

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/1/24**

**Title: 1st Australian Light Horse**  
**Brigade**

July 1916



## WAR DIARY

or

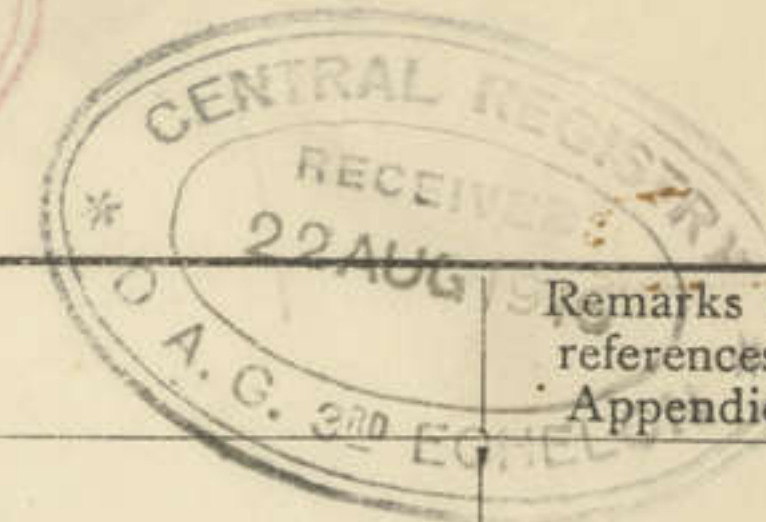
## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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.



Army Form C. 2118



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMANI.	1/8th July.		Defensive works were continued on the Outpost Line of ROMANI Camp.	
	5/7/16		150 horses rendered unfit through service on the desert, returned to Remount Depot.	
	7/7/16		150 fresh horses received to replace unfit horses.	
	8/9th July		3rd A.E.H. Regiment left ROMANI Camp with 2nd A.L.H. Brigade at 0400 July 8th, to act as covering troops for reconnaissance of BIR SALMANA and HOD SALMANA carried out by that Brigade.	Appx. <del>XXXVIII</del> Bde. <del>XXXVIII</del> Order No. 11
	9/7/16		1st A.L.H. Brigade, less 3rd A.L.H. Regiment, left ROMANI Camp at 2300 on July 8th, and proceeded to OGH RATINA as reserve to force carrying out the reconnaissance of BIR SALMANA and HOD SALMANA. Arrived OGH RATINA 0330. Left OGH RATINA for ROMANI 1100. Arrived ROMANI Camp 1530.	Appx. <del>XXXIX</del> B.O. 12a Report.
	12/13th July.		1st A.L.H. Brigade carried out a reconnaissance of Square E4 on QATIA 1/100,000 Map for the purpose of collecting any Bedouins who may still be in this area, and reporting on the existing water supply.	
	19/7/16		Aeroplane reported enemy in force at BIR-EL-ABD, and advancing towards OGH RATINA, HOD-ES-SAGIA, and BIR-EL-MAGEIBRA. At the time this report was received, the 2nd A.L.H. Brigade was proceeding to carry out a reconnaissance of that area.	
	20/7/16		2nd L.H. Brigade engaged the enemy, checking his advance. 2nd L.H. Brigade withdrew at night.	Appx. <del>XXX</del> B.O. 13
	21/7/16		1st A.L.H. Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0300 and moved through QATIA to delay the enemy advance. The Brigade returned to ROMANI at 2030, leaving out 3 officers patrols of 1 officer and 3 other ranks each. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lt. M.E. WRIGHT, 1st L.H. Patrol to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lieut. G.P. EDWARDS, 1st L.H. Patrol to OGH RATINA under Lt. H.A. WELLER, 2nd L.H. There was no forward movement of the enemy during the night 21/22 July. Casualties: 1 o.r. wounded. Died of Wounds.	Appx. <del>XXXI</del> B.O. 14
	22/7/16		Patrols of 1 Troop each were sent to HILL 110 and BIR-ED-DHABA on extreme flanks of our position, while 2nd L.H. Brigade were operating against the enemy front.	
	23/7/16		1st A.L.H. Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0130, and moved through QATIA to gain touch with the enemy. Flank <del>guards</del> <sup>patrols</sup> were supplied by 2nd L.H. Brigade. Enemy patrols which had pushed forward, were driven back on to their original line. Brigade withdrew to ROMANI, leaving QATIA at 2035. 3 Patrols of 1 Officer and 3 o.r. each, were left out during the night 23/24 July to keep touch with the enemy. The Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lt. G.S. MACKRELL, 2nd L.H. The Patrol to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lt. L.J. COWELL, 3rd L.H. The Patrol to OGH RATINA under Lt. J.T. BIGG, 3rd L.H. Casualties Nil. 100 reinforcements arrived from details.	Appx. <del>XXXII</del> B.O. 15.
	24/7/16		Patrol to HILL 110 increased to 2 Troops. Patrol to BIR-ED-DHABA 1 Troop.	
	25/7/16		1st A.L.H. Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0200, and moved through QATIA to gain touch with the enemy. There was considerable enemy activity along the whole line during the day. A patrol from 3rd	



1st. A. L. H. BDE. A. I. E.

## WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II.  
and the Staff Manual respectively. Title Pages  
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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMANI	25/7/16		L.H. Regiment captured 3 Turks. The enemy line has been pushed forward slightly. The usual officers patrols were left out on night 25/26th July to keep touch with the enemy during the night. The Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lt. R.H. SINCLAIR, 2nd L.H. The Patrol to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lieut. P.S.R. WOODYATT, 2nd L.H. The Patrol to OGHRAATINA under Lieut. <sup>R.A.</sup> McDONALD, 1st L.H. Casualties: 1 o.r. slightly wounded. The Brigade left QATIA for ROMANI at 2100.	
(Contd.)	27/7/16		1st L.H. Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0200, and moved through QATIA to gain touch with the enemy. Patrol of 2 Troops was sent to HILL 110. Patrols of one troop each to BIR-ED-DHABA and BIR-EL-HAMISAH. Officers patrols of 2nd A.L.H. Brigade reported no forward movement of enemy during the night. No particular activity was displayed by the enemy during the day, the line held by him being the same as on the 26th. A demonstration was made during the afternoon against the enemy's <del>xxxxxxx</del> right flank, but no forward movement was made. The usual officers Patrols were left out during the night 27/28th July, to keep touch with the enemy during the night. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lt. F.M. MACK, 1st L.H. Regiment. Patrol to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lieut. A.M. GARBETT, 1st L.H. Regiment. Patrol to OGHRAATINA under Lieut. <sup>R.A.</sup> KIDMAN, 3rd L.H. Regiment. An extra Patrol of One Troop, under Lieut. J.M. CLERKE reconnoitred in the direction of HOD-EL-FARWA, to ascertain the route taken by enemy convoys during the night, but was unable to locate it. The Brigade left QATIA for ROMANI at 2020.	Appx. XXXIII B.O. 16.
	28/7/16		Observation Posts of one Section each were posted on MT. MEREDITH and MT. ROYSTON during the day. Escort of one troop was provided as escort to Section of Ayrshire Battery to QATIA. Patrol of two Sections was despatched at 2200 to gain touch at BIR-ED-DHABA with patrol from 5th L.H. Regt. at DUEIDAR.	
	29/7/16		1st A.L.H. Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0230, and moved through QATIA to gain touch with the enemy. Patrol of 2 Troops was sent to HILL 110 and Patrol of one troop each to BIR-EL-HAMISAH and BIR-ED-DHABA. Officers patrols of 2nd A.L.H. Brigade reported enemy entrenching West of HOD-EL-MEZAHMI during the night 28/29th July. On arrival at BIR-EL-HAMISAH, the officer in charge of patrol reported having found the body of Lieut. N. PEARCE of 6th L.H. Regiment, who had been in charge of officers Patrol during the night. No trace of his three men could be found, but these afterwards turned up at HILL 70. This patrol had been attacked during the night by enemy patrol. Our advanced screen got in touch with the enemy patrols at 0635. Considerable forward movement was made by the enemy during the night of 28/29 July. He now holds entrenched positions on high ground North of HILL 245, North of HOD-EL-AMOIA, South of SABKHET-EL-AMYA, and a semi circular position East of HOD-UMM-UGBA. Considerable activity was displayed by the enemy during the day, entrenching on his new line. Demonstrations	Appx. XXXIV B.O. 17

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. &amp; A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.



## 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.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMANI.	29/7/16		<p>were made against both flanks, but these were driven off by heavy Machine Gun and rifle fire. One Section of Ayrshire Battery then shelled the right of the enemy position, This enabled our <del>right</del> flank to advance about 600 yards. There was considerable enemy activity on our <del>left</del> flank. The usual officers patrols were left out during the night 29/30 July to keep touch with the enemy during the night. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lt W.C. KELLY, 3rd L.H. Regiment. Patrol to HOD-EL-AMOIA under Lieut. C. BOOTH, 2nd L.H. Regiment. Patrol to HOD-UMM-UGBA under Lieut. R.H.L. GORDON, 3rd L.H. Regiment. The Brigade left QATIA for ROMANI at 1930. Wounded 5 o.r. Missing 1 o.r. The observation posts of one section each were posted on MT. MEREDITH and MT. ROYSTON. Patrol of 2 Sections was despatched at 2230 to BIR-ED-DHABA to join up with patrol from 5th L.H. Regiment at DUEIDAR.</p>	
	30/7/16		<p>The 1st A.L.H. Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0230 and moved through QATIA to gain touch with the enemy. The usual Patrols to HILL 110, BIR-EL-HAMISAH, and BIR-ED-DHABA being sent out. Officers patrols of 2nd L.H. Bde. reported no forward movement of enemy during the night 30/31st July. Enemy still hold same line as on 29th, but in much greater strength. Considerable movement was seen in rear of enemy's lines in the vicinity of HILL 245, but no particular activity was displayed during the day.</p>	
	31/7/16		<p>The usual officers patrols were left out during the night 31st July/1st August. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH Under Lieut. G.P. EDWARDS, 1st L.H. Regiment. Patrol to QATAIA under Lieut. F. EVANS, 2nd L.H. Regt. Patrol to ER RABAH under Lieut. H.A. WELLER. Brigade left QATIA for Romani at 2005. Casualties: Nil</p>	<p>Appx. XXXV B.O.18</p>
			<p>SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS 20/7/16 to 3/8/1916 attached</p>	<p>Appendix XXXV</p>



by  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J.B. MERRIDITH  
 Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Appx. XXVIII

## REFERENCE MAPS/

QUATIA 1/100,000

SABKAT-EL-BARDABIL 1/125,000

INFORMATION.

1. From Intelligence report dated 6/7/16, agent reports:-  
 SALMANA 3/7/16. 25 tents, 3 shelters, 3 huts, 1 ration store,  
 about 150 Turks, 30 Syrians, 50 Germans, 20 armed Arabs, 20  
 Arab Camelmen.

GUNS. Agent saw 3 Machine Guns, one to the S.W. of SALMANA,  
 and 2 near the tents being cleaned.

ANIMALS. 30 transport and 30 riding camels.

Recent reports tend to show that enemy patrols come into  
 places visited by our troops as soon as they have left.

AIRCRAFT REPORT 7/7/16.

BIR-ABU-EL-AFFIN about 10 men and 15 camels.

MEAYAB 5 men and 6 camels.

BABISH 9 men and 7 camels.

BIR-EL-ASHIDA 5 men and 14 camels

HOB-EL-PARVA 5 men and 10 camels.

HOB-EL-PARIVA 2 men and 4 camels.

Tracks from each of these places lead towards HOB-EL-HILLALI.

Our own Troops. 2nd A.L.H. Brigade (less 5th and 12th Regts.)  
 and attached Regt. (Wellington Mounted Rifles) and 3rd L.H.  
 Regiment, are carrying out a reconnaissance of BIR SALMANA and  
 HOB SALMANA.

MOVES.

2. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade, less 3rd A.L.H. Regiment, will leave  
 ROMANI water troughs at 2300 on night 8/9th July, and march to  
 GHRATINA.

Units will report at starting point 400 yards East of  
 ROMANI water troughs at 2245. B.M.C. will pass the starting  
 point at 2300.

ORDER OF MARCH.Advanced Guard.

1 Squadron 1st A.L.H. Regt.

Cdr. Major D.W.A. SMITH

Main Body.

B.M.C.

1st Signal Troop

1st A.L.H. Regt.

2nd A.L.H. Regt.

Rear Sub-Division

1st A.L.H. P.I. Amb.

Right Flank Guard.

1 Troop 2nd L.H. Regt.

Left Flank Guard.

1 Troop 2nd L.H. Regt.

Rear Guard.

1 Troop 2nd L.H. Regt.

ESCORT.

6. C.O. 2nd L.H. Regt. will detail 1 Sgt. and 12 men as escort  
 to camel train.

MUNITION.

5. 140 rounds W.A.A. will be carried on each man and 3,500 rounds  
 with each machine gun.

RATIONS & WATER.

6. One days ration, iron ration and full water bottle will  
 be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels  
 carrying 4 gallons of water per man, and one feed for horses,  
 will be taken with the Brigade (less 1 Regt.) to GHRATINA.

TRANSPORT.

7. No transport other than camels for water and forage, and  
 one sand cart of the Medical Personnel, will be taken.

MEDICAL.

8. One bearer sub-division of 1st A.L.H. P.I. Amb., with one sand  
 cart, will accompany the Brigade (less 1 Regt.) to GHRATINA.

LIGHTS.

9. Until daylight, no lights of any description will be shown.

NO.

10. Capt. G.H.L. HARRIS, 1st A.L.H. Regt. will be in command of  
 all Brigade Details, with his Headquarters at B.M.C.

REPORTS.

11. All reports and messages to head of Main Body.

A. CHISHOLM, Capt.  
 B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.



BRIGADE ORDER No. 11.

Copy No. ....

by  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MEREDITH.  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

REFERENCE MAPS.

QUATIA 1/100,000  
 SABKHET-EL-BARDAWIL 1/125,000.

INFORMATION.

1. From Intelligence report dated 6/7/16, agent reports:-  
 SAIMANA 3/7/16. 25 tents, 3 shelters, 3 huts, 1 ration store, about 150 Turks, 30 Syrians, 50 Germans, 20 armed Arabs, 20 Arab Camelmen.  
GUNS. Agent saw 3 Machine Guns, one to the S.W. of SAIMANA, and 2 near the tents being cleaned.  
ANIMALS. 50 transport and 20 riding camels.  
 Recent reports tend to show that enemy patrols come into places visited by our troops as soon as they have left.  
Aeroplane report 7/7/16.  
 BIR-ABU-EL-AFEIN about 10 men and 15 camels.  
 MBAYAD 5 men and 6 camels.  
 BADIH 5 men and 7 camels.  
 BIR-EL-AWEIDA 5 men and 14 camels.  
 HOD-EL-FARWA 3 men and 10 camels.  
 HOD-EL-FAREIWA 2 men and 4 camels.  
 Tracks from each of these places lead towards HOD-EL-HILLALI

Our own Troops. 2nd A. L. H. Brigade (less 5th and 12th Regts) and attached Regt. (Wellington Mounted Rifles) and 3rd L. H. Regiment, are carrying out a reconnaissance of BIR SAIMANA and HOD SAIMANA.

MOVES.

2. The 1st A. L. H. Brigade, less 3rd A. L. H. Regiment, will leave ROMANI water troughs at 2300 on night 8/9th July, and march to OGHRAATINA.

Units will report at starting point 400 yards East of ROMANI water troughs at 2245, B.H.Q. will pass the starting point at 2300.

ORDER OF MARCH 3.Advanced Guard,

1 Squadron 1st A. L. H. Regt.  
 Cmr. Maj. D. W. A. SMITH.

C.O., 1st A. L. H. Regiment will detail 1 Squadron as Advanced Guard.

Main Body.B. H. Q.

1st Signal Troop.

Order of March as per margin.

1st A. L. H. Regt.

2nd A. L. H. Regt.

Bearer Sub-Division.

1st A. L. H. Fd. Amb.

Right Flank Guard.

1 Troop 2nd L. H. Regt.

C.O. 2nd L. H. Regt. will detail two troops as ~~Rear~~ Flank Guards.

Left Flank Guard.

1 Troop 2nd L. H. Regt.

Rear Guard.

1 Troop 2nd L. H. Regt.

C.O. 2nd L. H. Regt. will detail one troop as Rear Guard.

ESCORT.

4. C.O. 2nd L. H. Regt. will detail 1 Sgt. and 12 men as escort to camel train.

AMMUNITION.

5. 140 rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man and 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun.

RATIONS AND WATER

6. One days ration, iron ration and full water bottle will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. ~~xx~~ Camels carrying  $\frac{3}{4}$  gallons of water per man, and one feed for horses, will be taken with the Brigade (less 1 Regt.) to OGHRAATINA.

TRANSPORT.

7. No Transport other than camels for water and forage, and one sand cart of the Medical Personnel, will be taken.

MEDICAL.

8. One bearer sub-division of 1st A. L. H. Fd. Amb., with one sand cart, will accompany the Brigade (less 1 Regt) to OGHRAATINA.

LIGHTS.

9. Until daylight, no lights of any description will be shewn.

CAMP.

10. Capt. G. H. L. HARRIS, 1st A. L. H. Regt. will be in command of all Brigade Details, with his Headquarters at B.H.Q.

REPORTS.

11. All reports and messages to head of Main Body.

A. CHISHOLM. Capt.  
 B.M., 1st A. L. H. Brigade.



Copies sent to the undermentioned  
at 2300, 8/7/16.

Copy No.	1	File
	2	War Diary
	3	B.H.Q.
	4	B.H.Q.
	5	1st L.H. Regt.
	6	2nd L.H. Regt.
	7	1st Sig. Troop
	8	1st L.H. Fd. Amb.
	9	Supply Section
	10/12	Spares.



784

Copy No. .... 2

6

BIRGADH ORDER No. 12.

by

LIEUTENANT COLONEL J.B. WRENDITH  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

APPX. XIX

REF. MAP  
QATIA 1/100,000Headquarters,  
ROMANI.  
12th July, 1916.INFORMATION. 1. Aeronautics Report. 7/7/16.

BIR ABU-EL-AFRIN about 10 men and 13 camels.

Mbayad 5 men and 6 camels

BADIH 5 men and 7 camels

BIR EL AWEDIA 9 men and 14 Camels

HOD EL FARWA 3 men and 10 camels

HOD EL FARHWA 2 men and 4 camels

Tracks from each of these places lead towards HOD EL HILLAIL. Current troops. 1 Regt. 2nd A.L.H. Brigade will accompany the troops to OHRATINA, and will be engaged on Thursday July 13th improving wells at BIR ABU EL AFRIN and HOD EL KHIRBA. One Squadron providing protection to N &amp; W.E.

INTENTION.

2. The 1st A.L.H. Bde, less 3rd L.H. Regt., will reconnoitre Square E4 on QATIA 1/100,000 Map on Wednesday July 12th, Thursday July 13th, Friday July 14th (if necessary), for the purpose of clearing this area of any natives and animals that may be located there.

Peaceful Bedouins with flocks should, as far as possible, be brought in by easy stages, and the numbers collected reported as early as possible, so that arrangements can be made for their disposal. Reports will be furnished on the wells at all places passed through.

MOVES.3. Wednesday July 12th. B.H.Q., 1st L.H. Regt., and 1st L.H. Fl. Amb., will leave ROMANI Camp at 1500 on Wednesday July 12th, and march to OHRATINA, where they will bivouac for the night, July 12/13th.

The 2nd L.H. Regt. will leave ROMANI camp at 1530 on Wednesday July 12th, and march to HOD EL SAGIA, where they will bivouac for the night 12/13th July.

Thursday July 13th. 1st L.H. Regt. (less 1 troop remaining at OHRATINA) will leave OHRATINA at such an hour as to arrive at HOD EL DHAKIR at dawn, leaving 1 Squadron there to watch the country to the East. They will then form a driving line with the right on the QATIA - BIR-EL-ABD road, and the left on HANHAM and drive towards OHRATINA, the left flank on a line running from HANHAM S. of BIR-EL-AISHA, N. or HOD-EL-DHAKIR, S. of HOD-ABU-GEVIAAN to OHRATINA. The Squadron watching the Country to the East, will fall back with the driving line to OHRATINA.

The 2nd L.H. Regt. (less escort for camels to OHRATINA) will leave HOD EL SAGIA at such an hour as to arrive at HOD-EL-MUHAMMAN at dawn. They will then form a driving line with their right on the line laid down for the left of the 1st L.H. Regiment, and the left flank on a line drawn through HOD-EL-MUHAMMAN, HOD-EL-FARWA, 1st A. in HOD-EL-SAGIA, HOD-EL-MANARI to OHRATINA.

It is essential that the whole of Square E4 should be well searched, the 1st and 2nd Regiments join at a point South of the last M in HANHAM.

ORDER OF MARCH 4.Advanced Guard.

1 Squadron 1st L.H. Regiment

Cmdr. Major LAMMIE

Main Body.

B.H.Q.

1st Sig Troop

1st L.H. Regt.

1st L.H. Fl. Amb.

Right Flank Guard.

1/2 troop 1st L.H. Regt.

Left Flank Guard.

1/2 troop 1st L.H. Regt.

Rear Guard.

1/2 Troop 1st L.H. Regt.

C.O., 1st L.H. Regiment will detail 1 Squadron as Advanced Guard.

Order of march as per margin

C.O., 1st A.L.H. Regiment will detail 1/2 troop each as Right &amp; Left Flank Guards, and 1/2 troop Rear Guard.



Copy No. 2.

BRIGADE ORDER NO. 12.

by

LIEUTENANT COLONEL J. B. MEREDITH.  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

REF. MAP.  
 QATIA 1/100,000

Headquarters.  
 R O M A N I.  
 12th. July, 1916.

INFORMATION. 1. Aeroplane Report. 7/7/16.

BIR ABU-EL-AFEIN about 10 men and 13 camels.

Mbayad 5 men and 6 camels.

BADIEH 5 men and 7 camels.

BIR EL AWEDIA 9 men and 14 Camels.

HOD EL FARWA 3 men and 10 camels.

HOD EL FAREIWA 2 men and 4 camels.

Tracks from each of these places lead towards HOD EL HILLALIL. Our own troops. 1 Regt. 2nd. A.L.H. Brigade will accompany the troops to OGH RATINA, and will be engaged on Thursday July 13th. ~~Improving~~ improving wells at BIR ABU EL AFEIN and HOD EL KHIRBA. One Squadron providing protection to N & N.E.

INTENTION.

2. The 1st. A.L.H. Bde. less 3rd. L.H. Regt., will reconnoitre Square E4 on QATIA 1/100,000 Map on Wednesday July 12th Thursday July 13th. Friday July 14th. (if necessary), for the purpose of clearing this area of any natives and animals that may be located there.

Peaceful Bedouins with flocks should, as far as possible, be brought in by easy stages, and the numbers collected reported as early as possible, so that arrangements can be made for their disposal. Reports will be furnished on the wells at all places passed through.

MOVES.

3. Wednesday July 12th. B.H.Q., 1st. L.H. Regt. and 1st. L.H. Fd. Amb., will leave ROMANI Camp at 1500 on Wednesday July 12th. and march to OGH RATINA, where they will bivouac for the night, July 12/13th.

The 2nd. L.H. Regt. will leave ROMANI camp at 1530 on Wednesday July 12th. and march to HOD ES SAGIA, where they will bivouac for the night 12/13th. July.

Thursday July 13th. 1st. L.H. Regt. (less 1 troop remaining at OGH RATINA) will leave OGH RATINA at such an hour as to arrive at HOD ES DEBABIS at dawn, leaving 1 Squadron there to watch the country to the East. They will then form a driving line with the right on the QATIA - BIR - EL ABD road, and the left on HAMMAM and drive towards OGH RATINA, the left flank on a line running from HAMMAM S of BIR-UM-AISHA, N, or HOD-ED-DHAKR, S. of HOD-ABU-GEMIAAN to OGH RATINA. The Squadron watching the Country to the East, will fall back with the driving line to OGH RATINA.

The 2nd. L.H. Regt. (less escort for camels to OGH RATINA) will leave HOD ES SAGIA at such an hour so as to arrive at HOD-EL-MUHAMMAN at dawn. They will then form a driving line with their right on the line laid down for the left of the 1st. L.H. Regiment, and the left flank on a line drawn through HOD-EL-MUHAMMAN, HOD-EL-FARWA, 1st. A, in HOD-ES-SAGIA, HOD-EL-MAHADI to OGH RATINA.

It is essential that the whole of Square E4 should be well searched, the 1st. and 2nd. Regiments join at a point South of the last M in HAMMAM.

ORDER OF MARCH 4.Advanced Guard.

1 Squadron 1st. L.H. Regiment

Cmdr. Major LAWRIE

Main Body.B. H. Q.

1st. Sig. Troop

1st. L.H. Regt.

1st. L.H. Fd. Amb.

Right Flank Guard. $\frac{1}{2}$  troop 1st. L.H. Regt.Left Flank Guard. $\frac{1}{2}$  troop 1st. L.H. Regt.Rear Guard. $\frac{1}{2}$  Troop 1st. L.H. Regt.

C.O., 1st. L.H. Regiment will detail 1 Squadron as Advanced Guard.

Order of March as per margin.

C.O. 1st. A.L.H. Regiment will detail  $\frac{1}{2}$  troop each as Right & Left Flank Guards, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  troop Rear Guard.



Brigade Order No. 12 (Continued)

AMMUNITION.

5. 140 Rounds S.A.A. will be Carried on each man, and 3,500 with each Machine Gun.

SUPPLIES.

6. One days ration, iron ration, and full water bottle will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels conveying one day's water, and one feed per horse, will accompany the 2nd L.H. Regt. to HOD-ES-SAGIA, and will move under escort to OGHRAATINA on the morning of the 13th July.

Camels conveying two-third rations, one days water, and two feeds per horse for the 2nd L.H. Regt. moving to HOD-ES-SAGIA, and two-third rations, one day's water, and three feeds per horse for B.H.Q., 1st L.H. Regt., 1st L.H. Fd. Amb., will accompany the troops to OGHRAATINA.

TRANSPORT

7. No transport, other than camels for rations, water and forage, and the sand carts and sledges with the Medical Personnel, will be taken.

ESCORTS

8. C.O., 2nd A.L.H. Regiment, will detail 1 Sergt. and 10 men as Escort for Camel Convoy, from ROHANI to SAGIA, on 12th July, thence to OGHRAATINA on early morning of July 13th.

C.O., 1st A.L.H. Regiment, will detail one troop as escort to Camel Convoy from ROHANI to OGHRAATINA.

MEDICAL.

9. C.O., 1st L.H. Fd. Amb., will establish a Dressing Station at OGHRAATINA.

HORSES.

10. No freshly issued remounts are to be taken.

LIGHTS.

11. No lights of any description are to be shown in bivouac area after dark.

COMMUNICATION.

12. C.O., 1st Signal Troop will arrange communication with the Regiments working in square B4, and will maintain touch with the 6th L.H. Regt. working at SIR - ABU-EL-APHEIN, and HOD EL-KHINSA

REPORTS and  
MESSAGES.

13. Reports to B.H.Q., OGHRAATINA.

R. CHURCHMAN, Captain  
B.H., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1100 12/7/16 to -

- |       |                     |
|-------|---------------------|
| No. 1 | B.H.Q.              |
| 2     | War Diary           |
| 3     | File                |
| 4     | B.H.Q.              |
| 5     | 2nd L.H. Bde.       |
| 6     | 1st Signal Squadron |
| 7     | 1st Sig. Troop      |
| 8     | 1st A.L.H. Regiment |
| 9     | 2nd A.L.H. Regiment |
| 10    | Supply Section      |
| 11    | 1st L.H. Fd. Amb.   |
| 12    | Spare.              |



Brigade Order No. 12 (Continued).

- AMMUNITION. 5. 140 rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man, and 3,500 with each Machine Gun.
- SUPPLIES. 6. One days ration, iron ration, and full water bottle will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels conveying one day's water, and one feed per horse, will accompany the 2nd L.H. Regt. to HOD-ES-SAGIA, and will move under escort to OGHRAATINA on the morning of the 13th July.  
Camels conveying two-thirds rations, one days water, and two feeds per horse for the 2nd L.H. Regt. moving to HOD-ES-SAGIA, and two-third rations, one day's water, and three feeds per horse for B.H.Q., 1st L.H. Regt., 1st L.H. Fd. Amb., will accompany the troops to OGHRAATINA.
- TRANSPORT 7. No transport, other than camels for rations, water and forage, and the sand carts and sledges with the Medical Personnel, will be taken.
- ESCORTS. 8. C.O., 2nd A.L.H. Regiment, will detail 1 Sergt. and 10 men as Escort for Camel Convoy, from ROMANI to SAGIA, on 12th July, thence to OGHRAATINA on early morning of July 13th.  
C.O., 1st A.L.H. Regiment, will detail one troop as escort to Camel Convoy from ROMANI to OGHRAATINA.
- MEDICAL. 9. C.O., 1st L.H. Fd. Amb., will establish a Dressing Station at OGHRAATINA.
- HORSES. 10. No freshly issued remounts are to be taken.
- LIGHTS. 11. No lights of any description are to be shewn in bivouac area after dark.
- COMMUNICATION. 12. C.O., 1st Signal Troop will arrange communication with the Regiments working in square E4, and will maintain touch with the 6th L.H. Regt. working at BIR - ABU-EL-AFEIN ~~xxxx~~, and HOD EL-KHIRBA.
- REPORTS and MESSAGES. 13. Reports to B.H.Q., OGHRAATINA.

A. CHISHOLM. Captain.  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1100 12/7/16 to -

- No. 1. B.H.Q.
- 2. War Diary.
- 3. File.
- 4. D.H.Q.
- 5. 2nd L.H. Bde.
- 6. 1st Signal Squadron.
- 7. 1st Sig. Troop.
- 8. 1st A.L.H. Regiment.
- 9. 2nd A.L.H. Regiment
- 10. Supply Section.
- 11. 1st L.H. Fd. Amb.
- 12. Spare.



## FIRST AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

16/206

Headquarters,  
ROMANI.  
14th July, 1916.

Headquarters,  
A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION.

*July*  
Report on Reconnaissance June 12/13th.

In accordance with A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION No. G/66/10, I carried out the reconnaissance of Square E4, on QATIA 1/100,000 Map.

1st A.L.H. Brigade (less 2nd & 3rd L.H. Regt.) left ROMANI at 1500 12th July for OGH RATINA, arriving there at 1855. 2nd L.H. Regiment left ROMANI at 1530, 12th July, for HOD ES SAGIA, arriving there at 1830. 1st A.L.H. Regiment left OGH RATINA at 0215 July 13th for DEBABIS, arriving there at 0424.

2nd A.L.H. Regiment left HOD ES SAGIA at 0100, July 13th for HOD ED MUHAMMAM, arriving there at 0430.

The 1st and 2nd Regiments joined at a point just south of HAMMAM, at 0615, and commenced the drive towards OGH RATINA.

The whole of square ~~EF~~ E4, on QATIA 1/100,000 Map, was thoroughly searched, and 5 (five) Bedouins were captured at HOD EL QASAB. All native shelters and compounds were destroyed.

The drive was completed and all troops reported into OGH RATINA at 1100.

The 1st A.L.H. Brigade (less 3rd L.H. Regt.), left OGH RATINA at 1530, and arrived ROMANI at 1900 July 13th.

Wells. The supply of water in this locality appears to be very small.

LOCALITY	No. of Wells.	Depth of water from surface.	Quality of water.
HAMMAM	-	3'6"	Slightly Brackish
BIR UMM AISHA	-	4'6"	do.
HOD ABU GEMIANN	-	3'6"	Fresh.
HOD EL MUHAMMAM	1	-	Brackish
HOD EL BAHIER	2	-	do.
HOD EL DHANEIHA	1	-	Dry.
HOD ABU DHAHAB	1	-	Very Brackish
HOD EL HILLALI	2	12'	One dry. 2 Small supply
HOD EL BRAHMIYA	1	-	Slightly Brackish.

Irregret to report that the camel convoy, with water and rations, was about 1 hour late at starting point.

On enquiries by Staff Captain, from O/C Supplies, ROMANI Station, he states that his instructions for loading 1st L.H. Brigade Camels, was for 1400. Camels for this Brigade were at supply Depot at 1300. Evidently the cause of delay was the loading of the 2nd L.H. Brigade Camels before those of this Brigade.

Lieut.-Colonel,

O.C., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.



by  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J.B. WHEEDITH  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Headquarters,  
R O R A H I .  
21st July, 1916.

Ref. Map QATIA 1/100,000

INFORMATION. 1. The enemy <sup>are</sup> at CONRATINA, SAGIA, MAGIERA, in force.  
For own interest. Patrol of one troop to HILL 110, and one  
troop DIB RD PHARA.

INTENT. 2. To proceed in direction of QATIA, and gain touch with  
enemy, and if advancing, delay his advance.

TROOPS. 3. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade, less 1 squadron 3rd L.H. Regiment,  
and

MOVES. 4. The Brigade will leave ROMANI, at 0300, and move towards  
QATIA; all units will report at Starting Point immediately  
south of L.H. Regiment at 0245.

ORDER OF MARCH.

Advanced Guard.

2nd A.L.H. Regiment

Cdr. R. R. Broun.

Main Body.

1 Troop 1st A.L.H. Regiment

B.H.Q.

1st Signal Troop

Machine Gun Squadron

1st A.L.H. Regiment

1st L.H. Vd. Amb.

Right Flank Guard.

Left Flank Guard.

Rear Guard.

Order of March as per margin.

3rd L.H. Regiment will furnish the  
Flanks and Rear Guard.

SUPPLIES. 6. Car days ration, iron ration, and full water bottle, will  
be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse.

TRANSPORT. 7. No Transport other than that with the Medical Personnel  
will be taken.

OFFICIAL. 8. 1st L.H. Vd. Amb. less tent sub-division, will accompany the  
Brigade.

COMMUNICATIONS. 9. Under arrangements of C.O. 1st Signal Troop.

ENIGMA. 10. Reports and messages to head of Main Body.

A. CHISHOLM, Capt.,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies were issued at 0130 to:-

No. 1	File
2	War Diary
3	A. H. E. MOUNTED DIVISION.
4	B.H.Q.
5	1st Signal Troop
6	1st A.L.H. Regiment
7	2nd A.L.H. Regiment
8	3rd A.L.H. Regiment
9	Machine Gun Squadron
10	Supply Section
11	1st L.H. Vd. Amb.
12	Spare.



Copy No.....

## BRIGADE ORDER No. 13.

By

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MEREDITH.  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Headquarters.  
 R O M A N I  
 21st July, 1916.

Ref: Map. QATIA 1/100,000

- INFORMATION. 1. The enemy are at OGHRAATINA, SAGIA, MAGEIRRA, in force. Our own Troops. Patrol of one troop to HILL 110 and one troop BIRIED DHABA.
- INTENTION. 2. To proceed in direction of QATIA, and gain touch with enemy, and if advancing, delay his advance.
- TROOPS. 3. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade, less 1 squadron 3rd L.H. Regiment
- MOVES. 4. The Brigade will leave ROMANI, at 0300, and move towards QATIA, all units will report at Starting Point immediately south of 1st L.H. Regiment at 0245.
- ORDER OF MARCH 5.
- Advanced Guard.  
 2nd A. L. H. Regiment.  
 Cmdr. Mjr. Bourne.
- Main Body.  
 1 Troop 1st A. L. H. Regiment.  
 B. H. Q.  
 1st Signal Troop.  
 Machine Gun Squadron.  
 1st A. L. H. Regiment.  
 1st L. H. Fd. Amb.
- Right Flank Guard. )  
Left Flank Guard. )  
Rear Guard. )
- SUPPLIES. 6. One days ration, iron ration, and full water bottle, ~~will~~ will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse.
- TRANSPORT. 7. No Transport other than that with the Medical Personnel will be taken.
- MEDICAL. 8. 1st L. H. Fd. Amb. less tent sub-division, will accompany the Brigade.
- COMMUNICATIONS. 9. Under arrangements of O. C. 1st Signal Troop.
- REPORTS. 10. Reports and messages to head of Main Body.

Order of March as per margin.

3rd L.H. Regiment will furnish the Flanks and Rear Guard.

A. CHISHOLM. Capt.,  
 (B.M. 1st A. L. H. Brigade.)  
 Copies were issued at 2150 to:

- No. 1. File.  
 2. War Diary.  
 3. A. N. Z. MOUNTED DIVISION.  
 4. B. H. Q.  
 5. 1st Signal Troop.  
 6. 1st A. L. H. Regiment.  
 7. 2nd A. L. H. Regiment.  
 8. 3rd A. L. H. Regiment.  
 9. Machine Gun Squadron.  
 10. Supply Section.  
 11. 1st L. H. Fd. Amb.  
 12. Spare.



Copy No.....

APPX

XXXI

BRIGADE ORDER NO. 14

by

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MEREDITHCommanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Headquarters,

ROMANI.

22nd July, 1916.

- INFORMATION. 1. Enemy line now runs BIR-EL-MAGHINRA, HOD-EL-FARUA, HOD-EL-FAREIVA, HOD-ED-DHAKR, OGHRAATINA strongly entrenched and held by about 8,000 men. Many tents and shelters at BIR-EL-ARD and about SALMANA. There is a large camp at EL-MAZAR.
- Our own troops have been in touch with enemy during 22nd July at OGHRAATINA, HOD-ES-SAGIA, and HILL 245. Officers patrols of 2nd L.H. Brigade are in touch with enemy during night 22/23rd July. On 23rd July, patrols of one Troop each will be at HILL 110 and HOD-ED-DHAKA.
- INTENTION. 2. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade will proceed in direction of QATIA, and gain touch with the enemy, if advancing, prevent his advance.
- TROOPS. 3. 1st A.L.H. Brigade less 2 Troops of 2nd L.H. Regiment.
- MOVES. 4. The Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0130 and march to a point near Palm Grove about one mile due South of KATIR GANNIT, where it will halt a while. The march will be continued towards QATIA at 0230.
- ORDER OF MARCH 5. *All units will report at Starting Point immediately South of 1st A.L.H. line at 0115 east*
- Advance Guard  
1st A.L.H. Regt.  
Van Guard Commander  
Major D.W.A. SMITH  
Main Body.  
G.C.O.  
1st Signal Troop  
M.G. Squadron  
3rd L.H. Regt.  
2nd L.H. Regt.  
1st L.H. Fd. Amb.  
Right Flank Guard. )  
Left Flank Guard. ) 2nd L.H. Regt. will provide Flank and Rear Guards.  
Rear Guard. )
- ESCORTS. 6. G.C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail an escort of 1 Troop to proceed with Camel Convoy carrying water, forage, and gun ammunition, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0745. The escort will report at Supply Depot ROMANI STATION at 0730 July 23rd.
- SUPPLIES. 7. One days ration, extra ration, and full water bottle will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels carrying 1 gallon of water per man and one feed per horse will leave ROMANI at 0745 July 23rd.
- AMMUNITION. 8. 140 Rounds S.A.A., will be carried on each man and 5,500 rounds with each Machine Gun.
- TRANSPORT. 9. No transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel, will be taken.
- MEDICAL. 10. 1st L.H. F. Ambulance, less tent sub-division, will accompany the Brigade.
- COMMUNICATION 11. Under arrangements of G.C.O., 1st Signal Troop.
- REPORTS. 12. Reports and Messages to head of Main Body, and after daylight to QATIA.

A. CHISHOLM, Captain,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 2220 to:-

- No. 1 File <sup>Mc</sup> No. 2 War Diary No. 3 D.H.Q. No. 4. B.H.Q.  
No. 5 Signal Squadron No. 6 1st Signal Troop No. 7. 1st L.H.R.  
No. 8. 2nd L.H. Regt. No. 9. 3rd L.H. Regt. No. 10 Supply Section  
No. 11 1st L.H. F.A. No. 12 2nd L.H. Bde.



BRIGADE ORDER NO. 15.  
by  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MURPHY  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Copy No. .... 2

Headquarters,  
ROMANI.  
24th July, 1916.

Reference Map,  
QATIA - 1/100,000

INFORMATION

1. Enemy line now runs from point one mile West of HOD-EN-NEGILAT, along high ground to HOD-EN-NEGILAT, then South from H in HOD-EN-NEGILAT to a point half a mile South West of HOD-UMM-GATAFA. Nothing to add about position at BIR-EL-MAGEIBRA.  
Our own troops have been in touch with enemy during 24th July, along the line indicated. Officers' patrols of 2nd L.H. Brigade are in touch with enemy during night 24/25th July. On the 25th July, patrols of two Troops will be at HILL 110, and patrol 1 of one Troop at HOD-ED-DHABA.

INTENTION.

2. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.

TROOP

3. 1st A.L.H. Brigade, less 3 Troops of 1st L.H. Regiment.

MOVES

4. The Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0800 and march to a point near Palm Grove about one mile due South of KATIB GANNIT, where it will halt a while. The march will be continued at 0930. All units will report at starting Point immediately S.W. of 1st L.H. Regt. lines at 0145, formed up in mass.

ORDER OF MARCH 5.Advanced Guard

1st A.L.H. Regt.

Van Guard Commander:-

Main Body.

B.H.Q.

1st Signal Troop

H.Q. Squadron

2nd L.H. Regt.

1st L.H. Regt.

1st L.H. Pz. Amb.

Right Flank Guard.

Left Flank Guard.

Rear Guard.

ORDER OF MARCH as per margin.

1st L.H. Regt. will supply Flank &amp; Rear Guards.

RESCUE.

6. C.O., 1st L.H. Regt. will detail an escort of one B.C.C. and 8 men to proceed with Camel Convoy, carrying water and forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The Escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION, at 0745 July 25th.

SUPPLIES.

7. One day's ration, extra ration, and full water bottle, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels carrying one gallon of water per man, and one feed per horse will leave ROMANI at 0800 July 25th.

AMMUNITION.

8. 140 Rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man, and 5,500 rounds with each Machine Gun.

TRANSPORT

9. No Transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel will be taken.

MEDICAL.

10. 1st L.H. Pz. Amb., less tent sub-divisions, will accompany the Brigade.

COMMUNICATION

11. Under arrangements of C.O., 1st Signal Troop.

REPORTS.

12. Reports and messages to Head of Main Body, and after daylight to QATIA.

A. CHIRNICK, Captain.  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1945 to:-

No. 1 File. No. 2 War Diary No. 3 B.H.Q. No. 4 B.H.Q. No. 5 2nd L.H. Brigade No. 6 1st Signal Troop No. 7 1st L.H. Regiment No. 8 2nd L.H. Regiment No. 9 3rd L.H. Regiment No. 10 Supply Section No. 11 1st L.H. Pz. Amb. No. 12 H.Q. Squadron.



BRIGADE ORDER NO. 15.

by

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MEREDITH.Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.Reference Map,  
QATIA - 1/100,000Headquarters.  
ROMANI.  
24th. July. 1916.

- INFORMATION. 1. Enemy line now runs from point one mile West of HOD-EL-KHIRBA, along high ground to HOD-EN-NEGILIAT, then South from H in HOD-EN-NEGILIAT to a point half a mile South East of HOD-UMM-GATAFA. Nothing to add about position at BIR-EL-MAGEIBRA. Our own troops have been in touch with enemy during 24th. July, along the line indicated. Officers patrols of 2nd. L.H. Brigade are in touch with enemy during night 24/25th. July. On the 25th. July patrols of two Troops will be at HILL 110, and patrol of one Troop at HOD-ED-DHABA.
- INTENTION. 2. The 1st. A.L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.
- TROOPS. 3. 1st. A.L.H. Brigade less 3 Troops of 1st. L.H. Regiment.
- MOVES. 4. The Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0200 and march to a point near Palm Grove about one mile due South of KATIB GANNIT, where it will halt a while. The march will be continued at 0330. All units will report at Starting Point immediately S.E. of 1st. L.H. Regt. lines at 0145, formed up in mess

ORDER OF MARCH 5.Advanced Guard.

3rd. A.L.H. Regt.

Van Guard Commander:-

Main Body.

B.H.Q.

1st. Signal Troop.

M.G. Squadron.

2nd. L.H. Regt.

1st. L.H. Regt.

1st. L.H. Fd. Amb.

Right Flank Guard. )Left Flank Guard. )Rear Guard. )

ORDER OF MARCH as per margin.

1st. L.H. Regt, will supply Flank &amp; Rear Guards.

- ESCORTS. 6. C.O., 1st. L.H. Regt. will detail an escort of one N.C.O. and 8 men to proceed with Camel Convoy, carrying water and forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The Escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION, at 0745 July 25th.
- SUPPLIES. 7. One day's ration, extra ration, and full water bottle, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels carrying one gallon of water per man, and one feed per horse will leave ROMANI at 0500 July 25th.
- AMMUNITION. 8. 140 Rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man, and 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun.
- TRANSPORT. 9. No Transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel will be taken.
- MEDICAL. 10. 1st. L.H. Fd. Amb., less tent sub-division, will accompany the Brigade.
- COMMUNICATION. 11. Under arrangements of O.C. 1st. Signal Troop.
- REPORTS. 12. Reports and messages to head of Main Body, and after daylight to QATIA.

A. CHISHOLM, Captain.  
B.M. 1st. A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1945 to:-

No. 1 File. No. 2. War Diary. No. 3. D.H.Q. No. 4. B.H.Q. No. 5. 2nd. L.H. Brigade. No. 6 1st. Signal Troop No. 7 1st. L.H. Regiment No. 8. 2nd. L.H. Regiment No. 9 3rd. L.H. Regiment No. 10 Supply Section No. 11 1st. L.H. Fd. Amb. No. 12 M.G. Squadron.



-FIRST AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE-ROMANI-24/7/16--MARCHING-OUT STATE-

W

Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Horses	Camels	Sand Carts
B.H.Q.	5	12	27		
1st Signal Troop	1	17	20		
1st L.H. Regt.	20	391	422		
2nd L.H. Regt.	17	330	375	(375)	
3rd L.H. Regt.	19	374	420		
M.G. Squadron	5	104	132		
1st L.H. Fd. Amb.	3	50	75	25	7
Total	70	1278	1471	25	7

-REMAINING-IN-CAMP-

Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Horses	Camels	Natives
B.H.Q.	-	16	9		
1st Sig. Troop	-	10	9		
1st L.H. Regt.	1	24	49		
2nd do.	2	69	88		
3rd do.	4	18	46		
Supply Section	1	14	12		
1st L.H. F.A.	2	51	17	13	
Sig. Squadron	7	94	36	75	37
M.V. Section )	1	18	18		
Attached )		17	47		
Total	14	331	331	88	37

N.B. Machine Gun Squadron march out with 7 Machine Guns.



784

BRISBANE ORDER NO. 16

Copy No. 2

Appx

XXXIII

LIGHTBRYANT COLONEL J. B. MURPHY  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade

Ref. Map/  
QATIA 1/100,000

Headquarters,  
B O M A M I .  
26th July. 1916.

- INFORMATION** 1. As per reports distributed during the day.
- INTENTION** 2. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.
- TROOPS** 3. 1st A.L.H. Brigade, less 3 Troops of 3rd A.L.H. Regiment.
- MOVES** 4. 1st A.L.H. Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0700 and march to bivouac area South of KATIR GABBIT. The march will be continued at 0530. All units will report at Starting Point 300 yards due West of 1st L.H. Regiment lines and South of M.C. Squadron lines at 0145, formed up in column of march.
- ORDER OF MARCH** 5.
- Advanced Guard.**  
2nd A.L.H. Regiment, less 1 Troop  
VAN GUARD COMMANDER  
Major A. F. CHAMBERS.
- Main Body**  
B.M.C.  
1st Signal Troop - M.C. Squadron. Order of March as per margin.  
1st L.H. Regiment  
2nd L.H. Regiment  
1st L.H. P.I. Sub.
- Right Flank Guard**  
1 Troop 1st L.H. Regiment C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment will detail one troop as Right Flank Guard.
- Left Flank Guard**  
1 Troop 2nd L.H. Regiment C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will detail one Troop as Left Flank Guard.
- Rear Guard.**  
1 Troop 3rd L.H. Regiment C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail one troop as Rear Guard.
- ROMANI.** 6. C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail an escort of one M.C.C. and 8 men to proceed with Camel Convoy, carrying water and forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION, at 0745 July 27th.
- SUPPLIES.** 7. One day's ration, extra ration, and full water bottle, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels carrying one gallon of water per man, and one feed per horse will leave ROMANI at 0800 July 27th.
- AMMUNITION.** 8. 140 Rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man, and 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun.
- TRANSPORT.** 9. No Transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel, will be taken.
- MEDICAL.** 10. 1st L.H. P.I. Sub., less tent sub-division, will accompany the Brigade.
- COMMUNICATION** 11. Under arrangements of C.O., 1st Signal Troop.
- REPORTS.** 12. Reports and messages to head of Main Body, and after daylight to QATIA.

A. CHISHOLM, Captain.  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1100 to:-

- No. 1 File.
- No. 2. War Diary
- No. 3. D.H.C.
- No. 4. B.M.C.
- No. 5 2nd A.L.H. Brigade
- No. 6 1st Signal Troop
- No. 7 1st A.L.H. Regiment
- No. 8 2nd A.L.H. Regiment
- No. 9 3rd A.L.H. Regiment
- 10 M.C. Squadron
- 11 Supply Section
- 12 1st A.L.H. P.I. Sub.



BRIGADE ORDER No.16

Copy No.2.....

By

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MURPHY.  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Ref.Map.

QATIA 1/100,000

Headquarters.

ROMANI.

26th July, 1916.

- INFORMATION. 1. As per reports distributed during the day.  
INTENTION. 2. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.  
TROOPS. 3. 1st A.L.H. Brigade, less 3 Troops of 3rd A.L.H. Regiment.  
MOVES. 4. 1st A.L.H. Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0200 and march to bivouac area South of KATIB GANNIT.  
 The march will be continued at 0330.  
 All units will report at starting point 500 yards due West of 1st L.H. Regiment lines and South of M.G. Squadron lines at 0145, formed up in column of masses.

ORDER OF MARCH 5.Advanced Guard.

2nd A.L.H. Regiment, less 1 troop.

VAN GUARD COMMANDER.

Major A.F. CHAMBERS.

Main Body.

B.H.Q. )

1st Signal Troop. )

M.G. Squadron. )

1st L.H. Regiment. )

3rd L.H. Regiment. )

1st L.H. Fd. Amb. )

Order of March as per margin.

Right Flank Guard.

1 Troop, 1st L.H. Regt.

Left Flank Guard.

1 Troop, 2nd L.H. Regt.

Rear Guard.

1 Troop, 3rd L.H. Regt.

ESCORTS.

6. C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail an escort of one N. C.O. and men to proceed with Camel Convoy, carrying water and forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION, at 0745 July 27th.

SUPPLIES.

7. One day's ration, extra ration, and full water bottle, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels carrying one gallon of water per man, and one feed per horse will leave ROMANI at 0800 July 27th.

AMMUNITION.

8. 140 Rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man, and 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun.

TRANSPORT.

9. No Transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel, will be taken.

MEDICAL.

10. 1st L.H. Fd. Amb., less tent sub-division, will accompany the Brigade.

COMMUNICATION.

11. Under arrangements of O.C., 1st Signal Troop.  
 12. Reports and messages to head of Main Body, and after daylight to QATIA.

A. CHISHOLM. Captain.

B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1100 to:-

- No.1. File. No.2. War Diary.  
 No.3. D.G.Q. No.4. B.H.Q.  
 No.5. 2nd A.L.H. Brigade.  
 No.6. 1st Signal Troop.  
 No.7. 1st A.L.H. Regiment.  
 No.8. 2nd A.L.H. Regiment.  
 No.9. 3rd A.L.H. Regiment.  
 10. M.G. Squadron.  
 11. Supply Section.  
 12. 1st A.L.H. Fd. Amb.



Headquarters,  
ROMANI.  
26th July, 1916.

1st A.L.H. Regiment  
2nd A.L.H. Regiment  
3rd A.L.H. Regiment  
M.G. Squadron  
1st L.H.F. Ambulance.

-----  
Following is information re enemy, received up to 1330 to-day:-

"G.C. 504 26/7/16.

Enemy's camp located  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles North of OGH RATINA 6 or 7 fair size shelters and many camels can be seen. ~~ANK~~ B.G.C. 2nd L.H. Bde. is trying to drive enemy out of forward position, which runs as described in my G.C. 501 by sending troops round to threaten it from the North. Reconnaissance also being pushed East of HILL 245 in direction of HOD EL FARWA.

Anzac Mounted Division  
0836 "

"G.C. 508

Enemy temporarily occupied high ground N.E. of HOD AYISH with about 200 men and forced our patrols back. Also occupied high ground West of well at HOD ES SAGIA. Our patrols reinforced by two troops and drove enemy back again. We now hold high ground 600 yards West of well at HOD ES SAGIA, and high ground 600 yards West of HOD EL MEZAHMI. Enemy's line at present unchanging West of OGH RATINA through the first H of OGH RATINA through the first H of HOD EL MAHARI and thence facing us East of HOD EL MEZAHMI and HOD ES SAGIA. Hill 245 still clear. One section Ayrshire Battery being sent to B.G.C. 2nd L.H. Bde.

Anzac Mounted Division  
1020 "

"G.C. 510

HILL 331 HOD EL ARAS and BIR ED DHABA All Clear

Anzac Mounted Division  
1115 "

"G.C. 512

The following from 52 Division begins. General SMITH is carrying out reconnaissance to QATIA starting from ROMANI STATION about 1215 to-day. He will be escorted by three troops Yeomanry. Ends.

Anzac Mounted Division

"G.C. 513

1120. "

Message dropped from Aeroplane states enemy entrenched line stretches from HOD EN NEGILIAT to HOD EL QASAB. Very little activity. MAGEIBRA strongly fortified. No trenches between HOD EL QASAB and BIR EL MAGEIBRA. 30 men at FARWAR.

Anzac Mounted Division  
1145 "

" - 26th.

Enemy's left flank has been forced back. Enemy now holds line from one mile North of H in H NUGRET through O in OGH RATINA-EL-KEGIRA HOD ED DHABA thence to a point 600 yards east of HOD EL-MEZAHMI thence to high ground one quarter of mile South East of HOD ES SAGIA. Several patrols of enemy driven off high ground  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile West of HOD EL FARWA. Enemy's patrols from South seen moving about three miles South of HILL 245. Our HOD ES SAGIA patrol in close touch with enemy there and reports no further movement at present on that Flank. HAMISAH, HILL 245, HILL 110, BIR ED DHABA, All Clear 1245.

Anzac Mounted Division  
1236. "

A. CHISHOLM, Captain,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.



FIRST AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

Headquarters,  
R O M A N I .  
26th July, 1916.

1st A.L.H. Regiment  
2nd A.L.H. Regiment  
3rd A.L.H. Regiment  
1st L.H. Fd. Amb. ✓  
M.G. Squadron ✓

The following additional information was received from Anzac Mounted Division at 1740 :-

"G.C. 518 26th.

Enemy's entrenched line runs as follows from H of Hod EN NEGILIAT West of OCHRATINA W of HOD EL MINSHLA E of HOD OCHRATINA SABIRI E of HOD ABU GHARAB W of HOD BRAHMIYA W of HOD DHAKR E of HOD MASIA E of HOD UMM GATAFA and W of QASAB. His forward line runs from one mile North of H in H NUGRET EL FARAS through O in OCHRATINA-EL KEBIRA HOD ED DHABA thence to a point 600 yards E of HOD MEZAHMI thence to high ground one quarter mile South East of HOD ES SAGIA. Enemy's Camp located  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles North of OCHRATINA, between HOD EL QASAB and BIR EL MAGLIBRA there appears to be a gap. The enemy's Left Flank was forced back to-day from West of HOD EL MEHAMZI and Hod ES SAGIA to present forward line. A company of enemy attacked our patrol at HOD ES SAGIA this morning but was ~~gkkn~~ driven off after suffering some casualties.

Anzac Mounted Division.  
1740 "

A. CHISHOLM, Captain,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.



## Marching-Out State 27/7/16

Unit	Off.	O.R.	Horses	Camels	Natives	Sand Carts
B.H.Q.	5	15	24			
1st Sig Dep	-	16	19			
1st Regt	20	359	386			
2nd "	17	383	416			
3rd "	19	348	390			
MG Sqn	5	96	118			
1st LHF	4	50	75	25		7
Total	70	1267	1430			

## Remaining in Camp

Unit	Off	O.R.	Horses	Camels	Natives
B.H.Q.		13	14		
1st Sig Dep	1	12	11		
1st Regt	2	76	98		
2nd "	2	75	113		
3rd "		71	112		
MG Sqn		14	13		
1st LHF	2	54	20	1	
Sig Sqn	7	95	36	75	37
7th MVS	1	18	23		
Attached		14	35		
Total	15	442	475	79	37





## BRIGADE ORDER NO. 17

Copy No. ....

by

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. WARDLICK

Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Reference Map/  
SATA 1/100,000.Headquarters,  
ROMANI.  
25th July, 1918.

- INFORMATION.** 1. As per reports distributed during the day.
- INTENTION.** 2. The 1st L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.
- TROOPS.** 3. 1st A.L.H. Brigade.
- MOVES.** 4. 1st A.L.H. Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0730 and march to **BIVOUAC area South of KATIO GANNIT.** The march will be continued at 0800.
- All units will report at Starting Point, 500 yards due West of 1st L.H. Regiment axis line and South of M.G. Squadron line at 0715. Formed up in column of masses facing West.

**ORDER OF MARCH.****Advanced Guard.**

1st A.L.H. Regiment

Van Guard Commander

Major E. W. A. SMITH

**Main Body.**

2nd L.H. Regiment

D.M.S.

1st Signal Troop

M.G. Squadron

3rd L.H. Regiment

1st L.H. P.A. Sub.

**Right Flank Guard.**

1 Sqdn. 3rd L.H. Regt.

**Left Flank Guard.**

1 Squadron, 2nd L.H. Regt.

**Rear Guard.**

1 Squadron 3rd L.H. Regt.

Order of march as per margin.

C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as Right Flank Guard.

C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as Left Flank Guard.

C.O., 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as Rear Guard.

**REMARKS.**

6. C.O., 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail an escort of one M.G. and 5 men to proceed with Camel Convoy, carrying water and forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION, at 0745 July 29th.

**SUPPLIES.**

7. One day's ration, extra ration, and full water bottle, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels carrying one gallon of water per man, and one feed per horse will leave ROMANI at 0800 July 29th.

**AMMUNITION.**

8. 140 Rounds M.A.A. will be carried on each man, 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun, and 2,000 per M.G. in limbers.

**TRANSPORT.**

9. No Transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel, will be taken.

**MISCAL.**

10. 1st L.H. P.A. Sub., less last sub-division, will accompany the Brigade.

**COMMUNICATION.**

11. Under arrangements of C.O., 1st Signal Troop.

**REPORTS.**

12. Reports and messages to Head of Main Body, and after day-light to G.H.Q.

A. CRITCHLEY, Captain,  
D.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1500 to:-

- No. 1 File No. 2 War Diary
- No. 3 D.M.S. No. 4 M.A.A.
- No. 5 2nd A.L.H. Brigade
- No. 6 1st Signal Troop
- No. 7 1st A.L.H. Regiment
- No. 8 2nd L.H. Regiment
- No. 9 3rd L.H. Regiment
- No. 10 M.G. Squadron
- No. 11 Supply Section
- No. 12 1st A.L.H. P.A. Sub.



COPY.

Copy No. 1.

BRIGADE ORDER NO. 17.

by

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MEREDITH.Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Reference Map.

QATIA 1/100,000

Headquarters.

ROMANI.

28th. July 1916.

- INFORMATION. 1. As per reports distributed during the day.
- INTENTION. 2. The 1st. L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.
- TROOPS. 3. 1st. A.L.H. Brigade.
- MOVES. 4. 1st. A.L.H. Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0230 and march to BIVOUAC area South of KATIA GANNIT. The march will be continued at 0400, All units will report at Starting Point, 500 yards due West of 1st. L.H. Regiment lines and South of M.G. Squadron lines at 0215, formed up in column of masses facing West.
- ORDER OF MARCH 5.
- Advanced Guard.
- 1st. A.L.H. Regiment.
- Van Guard Commander.
- Major D.W.A. SMITH.
- Main Body.
- 2nd. L.H. Regiment. )
- D.H.Q. )
- 1st. Signal Troop ) Order of March as per margin.
- M.G. Squadron )
- 3rd. L.H. Regiment )
- 1st. L.H. Fd. Amb. )
- Right Flank Guard. ) C.O. 3rd. L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron
- 1 Sqn. 3rd. L.H. Regt. ) as Right Flank Guard.
- Left Flank Guard. ) C.O. 2nd. L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron
- 1 Squadron, 2nd. L.H. Regt. ) as Left Flank Guard.
- Rear Guard. )
- 1 Squadron, 3rd. L.H. Regt. ) C.O. 3rd. L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron
- ) as Rear Guard.
- ESCORTS. 6. C.O. 3rd. L.H. Regiment will detail an escort of one N.C.O. and 8 men to proceed with Camel Convoy, carrying water and forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION, at 0745 July 25th.
- SUPPLIES. 7. One day's ration, extra ration, and full water bottle, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels carrying one gallon of water per man, and one feed per horse will leave ROMANI at 0800 July 29th.
- AMMUNITION. 8. 140 Rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man, 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun, and 2,000 per M.G. in limbers.
- TRANSPORT. 9. No Transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel will be taken.
- MEDICAL. 10. 1st. L.H. Fd. Amb., less tent sub-division, will accompany the Brigade.
- COMMUNICATION. 11. Under arrangements of O.C. 1st. Signal Troop.
- REPORTS. 12. Reports and messages to head of Main Body, and after daylight to QATIA.

A. CHISHOLM, Captain.  
B.M. 1st. A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 1300 to:-

- No. 1. File No. 2. War Diary.  
No. 3. D.H.Q. No. 4. B.H.Q.  
No. 5. 2nd. A.L.H. Brigade.  
No. 6. 1st. Signal Troop.  
No. 7. 1st. A.L.H. Regiment.  
No. 8. 2nd. L.H. Regiment.  
No. 9. 3rd. L.H. Regiment.  
No. 10. M.G. Squadron.  
No. 11. Supply Section.  
No. 12. 1st. A.L.H. Fd. Amb.



SUMMARY OF INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 0900 TODAY, 28/7/16.

G.C. 562

"2nd L.H. Brigade arrived QATIA 0510. All clear. Patrols now pushing forward."

A. & N.Z. MTD. DIV.  
Romani, 0543.

G.C. 563

"Enemy holding line from A in HOD UMM UGBA to H IN HOD EL AMOIA. Have driven in our patrols with heavy rifle and Machine Gun fire. Dismounted men and camels can be seen moving about on HILL 245, and ridges to the EAST. Appear to be considerable numbers. Patrols pushing towards them now. Our casualties 1 man wounded."

Addressed

A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION  
Romani 0631

G.C. 564

"Hill 245 patrol reports Turks holding ridge on both sides of HILL 245. Large column moving to HILL 245 from North East. HAMISAH all clear 0700. HILL 110 All Clear 0600."

A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION  
Romani 0715

G.C. 565

"Hill 331 HOD EL ARAS and BIR ED DHABA "All Clear" 0600."

A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION  
Romani 0715.

ROMANI,  
28/7/16.

A. CHISHOLM, Captain,  
B.M., 1st L.H. Bde.



SUMMARY OF INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TILL 1100 28/7/16.  
-----

"Enemy's trench line active especially at QASAB and NEGILIAT. Camp about 2½ miles North of NEGILIAT estimated at 200 men, no trenches there, nothing of importance to report east of enemy's trench line."

(sgd) J. Brown, Observer,  
R.F.C. 1000

G.C. 571

"HILL 110 patrol reports patrol sent ~~km~~ out from there was fired on by about 50 Turks in position about one and half miles E.S.E. from HILL 110 and HAMISAH clear at 0815. BIR ED DHABA clear 0820 and OGHRAATINA patrol had sharp skirmish with enemy. Our casualties were one man killed. Enemy lost several killed as well as number wounded. Patrol is still in close touch."

ANZAC MTD. DIVISION  
0916.

G.C. 572

"Following from 2nd L.H. Brigade begins. 245 patrol reports Infantry and camels moving near 245 and ~~xxx~~ on ridge North East of it. Destination not apparent. Estimate numbers five hundred. Ends."

ANZAC MTD. DIVISION  
0926

G.C. ~~573~~ 574

"HILL 110 reports about three hundred infantry moving West from OGHRAATINA HILL. Also two smoke rockets seen over OGHRAATINA HILL."

ANZAC MTD. DIVISION.  
1015

G.C. 575

"Message from 2nd L.H. Bde. Begins. Enemy advancing from 245 on QATIA covering frontage of 2 miles. Enemy now two and ½ miles South East of QATIA. Infantry in several lines. Enemy also advancing in large numbers in UMM UGBA. HAMISAH all clear 0913. Ends. "

ANZAC MTD. DIVISION.  
1026.

G.C. 576

"Aeroplane reports enemy trench line active, especially at QASAB and NEGILIAT. Camp about 2½ miles North of NEGILIAT estimate at 200 men no trenches there. Nothing of importance to report E of enemy trench line. "

ANZAC MTD. DIVISION  
1040.

A. CHISHOLM, Capt.,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.



Received at 1125

G.C.578

"Enemy entrenching on ridge six hundred yards East of  
HOD UMM UGBA. Enemy also advancing from that direction. " No.3 Section and 52 Div. informed.

A. & N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION  
1125.

A. CHESHOLM, Capt.,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

ROMANI  
28/7/16.



## SUMMARY OF INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 1900 28/7/16.

G.C. 589

"HILL 331 ARAS and BIR ED DHABA All Clear 1500. DUEIDAR Clear 1500."

Anzac Mounted Division  
1532

G.C. 591

"One Troop Yeomanry will be patrolling the railway between ROMANI and PELUSIUM Station and to-morrow night, to secure railway against small ~~raiding~~ raiding parties."Anzac Mounted Division  
1714.

G.C. 590

"Two Squadrons Wellington M.R. Brigade advanced against enemies position at HOD UMM UGBA and drove them back 1000 yards. 8 prisoners of 31st Regiment and some camels were taken. Further prisoners are reported but numbers not yet available. Section Ayrshire Battery came into action against a force erecting camp on HILL S.W. of SAGIA. Fire of both guns is reported as most ~~satisfactory~~ effective. Men, Camels, and Horses were seen scattering in all directions. No forward movement apparent at present."Anzac Mounted Division.  
1708.

G.C. 592

"Following from MAGEIBRA patrol BIR WASET 1445 Begins: Have made a semicircular reconnaissance eastward from NAGID to WASET. Enemy occupies high ground between HILL 200 and HILL 245. Have seen enemy cavalry patrol in vicinity of WASET. No sign yet of big move forward in this direction. Am coming on in direction of 386. Ends"

Anzac Mounted Division  
1720.

G.C. 593

"All Clear BIR EL HAMISAH and BIR ED DHABA at 1730".

Anzac Mounted Division.  
1822

G.C. 593

"The enemy has moved forward to the high ground East of HOD UMM UGBA West of HOD ES SAGIA, and has advanced from the direction of HILL 245 which he at present holds. His line continues from there in a ~~semicircle~~ ~~semicircle~~ semicircle to HILL 200, one mile south of ABU DAREM. Our troops counter attacked in the neighbourhood of UMM UGBA and drove him back about 1,000 yards."Anzac Mounted Division.  
1755.A. CHISHOLM, Captain,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.



by  
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. WHEATH  
 Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Reference Maps/  
 QATIA 1/100,000

Brigade Headquarters,  
 30th July, 1916.

INFORMATION  
INTENTION

1. As per reports distributed during the day.
2. 1st L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.

TROOPS  
MOVES

3. 1st A.L.H. Brigade.
4. The 1st A.L.H. Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0230, and march to bivouac area South of KATIB GANNIT. The march will be continued at 0400.

All Units will report at starting point, 500 yards due West of 1st L.H. Regiment lines, and South of W.G. Squadron lines at 0215. Formed up in column of masses facing West.

The following patrols will be sent out:-

(a) Patrol of two Sections will leave ROMANI, time will be notified, on night 30/31 July for BIR ED DHABA, where it should meet a patrol from BUKIDAH. This patrol will remain at BIR ED DHABA for one hour and then return to ROMANI, reporting immediately to B.H.Q. C.O. 1st A.L.H. Regiment will detail this patrol.

(b) Patrol of one Troop will leave bivouac area and proceed to BIR ED DHABA, will remain there until dusk unless forced to retire. C.O. 3rd A.L.H. Regiment will detail this patrol.

(c) Patrol of one troop will be despatched to BIR EL WAKISAH as the Brigade approaches QATIA. C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail this patrol.

(d) Patrol of two troops will leave ROMANI at 0330 and proceed to HILL 110, thoroughly reconnoitring AHB HANRA en route. This party will send out patrols to connect up with patrols sent out at intervals by C.O. of Left Sector. C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will detail this patrol.

It is imperative that frequent reports from all patrols be sent to B.H.Q.

DISTRIBUTION OF TROOPS 5.

- C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will command the Right Sector.
- C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will command the Left Sector.

ORDER OF MARCH 6.

Advanced Guard.

3rd A.L.H. Regiment  
 Van Guard Commander.  
 Major L. A. LEWIS

Main Body.

2nd L.H. Regiment )

B.H.Q. )

1st Signal Troop )

W.G. Squadron )

1st L.H. Regiment )

1st L.H. M. Amb. )

Right Flank Guard.

1 Sqn. 3rd L.H. Regt. )

Left Flank Guard.

1 Sqn. 2nd L.H. Regt. )

Rear Guard.

1 Sqn. 1st L.H. Regt. )

Order of March as per Margin.

C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as Right Flank Guard.

C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as Left Flank Guard.

C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as Rear Guard.

RECONTE.

7. C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment will detail an escort of one W.G.C. and 8 men to proceed with Camel Supply Convoy carrying water and forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION at 0745 July 31st.

SUPPLIES.

8. One days ration, extra ration, full water bottle, and water bags where they have been issued, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse.

AMMUNITION.

9. 140 rounds E.A.A. will be carried on each man, 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun, and 2,000 per W.G. in limbers.

TRANSPORT.

10. No transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel will be taken.

MEDICAL.

11. 1st L.H. F. Amb., less tent sub-division, will accompany Brigade



BRIGADE ORDER No. 18.

By

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. MEREDITH.  
Commanding First Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Copy No. ....

Reference Maps.  
 QATIA 1/100,000.

Brigade Headquarters.  
 30th July, 1916.

- INFORMATION. 1. As per reports distributed during the day.
- INTENTION. 2. 1st L.H. Brigade will move out and gain touch with the enemy.
- TROOPS. 3. 1st A. L. H. Brigade.
- MOVES. 4. The 1st A. L. H. Brigade will leave ROMANI at 0230, and march to bivouac area South of KATIB GANNIT. The March will be continued at 0400. All units will report at starting point, 500 yards due West of 1st L.H. Regiment lines, and South of M.G. Squadron lines at 0215, formed up in column of masses facing West. The following patrols will be sent out:-
- (a) Patrol of two Sections will leave ROMANI, time will be notified, on night 30/31 July for BIR ED DHABA, where it should meet a patrol from DUEIDAR. This patrol will remain at BIR ED DHABA for one hour and then return to ROMANI, reporting immediately to D.H.Q. C.O. 1st A. L. H. Regiment will detail this patrol.
- (b) Patrol of one Troop will leave bivouac area and proceed to BIR ED DHABA, will remain there until dusk unless forced to retire. C.O., 3rd A. L. H. Regiment will detail this patrol.
- (c) Patrol of one troop will be despatched to BIR EL RAMISAH as the Brigade approaches QATIA. C.O. 3rd L. H. Regiment will detail this patrol.
- (d) Patrol of two troops will leave ROMANI at 0330 and proceed to HILL 110, thoroughly reconnoitring ABU HAMRA en route. This party will send out patrols to connect up with patrols sent out at intervals by C.O. of Left Sector. C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will detail this patrol. It is imperative that frequent reports from all patrols be sent to B.H.Q.
- DISPOSITION OF TROOPS. 5.
- C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will command the Right Sector.  
 C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will command the Left Sector.
- ORDER OF MARCH 6.
- Advanced Guard.  
 3rd A. L. H. Regiment.  
Van Guard Commander.  
 Major L. A. LEWIS.
- Main Body.  
 2nd L. H. Regiment. )  
 B.H.Q. )  
 1st Signal Troop. ) Order of March as per margin.  
 M.G. Squadron. )  
 1st L. H. Regiment. )  
 1st L. H. Fd. Amb. )
- Right Flank Guard. ) C.O. 3rd L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as  
 1 Sqn. 3rd L. H. Regt. ) Right Flank Guard.
- Left Flank Guard. ) C.O. 2nd L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as  
 1 Sqn. 2nd L. H. Regt. ) Left Flank Guard.
- Rear Guard. ) C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment will detail one Squadron as  
 1 Sqn. 1st L. H. Regt. ) Rear Guard.
- ESCORTS. 7. C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment will detail an escort of one N. C. O. and 8 men to proceed with Camel Convoy carrying water & forage, leaving ROMANI STATION at 0800. The escort will report at Supply Depot, ROMANI STATION at 0745 July 31st.
- SUPPLIES. 8. One days ration, extra ration, full water bottle, and water bags where they have been issued, will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse.
- AMMUNITION. 9. 140 rounds S.A.A. will be carried on each man, 3,500 rounds with each Machine Gun, and 2,000 per M.G. in limbers.
- TRANSPORT. 10. No transport, other than that with the Medical Personnel will be taken.
- MEDICAL. 11. 1st L.H. F. Amb., less tent sub-division, will accompany Brigade.



## BRIGADE ORDER NO 18 (Continued)

COMMUNICATIONS. 12. Under arrangements of O.C., 1st Signal Troop.  
REPORTS. 13. Reports and messages to B.H.Q.

A. CHISHOLM, Captain,  
 B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 2030 to:-

No. 1	File	No. 2	War Diary
No. 3	B.H.Q.	No. 4	B.H.Q.
No. 5	2nd L.H. Bde.		
No. 6	1st Signal Troop		
No. 7	1st L.H. Regiment		
No. 8	2nd	do.	
No. 9	3rd	do.	
No. 10	M.G. Squadron		
No. 11	Supply Section		
No. 12	1st L.H. Ed. Amb.		



BRIGADE ORDER No. 18. (Continued).

COMMUNICATIONS 12. Under arrangements of O.C., 1st Signal Troop.  
REPORTS. 13. Reports and messages to B.H.Q.

A. CHISHOLM. Captain.  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

Copies issued at 2030 to:-

No.1	File	No.2.	War Diary.
No.3.	D.H.Q.	No.4.	B.H.Q.
No.5.	2nd L.H.Bde.		
No.6.	1st Signal Troop.		
No.7.	1st L.H.Regiment.		
No.8.	2nd	do.	
No.9.	3rd	do.	
No.10.	M.G.Squadron.		
No.11.	Supply Section.		
No.12.	1st L.H.Fd.Amb.		



SUMMARY OF INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 1100, 30/7/16.  
-----

G.C.655

"Officers patrol from SAGIA has just come in and reports being driven in by enemy's patrols, who followed him to within one mile of our out-post line."

Anzac Mtd. Div.

0255.

G.C.657

"HAMISAH and OGHRAATINA night patrols report HAMISAH all Clear except for small enemy patrols during night. OGHRAATINA small patrols moving about but no forward movement of enemy's line. 2nd L.H.Bde. arrived QATIA at 0535 and now have patrols out  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles all round".

Anzac Mounted Div.

0625.

G.C.659

"2nd L.H. Brigade are in touch all along line and report enemy holding same general line as yesterday. One prisoner taken. Patrol to BIR ED DHABA reports all clear, at 0630.

Anzac Mtd. Div.

0700

G.C.664

"HILL 110 All Clear 0925. SABKHET EL BARDAWIL South Shore is unfit for wheeled traffic. BIR ED DHABA all Clear 0930"

Anzac Mtd. Div.,

1020.

A. CHISHOLM, Captain,  
B.M., 1st A.L.H. Brigade.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION RECEIVED UP TO 2030, 30/7/16.  
-----AEROPLANE RECONNAISSANCE.

The feature of this afternoons reconnaissance is that practically the whole camp at MAGEIBRA has moved out, there being not more than about 500 men there at the present moment. We caught a column of about 500 moving in the direction of either BADIH or FARWA, while we saw troops on the march from FORWA, METIANA, and SAGIA, also at MEZAHMA; these were small columns of from 80 to 150 men each, and all moving Westwards. At SAGIA we observed what appeared to be a battery on the move towards ABU-DAREM. The number of shelters along the front line has considerably increased, but we could find no trace of any large reinforcements at BAYUD, at which were only about 50 men. ABD was fairly quiet, about 600 men seen, while at AFIER there were still about 300 men. No men were seen at JEFFIER.

Sgd. Gordon McDiamed,  
2nd Lieut. R.F.C



## Marching-out State 30/7/16.

Unit	Off	OR	Horses	<sup>M</sup> Guns	Camels	Sand Carts
B.H.Q.	5	18	26			
1st Sig Bp	-	16	17			
1st L.H. Regt	22	390	424			
2nd "	17	365	402			
3rd "	19	366	419			
M.G. Sqdn	5	85	116	6		
1st L.H.F.F.	3	51	76		27	7
Total	71	1288	1480	6	27	7



## Remaining-in-Camp

Unit	Off	OR	Horses	<sup>M</sup> Guns	Camels	hats
B.H.Q.		13	14			
1st Sig Bp		11	12			
1st L.H. Regt	1	33	66			
2nd do	2	94	135			
3rd do		51	91			
M.G. Sqdn		22	17	3		
1st L.H.F.F.	2	48	19		63	
7th M.V.S. }	1	15	23			
Attached }		14	29			
1st Sig. Sqdn	7	103	37		75	37
Total	13	404	443	3	138	37



784  
-: RESUME OF OPERATIONS. :-

Appx XXXV/26

1st A.L.H. Brigade.

21:7:16 — 3:8:16.

JULY 21.

This Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0300. Advanced troops reach QATIA at 0527, All Clear. Patrols were then pushed out in the direction of OGH RATINA and HOD-ES-SAGIA, and to HILL 245 and BIR-EL-HAMISAH. OGH RATINA patrol captured one prisoner one mile East of QATIA, this patrol pushing on got in touch with enemy at OGH RATINA-EL-KEBIRA, which they pushed back, getting within 900 yards of GOHRATINA, where heavy rifle fire compelled them to withdraw. From here patrol move Northwards through HOD-EN-NEGILIAT towards the enemy's right flank, where they engaged the enemy, causing casualties.

16/134  
SAGIA patrol proceeded via HOD AYISH endeavouring to enter HOD-ES-SAGIA, which was occupied by small force of enemy, also patrols could be seen in the direction of HOD-EL-FARWA, HILL 245, and BIR-EL-HAMISAH reported All Clear. At 1,000 drove small party of enemy out of HOD-ES-SAGIA, but unable to water there owing to enemy holding position immediately East of HOD. At 1445 I made a reconnaissance of enemy position and estimated his strength at 1,000 holding a line High ground at OGH RATINA to H in HOD-ABU-GEMIAAN with considerable strength on high ground East of HOD-ES-SAGIA. At 1715 I brought the section of Ayrshire Battery to a position  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile West of 1st H in HOD-ABU-RODHA, shelling the enemy position at the same time pushing forward my left flank toward the enemy's right North of HOD-EN-NEGILIAT getting within 500 yards of their entrenchments. Being late I then decided to withdraw. Officers Patrols of one Officer and three men each were left out to keep touch with the enemy during the night. The patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH, under Lt. M.E. WRIGHT, to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lt. G.B. EDWARDS, to OGH RATINA under Lt. H.A. WELLER.

The Brigade left QATIA at 2050, arrived ROMANI 2320. Casualties: One wounded. (Died of wounds).

JULY 22.

Patrols of one troop each were sent to HILL 110 and BIR-ED-DHABA, to remain in position until dusk. HILL 110 Patrol sent in five prisoners.

JULY 23.

The Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0130, arrived bivouac area South of KATIB GANNIT at 0240. Advanced troops passed through QATIA at 0445, All Clear.. Officers Patrol of 2nd Brigade reported no forward movement of enemy during the night. Patrols were pushed forward in the direction of OGH RATINA, and HOD-ES-SAGIA, and to HAMISAH. Touch was gained with enemy's patrols North of HOD-UMM-UGBA, and on high ground West of HOL-EL-MEZAHMI. These were driven back and a line was taken up running from a point one mile North of T in HOD-ER-RESHAFAT, to half mile West of H in H in NUGRET-EL-FARAS, to a point half mile west of (18) to high ground West of HOD-EL-MEZAHMI, thence through SAGIA to HOD-EL-FARWA, with Signalling Station on HILL 245. Troops in this Sector watered at SAGIA on this day. Two native prisoners were taken near HOD-EL-FARWA. Just before dusk considerable movement was noticed amongst the enemy in various parts of the line. Withdrew to QATIA at dusk, leaving out the usual Officers' Patrols to BIR-EL-HAMISAH, under Lieut. G.S. MACKRELL, to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lieut. L.J. COWELL, to OGH RATINA under Lieut. J.T. BIGG.

Brigade left QATIA for ROMANI at 2035. Casualties: Nil.

JULY 24th

Patrol to HILL 110 increased to two troops, Patrol to BIR-EL-DHABA one troop. Both places all clear.

JULY 25th

Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0200, bivouaced for one hour Arrived at QATIA 0500, All Clear. Patrols of 2nd L.H. Brigade reported no forward movement of enemy during the night. Touch was obtained with enemy patrols on a line running from HOD-NIGRET-EL-FARAS, to HOD-EL-MEZAHMI, to HOD-ES-SAGIA, at which place three armed prisoners were captured. Actively engaged with the enemy along the whole line during the day.



The line held by me at dusk ran from a point one mile North of T in HOD-ER-RESHAFAT, through Palm Grove just West of first H in HOD-ABU-RODHA, then directly South to first D in HOD-ABU-DAREM, to M in MBAYAD. The usual Officers' patrols were left out to keep touch with the enemy during the night, to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lieut. R.H.SINCLAIR, to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lieut. ES.R. WOODYATT to OGH RATINA under Lieut. R. MACDONALD. The Brigade left QATIA for ROMANI at 2100.

Casualties: One O.R. slightly wounded.

JULY 27th

The Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0200, arrived at Bivouac area at 0255, Advanced Troops passed through QATIA at 0500, All Clear. Patrols of two troops were sent to HILL 110 and Patrols of one troop each to BIR-ED-DHABA and BIR-EL-HAMISAH. Two Regiments were employed in front line, which I divided into two Sectors. The Northern Sector from a line running East and West, but exclusive of HOD-EL-MEZAHMI to extreme North of my line. The Southern Sector from a line running East and West through, and inclusive of, HOD-EL-MEZAHMI to Southern end of my line. Advanced Troops gained touch with enemy patrols three-quarter miles South West ~~xx~~ H of T in HOD-ER-RESHAFAT, and on high ground West of HOD-EL-MEZAHMI. These were pushed back on the enemy line which was unchanged from the 25th July, except that the line was extended to the North. The line held by me was the same as on the 25th July, with HILL 110 connected by Patrols, and Patrols sent as far South as BADI EH. The usual Officers' Patrols were left out to keep touch with the enemy during the night. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lieut. F.M. MACK, to HOD-ES-SAGIA under Lieut. A.M.GARBETT, to OGH RATINA under Lieut. R.K.KIDMAN.

An extra patrol of one troop, under Lieut. J.N.CLERKE, remained out to reconnoitre in the direction of HOD-EL-FARWA to ascertain the route taken by enemy convoys ~~xxx~~ during the night, but was unable to locate it. The Brigade left QATIA for ROMANI at 2020.

Casualties: Nil.

JULY 28th

Observation Posts of one Section each were posted on Mt. MEREDITH, and MT. ROYSTON during the day. Patrol of two Sections was despatched at 2200 to gain touch at BIR-ED-DHABA, with patrol from 5th L.H.Regiment at DUEIDAR.

JULY 29th

Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0230, arrived bivouac area 0335. Patrol of two troops was sent to HILL 110, and one troop each to BIR-ED-DHABA, and BIR-EL-HAMISHA. Advanced troops passed through QATIA at 0600. All Clear.

Officers' Patrols of 2nd L.H.Brigade from HOD-ES-SAGIA and HOD-UMM-UGBA, reported forward movement during the night. On arrival at BIR-EL-HAMISHAH, the officer in charge of Patrol reported having found the body of Lieut. N. PEARCE of 6th L.H.Regiment who had been in charge of OFFICERS' Patrol during the night, no trace of his three men could be found, but these afterwards turned up at HILL 70. This patrol had been attacked during the night by enemy patrol. Our advanced troops got in touch with the enemy at 0635, considerable forward movement was made by the enemy during the night 28/29th July. He now holds entrenched positions on high ground North of HILL 245, North of HOD-EL-AMOYA, South of SABKHET-EL-AMYA, and a semi-circular position East of HOD-UMM-UGBA, considerable activity was displayed by the enemy during the day, entrenching on his new line. Demonstrations were made against both flanks, but these were driven off by heavy Machine Gun and Rifle fire. One Section of Ayrshire Battery at 1600 commenced shelling the right of enemy position. This enabled my Left Flank to advance about 600 yards. There was considerable enemy activity on my Right Flank at 1400. The enemy began to advance from the direction of HILL 245. This necessitated reinforcing this flank. The usual Officers' patrols were left out during the night 29/30th July, to keep touch with the enemy. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lieut W.C.KELLY.



To HOD-EL-AMOIA under Lieut. C. BOOTH, to HOD-UMM-UGBA under Lieut. R.H.L. GORDON. Brigade left QATIA FOR ROMANI at 0930.

JULY 30

Casualties: Wounded 5 (five) O.R. Missing 1 O.R. Observation Posts of one Section each were posted on MT. MEREDITH and MT. ROYSTON during the day. Patrol of two Sections was sent to BIR-ED-DHABA at 2230 to join up with Patrol from 5th L.H. Regiment at DUEIDAR.

JULY 31st.

The Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0230 and rested in bivouac area until 0410. Advanced troops reported all clear to  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile North East of ER RABAH, and two Miles East of QATIA at 6625. The usual Patrols to HILL 110 BIR-ED-DHABA, and BIR-EL-HAMISAH were sent out. Officers' Patrols of 2nd L.H. Brigade reported no forward movement of enemy during the night 30/31st July. Enemy still holds same line as on 29th, but in much greater strength. Considerable movement was seen in rear of enemy's lines in the vicinity of HILL 245. At 1130 my left Sector succeeded in driving enemy out of HOD-UMM-UGBA, but was unable to enter owing to enemy's commanding position on Eastern side with Machine Gun and Rifle fire. Advanced Troops of both sides were continually sniping during the day. Usual Officers' Patrols were left out to keep touch with the enemy during the night. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lieut. G.P. EDWARDS. To QATIA under Lieut. F. EVANS. To ER RABAH under Lieut. H.A. WELLER.

Brigade left QATIA for ROMANI at 2005. One prisoner captured during the day.

Casualties: Nil

AUGUST 1st.

Observation Posts of One Section each were posted on MT. MEREDITH and MT. ROYSTON during the day. Patrol of two Sections left ROMANI at 2230 for BIR-ED-DHABA, to connect with Patrol from 5th L.H. Regiment at DUEIDAR.

AUGUST 2nd.

Brigade left ROMANI Camp at 0230, rested at bivouac area until 0410. Arrived QATIA at 0530- All Clear. Officer's Patrol of 2nd L.H. Brigade reported movement of enemy towards ER RABAH. Enemy's Patrolled QATIA during the night, BIR-EL-HAMISAH Clear. Usual Patrols to HILL 110 BIR-ED-DHABA, BIR-EL-HAMISAH were sent out. Enemy held in strength a line running from ~~XXXX~~ 100 on high ground East South East of BIR-EL-MAMLUK to HOD-UMM-UGBA, thence North of S in SABKHET-EL-AMYA. Patrol at HILL 110 reported 200 enemy 3 miles East of that position at 1400. Considerable amount of fighting all along the line throughout the day, causing several casualties to the enemy. All 1500 the Section of Ayrshire Battery took up a position on Yeomanry ridge, firing on gun emplacement North of SABKHET-EL-AMYA, and Machine Gun emplacements immediately North East of HOD-UMM-UGBA. The enemy was very active throughout the day, especially toward my Right Flank, considerable movement being noticed in direction of HILL 245. The usual Officers' Patrols were sent out to keep touch with enemy during the night. Patrol to BIR-EL-HAMISAH under Lieut. W. MCQUIGGAN, to QATIA under Lieut. S.W. MOORE, to ER RABAH under Lieut. T. KENYON. A Patrol of 15 o.r. under command of Lieut. R.A. McFARLANE remained in vicinity of HILL 110 throughout the night, to try and capture enemy patrol believed to work over that ground at night. Brigade Left QATIA for ROMANI at 1930.

Casualties: Wounded- 1 Officer 4 O.R. Missing-1 O.R. Observation Posts of one Section each were posted on MT. MEREDITH and MT. ROYSTON during the day.

AUGUST 3rd.