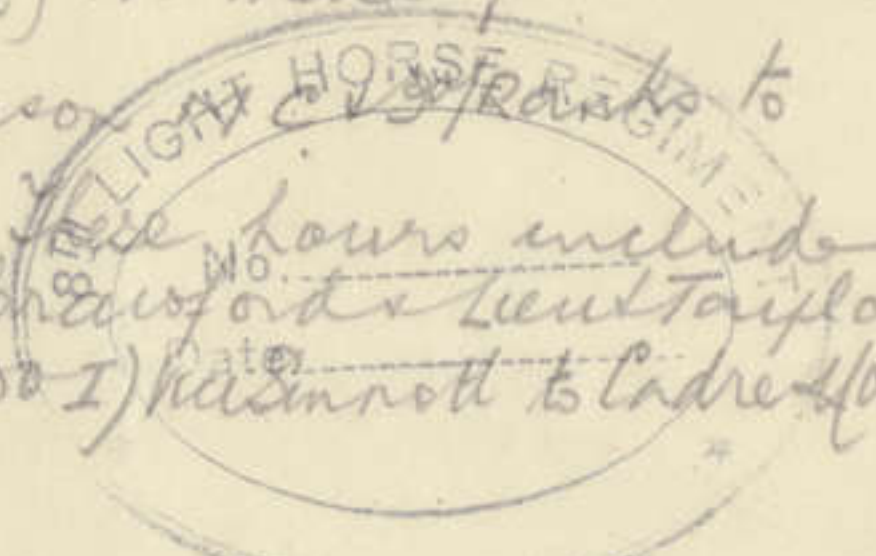
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Volume 13 Page 3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Belah	20/1/18		Church Parade ^{only}	
	21/1/18		Lieut Gen. Sir H. G. Chavel inspected the Brigade (dismounted) in mass formation & gave a speech, & resumé of the recent operations. Capt Law Stephenson	
	22/1/18		Monscarbadri ^{only} New syllabus of training entered upon. Hours of drill 0845-1145. These hours include dismounted & mounted drill & 20 minutes grazing for horses. Mjr Bradford's Lieut Taylor returned from leave 21/1/18. SSM K. Lawlor promoted (temp) RSM (WO I) & promoted to Cadre Honours	
	23/1/18		Training especially preparing for musketry on 25 th ^{only}	
	24/1/18		Regiment to Dellowing Train. Belah ^{only}	
	25/1/18		Musketry, Belah Rifle Range. Squadrons worked their programmes, interchanging at following hours:- 0700-1000, 1000-1300, 1300 - Sundown. 12 permanent markers under 2 NCO provided. These camped on the range and were relieved each day for the shift 1000-1300, by a detail from the Squadron that had just shot. A divisional range warden had the care of the target in hand and arrangements generally were very satisfactory. The Regt got through 3 practices the first day. Mjr Boyd's (Grouping) (Figure Target) Snds. Boyd's Snds application (Grouping), then 5 rounds rapid with bayonet fixed. lying. Shooting - only fair. During the First shift 11.16.15 Svr E R Smith was shot through the forearm, by his rifle discharging as he was leaning on the muzzle. A very serious wound. A Court of Enquiry was convened to sit on the 26 th to enquire into circumstances of accident.	
	26/1/18		Musketry. Practices fired Boyd's Snds application 10 th rapid & 400yds Snds application. Shooting only fair. Court of Enquiry held on Tpr Smith's shooting accident.	
	27/1/18		President. Major J L Walker MC. Members - Capt J S Austin & Lieut J R Appercom MC. Court adjourned until 27 th . Officers Mess formally opened. Sg. G & CO of other units of Brigade present. This is the first mess opened since FERRY POST. - SUEZ CANAL. MESS July 1916, excepting 3 weeks at ET. MALER NOV 1917. ^{only}	
	27/1/18		Court of Enquiry on Tpr Smith. C.O. opinion "Tpr Smith to blame" ^{only}	



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	27/1/18		<p><i>Official historian</i></p> <p>Lieut Gillett ^{AA} lectured to Officers & Sergeants about the French front operations</p> <p>54 Gt Gift Stores arrived from Campford Fund A.I.F. for men.</p> <p>Regiment Shooting Practices at Rifle Range. Finishing practices at 500 yds ^{only}.</p> <p>Regimental Detail put through Musketry course. Throughout shooting was only fair but two days very inclement weather had much to do with poor results. Headquarters troop won the first prize, 107 per man with D Troop Csqdn second, 97 per man, Headquarters aggregate averaged 110.13</p> <p>D Troop Csqdn averaged 102.63. No 1429 Sgt Osborne J.E. won the aggregate with 147 points out of possible 185. ^{only}</p> <p>1194 (Armourer) S/Sgt A L.loyd (7th L.H.) attached to Regiment for duty</p> <p>185 Sgt L Weiss promoted 2nd Lt 5.5.18. Asqdn.</p> <p>Training carried out Anti Gas Instruction & Equitation</p> <p>Duty Regiment: Training Dismounted Rifle Exercises, Mounted Troop Drill ^{only}</p> <p>Training - Guard & Sentry duties shown, Mtd Troop Drill 2 1/2 hours.</p> <p>Major P.H. Priestley arrived from Australia & taken on strength of Regiment.</p> <p>Capt. W. McGRATH to A.I.F. Hdqrs on duty.</p> <p>3 officers & 3 NCOs detailed for 4 days bayonet fighting instruction at D.H.Q. ^{only}</p>	<p>8th LIGHT HORSE REGT. 13</p> <p>No.</p> <p>Date.</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">- JAN 1918</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">E 49</p>

Quar. G. McLaune Lieut Colonel.....
C. O. 8th. L. H. Regt. A. I. F.

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8th. A.L.H. Regiment. A.I.F.

SUMMARY OF STRENGTH FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1918.

<u>STRENGTH.</u>	Jan., 1st.	22 Officers	370	O/Rks.
	Reinforcements.		100	"
		22 Officers	470	O/Rks.
	Ev ac. to Hospital.		26	"
		22 Officers.	444	O/Ranks.
	Transferred (inc. to 3 rd. LHTR)	2 Officers.	10	O/Ranks.
<u>STRENGTH.</u>	Jan. 31st.	20 Officers	434	O/Ranks.
<u>AVERAGE STRENGTH.</u>	<u>FOR MONTH.</u>	20.7 Officers	429.2	O/Ranks.

W. M. G. G. G.
CAPTAIN & ADJUTANT
for C.O. 8th. Australian Light Horse Regt.

In the Field.
31/1/18.