

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/10/44

Title: 5th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

August 1918

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DUPLICATE.
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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

August

FOR

August

1918

Signature of Officer compiling _____

Signature of Officer Commanding _____

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE-SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

FOR MONTH OF August, 1918.
5th Light Horse Regiment, A.I.F. Army Form C. 2118.
2nd Light Horse Brigade,
A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.
Sheet No. I.

646/1

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
TALAAT ED DUMM	1st) 2nd) 3rd) 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th		<p>Usual Camp routine. Training of Signallers and Hotchkiss Riflemen carried out daily. W.K.B.</p> <p>A special Church Parade was held at Brigade Headquarters to commemorate the anniversary of the beginning of the war. W.K.B.</p> <p>Usual Camp routine. W.K.B.</p> <p>Working party of 30 O/R's stoning wet ground, round Brigade watering troughs. W.K.B.</p> <p>General kit inspection.</p> <p>A number of men have been evacuated sick since the Regiment left the JORDAN VALLEY, men seem to be rather run down, especially the original members. W.K.B.</p> <p>Regimental inoculation parade, T.A.B. W.K.B.</p> <p>The Corps Commander inspected the Brigade at 1100, dismounted, dress - drill order. The Regiment marched to B.H.Q. and there formed up in a hollow square formation. After the inspection the Corps Commander addressed the Brigade? This was a very trying parade as it was exceptionally hot and a number of the men had to leave before the parade was dismissed.</p> <p>Handed over the Area stores at 1700 to the 12th Light Horse Regiment.</p> <p>The weather during the time we have been at TALAAT ED DUMM was very hot until about 1500 when a cool breeze invariably sprung up. The breeze often freshening into a strong wind, raising dense clouds of dust. The wind usually died down at about 2100.</p> <p>The Regiment marched out for new camp. A good march throughout; arrived at new camp, three miles nearer HEBRON than SOLOMON'S POOLS, at 0430 on the 10th August, 1918. W.K.B.</p>	
Nr. SOLOMON'S POOLS	10th 11th		<p>The day was occupied forming camp, pitching tents, making roads, etc.</p> <p>Transport arrived at 1000, it was delayed through an accident, one limber falling over a bank owing to a broken brake.</p> <p>Weather cool, without dust.</p> <p>Horses rugged at night. W.K.B.</p> <p>A sergeant and 12 men left for JERUSALEM to load A.I.F. gift stores for Brigade.</p> <p>A Leave Party of 40 O/R's left this morning at 0545 for JERUSALEM en route for PORT SAID, Rest Camp.</p> <p>F.Q.M.S. COOK and six men left for JERUSALEM to attend the official opening of the Empire Soldiers' Club.</p> <p>Eighty cases of goods from Australian Comforts Fund arrived and were distributed to the Regiment. W.K.B.</p>	

- AUG 1918

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

For month of August, 1918
5th Light Horse Regiment, A.I.F.,
2nd Light Horse Brigade,
A. & N.Z. Mounted Division.
Sheet No. 2

E 46/2

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Nr. SOLOMON'S POOLS	13th		One officer, 3 N.C.O.'s and 30 men relieved the 6th Light Horse Regiment as picquet in JERUSALEM.	
	14th		Major R.H. NIMMO returned from Senior Officers Course. <i>WKB</i>	
	15th		14 O/R's left to attend the Feast of Assumption at JERUSALEM. <i>WKB</i>	
	16th		Usual camp routine. <i>WKB</i>	
			Regimental inoculation parade, T.A.B., second dose.	
			One officer, three N.C.O.'s and 28 O/R's reported to Anzac Divisional Headquarters as BETHLEHEM picquet. <i>WKB</i>	
	17th		JERUSALEM picquet returned.	
			Gas course at Brigade Headquarters commenced to-day, 12 N.C.O.'s attended. <i>WKB</i>	
	18th		A general clean up in anticipation of inspection by G.O.C. Division. <i>WKB</i>	
	19th		The Regiment was inspected by G.O.C. Division, who expressed his satisfaction, and instructed the Commanding Officer to convey this to all ranks. <i>WKB</i>	
	20th		Several Officers and N.C.O.'s have been to the A.F.C., JERUSALEM, to attend Course in Contact Patrol work. Duration of Course has been three days. <i>WKB</i>	
	21st		Major A.G. BOLINGBROKE, D.S.O., returned from leave in the United Kingdom. <i>WKB</i>	
	22nd		Area stores were returned to-day to Descorps Reinforcement Camp, JERUSALEM.	
KILO 3	23rd		Captain W.K. BARWISE assumed duties as Adjutant vice Lieut. C.E. SCOTT on leave. <i>WKB</i>	
	24th		At 1600 Brigade marched from SOLOMON'S POOLS area to KILO 3, arriving there at 2100. <i>WKB</i>	
			Brigade left KILO 3 at 0330 arriving at KILO 17 (TALAAT ED DUMM) at 0600.	
			Very hot day with strong wind and dust storm during the afternoon. <i>WKB</i>	
	25th		Brigade left KILO 17 at 0400, arriving at bivouac area near TEL EL SULTAN at 0800.	
AUJA BRIDGE HEAD			At 1800 Regiment marched to AUJA BRIDGE HEAD relieving one Regiment of 12th Cavalry Brigade (STAFFORD YEOMANRY). Relief completed at 2020. <i>WKB</i>	
	26th		One officer, and 32 O/R's, with two Hotchkiss Rifles, on patrol East of JORDAN. The mission of this patrol being to clear country East and North of AUJA BRIDGE HEAD defences.	
	27th		Captain H. WEEHERELL left on three weeks leave in United Kingdom. <i>WKB</i>	
			At 0330 2/Lieut. GILLESPIE and 32 O/R's, with two Hotchkiss Rifles, left camp, returning at 2000, having established the usual line of outposts throughout the day. Two deserters (Turkish) were captured. <i>WKB</i>	
	28th		Lieut. A.B. CRAWFORD in charge of usual day patrols and observations posts.	
			Parade was held at D.H.Q. and the C.in C. presented ribbons to recipients of decorations. <i>WKB</i>	

Reference Maps
Jericho B. 6 1/40000
Nimrin B. 7 1/40000
Salt. C. 4 1/40000

AUG 1918

(A7092). Wt. W12839/M1293. 750,000. 1/17. D. D. & L., Ltd. Forms/C.2118/14.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

For month of August, 1918
5th Light Horse Regiment, A.I.F.
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Sheet No. 3.

E 46/3

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
AUJA BRIDGE HEAD	29th		<p>At 0200, one Squadron, under Major W. PATRICK, left camp, fording the JORDAN and proceeding via No. 10 Post along East bank of river to a position in B.7./F.21.c.7.8. Usual line of day observation posts was established, the remainder of the squadron taking cover in broken ground close to JORDAN. Two patrols of I N.C.O. & 4 men each were sent to North and South Woods to watch any enemy movement from the South or East.</p> <p>A special patrol of I Officer (2/Lieut. R.B. WILLIAMSON) and 14 other ranks left B.7./F.21.c.7.8. at 0330.</p> <p><u>Mission</u> To verify reports that a continuous wire fence has been erected in front of enemy defences from B.6./F.2.b. - B.6./F.3.c. & d. - B.7/F.4.a & b. - B.7/F.5.a. & d. - B.7/F.6.c. thence South to about B.7/F.12.a. & d.</p> <p><u>Route</u> Patrol proceeded North to DEAD HORSE HILL, B.7/F.14.b. - thence on a bearing of 40° to approximately B.7/F.4.d. thence North for approximately 1400 yards to C.7/C.34. The patrol then dismounted and proceeded on foot for about one hundred yards. At this point rifle fire was met with, and enemy flares were fired on both flanks at from 150 to 200 yards distance, one of these flares burst in the middle of the patrol - the second in front - the third bursting overhead.</p> <p>It was now daylight and parties of the enemy were observed working round on either flank of the patrol. The enemy were firing volleys from the front and both flanks. No machine guns were used. The patrol now withdrew.</p> <p><u>Information Gained</u> A continuous wire fence exists from JORDAN, F.3. Central approximately. Wire also exists between approximately F.5. and F.6. running in direction of foot hills; none was observed running South towards F.12 though dense scrub makes observation extremely difficult.</p> <p>It would appear there is a gap roughly between F.4. & F.5. through which patrol advanced. This gap is held by strongly manned trenches entrenched posts in front and on either flank. Patrol crossed empty trenches, but firing came from behind these. It would appear that the intention of the enemy was to cut off our patrol from the apparent opening in the barbed wire. As the patrol had withdrew enemy 77 mm gun opened on them from N.E. firing three shells. Patrol reported back to squadron at 0510.</p> <p>Our casualties were 1 O/R wounded, 1 horse wounded. <i>W.K.B.</i></p> <p>Usual patrols East of JORDAN, one deserter (Turk) captured on 31st. <i>W.K.B.</i></p> <p>Owing to Malaria and other Febrile complaints the number of men evacuated from the Regt. sick during the month (August, 1918) exceeded the total evacuations on account of sickness during the <i>previous eighteen months.</i> <i>W.K.B.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">R. B. Williamson</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Commanding 5th Light Horse Regiment, A.I.F. Lieut. Col. - AUG 1918</p>
	30th) 31st)			