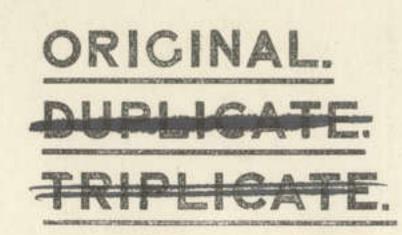
AWM4 Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

Light Horse

Item number: 10/13/39

Title: 8th Australian Light Horse Regiment

September 1918



Australian Imperial Force.

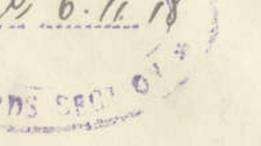
WAR DIARY

OF

8th.AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGT.

FOR

SEPTEMBER



Signature of Officer compiling one Grath

Signature of Officer Commanding Owe G. W. Louris L. Col

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1013335

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL.
VOLUME 21.

PAGE 1.

Original

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. (Erase heading not required.)

Place	Pates Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Dlive G	1/9/18. 2/9/18.	Regiment started on the new Cavalry training, as per Syllabus. The Officers were given Sword instruction by Major Kavanagh, G.S.O.11, A.M.D., (6 Off. in A.M., and 6 in P.M.). Australian mail in. Capt. L.A.W. Macpherson reported from 3rd A.L.H.Bde, took over command of A Squadron, and ceased to be seconded. (Promotion form , to Major, lodged with B.H.Q.).	
"	3/9/18.	Drill as per Syllabus. Officers, Sword drill. 2nd Lieuts. H.SHERIDAN? and H.V.EMMOTT, taken on strength from 4th A.L.H.Brigade.	
"	4/9/18.	Drill as per Syllabus. 120 O/Ranks disinfected at SURAFEND. 95 Reinforcements arrived from MOASCAR. 2nd Lieuts F.S.ROCHSTEIN and J.M.STUBBS, and 1 O/Rank, reported from DESCORPS reinforcement camp, Jerusalem, and taken on Strength. These Officers in conjunction with the two reported on the 3rd inst. were taken on the strength of this Unit owing to the great shortage of Officers caused through the recent evacuations.	
"	5/9/18.	Effective Strength, 17, 409. Drill as per Syllabus. Officers, Sword drill.	
"	6/9/18.	ditto. A Board of Enquiry (Pres. Capt. L.A.W. Macpherson M.C), was held on the loss of 3 horses, viz:- 1980, B.M., K2490, B.M., 16023, Br.G. These horses were struck off strength on authority of "Ausdiv' A Return submitted to B.H.Q. shewing the number of horses aged 10 to 15 years, (218 rides, 33 draught) and the number over 15 years, (23 rides, no, draughts).	sht)
"	7/9/18.	Drill as per Syllabus, Officers, Sword drill. 2nd Lieut ROCHSTEIN and 2 O/Ranks to Hospital. Marched in from MOASCAR, 23 O/Ranks.	SO CO
"	8/8/19.	No Training. Lieut. R.F.MANN & 4 O/Ranks to hospital. Lieut R.H.BORBIDGE returned from School of Instruction, Zietoun. 2nd LIEUT A.B.HAMMERSLEY temporarily attached from 10th L.H. Regt, during shortage of Officers.	P 1918
"	9/9/18.	Training as per Syllabus, (Hotchkiss Gunners and Signallers separately). 1 Officer and 39 O/Ranks sent to O.C. Field SQuadron for Demolition Training. (A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 757,050. 1/17. D.D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.	4/5

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

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			in manu	script. (Erase heading not required.)
Place	19	18.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information Remarks and references to Appendices
Olive LUDD.		e. /9/:	18.	150 O/Ranks disinfected at SURAFEND. Training as per syllabus. Regiment had Sword practicet dummies, and results were very satisfactory. Lieut C.H.HUGHES to hospital from Richon. 2nd Lieut ROCHSTEIN returned from hospital. Marched in from MOASCAR, Lieuts L.RICHARDSON? C.STREETER, 2nd Lieuts P.BURNS and G.H.STANBURY M.M. and 4 O/Ranks.
	11	/9/:	18.	Training as per syllabus. Umrs
## ##	12	2/9/	18.	ditto ditto. Troopers J.F.DOYLE & C.V.SUARES sent to GABARI and F.P.Compound, Moascar, respectively.
	1	3/9,	/18.	Training, Brigade tactical scheme near SAFIRIYEH. 8th did the dismounted attack. Received 20 rides from Remounts.
**	1	4/9	/18.	Training, Divisional inspection & scheme. 8th carried out the dismounted attack against SAFIRIY EH. Officers were given a demonstration in demolition work on railways.
**	1.5	/9/	18.	No training.
"	16	/9/:	18	Training, Rapid loading 0500-0600, attack by squadrons, mounted and dismounted, 0830-1130. Regiment preparing to leave on operations. All bulky material and that not actually required on the march sent to dump and ordnance depots at LUDD.
"	17	19/18		Training as per Syllabus Regiment busy packing for more in operations tomely
	15	9/18		Parade of all Officers at Brigade. The Brigadier Jave instructions on operations on operations Regiment packing gear. More order issued more to start at 1830. Strength 20 of 404 of R
			1830	Parade of all Officers at Brigade. The Brigadier Save instructions on operations Regiment packing gear. Imore order issued more to start at 1830. Strength 20 off 407 of Regiment & more to start at 1830. Strength 20 off 407 of Regiment & Cal Start 11.) treported to Steadard 5th Cas Dir. 1/2 A. B. C. Hammerstey reported back to 10 L. H. Regt. Regiment ready to more tracked or the Call at 2110. Bevoraced. ONE?

or

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.)

Gonfidential Army Form C. 2118.

Page 3
Original Remarks.

		in manus	THE RESERVE THE PARTY OF THE PA
Place		Hour	Summary of Events and Information Remarks and references Appendice
	19/9/18	0630	Regiment ready to move + standing by for orders.
	11910	0840	Regiment ready to move + standing by for orders. Regiment moved in Brigade Column via Parona travelling North, 1205 Watered, 1330 Feders.
		105.	Watered at Sih & muhammed at hadi
		200	Off Spaddled " " Fedup, tent out local protection for night work
		1	of chance a former
	20/9/18	0015	Reveille Saddled up. Moved North passing through Letefe. Reached Leffund. Patrol (It Emmett + trop) sent to high ground at Salmis looking towards JENI Wakreds + Fedule Offsaddleds
		0300	Moved North passing through Zelefe.
		1130	Reached LETTUND Patrol (4/4 Emmett + troop) sent to high ground at Summe 10 -
		1200	Wakred + Fedul offsaddled.
	1	14-0	British & John J. F.
		100	Black to reg moved to SENNIN.
			Regiment remained at LEJJUN under Ausdir. Provided guard for Pof W Compound, and protection
	11		
0	1/9/18	0430	Regt moved out to JENNIN. Jork over you prisoners and escorted same back to LOTTIN.
			These prisoners were in the self of presoners and executed same back to LATTUN.
		1600	These prisoners were in an exhausted state still not arrive at LETTEIN until 1900
			Intelligence personnel sent to JENNIN to help Bde Intelligence Staff in Town until 1900
	11		I mara on of i compound 14000 presoners, lowers
	19/18	1400	moved to Il Titule. C. O rogan leader left for NAZAReth in motor Car to get disposefens o
	The second		for negiment to relieve 13" Car Origade There.
		1900	Regiment reached El Afrile. Rations drawn at dump.
		200	Be Aquadron moved to IVAZARETA to take over Journ Guard
		1300	Regiment reached & Affile. Rations drawn at dump. B. Squadron moved to NAZAReth to take over town quard Rest of Regiment moved off for NAZAReth to take over outpost duties outside town on FIBERIAS and HAIFA roads. A7092). Wt. W12839/M1292 750,000. 1/17. D. D. M. L., Lid. Forms/C2118/14.
			A7092). Wt. W12839/M1292 750,000. 1/17. D, D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
VAZARETA?	0/9/18	0500	Arrived NAZAReth Tom 18 lar Bde Defences of Town A + C Squas, Town friqueto Bogdin. Day spent in cleaning up town + reorganising in conjunction with Military Governor tom Reorganisation Yeleaning up proceeded with Patrols to Kefr Krima & Ailut. All quiet was	
	24/9/18		Reorganisation teleaning up proceeded with Patrols to Kefr Kanna & Ailut. all quick	2
	59/18	2000	A Sight moved off to recommothe TiBERIAS I captured that place at 1430 (see attached report Remainder of Brigade arrived at Mazareth + Regiment being relieved by the Grenol Caral (5h Bde) Joined column +proceeded to Tiberias.	
			Regiment provided a patrol to clear Best Lahm (reported full of Turks). No trace fenency found	
	26/9/18	1300	Arrived Tiberias. Major Thannon 150. To open sent to help to open to organize town.	
	11		I squadron and patrol to lagHBAH and vicinity. No casualties	
	1910	1400	Brigade moved along DAMASCUS road. Division held up on Tordan near Kush Atra. At 1600 the Regiment took up a position to five covering fire for 10th Regt to effect a crossing at the ford, the bridge having bee	
		1900	Browned river at 3-1 . Ille the Regiment	E CO
			Grossed river at Ford very little opposition, watered horses & with 10 = 14 Regt. proceeded to TAT Absein (one report attacked); was	EP 1916
				60

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Tolume 21. Page 5

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
	28/9/18	0730	Arrived at Tat Ahsein. 3 Snemy planes flew overhead + bombed bivources in vicinity. 4 of our planes flew over	
		0900	Regiment acked as Advance guard to Brigade + got as far as Teba with men	
			little opposition. No water at JEBA so Brigade Givonaced at 1800 at WADI north of KUNEITRA. No casualties throughout day. A good deal of abandoned mater	cal
	29/9/18.		Bironaced on small wadi North of Kurveitra until 1500. Men thorses enjoyed good rest. It Richardson evacuated to hospital	
		1500	Moved towards Damascus + Brigade held up at SASA. ght 10th LH. were put in to shift every but made no effect. At orso 8LH were sent in.	
	30/9/18		and was immediately loss with 9 410 1 H but A +ce dodn't went storichte	
			to SASA 4 10 h took up the advance, It 0315. This opened the road	
	30/9/18	-	111 Toron L -11 & KA-TONIA SOLWANDO	
		1700	Whole Ausdir attacked line as above. 3rd Brigade sweft to left side of Damas Bide took up paintion overlooking BEIRUT Road. Regiment held in reserve	cuo i
			I squatron with a wolated position towards TESSEYA on outlink to	P 1918
			catch stray parties. He casualtia. Major YH Walker M.C. formed up from Hospital.	6
			A7092). Wt. W12839/M129x 750,000, 1/17. D.D & L., Ltd. Forms/C2118/14.	之本

A.P. & S.D., Alex. $\frac{3087}{1225}$ /3: 18/1M. W.M. & Co.

WAR DIARY

OF

8th? AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGT.

FOR

SEPTEMBER

191 8

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No. Subject. Report on the appture of TIBERIAS. Report on operations 27/28th.Sept.1918. Report on operations 28/29th.Sept.1918. Scale of Rations. Syllabus of Training-Sept.2/18.to Sept. 8/1918. Syllabus of Training-September 9/16th.1918. Syllabus of Training-September 9/16th.1918. Summary of Strength.

Orginal.

Map Ref

8th A L H Regiment 30/9/18.

REPORT on the Capture of TIRERIAS by Capt L.A.W. MACPHERSON O COM Squadron SEP 1918

"A" Squadron 8th A L H moved from NAZARETH at 0500,25/9/18, and arrived at Y central at 1030. Patrols and L A M BATTERY were heavily fired on by machine gunsand automatic rifles, known to be six, north of the town. Two N C O prisoners reported 3 machine guns holding road leading North. I sent a detachment to Z8 centralto prevent escaping enemy using Beach road.

About 200 Turks, 3 motor cars, 2 motor lorries, retiring along this road were fired on from Z 8 central and all returned

to TIBERIAS, the motors being abandoned on the road.

The high ground from Z 15 to 22 central was held by machine guns. "C" Squadron, 12th L H Regiment arrived at EL MENARAH and reported to me about 1200. I interviewed the Squadron leader, and decided to put his squadron through J 8 and 4 and one troop of 8th Regt through J 14-15 and 22. The second troop of 8th Regimentwere sent through 20 and 21 to 22 central to make good M/ Gun positions on 22 central The L A M Battery was sent downthe road on the right of 8th Regt troops. Squares 20-21 and 22 were the only positions offering resistance It appeared their idea was to hold road leading to MEDJEL, but I had prevente d it being used by placing a de tachment with h/kiss Gun in Z 8 central Inhabitants gave reliable information at 1300 and I wired the 12th Regt squadron to commence demonstration at 1415.

I sent the armoured cars down the readat the same time and in advance of the squadrons. The 12th Regt squadron approached the town from the Southand the 8th Regt Squadronswept over the M/Gun positions immediately North of the town and entered from the North simultaneously with the armoured cars from the West and the

12th Regt Squadron from the South.

I arranged with Captain LOWING to supply the guards and picquets and patrol the streets duringthe night and I putbmy Squadron on outposts covering all roads leading from the North

The following wire wassent to at 1500 addressed 3rd L H
Brigade and 8th A L H, "Have occupied TIBERIAS aaa 20 German prisoners and a number of Turks not yet rounded up and Please wire orders"



849

- SEP 1918

8th A L H Regt

Original

REPORT on OPERATIONS at KUSR ATRA 27/28th Sept 1918

The Regiment went into action at 1600 on sector of line(approx 029-35 central, Pal Sheet 4), the idea being to give covering fire whilst the 10 th L H Regt crossed at ford at P 19c Very little counter fire was put up by the enemy, 2 m/guns and a few snipers evidently being all their troops in the vicinity. The 10th Regiment crossed without any serious resistance at about 1800, followed by the 8th at 1900. Guides were left at the crossings also a signal lamp to assist in shewing 9th L H and B H Q the route Thee 10th L H (leading), and the 8th L H were then guided by a intelligence (bedouin) agent to DAMASCUS road The track chosen was most difficulty and rocky and it took the column about 6 hours to get to TAT AHSEIN Communication with B H Q wasestablished at 0530 at Deir es Saros and the column then halted and rested

A large enemy ammunition dump was found abandoned at TAT AHSEIN and evidently this place has been a refilling place

No casualties occurred throughout the day At 0630 on the 28th 3 enemy planes flew over

brief

8th: A:L:H:Regiment 3rd October 1918, 10

REPORT on OPERATIONS at NUKAHS SASA, Night of 28/29th Sept, 1918

At about 0200 on the 29th Sept, the Regiment was ordered into, action to assist the 9th & 10th L H Regiments to clear the enemy off a ridge as they had delayed the advance of the Column for some considerable time. I could not find the 9th L H Regt, but met Major of the 10th L H Regt, who could give me no definite informations as regards the position of the enemy, except that they were holding to the ridge, apparently in force with rifles and machine guns

OLDEN to go in on my left. The Regiment advanced under heavy fire to within 500 yards of the enemy's position when I exdexed-discovered that the 10th Regiment had not advanced with us. I halted the line and and handed it over to Major Macpherson with instructions to keep up a heavy fire but not to advance unless the enemy's fire slackened off, and he thought they were trying to get away. I then went away to try and get reinforcements as it was absolutely necessary that the position should be taken before daylight. I found Captain MacDonald of the 10th Regton the road, who told me he had no orders, so I brought him along with me

When we were half way up the hill I found the position had been captured by the 8th Regt. There were 5 machine guns and much gear lying about but it was too dark and difficult to get a complete check of it.

It was impossible to pursue the enemy on foot owing to the very rough and precipitous ground, and the horses had to be taken some distance back out of range

The Regiment had no casualties, but 2 horses weres killed by

machine gun fire

The whole operation after handing over the led horses took about 30 minutes.

C 0 8th A L H Regiment

- SEP 1918

8th.AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGT.

Original

The following is the scale of rations ,that will operate for the future:-

1. a. On the man.

1. Unexpended portion of the day's ratiom.

ii. One special emergency ratiom.

iii. One Iron ration.

1. Unexpended portion of the day's ration.
ii. One special emergency forage ration.

2. On First line of transport.

a. One special emergency ration for man.

b. One special emergency forage ration for horse.

3. a. Vehicles with the Unit will consist of those vehicles that are necessary in action.

b. "A"Echelon will consist of those vehicles that carry S.A.A., and Technical stores and Equipment, excluding (a).

c. "B.1 "Echelon will consist of those vehicles which carry the supplies as laid down in para. 2.

d. "B.2" Echelon will consist of those vehicles which carry baggage.

Sd. W.McGRATH. Captain,
Adjutant, 8th.A.L.H.Regiment.

13/9/1918.

mus

8th A.L.H.Regiment.

PROGRAMME of TRAINING for the first WEEK as under.

September 2. 68th

	HOUR	SUBJECT.	MANUAL	HOUR	SUBJECT	MANEAL.
1st. Day 2/9//8	0500-0600.	Dismtd Troop Drill		Two hours in forenoon(depend-ent on watering hours.).	Mtd.troop Drill	Cav.Training Sec 119-128.
2nd.Day. 3/9/18.	Same a	s first Day.		S	ame as first Day.	
3rd.Day 4/9/18	0500-0600.	Rifle exercises. Emartening up Drill.		d e	de	de
4th Day 5/9/18.	0500-0600.	Care of Arms and Ammunition . Nechanism of Rifle.	Mus. Regs.Part.1 Sec.2,3,29.	de	do	do.
5th Day. 6/9/18	0500-0600.	Aiming and Trigger Pressing. Adjustment of Sights.	Mus.Regs.Part 1. Sec. 36, 38, & 43.	de	de	de
6th Day / 9/9/18.	0500-0600	Rapid Leading.		do	Mounting Dismounting Handing ever Her Leading Herses	

All available men are to attend Training Parades . All Camp duties will be cut down to the minimum possible.

Regimental signallers and Hotchkiss gunners will attend the first weeks training.

No dummy cartridges are available for rapid loading practices . Ball cartridge will have to be used and every attention must be given to safety precautions.

31/8/18.

(Sgd) W Mc.Grath Capt/Adj. 8th A.L.H.Regiment. = SEP 1918

8th.A.L.	H.Regiment.
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Programme of Training for the second week.

					9 W 16. September	918.
DAY.	HOUR.	SUBJECT.	MANUAL.	HOUR.	SUBJECT.	MANUAL.
Monday. 9/9/18	0500-0600.	Dismounted.	Training with the Sword.	0900-1200.	(Riding with the rifle(by troops) (Practice of charge formation with; (out swords.(by troops). (Troop drill at faster paces (trot).	Cav Ing. Sec 80. Cav. Ing Secs, 204 -207.
Tuesday.	19 09		**	19 19	19 19	19 19
Wednesday.	61 65	**	**	0900-1200.	(1 hour swordsmanship, mounted. (2 hours squadron drill.	Tng with the swa sword. Cav Tng Secs129-
Thursday.	11 19		09	- 11	49 44	136-
Friday.	69 69	2	69	19 19	Tactical exercise by troops.	4
Saturday. 14/9/18	69 69	Musk Regs Part Secs 260-263.	II U	" "	Tactical exercise by squadron.	

TROOP TACTICAL EXERGISE. Attack by troop forming part of an advance guard without waiting for other assistance memory post estimated at half their own strength. To bring mount co-operation of H.G. with remainder of troop using mounted action- on same principles as similiar exercise carried out at BELAH in March last.

SATURDAY. actical exercise as above but carried out by squadron.

HOTCHKISS GUNS. Hotchkiss teams will receive special instruction in their gun at the early morning paradein lieu of training set out in the programme. During the mounted swordsmanship instruction in the forence parade the H.Gs will be detached and will carry on specialist training.

SIGNALLERS. Regimental and squadron signallers will be detached and will carrym out programme of training to be issued separately. Swords and rifle buckets will be carried all by all ranks other than signallers and Hotchkiss

RAPID LOADING. No dummy cartridges are available for Rapid Loading practice. Ball cartridges will have to be used and every attention must be given to safety precautions.

W.McGRATH Capt/Adjt. 8th A.L.H.Regiment.

at fil d'original

- SEP 1918

AMENDED PROGRAMME OF TRAINING FOR SECOND WEEK? 9th to 15th SEPTEMBER, 19	AMENDED	PROGRAMME	OF TRAINING	FOR	SECOND	WEEK?	9th	to	15th	SEPTEMBER,	191
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260-263.

	William E	HOGHAMMEN OF ALLES	madi mation as one	THE REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND			
DAY.	TIME.	SUBJECT. M	ANUAL.	TIME S	SUBJECT.	MANUAL.	
Monday.	0500-0600.	Swordsmanship Dismounted.	Trng. 0 with Swhed.	900-1200.	Riding with Rifle by Troops. Practice of Charge. Troop Drill at fast paces.	Cav. Trng.	Sea 80.
Tuesday.	**	**	**		One hours Swordsmanship, Mounted. Two hours Squadron Drill.		the Mord. Secs.129-136.
Wednesday	7. 10	60	88		One hours Swordsmanship, Mounted. Two hours Regimental Drill.	THE STATE OF THE S	the Sword. Secs.137-142.
Thursday	, 11	49		11	Tactical exercise by Troops.		
Friday.	*	Rapid Loading.	Müs.Regs Part 11.		Brigade Scheme.		

Saturday. Bivisional Exercise.

Troop Tactical Exercise. Attack by Troop forming part of an advance guard without waiting for other assis tances on enemy post estimated at half their own strength. To bring out co-operation of H.G. with remainder of Troop, using mounted action on same principle as similar exercise at Belah in March last.

- SEP 1918

Original (

- SEP 1918

· SUMMARY MONTH SEPTEMBER STRENGTH FOR

1918

September 1st.1918:-

13 Off.322 O/rs.

Marched in:

Transferred.

Reinforcements: 9 Offrs. 126 o/rs. From Hospital. 2 Offrs. 9 o/rs.

1 o/r. **

11 Offrs. 136 o/rs.

Marched Out: .

Evac. to Hospital. 4 Offrs. 83 o/rs. 3 0/rs. Transferred.

4 Offrs. 86 o/rs.

Increase:

7 Offrs. 50 o/rs.

September 30th.1918:

20 Offrs. 372 o/rs.

Average Strength for Month: - 18.4 Offrs. 389.6 o/rs.

30/9/18.

AmeGrat Captain,/Adjutant 8th. A.L.H.Regt., A.I.F. Er.E. F.

