

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/13/45**

**Title: 8th Australian Light Horse**  
**Regiment**

March 1919



*Original*



W A R                      D A I R Y.  
@@

of the

8th. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

for

MARCH 1919.



*By Daly*

Lieut. Col.  
Commanding, 8th. A.L.H. Regt.

*[Signature]*

Lieut  
Compiling Officer, 8th. L.H.



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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Army Form C. 2118.



| Place | Date                  | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|-----------------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| RAFA. | 1919<br>March<br>1st. |      | Regimental Orderly Officer:- Lt. A.H. Curri ngton. D.C.M.<br>Warning order received that Regiment would move to Meascar on the 3/3/1919.<br>2330 Major H.J. Shannon, D.S.O. proceeded to Meascar to select camp site for the Ausdiv. Group.<br>1300 2nd-Brigade races starting at 1300.<br>2330 Capt. W. McGRATH M.C. (Adjutant) proceeded on duty to Cairo.<br>Training :- Treep Drill & Rifle Exercises . Effective Strength:- 24 Offrs. 426 e/rs. <i>PMB</i> |                                      |
| do.   | 2nd.                  |      | Bde. Field Officer. Major Y.H. Walker, M.C.<br>Regtl. Orderly Officer. Lieutenant D.A. Carmichael,<br>1100 Striking of camp- All baggage removed to Rafa Railway Station by 1530. <i>PMB</i><br>1830 Regiment moved from Camp at 1830 . Lt. Mitchell to Hospital.<br>2000 Entrained at Rafa at 2000 and slept on the train. for the night. Effectives:- 23 Offrs. 426 e/rs  |                                      |
| do.   | 3rd.                  | 0500 | Regtl. Orderly Officer. Lieut. Stanbury MM<br>Left Rafa at 0500 arrived at Kantara at 1300. Eff ectives:- 23 Offrs. 422 e/rs.<br>Troops detrained and went aboard the Meascar (Ismalia) train, arriving at 1630. <i>PMB</i>   |                                      |
| do.   | 4th.                  |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer. 2/Lieut. A. Jehnsten .<br>0630 Reveille.<br>0800 Laying out of New camp site on old 3rd. L.H. Tg. Regt area.<br>Physical Training 0700 to 0730.<br>The following were taken on strength from Training Regt:-<br>Lieut. T.R. PEPPERCORN. M.C. Lieut. R.F. MANN. Lieut. W.G. MACKAY. 2/Lieut. A.D. CALLOW. <i>PMB</i><br>2/Lieut. L. JULIAN MM. and 115 e/rs. Effective Strength:- 28 Offrs. 537 e/rs.                                    |                                      |
| do.   | 5th.                  |      | Field Officer:- Major L.A.W. Macpherson, D.S.O., M.C.<br>Regtl. Orderly Officer:- 2/Lieut. A.D. CALLOW.<br>10% leave for all ranks to Ismailia.<br>0700 Physical Exercises until 0730.<br>0930 Setting out of camp.<br>2130 Capt. W. McGRATH. M.C. arrived back from Cairo. Effective Syrength. 28 Offrs. 537 e/rs. <i>PMB</i>  |                                      |
| do.   | 6th.                  |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- 2/Lt. W. LUNN.<br>Lieut. F.O. BOYLE, and Lt. H. SHERIDAN, struck off strength having embarked for Australia.<br>0700 Physical Exercises until 0730. <i>PMB</i><br>0930 Cleaning up of camp.  |                                      |

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*Revised*

WAR DIARY

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| Place              | Date                 | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|--------------------|----------------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| MOASCAR (ISMAILIA) | 1919<br>March<br>7th |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- Lieut. C. Streeter.<br>Major H. J. Shannon, D.S.O. temporarily commanding the Regiment vice Major T. J. DALY, D.S.O. temporarily commanding 3rd. L.H. Brigade.<br>0700 Physical Exercises until 0730.<br>0900 Camp Duties.<br>Effective Strength:- 28 Officers. 540 e/ranks. <i>RMB</i>  |                                      |
| do.                | 8th.                 |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- Lieut. W. N. J. Bawman, D.C.M.<br>C.Os Inspection of Regt. at 1000.<br>Lieut. R. F. Mann in Command of 3rd. M.G. Details. Effective Strength:- 28 Offrs. 544 e/rs. <i>RMB</i>  |                                      |
| do.                | 9th.                 |      | 8th. L.H. Duty Regt.<br>Field Officer:- Major A. Crawford.<br>Regtl. Orderly Officer:- Lieut. T. R. Peppercorn, M.C.<br>0900 Church Parade. Effective strength. 28 Offrs. 551 e/rs. <i>RMB</i>  |                                      |
| do.                | 10th.                |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- Lt. W. G. Mackay.<br>Major T. J. Daly, D.S.O. ceases to command 3rd. L.H. Brigade and resumes command of the Regt.<br>Training as per Syllabus.<br>2/Lieutenants V. J. Derman, and J. E. Chapman, DCM. marched in from the Cadet School, and taken on strength.<br>Detail of F.G.C.M. in B.R.Os 361 to assemble at Regtl. Headqrs at 0900 on 12th. inst.<br>President Major Temperley. Members:- Capt. Ayliffe. & Lt. Newman.<br>Prosecuter. Capt. W. McGrath, M.C. Accused Person:- No 147 Cpl. William TURNER. Effective:- 28 Offrs 551 e/rs. <i>RMB</i> |                                      |
| do.                | 11th.                |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer Lieut. M. L. Gray. Field Officer:- Major Y. H. Walker M.C.<br>Board of Enquiry detailed at Tripoli re -assembled to enquire into shortages in Equipment etc.<br>Applications called for leave to United Kingdom.<br>F.G.C.M. (see 10th.) to try Cpl. W. Turner postponed until date to be fixed.<br>Effectives:- 30 Offrs. 552 e/rs. <i>RMB</i>  |                                      |
| do.                | 12th.                |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- Lieut. C. F. Newman.<br>Training as per syllabus.<br>Effective strength. 30 Officers 548 e/rs. <i>RMB</i>  |                                      |



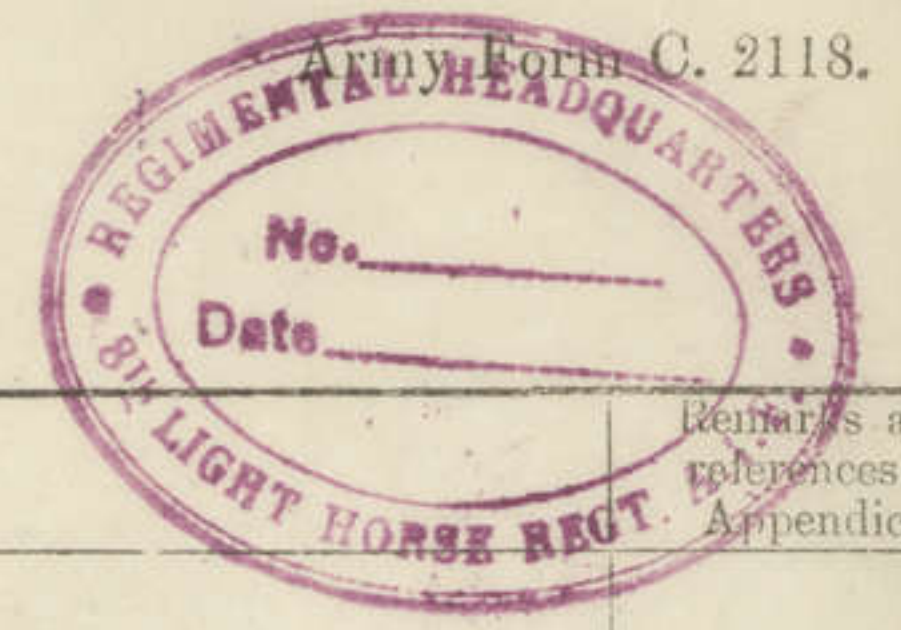
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WAR DIARY  
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| Place            | Date  | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|------------------|-------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| MOASCAR ISMALIA. | 1919  |      |  |                                      |
|                  | March |      |  |                                      |
|                  | 13th. |      | Duty Regiment.<br>Bde. Field Officer:- Major L.A.W. Macpherson. D.S.O., M.C.<br>Regtl. Orderly Officer:- Lt. B. Burns.<br>Training as per Syllabus. Physical exercises and Swimming parades. Effectives:- 30 Offrs. 545 e/r  | <i>RH/13</i>                         |
| do.              | 14th. |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- 2/Lieut. V.J. Derman.<br>23 e/rs marched out to A Details for early repatriation.<br>The following have been mentioned in despatched by Genl. Allenby:-<br>Major A. Crawford 2/Lt. E. Maclean No. 3848 Sgt. J. Gray No. 686 Cpl. Henrberry  |                                      |
|                  |       | 0930 | Meeting of Cricket and sports committees. Effective Strength:- 30 Offrs. 523 e/rs  | <i>RH/13</i>                         |
| do.              | 15th. |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- 2/Lieut. Chapman D.C.M.<br>Proposed Cairo Leave Party Cancelled<br>Owing to trouble with natives Major <del>Macpherson</del> L. A. Macpherson, D.S.O. M.C., Lt. H.F. Mann and<br>Lieut. A.H. Currington, D.C.M. & 50 e/rs were ordered to proceed to ZAGAZIG by 2000 train from<br>Meascar. |                                      |
|                  |       | 1800 | Effective Strength:- 30 Offrs. 525 e/rs.   | <i>RH/13</i>                         |
| do.              | 16th. |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- Lt. M.L. Gray.<br>Instructions received to detail one squadron full strength to proceed mounted to ZAGAZIG,<br>starting on morning of 17/3/19 halting at TEL-el-KEBIR on night of 17/18th arriving at<br>ZAGAZIG on 18th. inst. Major Y.H. WALKER, M.C. B Sqdr was detailed for the duty.   |                                      |
|                  |       | 1800 | Strength of Squadron. 5 Officers & 154 e/ranks. Effective Strength. 30 Offrs. 523 e/rs   | <i>RH/13</i>                         |
| do.              | 17th. |      | Regtl. Orderly Officer:- 2/Lieut. A. Johnston.<br>B Squadron equipped and issued with horses by 1100 and moved from Meascar at 1230.<br>Remainder of Regiment (Less R.H.Q. and details of each Squadron) under the command of Major<br>H.J. Shannon D.S.O. proceeded to ZAGAZIG by 1010 train from MOASCAR.          |                                      |
|                  |       |      | Effective strength: 30 offrs. 517 e/rs.  | <i>RH/13</i>                         |

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*Original*

WAR DIARY

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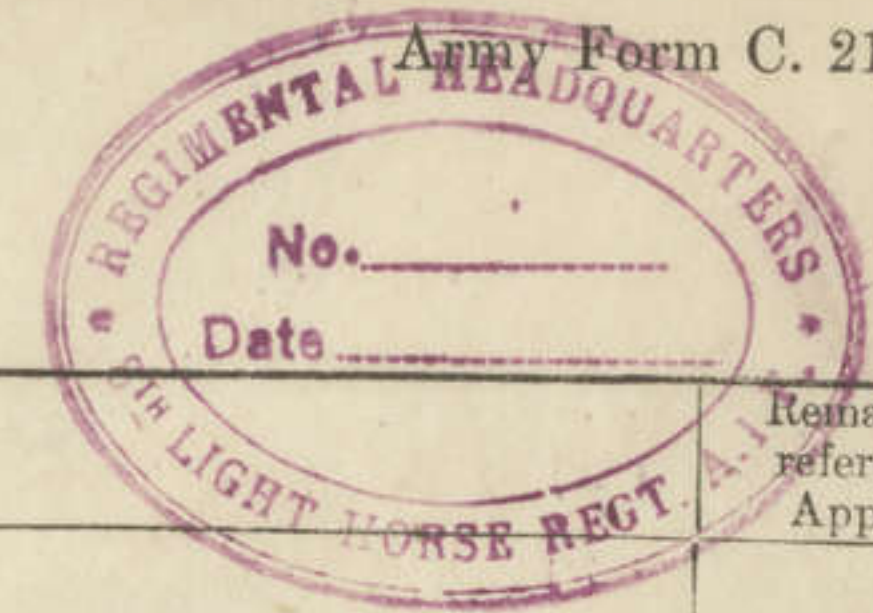
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| Place         | Date           | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|---------------|----------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| ZAGAZIG.      | March.<br>18th |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer. Lieut Johnson.<br/>           Portion of Regiment marched through ZAGAZIG? from 1000 to 1200.<br/>           B.Squadron arrived ZAGZIG mounted 1500 from MOASCAR.<br/>           Supplying escorts on construction trains to repair Railway and Telegraph lines destroyed by natives between BENHA and ZAGAZIG. on the night of the 17th instant,<br/>           Effective Strength. 30. Officers 517. Other ranks.</p>  |                                      |
| "             | 19th.          |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer. Lieut J. Chapman.D.C.M.<br/>           Instructions received to take over protection of Railway line from BENHA exclusive to Zagazig exclusive.<br/>           Portion of Regiment under command of Major Shannon.D.S.O.posted along the line.<br/>           Regimental Head Quarters. and remainder of Regiment proceeded from MOASCAR to MINET el GAMH by train.<br/>           B.Squadron proceeded to BILBIES mounted.<br/>           Effective Strength. 30.Officers 517. Other ranks.</p> |                                      |
| MINET EL GAMH | 20th.          |      | <p>Regimental Orderly officer Lieut. J.Dorman.<br/>           Major T.J.Daly.D.S.O. to be Lieut.Cohnel.<br/>           Erection of camps at various posts along the line.<br/>           Effective Strength 30.Officers 517. Other ranks</p>  |                                      |
| "             | 21st           |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer Lieut J.Chapman.D.C.M.<br/>           Captian H.Borbridge.M.C. Proceeded to Brigade Head Quarters as under-study to Staff Capt.<br/>           Lieut T.R.Peppercorn.M.C.transferred from C.Squadron to R.H.Qrs.<br/>           Effective Strength. 30.Officers 517.Other ranks.</p>   |                                      |
| "             | 22nd           |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer. Lieut J.DORMAN.<br/>           Two Machine Guns attached to Regiment. One at SHIBLANGA. and one at MINET el GAMH.<br/>           Effective Strength 30.Officers 515.Other ranks.</p>   |                                      |
| "             | 23rd.          |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer Lieut J.Chapman.D.C.M.<br/>           Time for N atives to be in the streets extended from 1900 to 2100.<br/>           Nights Patrol encountered small assembly of natives near the Railway line which were quickly Dispersed. Effective Strength 30Officers 511.Other ranks.</p>  |                                      |

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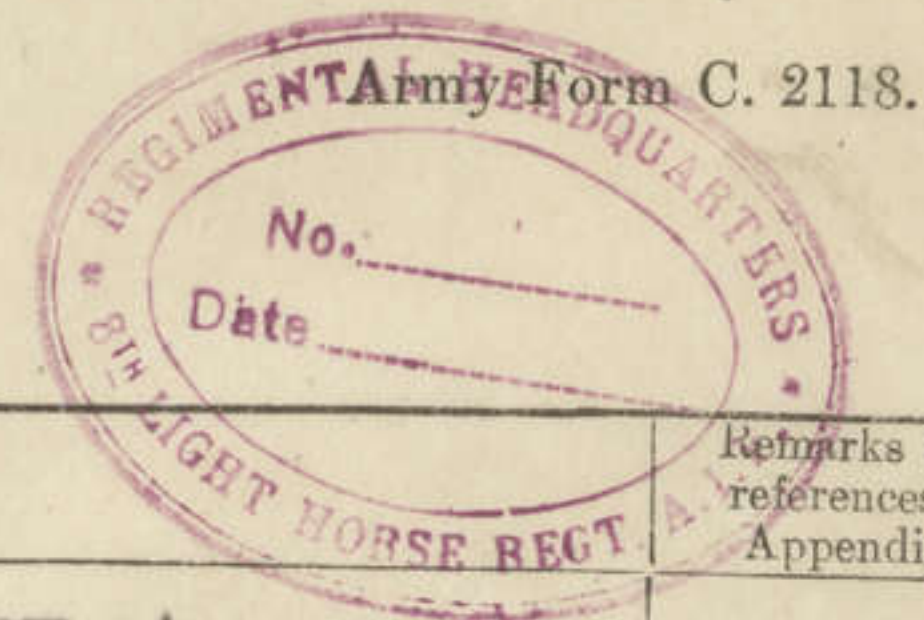
WAR DIARY

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| Place          | Date               | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------|--------------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| MINET el GAMH. | March (contd) 23rd |      | One Troop B. Squadron stationed at ZAGAZIG moved out on patrol to MIT el GAMR at 0530. On reaching MIT el KORASKA, came in contact with about 200, Natives destroying the Railway line, took immediate action, killed about 40. remainder dispersed. Situation other-wise, all clear. <i>AP</i>  |                                      |
| "              | 24th               |      | Regimental Orderly Officer. Lieut J. DORMAN. Very strict watch being kept on natives as it is learnt on good authority that a demonstration will take place shortly. C. Troop, B. Squadron stationed at ZAGAZIG moved out on patrol to KAHR GHANNAM via MEHIR el IMBRAMBRIA. KUFUR NEGIN. KAHR SAQK. leaving ZAGAZIG 0530. Railway line destroyed nearly all the way, Telegraph lines badly damaged and in most cases poles and wires missing. On approaching KUFERNIGIN noticed about 200 Natives on the Railway line. Opened fire killed 2, remainder dispersed. Near KAHR SAQK observed about 150, Natives on Railway line. Opened fire with Hetchkiss Rifle killed 6, remainder dispersed. Proceeded to KAHR GHANNAM and returned to ZAGAZIG with 5 Greek refugees. Other-wise Situation all clear. Effective Strength 30. Officers 511. Other ranks <i>AP</i> |                                      |
| "              | 25th               |      | Regimental Orderly Officer Lieut P. Burns. All ranks again warned against accepting anything from the Natives, as they have succeeded a plan to put poison or opium in the water and fruit, and then offer it to the British Soldiers in guard. Effective Strength 30. Officers 511. Other ranks. <i>AP</i>  |                                      |
| "              | 26th               |      | Regimental Orderly Officer. Lieut: A. H. Currington. D. C. M. Two Natives who refused to halt shot by SHIBLANGA posts. One Native offering drink to the posts and endeavouring to find position and strength of same arrested. Railway Station at ZAGAZIG accidentally destroyed by fire. Situation All clear. <i>AP</i>   |                                      |

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*Regimental*

WAR DIARY

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| Place           | Date        | Hour | Summary of Events and Information  | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------------|-------------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| MINNET-el-GAMH. | March 27th, |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer. Lieut A.M. Currington. D.C.M.<br/>           Three Natives arrested with Motor-cycle and two push bycycle for not being in possession of<br/>           Major Y.H. Walker. M.C. and one troop Patrolled to BILBIES, found all clear, and natives friendly.<br/>           Situation .All clear.<br/>           Effective Strength. 30, Officers .511, Other ranks. <i>LRP</i></p>   |                                      |
| "               | 28th        |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer. 2/Lieut; V.J. Dorman.<br/> <del>*****REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS 8th L.H. REGT A.I.F.*****</del><br/>           Major Y.H. Walker. M.C. and one troop returned from BILBIES.<br/>           Situation .ALL clear.<br/>           Notice received Lieut W.N.J. Bowman. D.C.M. evacuated from Australian Kit Stores to Hospital<br/>           (dated 23/3/19.)<br/>           Effective Strength 29, Officers 510, Other ranks. <i>LRP</i></p>   |                                      |
| "               | 29th.       |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer. 2/Lieut. D.A. Carmichael.<br/>           A Court of Enquiry composed as under assembled at Regimental Headquarters 8th. L.H. Regiment.<br/>           to enquire into and report upon certain matters that were brought before it, principally<br/>           the conduct of the troops at a small village fire.<br/> <br/>           President:- Major H.J. Shannon. D.S.O.<br/>           Members:- Capt. T.S. Austin.<br/>                         Lieut. W.M. Cowell.<br/>           Situation all clear.<br/>           Effective Strength 29, Officers 511, Other ranks. <i>LRP</i></p> |                                      |
| "               | 30th.       |      | <p>Regimentally Orderly Officer Lieut A.M. Currington. D.C.M.<br/> <br/>           Extract from A.I.F. (egypt) 28:-<br/>           2 Major T.J. Daly. D.S.O. to be Lieut Col. temporarily, vice McLauron. Dated 25/11/19.<br/>           (this cancels R.R.O. 366/8)<br/>           The under-mentioned Cadets having qualified for commissions are appointed Probationary<br/>           2/Lieutenants in the A.I.F. and posted to 8th. L.H. Regiment with seniority as shewn:-<br/>           No. 285 Cadet Vernon John Dorman. 2/1/19.<br/>           No. 2746 " John Edwin Chapman. D.C.M. 4/1/19.</p>                   |                                      |

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# WAR DIARY

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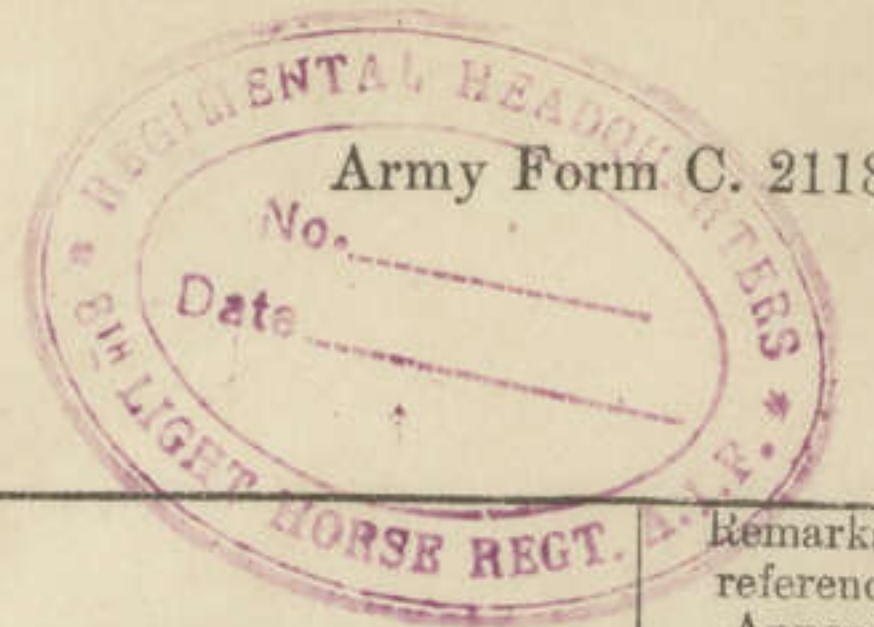
## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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| Place                | Date            | Hour | Summary of Events and Information   | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------------|-----------------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| (continued)          |                 |      |   |                                      |
| MINET<br>el<br>GAMH. | March.<br>30th. |      | <p>Mass was celebrated at Regimental Headquarters 8th.L.H.Regt. at 0645.<br/>           Situation.All clear.<br/>           Effective Strength 29,Officers. 513,,Other ranks.<br/>           Captian.T.Farrinridge.Medical Officer. transferred to A.H.F.Headquarters.<br/>           Captian W.Me Creddie. M.C. Medical Officer is taken on strength from Moascar. <i>MP</i></p> |                                      |
| "                    | 31th.           |      | <p>Regimental Orderly Officer 2/Lieut J.E.Chapman.D.C.M.<br/>           Regimental Librery opened. Books supplied by Australian Comforts .<br/>           Situation al clear.<br/>           Effective Strength.29,Officers 513,Other ranks. <i>MP</i></p>  |                                      |

*By Order Lieut. Col.  
Co. 8th L.H. Regt*



8th. L. H. REGT.  
.....

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List of Appendices:-

1. Strength Statement.
2. Disposition of Posts. (Minet-el-Gamh S/Section)
3. *No*



*Tompath*

Capt.  
Adjutant.  
(8th.L.H.Reg.)  
Minet-el-Gamh. Egypt.



10

*From* 2/4/19

DISPOSITION Of Sub-sector held by 8th. L.H. Regiment A.I.F. *From*  
 SMIBLANGA (exclusive) to ZAGAZIG (exclusive). Headquarters at  
 MINET el GAMH.

*Duplicate*

| Post No. | Location               | Strength |         | Remarks                |
|----------|------------------------|----------|---------|------------------------|
|          |                        | Offrs.   | O/Ranks |                        |
| 1.       | Kilo.12                | -        | 15      |                        |
| 2.       | Kilo.15                | -15      | 15      |                        |
| 3.       | Kilo.16                | 2        | 22      | Crossing               |
| 4.       | Kilo.18                | 3        | 72      | MIT YAZID Station      |
| -        | do.                    | 14       | 169     | Minet el Gamh, Mounted |
| -        | do.                    | 1        | 13      | do. Dismounted         |
| 5.       | Kilo.19 <sup>1/2</sup> | -        | 15      | do. Machine Gun        |
| 6.       | Kilo.21                | -        | 15      |                        |
| 7.       | Kilo.22                | 2        | 21      | Culvert                |
| 8.       | Kilo.26                | -        | 15      | Bodaieda Station       |
| 9.       | Kilo.28                | 3        | 26      | Culvert                |
| 10.      | Kilo.30                | -        | 15      | Zankalun Station       |
| 11.      | Kilo.33                | -        | 15      | Culvert                |
|          | On Command BILBEIS     | 3        | 73      | Culvert                |

*By Daly*  
 Lt-Col.  
 O.C. Troops MINET el GAMH

10



*Duplicate*

No. 1 Section

Disposition of "C" Sub-sector held by 8th.L.H.Reg<sup>t</sup>.A.I.F. *From 19/3/19 to 2/4/19*  
BENHA (Exclusive) to ZAGAZIG (Exclusive). Headquarters At MINET el GAMH

| Post No.      | Location | Strength |         | Remarks            |
|---------------|----------|----------|---------|--------------------|
|               |          | Offrs.   | O/Ranks |                    |
| 1.            | Kilo.1   | -        | 11      |                    |
| 2.            | Kilo.6   | -        | 11      | Canal.             |
| 3.            | Kilo.9   | 2        | 40      | SHIBLANGA Station. |
| 4.            | Kilo.12  | -        | 11      |                    |
| 5.            | Kilo.15  | -        | 9       | Crossing.          |
| 6.            | Kilo.16  | 1        | 11      | MIT YAZID Station. |
| 7.            | Kilo.17  | -        | 11      | Canal.             |
| MINET el GAMH | Kilo.18  | 4        | 90      | Mounted.           |
| do.           | do.      | 6        | 117     | Dismounted.        |
| 8.            | Kilo.19  | -        | 10      |                    |
| 9.            | Kilo.22  | 2        | 22      | GODAIEDA Station.  |
| 10.           | Kilo.26  | -        | 10      | Culvert.           |
| 11.           | Kilo.28  | 3        | 38      | ZANKALUN Station.  |
| 12.           | Kilo.30  | -        | 10      | Culvert.           |
| 13.           | Kilo.33  | -        | 10      | Culvert.           |

Attached Personnel:-

|            |   |   |    |
|------------|---|---|----|
| Chaplain.  | X | 1 | -  |
| A.A.M.C.   | X | 1 | 10 |
| R.A.M.C.   | - | - | 2  |
| A.A.P.C.   | - | - | 1  |
| A.A.O.C.   | - | - | 1  |
| Motor Tpt. | - | - | 2  |

The Regiment's horses are distributed as follows:-

|         |           |          |
|---------|-----------|----------|
| Kilo.9  | 2 Rides.  |          |
| Kilo.16 | 1 Ride.   |          |
| Kilo.18 | 94 Rides. | 4 Dghts. |
| Kilo.22 | 2 Rides.  |          |
| Kilo.28 | 2 Rides.  |          |

There are 2 Mounted Troops at ZAGAZIG:-

Strength:- 2 Officers. 55 O/Ranks. 58 Rides. 4 Dghts.

Minet.  
March.22/19

*[Signature]*  
Lieut:Col.  
C.O. 8th.L.H.Reg<sup>t</sup>.A.I.F.



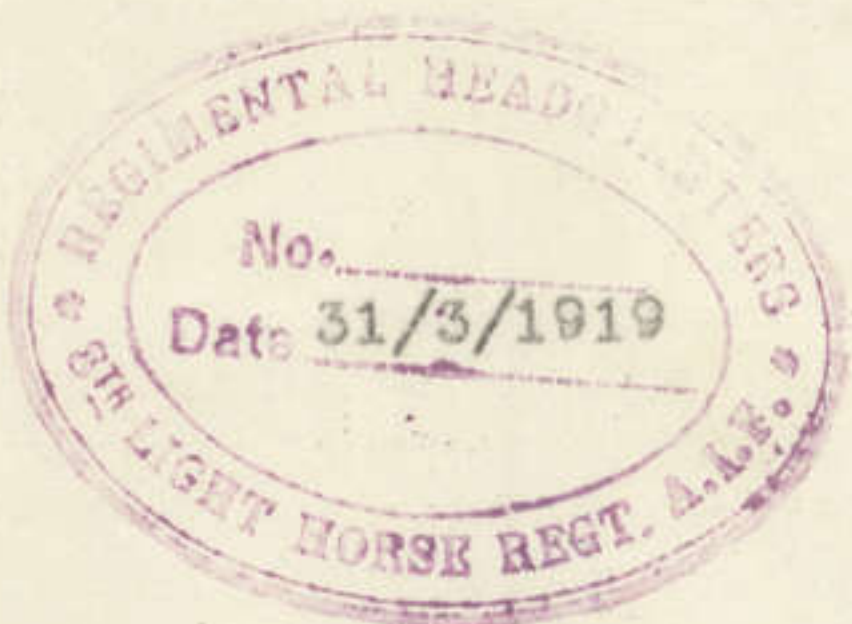
STATEMENT OF STRENGTH FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1919. 12

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|                                  |                  |                 |                           |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| March 1st. 1919.                 | Strength.        | 24 Offrs.       | 429 o/rs                  |
| Marched out to Hospital;         |                  |                 |                           |
|                                  | 2 Off .          | 43 o/rs.        |                           |
| Transfers out.                   |                  |                 |                           |
| ( "A"Details &c)                 |                  | <u>36 o/rs.</u> |                           |
|                                  | <u>2 Off rs.</u> | <u>79 o/r.</u>  | <u>2 Offrs. 79 o/rs</u>   |
| Marched in:-                     |                  |                 |                           |
| Ex Hospital.                     | 1 Off r.         | 24 o/r          | 22 Offrs. 350 o/rs        |
| Transferred in                   |                  |                 |                           |
| ( Inc. Tg. Regt. Details)        | 6 Offrs.         | 139 o/r.        |                           |
|                                  | <u>7 Offrs.</u>  | <u>163 o/r.</u> | <u>7 Offrs 163 o/r</u>    |
|                                  |                  |                 | <u>29 Offrs. 513 o/rs</u> |
| CLOSING STRENGTH. March 31/1919. |                  |                 | -----                     |

Average Effective Strength for the month:-

Officers:..... 28.7  
 O/Ranks:..... 512.4



*Tom Geth*  
 Captain  
 Adjutant,  
 8th L.H. Regiment, A.I.F.