

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/6/25

Title: 1st Australian Light Horse
Regiment

May 1917

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

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1st L H Regiment

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SHELLAL to Outpost line	15/17 to 17/17		<p>0800 enemy plane dropped bombs no casualties - 1700 'C' Squadron relieved 'A' Squadron and two troops of 'B' Squadron relieved two troops 'B' Squadron on outpost line. 16 remounts marched in. One other rank to Ambulance Lieut V A BLACKET to KHAN YUNUS in charge of Brigade Details. The regiment continued to hold this outpost line running from SHELLAL BEERSHEBA road inclusive to a point on bearing of 75° from Weli Sheikh Nurán and bearing of 114° from Hill 341 ABU HISEIZ, 22nd Mounted Brigade being on our right and 2nd L H Regt on our left. Reference map 1/40,000. During time of holding 1015 yards of fire trenches dug, 865 yards of communication trenches dug, 3,000 yds of wire entanglements erected, 11 M.G and 20 Hotchkiss gun emplacements dug. 'A' and 'C' Squadrons holding right section on alternate days, 'B' Squadron holding left with two troops in line and two troops in support. These troops used to change places every day Squadrons in turn finding standing patrol situated 5,000 yards distant on bearing of 85° from SHELLAL crossing.</p>	
			<p>Lt Col H Crawshaw Lt-Colonel C.O. 1st L H Regiment</p>	

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1st L.H. Regiment

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SHELLAL	2/5/17		Usual routine 3 other ranks sick to Hospital	
SHELLAL	3/5/17		Usual routine	
"	4/5/17		Usual routine	
"	5/5/17		Lieut E C BATTYE and 2 other ranks to Amzac Mounted Division for duty.	
"	6/5/17		C O rode round line with General CHAYTOR and Brig Gen COX. 20 other ranks sick to Hospital	
"	7/5/17		12 other ranks from MOASCAR. C O, Squadron Leaders, & 2nd in commands went to NZ M R Bde to see demonstration of gas attack	
	8/5/17		Usual routine One other rank sick to Hospital	
	9/5/17		One other rank sick to Hospital	
	10/5/17		One other rank sick to Hospital	
	11/5/17		Taube shot down one of our planes 1/2 mile out from our lines. 'C' Sqdn rushed two troops out and brought fire to bear on Taube forcing him to rise and saving our plane from further damage	
	12/5/17		Usual routine	
	13/5/17		One other rank sick to Field Ambulance	

Lt Colonel
C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment

WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SHELLAL	14/5/17		"C" Squadron captured 2 prisoners two miles E of SHELLAL.	
"	15/5/17		One other rank to Field Ambulance	
"	16/5/17		3 other ranks with septic sores sent to rest camp, Khan Yunus. At 1930 Infantry commenced to dig in front of our line. other ranks sick to hospital	
ABU HISEIA	17/5/17		At 1700 handed over outpost line to infantry of 74th Division and moved to bivouac area on W bank WADI GHUZZE 1/2 mile S.W. ABU HISEIA crossing	
"	18/5/17		Two other ranks sick to Ambulance. All squadrons on patrol "A" Squadron going to point 510 ABU SHAYASH and then forward towards point 410 WADI IMLEH. This Squadron found enemy entrenched along WADI IMLEH. "B" Squadron going GOZ EL BASAL, sending one troop to GOZ EL GELEIB. This Squadron located small bodies of the enemy holding 600 contours. "C" Squadron to GOZ MABRUK sending one troop to point 530 and one troop to BIR EL ESANI who saw two enemy patrols seven strong about 3 miles E of ESANI, this Squadron did not see anything of the enemy. One other rank sick to Hospital.	
"	19/5/17		3 other ranks sick to Hospital.	

Col. M. G. ...
Lt. Colonel.
CO 14th L H Regt.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

1st L.H. Regiment

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABU HISEIA	20/5/17		One other rank to Ambulance	
	21/5/17		Usual routine Two other ranks sick to Hospital	
	22/5/17		At 1400 left Camp. 1745 arrived BIR EI ESANI watered horses 2020 left for KHALASA One other ranks sick to Hospital	
	23/5/17		0350 arrived KHALASA regiment from here on acting as left flank guard to the Brigade "A" Squadron finding flank party 0410 moved on to cross roads the Brigade moving along the right hand road and Regiment moving along ASLUT road "B" Squadron being advance guard 0520 "A" Squadron were fired on by party of mounted men who retired rapidly, when their fire was returned.	
			0610 ASLUT reported all clear	
			0620 arrived ASLUT	
			"B" Squadron taking up line WADI IMKHRUBA to WADI RAKHAMA "A" Squadron WADI RAKHAMA to EL AUSEGI. R.H.Q. remaining point 600 yards S.E. of ASLUT	
			0650 demolition party commenced work, destroying an 18 arch bridge and 2 1/2 miles of rails, 1020 withdrew, 1430 rejoined Brigade at KHALASA.	

Col. H. G. ... Lt Colonel C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

1st L H Regiment

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	23/5/17		1440 Brigade moved on, 'C' Squadron acting as right flank guard 1700 Arrived BIR EL ESANI and watered horses, 1910 marched for camp. arriving B30. Reference maps RAFA, BEERSHEBA, ABDA, EL KOSSIMA 1/125,000	
ABU HISEIA	24/5/17		Usual routine. One other rank sick to hospital	
" "	25/5/17		Usual routine	
	26/5/17		Regiment left camp at 0500 and marched to EL NAGALI. 'A' Squadron pushing on and taking up line from TWO TREES 2 miles E of HISEIA crossing to ERK to EL MAGAM to EL MUNKHEILEH, holding this line while G.O C's East Force and Desert column made a reconnaissance, several hundred enemy cavalry and camelry were seen just S of ERK, but these retired towards SANS on approach of our troops - 1200 Regiment withdrew leaving out two troops of 'A' Squadron under Lieut S M MOORE to patrol towards SAUSAGE RIDGE returned to camp. Reference map BEERSHEBA 1/125,000. one other rank sick to F. Ambulance	
	27/5/17		Usual routine Lieut S E Gregory sick to Hospital	

Col. H. Cranwell
Lt. Colonel.
C.O. 1st L.H. Regiment.

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1st LH Regiment

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KAZAR	28/5/17		0900 left camp and marched to KAZAR putting down new camp. One other rank sick to Hospital	
"	29/5/17		0630 Regiment left camp and marched to the beach for a swim. One other rank sick to hospital One other rank rejoined from Hospital	
"	30/5/17		Regiment marched to KHAN YUNUS and exchanged. MKIII rifles for MKIV rifles 3 other ranks to rest camp KHAN YUNUS one other rank sick to hospital.	
"	31/5/17		Routine - 15 other ranks marched in from MOASCAR.	

Lt. Colonel
C O 1st LH Regt.

1st A L H Regiment

Summary of Casualties for month of MAY 1917

KILLED		Wounded		Missing		SICK to Hosp.		TRANSFERRED		Remarks.	
OFF	O RANKS	OFF	O RANKS	OFF	O RANKS	OFF	O RANKS	OFF	O RANKS	OFF	O RANKS
—	—	—	—	—	—	1	24	—	—		

Lieut S E Gregory to Hospital sick 27/5/17

Lieut A Cranville Lt. Col.

C.O. 1st A L H Regiment

1/6/17

APPENDIX