

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/6/15

Title: 1st Australian Light Horse
Regiment

July 1916

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 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.

WAR DIARY
 or
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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 D.A.G.

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMANI	29/6/16		A & C Squadrons found NIGHT Outposts again at 2 nd L.H. Bde. Outpost under Major IRWIN temporarily returned for duty. C Squad ^{rs} entrenching No 1 PICQUET.	
	30/6/16		A & B Night Outpost & KATIB GANNIT. 50 men from B Squad ^{rs} during day entrenching KATIB GANNIT & 30 men from same Squad ^{rs} . entrenching No 1 PICQUET POST. C Squadron inlying Squadron.	
	1/7/16		A Squadron Day Outposts. B & C Squad ^{rs} . Night Outposts 2 nd L. H. Bde. LINES, the latter being on RECONNAISSANCE. C Squadron sent patrol to HILL 110 & was duty Squadron. Entrenching continued.	
	2/7/16		Church Parade - A Squadron found Day Outpost & Patrol to Hill 110 B & A on Night Outpost & C inlying Squadron.	
	3/7/16		A Squadron entrenching KATIB GANNIT B Squad ^{rs} . duty Squad ^{rs} C Squad ^{rs} . patrol to QUATIA. Major IRWIN took over Field officer duty & absorbed in Regiment.	
	4/7/16		A Squad ^{rs} . B Squad ^{rs} . 50 men entrenching C Squad ^{rs} . Day Outpost No 1. POST.	
	5/7/16		A Squadron inlying. B Squad ^{rs} . Day Outpost C Squad ^{rs} . digging Party	

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ROMANI	5/7/16		KATIB GANNIT. Very hot & still & B & C. night Outpost.	
	6/7/16		A Squad. duty Squad. & sent patrol to HILL 110. C Squad sent men to KANTARA for Remounts. Enemy Battleplane flew over camp for half an hour. Our planes came from Port Said. but too late.	
	7/7/16		A Squad. to QUATIA with patrols to HAMASIA & OGH RATINA. B " Digging party entrenching KATIB GANNIT. Extra patrol to HILL 110 last night to Guard G.O.C.	
	8/7/16		B Squad. inlying Picquet. C Squad. entrenching KATIB GANNIT. 1 st Regt. left with 2 nd for OGH RATINA. at 2300. Outposts to RECONNAISSANCE made by 3 rd L. H. Advance Guard C Squadron.	
	9/7/16		Left OGH RATINA 1100, arrived ROMANI 1515, The 2 nd Brigade capturing 2 Turks & wounding another at SALAMA.	
	10/7/16		B Squadron to KATIA on patrol. Lieut. Mills seconded to Training Squadron left this morning. One troop of C Squad. to Sebeach swimming horses.	
	11/7/16		A } Squadrons on night Outpost & C inlying Squadron. C } Major Granville Co. on 3 days leave. Twenty four	

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ROMANI	11/7/16		Remounts taken on strength. Enemy plane over at 1000.	
	12/7/16		B Squad ⁿ entrenching KATIB GANNIT. The Regt. marched out for OCHRATINA at 1530, B Squadron having entrenched from 0600 to 0800 KATIB GANNIT.	
	13/7/16		RECONNAISSANCE & DRIVE as per Operation Order No 8 12/7/16. Our Square E 4 on QUATIA map 1/100000. Camped till 0200. OCHRATINA & marched to DEBABBAS arriving at 0424 - A & C Squadrons carried out the drive. No natives or animals were found, but FRESH WATER was found at HOD-ABU-CHARAB at a depth of 4 feet & brackish water at UMMASHAT at HAMMAM a number of kraals were burnt, returned ROMANI	
	14/7/16		1915. Paid all ranks today. Very hot. One case of Scarlet Fever reported in Regiment. average health good.	
	15/7/16		B Squadron patrolled HILL 110 & day outpost A entrenched KATIB GANNIT, A & C Squadrons night outposts C Squadron duty Squadron.	

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ROMANI	16/7/16		Church Parade. A Squadron including Squadron Coy's Gift extra rations distributed.	
	17/7/16		Enemy aeroplane flew over camp & was fired on by our M. Guns and Anti aircraft guns. but without result. C Squadron found QUATIA patrols. B Squad. Digging party at	
	18/7/16		KATIB GANNIT. A Squad. Duty Squadron found Day Outposts and patrol to HILL 110 T reported all clear. B & C Squads. found night PICQUETS under Major IRWIN. C Squad Digging Party.	
	19/7/16		A Squadron Digging party KATIB GANNIT. B Squad including Squadron. Machine Gun section transferred with 12 extra ranks to Brigade M. G. Squadron. Yesterday, enemy aeroplane over camp T 16 Turks on Camels reported at OCHRATINA.	
	20/7/16		B Squad. digging KATIB GANNIT. LEWIS Gun School started. All ranks stood to arms half an hour earlier as	

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ROMANI	20/7/16		many turks are reported at OGHRAATINA BIR-EL-ABD, BAYOUD etc. Approaching ROMANI.	
	21/7/16		Marched out with Brigade to QUATIA - 0300. A Squadron main body. B Squadron found Outposts. C Squadron escorted Artillery 1800 & shelled OGHRAATINA, which is strongly held by enemy. Returned to Camp at 2330 weather much cooler.	
	22/7/16		Enemy approaching. We found patrols to BIR-ED-DHABA & HILL 110. C Squadron mlying Squadron RECONNAISSANCE. We did the job, leaving Camp at	
	23/7/16		midnight; marched on QUATIA - from there A Squadron drew fire towards OGHRAATINA. C Squadron drew fire at SADIYA. B Squadron sent patrol to HAMISAH. Enemy hold Square & E QUATIA Shet C-18 Scale 1-100000 as per Operations Order NO. 9. Enemy's TAUBE met ours. We shelled OGHRAATINA. And finally kept enemy from advancing. Returned to QUATIA 1900, reaching	

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ROMANI	23/7/16		ROMANI Camp at midnight. Casualties Nil. 2 Horses wounded.	
	24/7/16		Duty Regiment - B Squadron duty Squadron, men & horses fatigued with long hot job yesterday. Weather Cooler -	
	25/7/16		Left Camp again on RECONNAISSANCE at 0130, returned midnight, after being in reserve at QUATIA. all day. A Squadron remaining in camp doing Outpost. Enemy aircraft over camp 0720 and in afternoon, also got in touch with enemy outposts over night by Lieut McDonald's Officer's patrol. Capt. A. D. White returned to duty from Hospital.	
	26/7/16		23 men from TEL-EL-KEBIR reinforcements and 17 horses taken on strength. F. G. C. M. on Lieut STUART set in 1 st L. H. Mess Tent	
	27/7/16		RECONNAISSANCE in strength again. B Squadron drew fire	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMANI	27/7/16		C Squadron supports & A in reserve - pushed enemy Outposts back from sand dunes SAGIA - one slight Casualty.	
			PATROLLED to FARWA & BADIEH. Enemy entrenched strongly. <u>Lieut</u> GARBETT & MACK remained out as Officers Patrol.	
	28/7/16		Paid all ranks today - Weather cooler - usual stand to arms. and TAUBES flying over camp. Duties very heavy at present.	
	29/7/16		RECONNAISSANCE again always 1 Brigade of L.H in front. A & C Squadrons drew fire. B Squadron in reserve.	
			Casualties 4 wounded & 1 missing. Total 6 Horses: 1 Killed 4 wounded. Enemy shelled QUATIA, and have entrenched this line strongly entrenched and are well supplied with Machine Guns. Turks allow our men to ride close up to their positions before opening fire.	
	30/7/16		In Camp recuperating, usual fatigues, patrols & escorts - Weather decidedly cooler, MONITORS shelled OCHARATINA.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ROMANI	31/7/16		<p>RECONNAISSANCE again. This Regiment in reserve. Enemy's flanks slowly approaching ROMANI. 3 enemy's planes dropped 27 bombs, grenades and steel darts over camp. We suffered no casualties, being out in desert.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Lieut. H. Cranwell Major C.O. 1st A.L. H. Regiment</p> <p>Romani 7th August 1916.</p>	

OPERATION ORDER No. 8.
by
Major. G.H. Granville, D.S.O
Commanding 1st. Light Horse Regiment.

Reference Map.
Qatia. 1/100,000.

Romani.
12th. July 1916

XINERMATRONIX

INTENTION. 1. The 1st. A.L.H. Brigade less 3rd. L.H. Regt., will reconnoitre Square E.4. on Qatia 1/100,000 Map on Wednesday July 12th. Thursday July 13th. Friday July 14th. (if necessary) for the purpose of clearing this area of any natives and animals that may be located there.

Peaceful Bedouins with flocks should, as far as possible be brought in by easy stages, and the numbers collected reported as early as possible, so that arrangements can be made for their disposal. Reports will be furnished on the wells at all places passed through.

MOVES. 2. Wednesday July 12th. B.H.Q., 1st. L.H. Regt, and 1st. L.H. Fd. Amb., will leave ROMANI camp at 1500 on Wednesday July 12th, and march to Oghratina, where they will bivouac for the night, July 12/13th. The 2nd. L.H. Regt. will leave ROMANI camp at 1530 on Wednesday July 12th, and march to HOD ES SAGIA, where they will bivouac for the night 12/13th. July.

Thursday July 13th. 1st. L.H. Regt, (less 1 troop remaining at OGH RATINA) will leave OGH RATINA at such an hour as to arrive at HOD ES DEBABIS at dawn, leaving 1 Squadron there to watch the country to the EAST. They will then form a driving line with the right on the QATIA-BIR-EL-Abd road ~~and~~ the left flank on a line running from HAMMAM S of BIR-WM-AISHA, N. or HOD-ED-DHAKR'S. of HOD-ABU-GEMIAAN to OGH RATINA. The squadron watching the country to the EAST, will fall back with the driving line to OGH RATINA.

and the left on HAMMAM and drive towards OGH RATINA

The 2nd. L.H. Regt. (less escort for camels to OGH RATINA) will leave HOD ES SAGIA at such an hour so as to arrive at HOD-EL-MUHAMMAN at dawn. They will then form a driving line with their right on the line laid down for the left of the 1st L.H. Regt. and the left flank on a line drawn through HOD EL MUHAMMAN, HOD EL FARWA. 1st. A. in HOD-ES-SAGIA, HOD-EL-MAHARI to OGH RATINA.

It is essential that the whole of Square E4 should be well searched, the 1st and 2nd. Regiments join at a point South of the last M. in HAMMAM.

SUPPLIES. 3. One days ration, iron ration, and full water bottle will be carried on each man, and two feeds on each horse. Camels conveying one days water, and one feed per horse, will accompany the 1st. L.H. Regiment, to HOD-ES-SAGIA, and will move under escort to OGH RATINA on the morning of the 13th. July.

Camels conveying two-third rations, one days water, and two feeds per horse for the 2nd. L.H. Regt moving to HOD-ES-SAGIA, and two thirds rations, one days water and three feeds per horse for B.H.Q. 1st. L.H. Regt, 1st. L.H. Fd. Amb. will accompany the troops to OGH RATINA.

ESCORTS. 4. C.O. 2nd. L.H. Regt. will detail 1 sgt. & 10 men as Escort for Camel Convoy, from ROMANI to SAGIA, on 12th. inst July, thence to OGH RATINA on early morning of July 13th.

C.O. 1st. A.L.H. Regiment will detail one troop as escort to Camel Convoy from ROMANI to OGH RATINA.

HORSES 5. No freshly issued remounts are to be taken.

LIGHTS. 6. No lights of any description are to be shown in bivouac area after dark.

COMMUNICATIONS. 7. C.O. 1st. Signal Troop will arrange communication with

Operation Order No. 8 Page. 2.

Communication. 7. the Regiments working in Square E. 4., and will maintain touch with the 6th. L.H. Regt. working at BIR-ABU-EL-AFEIN and HOD EL KHIRBA.

REPORTS AND MESSAGES

3. Reports to B.H.Q. Oghratina.

Order of March. 9

Advance Guard, "A" Squadron

Main Body.

Head quarters
M.G. Section.

"C" Squadron.

- 1 Troop Camel Escort "B" Squadron.
- " Right Flank Guard. "B" Squadron
- " Left Flank Guard. " "
- " Rear Guard. " "

DETAILS. 10. Lieut. W. McQuiggin will be in charge of Regt. Details left in camp.

(Signed) F.V. Weir Capt & Adjt.
1st. Light Horse Regiment.

Copies issued

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- No. 2. War Diary.
- No. 3. C.O.
- 4. "B" Sqn
- 5. " B" Sqn
- 6. "C" Sqn
- 7. M.G. Sect.