

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/2/15**

**Title: 2nd Australian Light Horse**  
**Brigade**

April 1916

2<sup>nd</sup> Light Horse Brigade

Volume 3 page 52

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL REGISTER  
APR 1916  
D.A.G., 3<sup>rd</sup>. ECHLO

Date.	Place and Time.	
1 <sup>st</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> April 1916	SERAPEUM.	The weather still being warm, horses were sent by day to shelter under the trees on the Canal.
4 <sup>th</sup> April	SERAPEUM	Under instructions received from ANZAC Mounted Division, the Brigade proceeded by march route to SALHIA via MOASCAR, starting at 1200. Brigade bivouaced at MOASCAR on the night 4/5 <sup>th</sup> April, and arrived at SALHIA at 1200 5 <sup>th</sup> April. Transport was moved by rail.
5/21 <sup>st</sup> April		The syllabus for this period was: Night marches, bayonet fighting

C.11056.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
5/21 <sup>st</sup> April	SALHIA	and Squadron training.	
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	SALHIA	<p>Under instructions received from ANZAC Mounted Division, one Regt. 5<sup>th</sup> LH. left SALHIA at 0530 on 22<sup>nd</sup> May and proceeded to RANTARA, where they bivouaced. On 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. they received urgent orders to proceed to DUEIDAR, as that post was being attacked by the enemy. They reached there too late as the enemy had retired before they got there. This Regt. was detached from 2<sup>nd</sup> LHBde. and came under the Command</p>	

C.11056.

847

163

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	SALHIA	of 5 <sup>th</sup> Mounted Brigade. - Under instructions received from Anzac Mounted Division, 2 <sup>nd</sup> LH Bde (less 5 <sup>th</sup> LH Regt.) left SALHIA at 1200 for KANTARA where they arrived at 1900. Left KANTARA 2130 and	
24 <sup>th</sup> April	HILL 70	arrived at HILL 70 at 0130 on 24 <sup>th</sup> May Left HILL 70 at 0800 and arrived at RAILHEAD (now called CANTERBURY HILL POST.) at 1400. Left	
25 <sup>th</sup> April		at 0500 on 25 <sup>th</sup> April and arrived ROMANI at 1100, occupying the camp vacated by British Yeomanry.	

C.11056.

3

847

4

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
26 <sup>th</sup> April	ROMANI	Patrol from 4 <sup>th</sup> LH sent to QATIA. They brought in 4 wounded Yeomanry, who had been lying wounded from 3 to 4 days with practically no water or food. They were in a very bad state. They were evacuated to Lowland Field Ambulance as soon as camel stretchers were available, which was on 24 <sup>th</sup> April.	

C.11056.

4

(5)

Date.	Place and Time.	Reconnaissances conducted by 6 <sup>th</sup> L. H. Regt. in area Hill 110 (Square C3) reference map QATIA sector. OGHARATINA, BIR-EL-HAMISAH.	Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
27.4.1916	ROMANI	<p>A <del>sq</del> Squadron moved out 0430 travelling N.E. to marshy ground square D3. returning S.W. via ER-RABAH to QATIA.</p> <p>C Squadron moved out at 0430 E. towards OGHARATINA via BIR-ABU-HAMRA, HOD-ER-RESHAFAT, HOD-BN-NEGILIAT returning via telegraph line to QATIA.</p> <p>B Squadron less one troop left Camp 0545 marched SE to QATIA <del>from</del> <del>at</del> at 0830, sent one troop to BIR-EL-HAMISAH.</p>	

C.11056.

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
27.4.1916	ROMANI	<p>This troop returned to QATIA at 1045. They found 3 dead horses in Camp, also tents &amp; military equipment strewn. A Squadron B Squadron were engaged in burying dead of British Yeomanry who were in action with enemy 5 days previously. Thirty three British, 6 Turks, 1 native camel driver were buried. Also found 70 dead horses and 48 dead camels, and 3 wounded horses which were destroyed. The Squadron returned to Camp at 1630.</p>	

C.11056.

6

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
27-4-16	ROMANI	<p>C Squadron reconnoitred OGH RATINA area &amp; found <sup>evidence</sup> <del>traces</del> of a fairly severe engagement having taken place there. Estimation of British dead was 70.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">✓      Turkish      ✓      30</p> <p>also signs of some of enemy having been buried. Great proportion of our dead had been stripped of all clothing, - 2 British, 1 Turk, 2 camel drivers all wounded were brought in. 12 British buried by this Squadron returned to Camp at 1800.</p>	

G.11066.



848

(7) #6

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
28.4.16	ROMANI 0545	<p>7<sup>th</sup> LHRgt. less 1 troop &amp; M.C.S. left ROMANI for making reconnaissance to and burying dead at OCHRATINA.</p> <p>B Squad. less 1 troop proceeded direct to QATIA. One troop was sent to BIR-EL-HAMISAH. The main body moved via BIR ET MALA to OCHRATINA. All the hods within a radius of 2 1/2 miles were searched for wounded.</p> <p>32 bodies were collected &amp; buried at OCHRATINA. Estimation of total casualties by C.O. 4<sup>th</sup> L.H. 60 British and Turks.</p>	

C.11066.

2

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
25.4.16	ROMANI	A Squadron found many Bedouin camps, collected 20 Bedouins & camels which were duly brought in. :-	
28.4.16.	Romani 1330	<p>1 Turkish prisoner 17 men 10 women  12 children <del>camels</del> (all Bedouins)  also 6 captured camels  sent in to Anzac Mounted Division by camel transport.</p> <p>0800 1 Troop (1 off. 20 m.) C Squadron 6<sup>th</sup> L.H. left ROMANI to connect with patrol 5<sup>th</sup> L.H. from DUEIDAR  Arrived BIR-ED-DHABA at 1000. Met 5<sup>th</sup> L.H. patrol and returned to ROMANI at 1615. No natives seen during the day.</p>	

C.11056.

(9)

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
28.4.16	ROMANI	Left at 1330 concentrated at QATIA and returned to <del>at</del> ROMANI arriving 1830. 2 Bedouins brought in. No enemy sighted.	
29.4.16	✓	Patrol (10 off. 20 men) 4 <sup>th</sup> L.H. Rgt. left ROMANI 0830 connected with 5 <sup>th</sup> L.H. patrol at BIR-ED-DHABRA at 1100. Nothing unusual was seen. Patrol returned ROMANI at 1500 and reported all clear. One squadron <del>of</del> of 6 <sup>th</sup> L.H. Rgt. acted as escorts to Brig. Gen. J. de L. Rypie	

C.11066.

10

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
29.4.16	ROMANI	<p>who inspected the areas of ROMANI to QERATIA, HOD UMM UGBA, and ER RABAH. Right flank patrol leaving ROMANI at 1350. Reached HOD UMM UGBA and returned for ROMANI at 1630. On return, night flank patrol reported finding two dead Turks about 1/4 mile N.E. ER RABAH. ROMANI reached at 1830.</p>	
30.4.16	ROMANI	<p>1 patrol from 6<sup>th</sup> LH Rgt. (10 off. 20 men) left ROMANI at 0800 to connect with 5<sup>th</sup> LH patrol from DUEIDAR.</p>	

C.11056.

(11)

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30.4.16.	ROMANI	<p>Patrols connected at <del>a point</del> 1000 at a point about half way between BIR EL DHABA and BIR EN NUSS. Patrol returned to Camp at 1300 reporting "all well". - C Squadron 4<sup>th</sup> LH reconnoitred Hill 110 area square C3 QUATIA. Left Romani 0800, searched country on a front of 2 miles to a point 1/2 mile E of Hill 110. Native seen watching movements of patrol, which was sent to capture him, but he escaped. Left for ROMANI at 1310 arrived 1450. Apart from incident stated above, nothing unusual was seen.</p>	

C.11058.

(12)

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30.4.16	ROMANI	<p>3 Troops of 4<sup>th</sup> LH Rgt. moved out from ROMANI at 1330 for reconnaissance QATIA - HAMISAH area. One troop sent to HAMISAH. 2 troops proceeded 1 mile W of QATIA. Troop sent to HAMISAH returned QATIA and reported country "clear". This troop captured 6 Bedouins, 1 camel. A machine gun <sup>(Maxim)</sup> was found buried in sand about 150' W from old Yeomanry horse lines at QATIA. Gun in good working order, but tripod missing. Gun evidently buried by Yeomanry</p>	

C.11056.

847

HQ 2<sup>nd</sup> A/L Brigade (13)

Date.	Place and Time.		Remarks or References to Appendices, &c., attached.
30.4.16.	ROMANI	before evacuating QUATIA when attacked. From QUATIA patrol saw 2 men mounted on camels <del>clear</del> moving at a fast pace towards W. Moving too fast to be overtaken, as they <sup>were</sup> had a good distance from patrol when seen.	
1.5.16.	ROMANI	Patrol (1 off. 20 ca.) from 4 <sup>th</sup> L.H. left ROMANI 0830 to connect with 5 <sup>th</sup> L.H. patrol from DUEIDAR. Connected 10.30 at BIR EDDHABA. Nothing unusual seen. Returned ROMANI 1450.	

C.11058.

14

847

WEEKLY EFFECTIVE STRENGTH RETURN

2nd LIGHT HORSE BRIGADE

SALHIA 8th April 1916

Name of Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Units excluded and where attached
B.H.Q.	5	49	
5th L.H.	19	474	
6th L.H.	21	492	
7th L.H.	22	487	
12th L.H.	-	-	At Oasis Camp Heliopolis
2nd Sig. Troop	1	27	
Totals	68	1529	2nd L.H.F.Amb. returns rendered by that Unit to A.D.M.S.

RATION STRENGTH

Officers	Others
78	1540

TOTAL NUMBER OF MACHINE GUNS 7  
 TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS 1818

Major  
 Brigade Major 2nd Light Horse Brigade



Special order No. 5

Copy No. 2

by  
 Brig.General G. de L. Ryrie C.M.G.  
 Commanding 2nd. L.H. Brigade A.I.F.

Salhia 23/4/1916

1. The 2nd. L.H. Brigade less 5th L.H. Regt. and 2nd.L.H Field Ambulance will proceed by march route to KANTARA to-morrow, 23rd. April 1916. Time of departure will be notified later.
2. All transport, including personnel and horses, will be conveyed by train. O/Cs Units will detail 1 N.C.O. and 3 men per unit as guard for transport.
3. Tents will be struck by 1900 to-night and conveyed to railway station at SALHIA. Guard of 1 N.C.O. and 3 men for tents, to be detailed by O/Cs units.
4. Unconsumed portion of day's ration and forage to be carried.
5. 140 rounds of ammunition to be carried on the man.
6. One blanket and waterproof sheet to be carried.
7. One officer per Regt. will proceed by rail with the transport.

D.R. PELHAM Major

Brigade Major 2nd. L.H. Brigade

Issued by 2nd.Sig.Troop at 1725.

Copy No. 1 & 2	BHQ
3	6th L.H.
4	7th L.H.
5	2nd.L.H.F.Amb.
6	2nd.Sig.Trp.
7	7th M.V.S.

ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION . ORDER No.2.

-by-

Major-General H. G. CHAUVEL, C.B., C.M.G.,  
 Commanding ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,  
 Serapeum .  
 3rd April 1916.

MOVE.

- 1.- The ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION (less 1st & 3rd A.L.H. Brigades), will move to SALHIA, and come under orders of the G.O.C., 15th Corps.
- 2.- The 2nd A.L.H. Brigade will leave SERAPEUM on April 4th, and march via MOASCAR, arriving SALHIA on April 5th.
- 3.- The N.Z.M.R. will leave SERAPEUM on April 6th, and march via MOASCAR, arriving SALHIA on April 7th.
- 4.- Such other details as the G.O.C. Mounted Division desires to move by march route will be added to the two columns

TRANSPORT.

- 5.- The camel transport, which moved with the final flights of the 4th and 5th Divisions, has been ordered to report to the G.O.C. Mounted Division on April 3rd, and is available to move such baggage as is required by marching columns.

BAGGAGE.

- 6.- Surplus baggage will be moved by ordinary train to SALHIA. The D.A.D.R.F. must receive 24 hours notice of the trucks required. Number of trucks for each column must not exceed 6.

WHEELED  
TRANSPORT

- 7.- Wheeled transport of Brigades and the R.H.A. Batteries will be moved by special trains at a date to be notified later.

BIVOUAC  
AREA.

- 8.- An Officer of the Mounted Division will select a bivouac area in the neighbourhood of MOASCAR, in consultation with the New Zealand Division.  
 It must be clear of the permanent camp and the aerodrome.

SUPPLIES.

- 9.- Supplies will be drawn from the supply depot at MOASCAR. A Staff Officer of the Mounted Division will make arrangements for drawing before the arrival of each Brigade.

WATER.

- 10.- The NEW ZEALAND DIVISION will draw 200 fantasses and arrange to have them delivered filled at the bivouac area on the 4th and 6th instant before 10 a.m.  
 The New Zealand Division will arrange for the collection and return of the empty fantasses.

STAFF OFFICER  
IN ADVANCE.

- 11.- A Staff Officer of the mounted Division will be sent in advance to SALHIA, and G.O.C. Mounted Division will place himself in communication with the 15th Corps.

J.G. BROWNE, Lieut.-Colonel.  
 General Staff,  
 ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

Copy No.	Issued to.
1.	2nd A.L.H. Brigade.
2.	N.Z.M.R. Brigade.
3.	Ayrshire Battery R.H.A.
4.	Somerset " "
5.	File.
6.	War diary.

ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION



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Divisional Headquarters,

S A L H I A, 21st. April, 1916.

Headquarters,

2nd. L.H. Brigade.

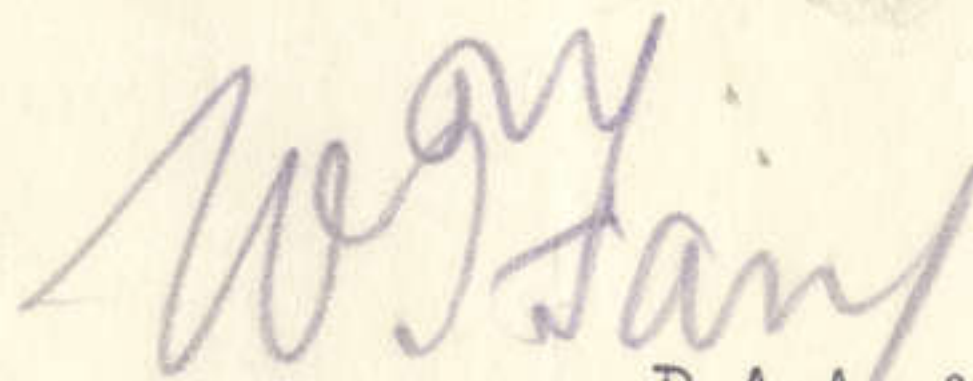
With reference to move of the Regt. being sent ~~forward~~ forward on Saturday, waggons will be loaded and packed as laid down in War Establishment.

Tents and horse rugs will be moved in same train.

Pack horses will be moved by road, personnel for these accompanying same.

One iron ration for all ranks to be carried, in addition to the unconsumed portion of the day's rations and forage. Indent for rations required for consumption on the 23rd. inst. to be wired 48 hours in advance to Supply Officer, ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION, c/o 52nd. Division. After that date to be as arranged by Requisitioning Officer, 2nd. L.H. Bde.

Ammunition as laid down in War Establishment to be carried, On the man, 140 rounds. ~~H~~  
Regimental Reserve, 100 rounds.

J. 30  


Major,  
D.A.A. & Q.M.G.  
ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

ADDENDA TO -  
ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION, ORDER No. 2.

- by -

Major-General H.G. CHAUVEL, C.B., C.M.G.,  
 Commanding ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

Divisional Headquarters,  
 S e r a p e u m .  
 3rd April, 1916.

TRANSPORT.

1. Light limbers should be taken with Brigades so as to be available for use in drawing supplies and for other purposes on arrival in camp at MOASCAR and SAHIA.

Other vehicles will proceed by train.

2. Only the number of horses required to drag the vehicles left behind at SERAPEUM to the Station for purposes of entraining, should be left here.

All other animals should march with Brigades.

J. G. BROWNE, Lieut-Colonel,  
 General Staff,  
 ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

*5 L.H. B. Winton Capt.*

<u>Copy No.</u>	<u>Issued to.</u>
1.	2nd L.H. Brigade.
2.	N.Z.M.R. Brigade.
3.	Ayrshire Battery, R.H.A.
4.	Somerset " "
5.	File.
6.	War Diary.

ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

9/59/8  
H

Divisional Headquarters,  
S e r a p e u m .  
3rd April 1916.

G.O.C.,  
2nd L.H. Brigade.

With reference to Anzac mounted Division Order No. 2, sent to you under secret cover this morning.

6 Trucks will be ready at 0600 to-morrow, April 4th, 1916, at SERAPEUM SIDING close to your lines.

These trucks are in the first place for Base kit bags : after the kit bags have been put on, such space as remains may be used for necessary baggage.

*Ritter Browne*  
Lieut.-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

O/c 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> L.H.  
Lig Troop + 3 amb  
KD

6<sup>th</sup> L.H. Stanley: Please note and return  
5 L.H. R. Nustall Capt

2 L.H. Old Amb W. Fraser Major  
12.45 AM  
4.4.16  
L.H. Th. W. Russell  
Staff Capt 2 L.H. B

O/c 567<sup>th</sup> LH,

Light and S. Amb

*(Signature)*

Please note

and returns.

Edwards Capt  
Staff Capt.

BHQ

3/4/16



SPECIAL ORDER NO 4  
by

Copy No.....

Brig. General G. de L. Ryrie C.M.G.  
Commanding 2nd L.H. Brigade A.I.F.

Serapeum 3/4/16

- 1 Brigade will proceed by march route to SALHIA via MOASCAR starting at 1300 on 4th April 1916
- 2 The Brigade will bivouac at MOASCAR on the night 4/5th inst.
- 3 Camel transport is available to move such baggage as required by the column on the march.
- 4 All tents, kits, etc. to be moved and stacked at the Railway Station by 0800 on Tuesday 4th Inst. One N.C.O. and 3 men will be detailed by each Regiment to guard same.
- 5 All tents kits and surplus baggage will be conveyed by train to SALHIA.
- 6 Wheeled transport of the Brigade will be moved by special train at a date to be notified later.
- 7 One Officer and 30 men per Regiment will proceed by train with the baggage.
- 8 One N.C.O. and 3 men per Regiment will accompany the transports.
- 9 Supplies will be drawn from the Supply Depot MOASCAR.

D.R. Pelham Major  
Brigade Major 2nd Light Horse Brigade.

Issued by 2nd Signal Troop ~~1530~~ 1530

- Copy 1 & 2 BHQ.
- " 3 5th L.H.
- " 4 6th L.H.
- " 5 7th L.H.
- " 6 2nd L.H.F. Amb.
- " 7 ANZAC Mtd. Divn.
- " 8

8

SPECIAL ORDER NO 4  
by

Copy No.....

Brig, General G. de L. Ryrie C.M.G.  
Commanding 2nd L.H. Brigade A.I.F.

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Brigade Major 2nd Light Horse Brigade.

Issued by 2nd Signal Troop ~~xxx~~ 1530

Copy 1 & 2	BHQ.
" 3	5th L.H.
" 4	6th L.H.
" 5	7th L.H.
" 6	2nd L.H.F. Amb.
" 7	ANZAC Mtd. Divn.
" 8	



9

2nd. L.H. Brigade Headquarters

C.O.

5th L.H. Regt.

The 5th Light Horse Regiment will parade ready to move off at 0530 to-morrow Saturday 22nd inst. and proceed to KANTARA, where they will bivouac.

On 23rd. inst. they will leave to BIR EL DUEIDAR, and the following day 24th inst. to QUATIA.

Route to be followed to KANTARA is shown on accompanying sketch.

Brig. General

Commanding 2nd. L.H. Brigade .

SALHIA 21/4/1916.

