

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/14/46**

**Title: 9th Australian Light Horse**  
**Regiment**

December 1918



CONFIDENTIAL.



A U S T R A L I A N I M P E R I A L F O R C E .

W A R D I A R Y

O F

9th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

F O R

D E C E M B E R , ~~XXXX~~ 1918.

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Signature of Officer Compiling .....

*Ophant*

Lieut. & Adjutant.  
9th L.H. Regt.

Signature of Commanding Officer.....

*J.P. [Signature]*

Lieut. Colonel.  
9th L.H. Regt.

- DEC 1918





WAR DIARY

9th Light Horse Regiment.  
3rd Light Horse Brigade.  
Australian Mounted Division.

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.

Place	Date	Hour	December, 1918.	Summary of Events and Information.	Page 1. Volume 63.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mejdelaya.	1st.			Information received that 200 Arabs attempted a raid on RAYAK at 2200 on the 30th November. The Garrison (portion of 5th L.H. Brigade) drove the raiders off, killing 6 and capturing 20. Syllabus of Training issued copy attached. (Appendix 1).		Syria Tripoli. 1/250000.
	2nd.			C.O. lectured to each Squadron in succession for 3/4-hour on the A.I.F. Educational, Entertainment, and Demobilisation Scheme. The object of this scheme was to provide useful instruction and entertainment for all ranks prior to Demobilisation. It was realised early that the troops here in SYRIA were at a great disadvantage in comparison with the Troops in FRANCE in carrying out the scheme in its entirety. Nevertheless it was decided to carry out a vigorous policy towards making the best use of material and facilities available. Major W.T. CHARLEY, Captain B.B. RAGLESS and Captain J.E. SHELLEY were selected as Regimental Representatives of this scheme. Lieut. S.H. AYLIFFE proceeded "OB Command" to 2nd Field Squadron A.E.		
	3rd.			C.O. lectured to all those who were unable to attend his Lecture on the 2nd instant.		
	4th.			Usual Camp Routine.		
	5th.			Usual Camp Routine.		
	6th.			Lieut. H.J. HAHN and Lieut. F.J. KILDEA with 11 O/Ranks proceeded on three days leave to BESHERRI in the Lebanon Mountains. Lieut. G.L.H. MUELLER evacuated to Hospital. Heavy rain all day, which soon made the Camping areas very boggy and unpleasant, the soil being a heavy red loam. In this Bivouac Breast-lines were once again brought into use.		
	7th.			Lieut. D.T. FREEBAIRN evacuated to Hospital.		
	8th.			All Church Parades cancelled owing to rain.		
	9th.			From 1000 to 1100, Swordsmanship Mounted was carried out. Major W.T. CHARLEY embarked on 1914 Leave to Australia.		

DEC 1918



WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

9th Light Horse Regiment.

3rd Light Horse Brigade.

Australian Mounted Division.

Army Form A. 211B.

REGIMENT

E 50/2

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Page 2. Volume 63.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Mejdelaya	10th.		Orders received that the Brigade would move to the Beach on 12th instant. The mud and general sloppiness of the Regiment's present Bivouac was adversely affecting the condition of the horses; therefore this projected move on to the sandy beach was much appreciated by all.		Syria Tripoli 1/250000.
	11th.		Advanced parties proceeded to prepare new Bivouac sight. Major H.M. PARSONS, D.S.O., Lieutenants BURNS, STEPHEN and GIBNEY and 9 O/Ranks proceeded on 7 clear days leave to Port Said and Egypt. Major PARSONS commanded Divisional Party.		
Tripoli.	12th.		Lieut. R.C. SHARP, M.C. and Chaplain the Rev. R.C. TURNER and 11 O/Ranks proceeded to BESHERRI on 6 days leave. At 0830 the Regiment moved to new Camping area on the Beach, 1½ miles S.W. of TRIPOLI, arriving at 1000.		
	13th		Improving Camp area.		
	14th.		Usual Routine. Improving Regimental Football Ground.		
	15th.		BESHERRI Leave Party returned having spent a pleasant week in the Mountains, although encountering very boisterous and wet weather.		
	16th.		1000 tp 1100, Swordsmanship Mounted.		
	17th.		General Holiday. 1000, Combined Brigade Thanksgiving Church Service. Roman Catholics proceeded to Service in Marionite Cathedral, Tripoli. French Classes commenced under direction of a French Civilian from Tripoli. In the afternoon a Brigade Football Match was played. 9th and 10th Regiments versus remainder of Brigade. Former team won by a slight margin.		
		1900	Lieut. B.S.W. WAGG and 19 O/Ranks marched in. Class in English Grammar commenced under direction of Chaplain the Rev. R.C. TURNER.		
	18th.		Land Measurement Class commenced under direction of Lieut. Col. W.H. SCOTT, C.M.G., D.S.O. Major T.H. DARLEY returned from Duty Leave to EGYPT.		

- DEC 1918



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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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9th Light Horse Regiment.  
3rd Light Horse Brigade.  
Australian Mounted Division.

Army Form C. 2118.



E 50/3

Place	Date	Hour	December, 1918.	Summary of Events and Information	Page 3. Volume 63.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tripoli	19th.			Usual Camp Routine.		Syria Tripoli. 1/250000
	20th.			Organised Parties practised Tent-pegging with Lance and Sword.		
	21st.			Official Photographs of "Regimental Headquarters Officers", "Regimental Headquarters", A & B Squadrons - Mounted - were taken at 1000. 4 O/Ranks proceeded to BEIRUT as Guard over Australian Comforts Christmas Gifts.		
	22nd.	1000		Voluntary Church Parades. C Squadron and all original horses of the Regiment photographed. The original horses totalled 140. Although many of these horses were much War scarred, they looked remarkably well and fit considering the rough times they have had. Members of the Regiment viewed them with great pride, knowing full well how largely they have contributed to the success of the Operations on this front. The total of 140 did not include many original horses absent with members of the Regiment detached, transferred etc.		
	23rd.			Training cancelled owing to rain. Captain SHELLEY returned. Tug on which he was travelling after putting out to Sea had to return owing to rough weather. Training of Competitors for 3rd Light Horse Brigade Mounted Sports on New Years Day commenced.		
	24th.			100 O/Ranks proceeded to EL-MINA for delousing and Hot Baths. Extra rations, local vegetables etc. purchased for Christmas Day.		
	25th.			Christmas Day. Voluntary Church Services were held today as follows :- Other Denominations 0845 at Protestant Church, Tripoli near American Mission. Chaplain the Rev. R.C. TURNER officiated. Roman Catholic Service at 1000 at Convent of Sisters of Charity, Tripoli. Chaplain the Rev. WOODS officiated, Owing to Chaplain Canon MOORE's absence on Leave, there was no C. of E. Service. Excellent rations. a sunny day and pleasant surroundings, this Christmas Day contrasted very greatly with the Regiment's previous Christmas, which was spent in the Hills holding the line at SUFFA, with the horses at KATRAH. Major PARSONS, Lieutenants BURNS, GIBNEY and STEPHEN and 9 O/Ranks returned from Leave in Egypt. 20 O/Ranks Reinforcements marched in from MOASCAR.		

DEC 1918

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WAR DIARY

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3rd Light Horse Brigade,  
Australian Mounted Division.

Army Form C. 2118.



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December 1918.

Page 4. Volume 63.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Tripoli.	26th		Competitors practising for Brigade Sports.	Syria Tripoli 1/250000
	27th.		Usual Routine.	
	28th		80 Cases of Christmas of A.I.F. Comforts arrived. Major PARSONS, Capt. LUXMOORE and Lieut. SHAW proceeded by motor to BESHERRI for two days.	
	29th.		Voluntary Church Services as follows :- C. of E. 0845 in American Church, Tripoli, Other Denominations at 1000 in Brigade area.	
	30th.		N.C.O's Instructional Class from 0830 to 0930. Heavy rains during the night flooded part of the Regimental area.	
	31st.		150 O/Ranks deloused at EL MINA. C. of E. voluntary Church Service at 2000. General Health of the Regiment during the month Good.	
			Summary of Fluctuations for the Month attached. (Appendix No. 2).	

*Robert H. Huntley*  
9 24/18  
31/18  
- DEC 1918



# WAR DIARY

OF

650/5  
- DEC 1918

9th LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

FOR

DECEMBER 1918.

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Syllabus of Training .
2.	Summary of Fluctuations for month.





SYLLABUS. OF TRAINING.

for Week commencing 2nd December, 1918.

- DEC 1918

*Appendix 1*

*650/6*

Parade Hours 1000 - 1100 Daily.

<u>MONDAY.</u>	Sword exercises mounted for those who have gone through the dismounted exercise. - Dismounted for those who have not.			
<u>TUESDAY.</u>	Do	Do	Do	Do
<u>WEDNESDAY.</u>	Do	Do	Do	Do
<u>THURSDAY.</u>	Do	Do	Do	Do
<u>FRIDAY.</u>	Route march dismounted.			
<u>SATURDAY.</u>	Commanding Officers' Inspection.			

So that as many as possible may get the benefit of the Training and freshening up now being carried out, O.C's will ensure that when practicable men will not be left indefinitely on permanent fatigues, but will be relieved at least weekly - This applies to such duties as Mess Orderlies, Cooks Offsiders, Sanitary Duties etc. Where it is convenient to relieve permanent duties such as Q.M's Storeman, Orderly room assistants etc, arrangements should be made for special parades for them to bring them up to the standard of the ordinary ranks.

The morning parade on one day a week - Friday will be allotted to route marching - dismounted - drill order.

Prior to these parades each troop leader will satisfy himself that all ranks are able to change step correctly, and know the proper intervals and distances, and know what individual is responsible for keeping same.

Men will not be put through sword exercises mounted until they have gone fully through sword exercises dismounted.

These parades are very short, therefore smartness and precision are required.

*Phaw*

Lieut & Adjutant.

9th Light Horse Regiment.

1/12/18.





6507  
DEC 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Place Date Hour

FLUCTUATIONS FOR DECEMBER, 1918.

Personnel.

		Off.	O/R.	Total.
Effective Strength	1/12/18	27	407	434.
do.	31/12/18	24	434	458.

Increase.

Decrease.

	Off.	O/R.		Off.	O/R.
From Hospital	-	21	To Australia	1	-
" Moascar	1	40	Transferred	1	4
			To Hospital	2	30
Total	<u>1</u>	<u>61</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>34</u>

Animals.

	Rides.	Drght.	Pack.	Mules.	Donkeys.
Effec. Strength 1/12/18	371	36	33	23	6
do. 31/12/18	372	34	33	26	6

Increase.

From Remounts	-	-	4	4	-
From Descorps H/Q	1	-	-	-	-
From M.V.S. S.O.S. in error	5	-	-	-	-

Decrease.

Destroyed	5	2	-	1	-
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Remarks and references to Appendices