

AWM4
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war diaries, 1914-18 War

Light Horse

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Title: 5th Australian Light Horse
Brigade

March 1919



Original

CONFIDENTIAL.

HEADQUARTERS, 5TH. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE.

WAR DIARY.

for month of MARCH 1919.

Compiled by.

Thurman

Officer Commanding.

George Standley
Lieut Col

BRIGADE MAJOR
5TH. AUST. LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE



WAR DIARY

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Headquarters,
5TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Page:	Volume:	Remarks and references to Appendices
BAALBEK.	MARCH.				9	
1.			Wire received from D.Q.M.G., G.H.Q., 14th. A.L.H. Regiment and 5th. Brigade Detachments will now proceed by rail to MOASCAR instead of RAFA.			
2.			36th. JACOBS HORSE (less detachments left at SHTORA, MOALLAKA AND RAYAK) arrived BAALBEK and bivouaced at RAS EL AIN.			
3.			The Brigade (less HOMS and HAMA Detachments) moved out from BAALBEK at 0700 and reached SAADNAIL at 1600. The Brigade bivouaced on clear ground south of the Railway Station, with Brigade Headquarters at SHTORA.			
4.			The Brigade moved from SAADNAIL at 0730 and arrived at AIN SOFAR at 1600. Troops were billeted in empty houses throughout the town. Weather bitterly cold and wet.			
5.			The Brigade moved from AIN SOFAR at 0730, arrived BEIRUT at 1500 and took over the Camp vacated by 19th. LANCERS, on the beach 2 miles south of BEIRUT.			
6.			Brigade Headquarters, 5th. Signal Troop and 5th. Field Ambulance moved to a new camp on the main road ½ mile South of BIR HASSAN Race Course. Arrangements made with Director of Remounts for all horses and mules ("A" & "B" classes) to be handed over to the Remount Depot.			
7.			Lieut. Colonel Langley, C.O. 14th. Regiment, returned from Dental Leave and resumed Command of the Brigade. All "A" & "B" class horses of Units at BEIRUT handed over to 40th. Remount Squadron.			
8.			Routine Work. 70 per. cent. of personnel granted leave to attend Race Meeting. Destruction of "C" Class horses commenced.			

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Page: 2	Volume: 9	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEIRUT.	MARCH.					
	9.		The Corps Commander (Lieut. General CHAUVEL.) inspected the Units of the Brigade, Camped of the beach, in the 15th. Regiment lines at 1000. Parade was drawn up in hollow square formation, dismounted. At 1130 the Corps Commander inspected the ,Brigade Headquarters, 5th. Field Ambulance and 5th. Signal Troop, at Brigade Headquarters. Destruction of "C" class horses completed.			
	10.		12th. A.L.H. Regiment and Australian Mounted Divisional Train, (less 38th. Company) marched in from TRIPOLI, coming on arrival, under orders of Brigade Commander. Order issued to Units reference work to be carried out, on completion of handing in of horses and equipment.			Appen -dix.1
	11.		} Routine work, Units engaged in checking, cleaning and handing in of all technical stores ,vehicles and equipment. } Only belts, bandoliers, rifles and bayonets, haversacks, waterbottles and mess tins to be retained by personnel. }			
	12.					
	13.					
	14.					
	15.		15 horses borrowed from O.C. DORSET Yeomanry for use of Officers and orderlies.			
	16.		D.A.A.G. and D.A.Q.M.G. Australian Mounted Division arrived from TRIPOLI, to arrange embarkation of all Troops of the Division at BEIRUT.			
	17.		Lieut.Colonel Langley D.S.O. left for EGYPT. Lieut.Colonel Mills 15th L.H. Regiment assumed temporary Command of the Brigade.			
	18.		Syllabus of Training, received from Units, for week ending 22nd. inst. Daily routine to include 1/2 hour physical drill and two hours route march or organised games. Wire received from Division that Lieut.Colonel Langley D.S.O. would remain at MOASCAR until arrival there of the Brigade.			

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Page: 3	Volume: 9	Remarks and references to Appendices
BEIRUT.	MARCH.					
	19.		Preliminary Administrative Instructions for the Move of the Brigade Group to EGYPT issued to Units.			Appendix. 2
	20.		Wire received from E.S.O. BEIRUT that the Brigade Group would probably embark for EGYPT by H.M.T. ELLENGA on 22nd. inst. Warning order issued to Units.			
	21.		D.A.A.G. and D.A.Q.M.G., Australian Mounted Division, left for EGYPT by rail. Wire received from E.S.O. BEIRUT. that owing to rough weather, the Brigade Group would not be embarked until Sunday the 23rd. inst. Brigade Move Order No. 28., detailing the move, from Camp to Wharf, for embarkation, issued to Units.			Appendix. 3.
	22.		Information received from Divisional Ordnance, that if possible, all arms and pack saddlery of 12th. and 15th. Regiments to be brought to EGYPT, as Regiments may be required in connection with the Egyptian disturbance. Arrangements made to place the equipment on the Transport in bulk.			
	23.		The Brigade Group marched out of Camp, in accordance, with Move Order No. 28., reached the Quay at 0945 and at once embarked on board the H.M.T. ELLENGA. Owing to the delay in off-loading, the Brigade baggage was not loaded until 1400. 1500 all ranks fell in for Boat Drill and at 1530 the "ELLENGA" sailed.			
PORT SAID.	24.		Arrived at PORT SAID at 0900. The E.S.O. on arrival stated that the troops would remain on board until the 25th. inst., as no train could be obtained that day. All heavy baggage was unloaded and placed on trucks, to leave for MOASCAR at mid.night.			
	25.		Brigade Group disembarked at 0800 and marched to the Military Siding where they entrained. Owing to the disturbed state of the Country, two train Guards, each of 1 Officer and 25 Other Ranks, were detailed to stand by for any emergency, and two men were placed as a guard over the Engine crew.			

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Page: 4. Volume: 9.	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>PORT SAID.</u>	<u>MARCH.</u>				
	25.		The train moved out at 0900 and arrived at MOASCAR at 1230.		
<u>MOASCAR.</u>	25.		Units were at once disentrained, and marched to their respective camps, the 12th. Regiment reverting to the Command of the 4th. Brigade, and the Divisional Train to Divisional Headquarters. The Brigade took over the Camp area West of "A" Details. Afternoon was spent in erecting tents and camp cleaning.		
	26		Camp cleaning in the morning. 1530 drew 6 Rides from Remounts. Order received from Division :- MOASCAR - NEFSHE Patrol of 1 Officer 32 Other Ranks to be taken over from 4th. Brigade at 1600 on 26th. inst. Order issued to 15th. Regiment and 2nd.N.Z.M.G.Squadron. Patrol to be found on alternate days by 15th. Regiment and 2nd.N.Z.M.G.Squadron, commencing with 15th. Regiment on 26th. inst.		Appendix 43
	27.		15th. Regiment detailed to supply Escort Troops of 1 Officer and 2 Sergeants, 25 Other Ranks to report to Australian Mounted Division at 0900 on 27th. inst. Received Maps and distributed same.		
	28.		15th. L.H. Regiment engaged in drawing horses and equipment.		
	29.		15th. Regiment reported being fully equipped and in readiness to move. Australian Mounted Divisionwire received - MOASCAR - NEFSHE Railway Patrol will be found by Divisional Signal Squadron on 29th. inst.		

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5TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Page: 5	Volume: 9.	Remarks and references to Appendices
<u>MOASCAR. MARCH.</u>						
	30.		<p>Australian Mounted Division wire received: - "5th. Brigade will find MOASCAR - NEFISHE Patrol on 30th."</p> <p>Order issued to 15th. Regiment to supply Patrol to mount at 1630 on 30th.</p> <p>Australian Mounted Division wire received: - 2nd. N.Z. M.G. Squadron to join N.Z. Training Centre on 1st. April.</p> <p>Order issued to 2nd. N.Z. M.G. Squadron to move at 0930 on 1st. April, by motor lorries.</p>			
	31.		<p>ROUTINE Work.</p>			

WAR DIARY.

5TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.H.Q.

for month of MARCH 1919. 7

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- Appendix. No. 1. Daily Routine work of the Brigade.
- " " 2. Preliminary Administrative Instructions for the
Move of the Brigade and attached Units to MOASCAR.
- " " 3. 5th. A.L.H. BRIGADE Move Order No.28.
- " " 4. MOASCAR - NEFISHE - PATROL.

T. Williams

Captain,
Brigade Major,
5TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

Appendix No 1
CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:- DAILY ROUTINE.

To:- Commanding Officers.

15th. L.H. Regt.

32th. Coy. A.A.S.C.

5th. A.F. Sig. Troop

12th. L.H. Regt.

5th. A.F. Fld. Troop

Bde. H. Q.

5th. L.H. Fld. Amb.

10th. A.M. V.S.

2nd. N.E.M.G. Bdn.

ROUTINE. STREDS
As soon as the Destruction of Horses, is completed, and the handing in of equipment finished, Units will commence a daily Routine, which is to include 2 hours route march, Physical exercises, or ~~gymnastic~~ organized games.

Unit Commanders will submit their proposed programme of work for the week ending Saturday 15th. inst., to reach this Office by 1800 to-morrow 10th. inst.,

9/3/19.

T. Minns

Captain.
Brigade Major.
5th. A.I.H. BRIGADE.

9

Preliminary Administrative Instructions for the move of the Brigade
and attached Units to MOASCAR.

1. In view of the fact that the Brigade may be called upon to embark for EGYPT at short notice it will be necessary for all Units to make a thorough check, to ascertain exactly what transport is required to move equipment etc., to the Quay.
2. Rifles, bandoliers, belts and all necessary personal equipment will be retained. Bandolier ammunition is to be carried.
3. TENTAGE AND EQUIPMENT. All tentage, camp, and sanitary equipment at present in possession will be embarked with the Brigade.
4. BLANKETS. Two blankets per man will now be retained by Units, remainder should be handed in to Ordnance at once.
5. GROUND SHEETS. Ground sheets and bivouac sheets will be retained until arrival at MOASCAR.
6. NOMINAL ROLLS. Nominal Rolls in quadruplicate should now be compiled by all Units and ammended as necessary daily until time of embarkation. These rolls will be called for at short notice when required and must be kept in readiness.
7. COOK HOUSES. Iron cook houses now being used by Units will be left in tact and thoroughly clean.
8. CAMP SITES. When the Brigade moves all Camp sites must be left clean, rubbish burnt, and tins burried.
9. RETURN. All Units are required to render a return before 1200 tomorrow showing in detail exactly all tentage equipment and stores in possession. Approximate spaces required and weight should be given.

Copies to :-

15th. Regiment.	5th. A.L.H.F.A.	10th. A.M.V.S.
12th. Regiment.	5th. Signal Troop.	Aus Div Train.
2nd. N.Z.M.G. Sqd.	5th. Field Troop.	B.H.Q.
5th. Bde. Supplies.	War Diary. (3)	File.

18/3/19.



Lieut.,
Staff Captain.
5th. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

Appendix No 3

SECRET.5TH.A.L.H. BRIGADE ORDER NO. 28.

Copy No.....

Reference Maps. 1/250,000.21st.March 1919.

1. 1. HOBBS The Brigade Group will march to the BEIRUT Wharf, for Embarkation for EGYPT, on the 23rd. inst.

2. (a) The undermentioned Units will move from their bivouac areas in the below mentioned order of march, the Head of the column passing the 12th. Cavalry Brigade Field Ambulance at 0700.

15th. A.L.H. REGIMENT.
2nd. N.Z.M.G. Squadron.
5th. Field Troop.
10th. A.M.Vet. Section.

(b) 12th. A.L.H. REGIMENT and Australian Mounted Divisional Train will move via the unmade road running West of Brigade Headquarters, at such time that the head of the 12th Regiment reaches the cross Roads marked "To Military Cemetery" at 0830.

The 12th. Regiment and Aus. Divisional Train will then join the Column in rear of the 10th. A.M.V. Section.

(c) Brigade Headquarters, 5th. Signal Troop and 5th. Field Ambulance will be formed up in readiness to move, on the main road, 400 yards North of the Camp, at 0820.

The head of the Brigade will move from the Starting Point, 400 yards North of Brigade Headquarters Camp, at 0830.

3. DRESS.

Drill Order, with Haversack and Water bottle (filled).

4. MARCH DISCIPLINE.

(a) An Officer or Senior N.C.O. will march in rear of each Unit, and will be responsible that "Step" is maintained, whether marching at attention or at ease.

(b) Sections are to keep well closed up, and no straggling or falling out is to be allowed.

(c) Any men given permission to fall out, are not to attempt to catch up their own Unit, but will fall in, in rear of the Unit passing them.

(d) When passing Guards, Units will march to attention and give "Eyes right" (or left).

(e) Troops will keep to the right side of the road and during halts will clear all cross roads.



5. RATIONS.

Rations up to and including breakfast ²⁴ inst will be carried on the men.

Two days rations will be placed on board by Divisional Train, in bulk.

6. BAGGAGE.

(a) Baggage will be brought from the beach to Brigade Headquarters by camels and thence to the Quay by motor lorries.

(b) 15th. Regiment will detail an Officer to report mounted, to Brigade Headquarters at 0530 to take over and allot camels for Units mentioned in Para. 2.(a).

12th. Regiment and Divisional Train will each detail an N.C.O. to report at Brigade Headquarters at 0530 for their respective camels.

(c) Camels are to be loaded and returned to B.H.Q. not later than 0800.

(d) Each Unit will detail a loading party to return to B.H.Q. with the loaded camels, to transfer baggage from camels to lorries, and from lorries to boat.

These parties will proceed to the Quay on the lorries, and will act as baggage guard.

7. Arrangements are being made for horses borrowed from Dorset Yeomanry, to be retained until arrival at the Wharf, where they will be handed over to an Officer of the 15th. Regiment, who will check all saddlery and obtain a receipt from the DORSET N.C.O. who takes them over.

8. Acknowledge.

Issued at 1200

V. McKinnon
Captain,
Brigade Major,
5TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

Issued to:-

Copy No. 1. 15TH. A.L.H. REGIMENT.
" 2. 12TH. A.L.H. "
" 3. 2ND. N.Z.M.G. Squadron.
" 4. 5th. A.L.H. Field Ambulance.
" 5. 5th. Field Troop. A.E.
" 6. 10th. A.M.V. Section.
" 7. Australian Divisional Train.
" 8. 5th. Signal Troop A.E.
" 9. 5th. A.L.H. Brigade H.Q.
" 10. 5th. Brigade Ordnance.
" 11. 5th. Brigade Supplies.
" 12. FILE.
" Reference.
" 14.
" 15. War Diary.
" 16.

Copies to:-

No. 17. E.S.O. BEIRUT.
" 18. 4th. Cavalry Div.
" 19. XX1st. Corps.
" 20. Administrative
Commandant BEIRUT.

MOASCAR -- NEFISHE. -- PATROL.

Commencing tomorrow the 28th. inst the 15th Regiment will detail daily until further Orders a dismounted Patrol of 1 Officer and 32 Other Ranks to report to Brigade Headquarters at 1515.

DUTIES:- Patrol will find Guards on Railway bridge and Station at NEFISHE also a continuous Patrol on Railway Line between NEFISHE and MOASCAR.

REPORTS:- A report will be rendered to reach this office by 0800 daily under the following headings:-

- (a) General situation.
 - (b) Number of Prisoners captured giving names of important prisoners.
- Any other details that may be of interest should be included

BAGGAGE.KITS.

Arrangements should be made for men's Kits and blankets to be carried by waggon. On no account are men to carry their blankets or kits either to or from duty.

INFORMATION. The situation generally should be explained to all ranks and they should be warned ~~exceptin~~ against accepting offers of help, fruit, drinks etc. from Natives.

27/3/19.

R. Pascoe

Captain,
Brigade Major,
5TH. A.L.H. BRIGADE.

