

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/19/6

Title: 14th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

January 1919

C O N F I D E N T I A L .

Original
Duplicate
Triplicate

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



WAR DIARY.

of

14th. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

for..

DECEMBER, -191
JANUARY, 1919



Signature of Officer Compiling

Am Hall to wife

Signature of Officer Commanding

Phlox maculata

[illegible]

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.

WAR DIARY
or
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~
(Erase heading not required.)



Army Form C. 2118.

E 54/1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	January 1919			
Homs	1st.		Regiment, with Detachment of NZ.MC Sqdn. attached, in billets in "Syrian Protestant School" New Year's day observed as far as possible as a Holiday, and the Sports Meeting held by the Escort Sqdn. - Desert Mtd. Corps H'Qrs. - was largely attended by members of Regiment.	HRD
	4th.		Regimental Sports held. - comprised for the most part of mounted events,	HRD
	6th.		Lieut. G.E. Clemens rejoined the Regt. ex Ausdiv Training Regt. Moascar. Chaplain (Class 4) A.S. Houston rejoined ex Rest Camp Port Said.	HRD
	7th.		Classes of Instruction in "Armourery" under Armourer-Sgt. Hamilton J. and "Farriery" under Farrier-Cpl. Newman were commenced on the lines laid down in the A.I.F. Educational Scheme, but had to be abandoned owing to lack of interest displayed by the men.	HRD
	8th.		Portion of Regimental Transport were sent to Kilo 154 on the HOMS-HAMA railway.	HRD
	11th.		Regimental Sports held, all ranks evincing great interest.	HRD
	12th.		4 G.S. Wagons, with drivers, and 20 sets of harness were sent to O.C. Descamp - HOMS - to assist 5th. Cavalry Div. in moving.	HRD
			Divine Service held in building by Rev. Maitland Woods.	
	13th.		2 Officers and 4 O.Rs proceeded to Egypt on leave. Lieut. G. Gowland carrying out duties of Adjutant during absence of Lt. R.M. Hall on leave.	HRD
	15th.		Sgt. Winchester and L.Cpl. Provan sent to Australian H'Qrs Egypt, for duty with Demobilisation Staff.	HRD
	17th.		Major A.S. Nobbs acted as President of a F.G.C.M. held at Desert Corps H'Qrs. Inspection of Clothing of late drafts of re-inforcements carried out by the D.A. & Q.M.G. - Desert Mtd Corps.	HRD
	18th.		Two donkeys stolen off lines, presumably by natives.	HRD

Jan 1919

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

E54/2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Homs	January 1919			
	19th.		Two Officers proceeded to ALLEPPO on short leave. Board of Inquiry held regarding the loss of the donkeys on 18th. (Major Denson - President)	
	20th.		Major H.R.Denson, DSO, assumed command of the Regiment on Major A.S. Nobbs proceeding to Egypt on leave. Lieut. C.W.F.Jones and 4 O.Rs. to Desert Corps Rest Camp - Port Said.	
	21st.		Lieut. F.S.Robertson proceeded to Damascus to sit on F.G.C.M. 2 O.Rs to Imperial School of Instruction - Zeitoun. 11 O.Rs. with 22 horses and transport returned from Kilo154. 3rd. blanket and waterproof capes issued to all ranks. All horses of Regt. classified by Capt. Geyer, A.A.V.C., Descorps., into four grades:- "A" horses of 5 - 8 years; "B" 9 - 12 years; "C" over 12 years, but sound; "D" unsound.	
	23rd.		The 4 G.S Wagons lent to 5th. Cav. Div. returned. One horse found dead in transport lines (suspected Anthrax.) Another horse died on transport lines next day and the V.O. confirmed his report of "suspected Anthrax. All transport horses were accordingly isolated. A escort of a Corporal and two men sent to 5th. Cav. Div. to escort a prisoner to Ausdiv. H'Qrs Regiment inspected by Corps. Commander, and complimented on "turnout". Capt. E.H.W.Mills (MC) resumed Regimental duty from being seconded as Staff Trainee to 5th. A.L.H.Bde.	App. "A2" Do.
	25th.		3 O.Rs to Egypt on leave. Chaplain (Class 4) A.S.Houston to Moascar for duty. Regiment moved into the buildings vacated by Desert Mtd. Corps in HomS. Regiment came under orders of G.O.C. 28th. Infantry Bde., on Desert Corps moving out to Aleppo. Lieut. G.Gowland appointed Corps "Requisition Paying Officer" for HomS Area	
	27th.			
	28th.		Lieut. F.S.Robertson rejoined ex Damascus.	
	29th.		Lieut. R.M.Hall rejoined ex Leave (Egypt).	
	30th.		Lt.-Col. G.F.Langley (Bde Commander) on visit of inspection. Chaplain (Class 4) Scott McDonald on strength.	
	31st.		Lt.-Col. G.F.Langley returned to Bde. H'Qrs - Baalbek.	

(A10266) W1-W5360/P713 750,000 2/18 Sch. 32 Forms/C2118/16.

Jan 1919

1. ACCOMMODATION. For the first time since its' formation, the Regiment found itself quartered in good, substantial buildings, and the change from "canvas" and "bivouacs" was, and still is, much appreciated by all ranks.

Accommodation, both at the Syrian Protestant School and at the old Turkish H'Qrs and Barracks, is good and plentiful.

The move into the latter place was made more on a count of the ~~her~~ horses than anything else, good stabling being available, which was probably the only thing - of any great matter - lacking at the former place.

- 2.. RATIONS were on the whole good, both as to quality and quantity. Regimental cooking was established, with Officers' and Sergeants' messes.

3. ANIMALS. Horses were all graded by Captain Geyer, A.A.V.C., Desert Mtd Corps Hqrs., into four categories :-
"A" horses of 5 to 8 years of age; "B" 9 to 12 years; "C" over 12 but sound; "D" unsound.

The classification shewed (roughly) :- "A" 12% ; "B" 62.5 % ;
"C" 24 % ; "D" 1.5 % .

Much time was devoted during the month to the care of horses. Two deaths among the transport animals were suspected to have been the result of Anthrax. All animals in the Transport Section were accordingly isolated, the saddlery and harness disinfected, a new issue of nosebags obtained - the old ones being burnt. The preventative measures taken proved effective and no further cases occurred.

4. SPORT. Every encouragement was given in this connection. Regimental Meetings were held, events mostly being sweepstakes, with prize money taken from Regtl Funds and donations, added. Keen competition ensued. Horses shewing signs of pace or jumping abilities were soon taken in hand by enthusiastic trainers, who spared neither time or trouble in bringing their charges into condition.

Fox and jackal hunting found much favour, and some good runs were obtained.

Football and Athletics also had their devotees.

A combined football and athletic team paid a visit to the remainder of the Brigade at Baalbek, and were very successful.

5. GENERAL Discipline maintained during month was generally fair, and the Regiment stands in good repute with the townspeople.

During his inspection on the 23rd., The Corps Commander complimented the Regt. on its "turnout".

Visits were paid to the Regiment by both the "Palmtrees" and "Whizbang" Concert Parties, and excellent performances were given by both.

The health of the Regt. was fairly good, the casualties for the month being sick evacuated - 36.

Reinforcements received amounted to 2 officers 102 O.Rs. strength on 31st. Jan. being 20 Officers 400 O.Rs - 394 horses 17 mules and 5 donkeys.

H. R. Duxon mar.

Commanding, 14^H Rept.

E/524/3