

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/4/9**

**Title: 4th Australian Light Horse**  
**Brigade**

September 1917

---4TH. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.---

---WAR DIARY.---

VOLUME . 1 .

PAGES. 47 to 50.

APPENDICES. 160 to 169.

1st October, 1917.

*Frank Kenyon*

Major,

Brigade Major,

4th A.L.H. Brigade.

- SEP 1917

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

4<sup>th</sup> LH Bde  
Page 47. Vol I

E40/1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FUKHARI AREA.	1/9/17		At 0530 the 4 <sup>th</sup> Bde moved out to EL GAMLI and remained in support to the Geomany Mounted Division which was on Reconnaissance in KHALASSA area. The Bde arrived at GAMLI at 0820 and left at 1615 arriving back in Camp at 1920. Quiet day, nothing to report.	
	3/9/17		Lient A. Dobson 12 L. H. Regt reported to B. H. Q as understudy to Staff Capt. Syllabus of Training week ending 8 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1917 submitted to Div HQS	Appen 160
	4/9/17	1630	Bde Staff Cos & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt Commanders carried out staff Ride. Tactical exercise Night outposts. Capt M A Brown to Div HQS as understudy GSO 2	
	5/9/17	0700	Staff Ride continued. Corps MA Officer visited the Bde	
	6/9/17		11 <sup>th</sup> LH Regt carried out Tactical scheme. AOC Div visited the Bde. 3 Officers & 4 other ranks marched out to PORT SAID Rest camp.	
	8/9/17	0442	Bde Scouts 3 Sjt 15 men formed and commenced training orders received for Practice Turn out. Units received orders at 0445 Bde was in position at 0605. Satisfactory Turn out.	
	9/9/17		Syllabus of Training submitted	Appen 161
	10/9/17		OC Australian Records 3 <sup>rd</sup> Echelon visited the Brigade	
	11/9/17		12 <sup>th</sup> LH fired Rapid & Classification. 4 <sup>th</sup> LH carried out Tactical Scheme	
	12.9.17		Divisional Operation No 9 received for move to FARA to take over duties of outposts AOC visited HQ Desert Corps.	

*Leobden Major*

- SEP 1917

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

4<sup>th</sup> ALH Bde

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.

Vol. I Page ~~47~~ 48

E40/2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
FUKHARI.	18.9.17	1000	Brig. Gen W GRANT DSO took over command of 4 <sup>th</sup> ALH Bde Brig. Gen J. B. MEREDITH DSO handed over command of 4 <sup>th</sup> ALH Bde 1630 Brigade Parade for Gen MEREDITH prior to his departure for Australia Special order by Brig Gen J B MEREDITH DSO	Appen 162
	14.9.17	1000	Brigade Operation order No 29 issued for move to FARA	Appen 163
	15.9.17	0700	Bde major and Representatives of units visited bivouac sites at FARA	
	16.9.17	1215	Drs inspected Bde horses	
	17.9.17		Nominal Roll of officers and other ranks to attend schools ZEITOUN submitted to D HQ. Schools to commence on 24.9.17	Appen 164
TEL EL FARA	18.9.17	0700	4 <sup>th</sup> ALH Bde moved from FUKHARI via WEI SHEIKH NURAN to FARA.	
		0915	Arrived at FARA	
		0945	Relief of 6 <sup>th</sup> MTD Bde completed. Bivouacs taken over very clean & in sanitary condition.	
			Lieut H Marland 11 <sup>th</sup> ALH attached as understudy to Staff Capt. Lieut DOBSON	
			12 <sup>th</sup> ALH returned to Regimental Duty.	
	20.9.17		Major FEATHERSTON HAVON representing Brigade attended conference on Hotchkiss gun Pack saddling at Desert Corps HQs. OC 146 Sqn attended conference at D HQ	

Col Penry Major

- SEP 1917

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

H<sup>1</sup> & H Bde

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.

Vol. I Page ~~48~~ 49

E40/3

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA	20.9.17	0700	Bde major and all officers not acquainted with the present day out post line reconnoitred same from GOZ EL BITSAH to Hill 300.	
		1600	Divisional Order No 10 received. Day & Night outposts.	
	22.9.17	0955	Divisional Order No 11 received Divisional Order No 12 received for Reconnaissance	
		1700	Conference of all officers at BTR. Officers & OR for schools commencing 24 <sup>th</sup> entrained at SHEIKH NURAN	
		1730	Bde Operation order No 30 issued on Div Order No 12	Appen 165
	23.9.17	1330	Bde left front line wire for MAALAGA.	
		1800	Bde in position and night outposts in position. Bde bivouaced for the night.	
	24.9.17	0730	Bde moved out on to the line GOZ EL GELEIB - IBN SAHID - 970 without opposition. Port Said Rest party 40ff & 66 left for Port Said	
		1530	Withdrawn to line 780 W EL ISSAD - 780 ABU GHALYUN	
		1700	Withdrawn to ESANI & bivouaced for the night	
	25.9.17	0700	Bde left ESANI & moved to FARA arriving 1030.	
		2100	Report on operations of the 23 <sup>rd</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup>	Appen 166
		2230	Orders received for one Regt to occupy line 760 - MAALAGA - 780 - RASHID BEK by 0930 to cover a reconnaissance by Desert Corps Officers.	
	26.9.17	0600	12 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> Regt left front line wire to cover the above reconnaissance	

Lt Col King Major

- SEP 1917

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

4<sup>th</sup> LIT Bde

Vol I Page ~~49~~ 50 E40/4

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TEL EL FARA.	26.9.17		List of Recommendations for award & mention submitted by 4 <sup>th</sup> LIT Bde up to 15 <sup>th</sup> sept. 1917.	Appen 167
		16.15	Syllabus of Training week ending 3 <sup>rd</sup> October. 12 <sup>th</sup> LIT Regt all in from ESANI.	Appen 168.
	27.9.17	12.00	Bde operation order No 21 issued. Day & Night outposts.	Appen 169
	28.9.17	07.30	Party of officers visited Day outposts.	
		17.00	Conference of Bde majors at Div HQs.	
	29.9.17		4 <sup>th</sup> LIT Regt fired Range Practices on AHAB Range. 30 officers and 90 NCOs underwent 2 hours gas training by DGO.	
	30.9.17	15.00	Div order No 13 Received Reinforcements for the month 5 Officers 164 OR Remounts - - - 58 Riders 17 Draft 4 Pack 96 Donkeys.	

Leah Stenye Major  
Brigade Major  
4<sup>th</sup> LIT Bde

30/9/17

- SEP 1917

✓  
---4TH. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.---

E 40/5

APPENDICES FOR WAR DIARY. NOS. 160 to 169.

1st October, 1917.

*Leah Stenpe*

Major,  
Brigade Major,  
4th A.L.H. Brigade.

- SEP 1917

Reference EL SHELLAL  
1/40000.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING, 4TH A.L.H. BRIGADE.

Week ending 8th September 1917.

*Appendix 160*

*E40/6*

Unit.	Place of Parade.	Nature of Drill and Instruction.	Hour.	Date.
4th L.H. Regt.)	Range.	Grouping 100 yards, classification 200 yards, 5 rounds each range.	0530 - 1800	3/9/17.
11th L.H. Regt.)	W 30 X 25 & 26.	Squadron training in Dismounted advance to the attack lines of advance and objectives. Organization of lines with correct extensions. Artillery formations. Communications. Use of ground and cover.	0700 - 0900	3/9/17.
12th L.H. Regt.)				
4th L.H. Regt.)	W 36 X 31 & 32	Squadron training as for 11th & 12th Regts. above.	0700 - 0900	4/9/17.
11th L.H. Regt.)	Squares as above.	Squadron training Dismounted advance to the attack. Preliminary training in the opening stages of the attack. Mutual support. Use of ground and cover. Reinforcing Firing line.		
12th L.H. Regt.)				
4th L.H. Regt.)		Squadron training as for 11th & 12th Regts. on the 4/9/17	0700 - 0900	5/9/17.
11th L.H. Regt.)	Squares as above.	Squadron training dismounted advance attack & <u>assault</u> . Consolidation of positions. Ammunition supply.		
12th L.H. Regt.)				
4th L.H. Regt.)		Squadron training as for 11th & 12th Regts. on 5/9/17.	0700 - 0900	6/9/17.
11th L.H. Regt.)	Squares as above.	Regimental training combining Syllabus for Squadron training of the 3rd, 4th & 5th September.	0700 - 0900	"
12th L.H. Regt.)	Range.	Grouping 100 yards. Classification 200 yards.	0530 - 1800	"

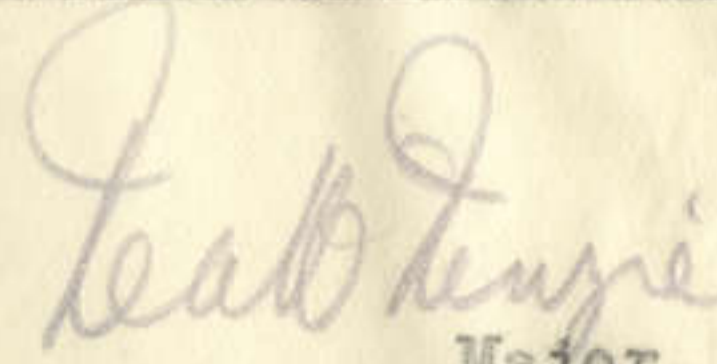


SYLLABUS OF TRAINING CONTINUED.

E40/7

Unit.	Place of Parade.	Nature of Drill and Instruction.	Hour.	Date.
4th L.H. Regt.		Regimental training combining Squadron training of the 4th, 5th, and 6th September.	0700 - 0900	7/9/17.
11th L.H. Regt.	<u>Range.</u> Range.	----- Completion of 100 yards grouping and 200 yards classification. And Rapid 200 yards 5 rounds. -----	0530 - 1800	7/9/17.
12th L.H. Regt.		Regimental training combining Squadron training of the 3rd, 4th & 5th September.	0700 - 0900	7/9/17.
4th L.H. Regt.		Competition of Musketry. Half hours gas drill. Weekly Inspections.	0500 - 0900	8/9/17.
11th L.H. Regt.		----- Half hours gas drill. Weekly inspection. -----		
12th L.H. Regt.		Completion of musketry. Half hours gas drill. Weekly inspections	0900 - 1300	8/9/17.

2nd September, 1917.

  
 Major,  
 Brigade Major,  
 4th A.L.H. Brigade.

Reference KL SHELLAL 1/40,000.

-- 4TH A.L.H. BRIGADE --  
 -- SYLLABUS OF TRAINING --  
 -- Week ending 15th September --



*Appendix 161*  
*E40/8*

Unit.	Place.	Nature of Work or Instruction.	Hour.	Date.
4th L.H. Regt.	Lines.	Duty Regiment. Cleaning equipment. Short instruction for rapid firing.	0700-0900	10/9/17.
11th "	"	W30 X 25 & 26 (Troop training, closed and extended formation, Action. Occupation of positions. Special attention being paid to the drill in all movements.	0600-0900	"
12th "	"	W24 X 19 & 20	"	"
4th L.H. Regt.	Lines.	Regimental Tactical Scheme as for the 8th. Duty Regiment. Cleaning equipment and saddlery.	0700-0900	11/9/17.
11th "	Squares.	<del>Mounted drill as for Monday.</del>	0600-0800	"
12th "	"	"	"	"
4th L.H. Regt.	Range.	200 yards rapid, 5 rounds.	0500-1230	12/9/17.
11th "	Squares.	Mounted drill as for Monday.	0700-0900	"
12th "	Lines.	200 yards rapid, 5 rounds. Duty Regiment. Cleaning equipment. Short instruction in rapid firing.	1230-1800 0700-0900	"
4th L.H. Regt.	Squares.	Squadron Training, advanced drill.	0600-0800	13/9/17.
11th "	Range.	" " " " " "	0700-0900	"
12th "	"	Range Practices, 200 yards Rapid, 300 yards application.	0530-1800	"
4th L.H. Regt.	Squares.	Advanced Training in Regimental Drill.	0600-0800	14/9/17.
12th "	"	" " " " " "	0700-0900	"
11th "	"	Duty Regiment.	"	"
4th L.H. Regt.	Lines.	} Gas Training and weekly inspections.	Morning.	15/9/17.
11th "	"			
12th "	"			

*12th Range all day*  
*4th Range all day*  
*11th Mtd Drill*  
*11th Range all day*  
*12th Mtd Drill*

- SEP 1917

9th September, 1917.

*Leah Jenzi*  
 Major,  
 Brigade Major,  
 4th A.L.H. Brigade.

SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

4TH A. MACHINE GUN SQUADRON. W/E 15/9/17.


 No. BG/137.  
 Date 9/9/17.  
 AUST. M.G. DIV.  
*Append 161*  
*E40/9*

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Nature of Work or Instruction.</u>	<u>Hour.</u>	<u>Date.</u>
N.W. of M.G. Lines.	Section Training. Action. Mounted and dismounted Advance.	0600-0800 0700-0900	10/9/17.
"	Section Training. Artillery Formations. Co-operation with dismounted action. No.1 Section will accompany 4th L.H. Regiment on Tactical Exercises. Half hours' Gas Drill.	0600-0800 0700-0900 1800-1830	11/9/17. " "
"	Consolidation of Positions. Concealment of Guns.	0600-0800 0700-0900 "	12/9/17. "
"	Squadron Tactical Exercises, <del>with view to co-operation</del> Rearguard Action in co-operation with Regiments.	0600-0800 0700-0900 "	13/9/17. "
"	Squadron Tactical Exercises. With view to co-operation with Regiments in an Advance.	0600-0800 0700-0900 "	14/9/17. "
"	Weekly Inspections by Section Officers. Cleaning of saddlery and ammunition.	0600-0800 0700-0900 "	15/9/17. "

9th September, 1917.

*Leah Tenzie*  
 Major,  
 Brigade Major,  
 4th A.L.H. Brigade.

- SEP 1917

SPECIAL ORDER

By

Brigadier General J.B. MEREDITH D.S.O.  
Commanding

4th. Australian Light Horse Brigade

*Append 162*

*E 40/10*

SEP 1917

13th. September '17.

In relinquishing command of the 4th. Australian Light Horse Brigade, I wish to express my sincere thanks to Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and men for the manner in which they carried out their onerous duties at all times, often under most trying circumstances.

In bidding the "Brigade" Goodbye I know that any work given to them will be carried out in such a manner as to reflect credit on them.

I especially wish to thank my Commanding Officers and my Brigade Staff for their loyal support in helping me to carry out my duties.

I wish you all God Speed and a quick and safe return victoriously to your homes.

*J. B. Meredith* Brigadier General.  
*Commanding 4<sup>th</sup> ALHBde*

*File W.D.*

SECRET

E 40/11  
COPY NO. 1

BRIGADE OPERATION ORDER NO. 29.

by  
Brigadier-General W. GRANT, D.S.O.  
Commanding  
4th Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Appen 16 3  
- SEP 1917

Reference : 1/125,000.

14th September 1917.

1. The following reliefs take place on the 18th September 1917.
  - (a) The Australian Mounted Division less 5th Mtd. Bde. and with 7th Mtd. Bde. (less one regiment and 20th M.G. Squadron) attached, will relieve the Yeomanry Mtd. Divn. as Forward Mtd. Division.
  - (b) The A. & N.Z. Mtd. Divn. moves from MARAKEB to FUK HARI and replaces the Australian Mtd. Divn. in support.
  - (c) The Yeomanry Mtd. Divn. proceeds, on relief, to MARAKEB.
2.
  - (a) 7th Mtd. Bde. relieves 22nd. Mtd. Bde. in the GAMLI area and takes over the GHABI Works.
  - (b) 3rd A.L.H. Bde. takes over the outpost line by 1100 on 18th September, and bivouacs in the SHELLIAL area.
  - (c) 4th A.L.H. Bde. with "A" Battery H.A.C. attached will relieve the 6th Mtd. Bde. in the FARA area at 1000, and will move as follows:-  
STARTING POINT : Rifle Range.  
ORDER OF MARCH :

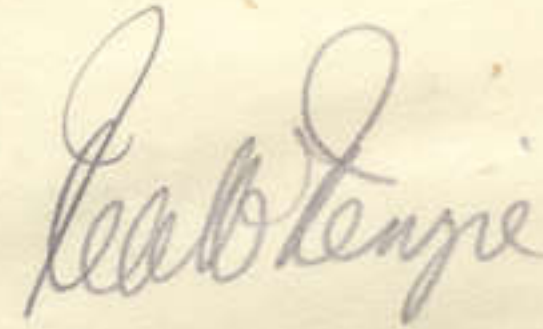
B.H.Q., Signal Troop and 4th L.H. Regt.	0700
11th A.L.H. Regt.	0715
12th A.L.H. Regt.	0730
M.G. Sqdn., "A" Battery H.A.C., Field Amb.	0745
Transport	0800

Units will move in a formation suitable against attacks from the air.  
ROUTE : Via Gap North of EL SHAUTH to TEL EL FARA.
3. REAR PARTIES : Regiments will leave one troop under an officer, other units rear parties under an N.C.O. to hand over bivouacs and area stores and to ensure that the Bde. Area is clean. The A. & N.Z. Divn. are due to arrive by 1200.  
All parties on handing over will report to Lieut. DOBSON, 12th A.L.H. Regt. at the present Bde. Headquarters, who will instruct the whole party to proceed to FARA.
4. ADVANCED PARTIES. Regiments will detail an officer and 6 men, other units an N.C.O. and three men to report to the Staff Captain at 0600 on the 18th to proceed to FARA and take over area stores and bivouacs of the 6th Mtd. Bde. Field Ambulance will detail a Medical Officer to accompany this party.  
Units will take over the bivouacs occupied when last at FARA. The Field Officer will accompany the above party.
5. The Bde. will water at FARA on the morning of the 18th September, after arriving in bivouac in the order of march. 4th A.L.H. Regiment will detail a Bde. pumping party of 1 Sgt. and 14 men to report to the Field Officer at the troughs on arrival at FARA.  
The Field Officer will receive instructions as to the allotment of troughs from the Divisional Water Officer, who will be in the area at 0900 on 18th instant.
6. The necessity of leaving the present bivouacs clean and in a sanitary condition is impressed on all units.  
Units will arrange to clean up the intervening ground between units.  
The Bde. Sanitary Officer will forward the usual certificates as to the cleanliness of bivouacs.

SEP 1917

E 40/12

7. DUTIES. The guards on Watering Area KHAN YUNUS, Field Cashier's Office Desert Mtd. Corps; and dismounted orderlies for G.S. Desert Mtd. Corps, will be relieved by A. & N.Z. Division at 0800 and units will arrange to withdraw them at that hour.
8. SUPPLIES. Brigade Ration Dump will be about same spot as when last in FARA Area. The usual Ration ~~Party~~ <sup>Party</sup> will report to Supply Officer at that point at 1000 18th instant.
9. TRANSPORT. Units will notify this office by 1800 14th instant the number of camels (calculated at 350 lbs per camel) necessary to move the usual stores.  
Wheel transport will proceed in one echelon with each unit's transport in same order of march as the units, under command of Bde. Transport Officer. Point of Assembly - just East of Ablution Area.
10. AREA STORES. ~~Units will leave rear parties to hand over their bivouacs to units of A. & N.Z. Mtd. Div. who are due to arrive by 1200.~~ <sup>Units</sup>  
Units will see that all area stores as rendered in their weekly returns are handed over complete to incoming units, and obtain receipt for same. Cookhouses and reserve water tanks will be included.
11. Units will report without delay when they have marched in <sup>at</sup> FARA.
12. Divisional Headquarters will close at ABASAN at 1100 and will open at the same hour 2 miles west of FARA.
13. ACKNOWLEDGE.



Major,  
Brigade Major,  
4th A.L.H. Brigade.

14th September, 1917.

Issued at 1000.

Copies to

1. War Diary.
2. " "
3. Camp Commandant.
4. Supply Officer.
5. 4th M.G. Sqdn.
6. 4th Signal Troop.
7. 4th A.L.H. Regt.
8. 11th A.L.H. Regt.
9. 12th A.L.H. Regt.
10. 4th Field Ambulance.
11. 4th Field Troop.
12. 9th A. Mob. Vet. Section.
13. "A" Battery H.A.C.

-----

E40/13

SEP 1917

Appen 16 4

NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS AND OTHER RANKS ATTENDING COURSES AT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION ZEITOUN.

RG/151  
17-9-17

Course.	No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Commences.	Duration.
Hotchkiss "A"	216	Lieut.	ROBEY	12th L.H.	24/9/17	10 days.
	2322	Tpr.	BONE, R.	" "	"	"
	2304	L/Cpl.	DENNIS, W.L.	4th L.H.	"	"
	1571	Tpr.	ATKINS, P.	" "	"	"
Hotchkiss "B"	1352	"	JOHNSTONE S.H.	11th B.H.	"	"
	724	Tpr.	NEILD, G.H.	12th L.H.	4/10/17.	10 days.
	868	L/Cpl.	JENKINS, W.H.	4th L.H.	"	"
	1884	Tpr.	LEHLE, J.H.	11th L.H.	"	"
Vickers H.G.		"	EATHER, Mca.	" "	"	"
	64	L/Cpl.	STACK, J.	4th H.G.S.	24/9/17	3 weeks.
Tactical H.G.	679	Cpl.	WILLS, C.S.	4th H.G.S.	24/9/17	3 weeks.

2/Lieut KREIG LT 11<sup>th</sup> L.H.  
for Cav. course *Robert Stenpe*

17th September, 1917.

Major,  
Brigade Major,  
4th A.L.H. Brigade.

DG.149.  
16-9-17.

*E40/14*

SEP 1917

To 4th A.L.H. Regt.  
11th " "  
12th " "  
4th A.H.G. Squadron.

1. The following vacancies for the 31st Course at ZEITOUN are allotted:-

Course.	Unit.	Offs.	N.C.O's.	O/Rks.	Commenc.	Duration.
Tactical. H.G.	4th H.G.S.	-	-	1	24/9/17	3 weeks.
H.G. Vickers.	4th H.G.S.	-	-	1	24/9/17	3 weeks.
Hotchkiss "A"	4th L.H. Regt.	-	-	2	24/9/17	10 days.
	11th " "	-	-	1	"	"
	12th " "	1	-	1	"	"
Hotchkiss "B"	4th L.H. Regt.	-	-	1	4/10/17	10 days.
	11th " "	-	-	2	"	"
	12th " "	-	-	1	"	"
Total.		1	-	10		

2. Nominal Rolls will be rendered to reach the School by the Thursday previous to the commencement of the course. Copies are not required to be sent to General Headquarters.
3. N.C.O's and men attending the courses should be paid as far as possible up to date before leaving their units.
4. Attention is drawn to instructions regarding attendance etc. of candidates at I.S.I. ZEITOUN.
5. Nominal Rolls to reach this office by 1200 on 17th September.

16/9/17.

*Leab Tenzie*  
Major,  
Brigade Major,  
4th A.L.H. Brigade.



## MIGRAIN OPERATION ORDER NO. 30

by  
 Brigadier-General W. GRAVE, D.S.O.  
 Commanding  
 4th Australian Light Horse Brigade.

E40/15

SEP 1917

## Reference 1/125000 Map.

1. A reconnaissance is being carried out on the 24th September by the Australian Mounted Division of the water in the BEANI - KHALASA area, and of the roads in the BEANI - GOE SIKHILIL - ASLUT - KHALASA area.
2. The line GOE EL GEMIL 4½ miles S.E. of KHALASA - IMI SAID - 970 - 840 - 720 - 630 - 510 is being made good by 1100 on the 24th September.
3. MOVEMENT. September 23rd.
  1. The 7th Mounted Brigade will march at 1400 via GOE HARRUK to RASHID IMI where they will bivouac the night 23rd - 24th.
  2. The 4th A.L.H. Brigade with "A" Battery H.A.C. attached will leave PARA at 1330 and will move via PARA crossing - BEANI to cross tracks 1 mile N. of H in KHALASA where it will bivouac the night 23rd - 24th.
  3. Advanced Guard.  
 11th L.H. Regiment less 1 Squadron.  
 1 Subsection H.C. Squadron.  
Left Flank Guard.  
 1 Squadron 11th L.H. Regiment.  
Starting Point.  
 400 yards N. of gap in front line wire from main PARA crossing.  
Time of Starting. 1330  
Route. A.C. 1. GOE LAHINILAT Ridge.  
 2. 600 (inc) - old V. - KHALASA.  
 L.F.G. 1. 600 Contour N. of Western 600.  
 2. RASHID IMI - IMI AJUA.Order of March.  
 H.H.Q.  
 Sig. Troop.  
 4th L.H. Regt.  
 H.C. Squadron. *Less 1 Sub Sect*  
 12th L.H. Regt.  
 "A" Battery H.A.C.  
 Field Ambulance.  
 "A" Echelon.
4. On arrival at cross roads 1 mile N. of KHALASA the Brigade will water in the order of march.
5. At 1250 on the 23rd the following will meet at Brigade Headquarters and accompany the Vanguard to be shown the night outpost line and bivouac areas.  
 C.O. 4th L.H. Regiment.  
 C.O. H.C. Squadron.  
 Brigade Major.  
 Staff Captain.  
 Field Officer.  
 One representative from each unit.
6. By 1830 the 4th L.H. Regiment will take up the night outpost line 750 AMI EL NIGAL - 700 inclusive, connecting up with the 7th Mounted Brigade at 700. C.O. H.C. Squadron will put 2 Subsections in the line. The 11th L.H. Regiment will withdraw to water as soon as the night outposts are in position.
7. Concentrated formation will be avoided. Units will be ready to open controlled valley fire on to enemy aircraft.

by 1100 840/16  
SEP 1917

8. Moves 24th September.  
 1. The 12th L.H. Regiment will make good the line GOZ EL GELEIB S.E. of KHALASA to IBN SAIID (exclusive). The support Squadron of the 12th L.H. will be located on the right flank in order to protect any reconnaissance which may take place towards ASLUJ.  
 2. The 11th L.H. Regiment will make good the line IBN SAIID inclusive.- 970 (exclusive) by 1100 connecting up with the 3rd L.H. Brigade at 970.  
 3. 4th L.H. Regiment, "A" Battery H.A.C., M.G. Squadron less 2 Subsections and Field Ambulance will be in reserve at 910 GOZ SHEIHILI.  
 4. O.C. M.G. Squadron will detail a subsection to accompany each the 11th and 12th L.H. Regiments.  
 5. Brigade Headquarters will be established at Pt. 910 GOZ SHEIHILI.  
 6. The Brigade will water on the morning of the 24th before taking up the line.  
 7. Aerial protection will be provided.  
 8. Interval communication will be from right to left.
9. No lights will be allowed between 1800 on the 23rd and 0500 on 24th.
10. COMMUNICATIONS.  
 A cable will be laid to H.Q. night outpost line on night 23rd - 24th. Communications will be by visual on the 24th.
11. The I.C. Brigade are holding a day outpost at GOZ LAKHLEILAT up to 1530 on 23rd.
12. BRIGADE SCOUTS.  
 No. 1 Party will reconnoitre WADI THAMEIL and WADI ASLUJ. No. 2 Party will reconnoitre W. EL AUSEGI. No. 3 Party will reconnoitre W. ISDEID.
13. A Dressing Station will be established at RASHID BEK by 1800 on 23rd.
14. FODDER.  
 The current day's and one special ration will be carried. "B" Echelon will not accompany units.  
 "A" Echelon will rendez-vous at B.H.Q. at 1330 on 23rd. under Lieut. GORDON, 11th A.L.H. Regiment. On arrival at the bivouac area MAALAGA "A" Echelon will be despatched to join its respective units.  
 Marching out states to be in by 1000 on 23rd instant.
15. ACKNOWLEDGE.

*Leath Kemp*  
 Major,  
 Brigade Major,  
 4th A.L.H. Brigade.

22nd September 1917.

Issued at 1730

Copies to:-

1	War Diary.
2	" "
3	Camp Commandant.
4	M.G. Squadron.
5	Signal Troop.
6	4th A.L.H. Regt.
7	11th " "
8	12th " "
9	Field Ambulance.
10	"A" Battery H.A.C.

-----  
 4 Field Troop  
 12 S.C.

SECRET

W D

SEP 1917



L.H. 17  
SEP 1917  
Append 166

REPORT ON OPERATIONS

23rd, 24th and 25th September.

Reference 1/125000.

- 23rd. 1. Brigade left front line wire at 1330 with 2 Squadrons and 1 Subsection M.G. Squadron as Advanced Guard and 1 Squadron as Left Flank Guard.
- Brigade watered at ESANI as there was little surface water in the Wadi IMALAGA, and arrived at cross tracks 1 mile North of MAALAGA at 1700. Left Flank Guard drove off an enemy patrol of 15 men 2 miles N.E. of RASHID NEK and they retired towards MEERSHEBA. Outposts were in position by 1800. The right of the 7th Brigade outposts could not be located so a post was established in valley North of 780 and an Officers patrol was sent towards RASHID NEK to gain touch. All quiet during the night.
- 24th. The Brigade watered before 0830 in Wadi IMALAGA. Horses drank very little.
- 12th L.H. Regiment moved at 0630 to take up the line GOZ EL GELEIB - Pt. 1 mile South of IHN SAIID.
- 11th L.H. Regiment moved at 0700 to take up the line 1 mile South of IHN SAIID - 970 exclusive. The whole line was occupied without opposition. Pt. 970 was occupied by 11th L.H. Regiment until the 3rd L.H. Brigade arrived.
- The Brigade was in position and in touch at 1015.
- In touch with 3rd L.H. Brigade at 1215.
- H.Q. 11th L.H. Regiment on hills 2 miles N.E. of fork roads GOZ SHILILMI.
- H.Q. 12th L.H. Regiment on 870 S.E. of KHALASA. This point was selected in order to be in close touch with parties reconnoitring KHALASA.
- A more central and commanding position for the immediate front would be the 1000 Contour.
- Withdrawal. Line withdrew at 1530, the left of the 11th L.H. via S. of Wadi MIRTABA - Wadi KHAZALI - Wadi ISSAD after communicating with right of 3rd L.H. Brigade. Line 780 Wadi EL ISSAD to 780 ABU GHALYUN taken up at 1620.
- The Brigade continued its withdrawal to ESANI at 1700 where it watered, and bivouaced on the open ground between ESANI and 630 KKKI TEL ITWEIL. The night outpost line was held from 630 - W of W IMALAGA thence N. to 1 mile N. of ESANI. All quiet during the night.
- 25th. Brigade watered and moved from ESANI at 0700.
- 2 Enemy Movements.
1100. 200 Infantry marched into the 1070 redoubt.
0845. A patrol of 8 horses and camels seen in the Wadi HALGON.
- 12 Bedouins on camels in the direction of UM SEDIDA S.W. of KHALASA. Camel men could be seen on the hills at ASLUJ. Reported as being Bedouins.
3. Water. Brigade scouts report:-
- ~~GOZ EL GELEIB. Unlined well 30 feet deep, 7 feet of water very brackish, horses would not drink.~~
- Well 18. Stonelined, 50 feet deep, 6 feet square. Water brackish. Estimated 5 feet of water.
- Well 19. Unlined 70 feet deep, 12 feet square. Water very brackish and stagnant. Depth about 7 feet of water.
- No water in the Wadi EL ANSEGI or the Wadi THAMEIL.
- No water in the Wadi ISDEID but depressions at WH and at junction of ISDEID and HAYATHIYA are damp.

E. 40/18

- SEP 1917

Well at W of W MIRTABA. 8 feet diameter, 6 feet deep. Water stagnant. A hole was dug 20 feet away and good water was obtained.

Pools. In Wadi MIRTABA W of 970. Are as full as when reported on in July last. Appears to be unlimited but brackish except for the most Southerly pool which the horses drank freely.

No. 11 ABU GHALYUN. 50 feet deep, 8 feet diameter. 18 inches stagnant water.

4

Roads.KHALASA - BEERSHEBA.

From 2 miles N.E. of GOZ SHEIHILI to where the road ~~cross~~ crosses W. MIRTABA it is metalled 18 feet wide.

ABU SHAWISH. Passable for mounted troops only where it leaves the W MIRTABA.

KHALASA - ASLUJ. Fit for all wheels.

5.

Fodder.

A few heaps of good tibbin along KHALASA - ASLUJ road.

200 heaps good tibbin (about 2000 bags) at IBN SAID.

Good green picking in wadi IMALAGA. Green dura in vicinity of ~~MAALAGA~~ MAALAGA.

*Leab Tenye*

Major,  
Brigade Major,  
4th A.L.H. Brigade.

25th September, 1917.

X Note.

Bivouac Areas Wadi IMALAGA.

Only sufficient space for one Brigade on Eastern bank in immediate vicinity of MAALAGA. Further N. ground is very broken.

If a large surface ~~was~~ was opened up in the wadi anywhere between MAALAGA and ~~ESANI~~ ESANI, there would be ample water for a Brigade.

L40/19

SEP 1917

War Diary

List of Recommendations  
for decoration and mention  
submitted by 4<sup>th</sup> LH Bde  
up to 15<sup>th</sup> sept. 1917

Leabtenzu Major

24070

LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS.

Appendix 167

SEP 1917

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Action for which recommended.	Date.	Award Recommended.	Approved.
	Major	MCKENZIE, K.A. D.S.O.	9th L.H. Regt. 4th Bde. H.Q. B.M.	19th April.	24/4/17.	M.C.	
	Lieut.	PENDER, W.S.	9th L.H. Regt. 4th Bde. H.Q. S.C.	19th April. Period 1st March - 15th Sept.	24/4/17. 8/9/17	Mention. Mention.	
4	S/Sgt.	LEGGE, W.G.	4th Bde. H.Q.'s.	Period 1st March - 30th May Departmental work.	18/6/17.	Mention.	
-----							
	Capt.	WORDSWORTH,	4th M.G. Sqdn.	19th April.	24/4/17.	Mention.	
	Capt.	MACMILLAN,	" " "	" "	"	Mention.	
10551	Tpr.	MACLELLAND, K.C.	" " "	" "	19/6/17	D.C.M.	
				Period 1st March - 30th May.			
1102	Tpr.	RICKMAN, E.C.	4th M.G. Sqdn.	" "	19/6/17	Mention.	
136	"	DUFFY, D.H.	" " "	" "	19/6/17	D.C.M.	
-----							
	Lieut.	TRAILLIE,	4th Sig. Troop.	19th April.	24/4/17	Mention.	
212	Sgt.	ARMSTRONG,	" " "	General services. 1st March - 15th Sept.	8/9/17	Mention.	
2990	Spr.	GOLDSWORTHY,	" " "	19th April. General services 1st March - 30th May.	8/9/17	Mention.	
-----							
	Lieut.	PHILLIPS,	4th A.L.H. Regt. Esani.	30/4/17.	8/9/17	Mention.	
	Lieut.	PAYTE,	" " "	" "	8/9/17	Mention.	
209	W.O.	WILSON, A.	" " "	Period 1st March - 30th May.	19/6/17.	Mention.	
509	Sgt.	WEBSTER, W.W.	" " "	" " " " "	19/6/17.	Mention.	
				25/6/17 Beersheba.	8/9/17	"	
32	Tpr.	HEYWOOD, C.W.	" " "	" "	8/9/17	"	
741	"	REINEKE,	" " "	Esani 30/4/17.	8/9/17	Mention.	
-----							
411	apl	GILLESPIE J	" " "	KHABIA July 14 <sup>th</sup>	4/7/17	MM	MM
428	sgt	HAMPTON R	" " "	" " "	"	"	"
968	inv	ROBERTSON HC	" " "	" " "	"	"	"
1199	apl	Williams SJ	" " "	BIR IFEIS 7 <sup>th</sup> July	7/17	MM	MM

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Action for which recommended.	Date.	Award Recommended.	Approved.
	Lt.Col.	GRANT, W. D.S.O.	11th L.H. Regt.	19th April operations 1917.	24/4/17	Mention.	SEP 1917
	Major	BAILEY,	" " "	" " "	16/6/17	Mention.	
	Major	LOYNES,	" " "	" " "	16/6/17	Mention.	
	Lieut.	STUMM,	" " "	" " "	16/6/17	M.C.	
	Lieut.	FARLOW,	" " "	" " "		M.C.	M.C.
	Lieut.	GEE,	" " "	" " "	24/4/17	M.C.	
	Lieut.	MARSLAND,	" " "	4th July. Hill 960 Patrol work 19th April operations. General services. Gallantry.	8/9/17 24/4/17	M.C. M.C.	
	Lieut.	MAINING,	" " "	4th July, Patrol Work.	8/9/17.	Mention.	
777	Tpr.	McGRATH, J.P.	" " "	19th April operations.	16/6/17	M.M.	
1166	"	GRAHAM, H.	" " "	" " "	16/6/17	D.C.M.	
998	Shoe/S.	HIRTCHFIELD, J.D.	" " "	" " "	16/6/17	Mention.	
866	Cpl.	POINTON, A.S.	" " "	Beersheba, 4th July 1917.	25/7/17	M.M.	M.M.
892	"	HARRIS, H.R.	" " "	" " "	25/7/17	M.M.	M.M.
596	Sgt.	WILSON, G.R.	" " "	19th April operations.	24/4/17	M.M.	
245	Cpl T/Sgt.	BARTON, K.	" " "	" " "	<del>24/4/17</del>	M.M.	
92	Tpr.	ARCHER, V.G.	" " "	" " "	24/4/17	D.C.M.	
4	Sgt.	NUTTING,	" " "	General Services.	8/9/17	M.S.M.	
1881	Tpr.	BUCKHOLTZ,	" " "	19th April operations.	8/9/17	Mention.	
998	"	HIRTCHFIELD,	" " "	" " "	8/9/17	"	
1211	"	POWELL, C.	" " "	" " "	8/9/17	Mention.	
	Lt.Col.	McINTOSH	12th L.H. Regt.	19th April operations.	24/4/17	D.S.O.	
	Lieut.	MASSEY, F.R.	" " "	19/4/17. Gallantry General Services.	17/6/17	M.C.	
	Major	CHAMBERS, P.A.	" " "	19th April operations.	8/9/17	D.S.O.	
	Lieut.	LOWING,	" " "	" " "	8/9/17	M.C.	
	Capt.	SIMPSON,	A.A.M.C. Attd. 12th L.H. Regt.	" " "	24/4/17	Mention.	
386	S.Q.M.S.	TOWNSEND, A.R.	" " "	" " "			
	L/Cpl.	HOUGH, A.V.	" " "	Period 1st March - 31st May.	17/6/17	D.C.M.	
770	Sig.Sgt.	STEEP, T.G.	" " "	19/4/17 Period. 1st Mar. 31st May	17/6/17	D.C.M.	
31	A/S.S.M.	MASON, D.J.	" " "	" " "	" "	Mention.	
965	Tpr.	PEARCE, J.W.D.	" " "	" " "	" "	"	
3401	Trump.Sgt.	MOORE, F.J.	" " "	" " "	" "	"	
7	L/Cpl.	NEELD, G.M.	" " "	" " "	8/9/17	"	
352					8/9/17	M.M.	

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Action for which recommended, m	Date.	Award Recommended.	Approved.
593	S.S.M.	SABAN, G.F.	12th L.H. Regt.	General services Period 1st March - 15th Sept.	8/9/17	Mention.	
186	S.Q.M.S.	SWEENEY, F.R.	" " "	" " " " "	8/9/17	Mention.	
65	A/R.S.M.	COY, F.W.	" " "	19th April operations.	24/4/17	D.C.M.	
532	Tpr.	HYLAND, E.	" " "	" " "	24/4/17	M.M.	
212	T/S.S.M.	MULFORD, E.A.	" " "	" " "	24/4/17	M.M.	D.C.M.
13787	Tpr.	HUNTER, R.	" " "	" " "	24/4/17	D.C.M.	
A.A.M.C.							
	Lt.Col.	FOWLER	4th L.H. Fd. Amb.	19th April operations.	24/4/17	D.S.O.	
	Major	PARRY	" " " "	Period 1st March - 15th Sept.	8/9/17	Mention.	
1100	Dvr.	SHORT, F.R.	4th L.H. Fd. Amb.	19th April operations.	24/4/17	Mention.	
	"	FREUDENBERG,	" " " "	" " "	24/4/17	Mention.	
802	W.O.	SULLIVAN, A.M.	" " " "	Period 1st March - 30th May.	19/6/17	Mention.	
15117	S/Sgt.	EMMETT, H.V.	" " " "	19th April operations.	8/9/17	Mention.	
				Period 1st March - 15th Sept.			
311	Sgt.	FLOYD, L.L.	" " " "	19th April operations.	8/9/17	Mention.	
1100	Sgt.	JONES, J.W.R.	4th Field Troop.	General Services 1st March - 31st May.	17/6/17	Mention.	

*Robert Steyn Major  
3194  
17/11/30*

SEP 1917



## MITIGATE OPERATION ORDER NO. 31

by  
Brigadier-General H. CHAY, R.S.O.  
Commanding  
4th Australian Light Horse Brigade.

Reference 1/125,000 map.

Share.  
Appendix 169  
E 40/23  
SEP 1917

1. In the event of the enemy attempting to occupy (even temporarily as distinct from patrolling) the line Pt. 630 EL GHEIR - Pt. 720 - GOZ LAHMEILAT, the forward mounted division will immediately operate against him vigorously.
2. O.C. outposts will endeavour to drive in any attempt on the part of the enemy to establish himself on the line 630 EL GHEIR - 720 - GOZ LAHMEILAT and will locate his dispositions as soon as possible.
3. In order to ensure timely warning of any such attempt on the enemy's part, and to give adequate notice of any hostile movement against our line, the forward mounted division will provide an outpost line by day and night.
4. The orders for this outpost line are as follows:-
  - (a) By Day.
    1. An outpost line will be held by day from Pt. 300 - 1½ miles S.W. of KHURUT BAK through Pt. 510 ABU SHAWISH - KH KHASIP to HER EL ESANI.
    2. The outpost Brigade will find posts of one troop at the following points:-
      - No. 1. Post Pt. 300 with a forward observation post at point about 1000 yards S. of the figure 0 in point 200
      - No. 2 Post at trees 2 miles E. of EL DHALATH.
      - No. 3 Post at Pt. 510 with forward posts towards IPTERIS and at 550 S.E. of 510.
      - No. 4 Post KH KHASIP with forward posts at IM SIRI and on high ground ½ mile S. of KHASIP.

In addition two troops and one subsection H.G. Squadron will be in support at GOZ EL BASAL. After 0900 two troops will be in support at GOZ GHEIR.  
Total strength of day outposts, 2 Squadrons and 1 Subsection H.G. Squadron.
  - (b) By Night.
    3. By 0700 two troops will have watered at FARA and will proceed to No. 1 and 2 Posts and will relieve the troops in occupation. The latter will withdraw to water at SHELLAL and will then move without delay to GOZ GHEIR remaining in support. No. 3 and 4 Posts and the supports at GOZ EL BASAL will water at IM SIRI and KHASIP.
    4. A Post of a strength of one Company will be found by the Battalion of the I.C. Brigade holding the CHAY works. This Post will be about a ½ mile N. of 2 of GOZ LAHMEILAT with advanced patrols on the line 600 - KH EL ESANI.

SEP 1917

2. Standing patrols of <sup>2</sup> H.C.Os and 6 men <sup>each</sup> will be found by the Outpost Brigade at about the following points:-

1. Pt. 280
2.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of EL HAGELI.
3.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of EL DAHMATH.
4.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of EL IMARA
5.  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile N of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of CULTIVATION.
6.  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile S of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of CULTIVATION.
7. 1st  $\frac{1}{2}$  of ABU SOSEIN.

E 40/74

SEP 1917

5.

(a) DUTIES OF DAY POSTS.

1. The posts will move through the wire at 0530 and take up their positions. They will retire at 1800 when the night standing patrols are in position.
2. Patrols will be sent out from the posts towards Pt. 630 EL GEHIR, Pt. 720 EL HUGGAR ~~and Pt. 720~~. The patrols towards 630 EL GEHIR, 720 and EL HUGGAR will, if necessary, be supported by the reserve troops.
3. If these patrols are unable to approach this line with the assistance of the support troops at hand the O.C. Outposts will immediately notify Brigade Headquarters when further supports will be sent out to clear up the situation.
4. In addition, all posts and patrols will always ~~have~~ obtain and report all possible information concerning enemy movements, gun positions etc., as well as locality and capacity of any new wells or cisterns which may be discovered.

(b) DUTIES OF NIGHT STANDING PATROLS.

These patrols will be in position by 1800. At 0400 a patrol will be sent forward for a distance of about 2 miles. These patrols will return and report all clear. The night standing patrols will withdraw as soon as the day posts have passed through them.

6.

COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) By Day.

1. A telephone is laid from COZ EL BASAL through COZ EL GELEIB there to H.Q. of the Outpost Brigade.
2. H.Q. of Day Outposts will be at COZ EL BASAL where communications will be established to all posts by visual. All posts will have helios.
3. H.Q. Day Outposts will communicate with I.C. Brigade Post at COZ LAHLEILAT by visual.

(b) By Night.

The Night Standing patrols of the Outpost Brigade are connected to each other by telephone and thence through D.H.Q. to the H.Q. of the Outpost Brigade.

7.

REPORTS.

1. O.C. Night Standing Patrols will report when in position.
2. All clear or otherwise report will be sent "PRIORITY" by wire from the H.Q. Night Standing Patrols. The report is due at B.H.Q. by 0445.
3. O.C. Day Outposts will wire a report on the situation including any information of enemy movements or other important intelligence. Due at B.H.Q. at 0615 and 1615.

E 40/25

SEP 1917

4. O.C. Outposts will submit a detailed report embodying information and intelligence from all posts by 2200.
5. The punctual rendering of reports will save a large amount of unnecessary correspondence.
6. Any special information will be wired at once to M.C. H.Q.
8. While in the forward area the whole Division will be ready to move out for operations at very short notice. Messes will be filled every night and arrangements made to turn out with full water bottles.
9. No horse traffic whatever is permitted on any of the roads East of the WALK GIUZZE between parallels 51° 10' and 51° 26'. These roads are to be kept exclusively for Motor traffic.
10. Marching order for Day Outposts:-  
 Light. (Current day's rations and fodder.)  
 (Iron Ration.)  
 (180 Rounds.)  
 (Water bottles.)
11. The Outpost Brigade will stand to at 0430 until the all clear report is received.

27<sup>th</sup>  
 25th September, 1917.

*Leadbetter*  
 Major,  
 Brigade Major,  
 4th A.L.H. Brigade.

Issued at:- 1200.

- Copies to
1. War Diary.
  2. " "
  3. Camp Commandant.
  4. H.Q. Squadron.
  5. Signal Troop.
  6. 4th A.L.H. Regt.
  7. 11th " "
  8. 12th " "
  9. Field Ambulance.
  10. "A" Battery H.A.C.
  11. "C" Sqn. 1/2 County of London Yeo.