

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/8/35**

**Title: 3rd Australian Light Horse**  
**Regiment**

October 1917



# 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

(Evase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KILO 9.	1/10/17	9.30	Regt. carried out dismounted drill in morning. Afternoon was devoted to washing clothes etc.	
	2/10/17	9.30	'A' and 'B' Squadrons proceeded to Ranges and fired through Gas clouds and smoke. Major W. Bennett evacuated to hospital.	
	3/10/17	9.30	Regt. formed up at 0835 and moved off with Bde at 0900 and marched to new camp on Beach arriving there at 1230. as per Appendix I. Lieut. M. P. Sandland and 13 of ranks proceeded to Pt. Said Rest Camp at 1400.	I.
RAFA BEACH.	4/10/17	9.30	Twenty reinforcements arrived from MOA SCAR. Fifteen of ranks returned from Pt. Said Rest Camp.	
	5/10/17	9.30	The Director of Remounts inspected horses of Regt.	
	6/10/17	9.30	Lieut. A. Hean proceeded to Cairo on duty in connection with Records at GHEZIREH.	
	7/10/17	9.30	Church parades carried out.	
	8/10/17	9.30	Lyllabus of training carried out.	
	9/10/17	9.30	Training carried out. Dismounted drill at 1430.	
	10/10/17	9.30	Capt. R. C. Bassett reported for duty as R.M.O. to this Regt. from 14 <sup>th</sup> 17. G. H.	
	11/10/17	9.30	Capt. Andrew (late R.M.O.) proceeded to Downs. Train for duty.	
	12/10/17	9.30	Fifteen of ranks proceeded to Post Said Rest Camp at 1400. Training carried on with.	
	13/10/17	9.30	One troop of C. Sqdn. (Lieut. M. Bude) returned from duty at D. H. Q. - Lieut. A. Hean returned from Cairo. 15 of ranks returned from Pt. Said Rest Camp.	

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

Ges Bell Lieut Col.  
6.0. 3rd ALH Regt.

OCT 1917

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WAR DIARY

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2

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAFA BEACH.	14/10/17	4.30	Church parades were held during day. Major E. C. Derrington and Lieut W. B. Kelly returned from S. of J. ZEITOUN.	
	15/10/17	4.30	Carried out syllabus of training.	
	16/10/17	4.30	Representative troop from Regt. under Capt. Zackaberry and Lieut Kidman attended presentation ceremony.	
	17/10/17	4.30	Regt. paraded at 0600 dismounted, and carried out dismounted attack scheme. At 1400 the Regt. paraded mounted and practised cavalry action.	
	18/10/17	4.30	Party under Lieut-Col. G. J. Bell D.S.O. proceeded to carry out scheme of inter communication with aeroplanes.	
	19/10/17	4.30	Carried out syllabus of training.	
	20/10/17	4.30	Lieut. M. R. Sandland returned from Pt Said Rest Camp. Capt. H. E. McDonald left for S of J ZEITOUN.	
	21/10/17	4.30	Church parades were held during day.	
	22/10/17	4.30	Regt. paraded mounted at 1400 when cavalry action was practised.	
	23/10/17	4.30	Regt. paraded dismounted at 0600 to practise dismounted attack. Capt. J. M. Clarke and 400Rs joined Regt. from Rly Construction Party.	
	24/10/17	4.30	(Ref Maps RAFA + BEERSHEBA 1/125,000) - cleaning up camp in morning.	
			Regt. formed up at rear of camp and moved off with Bde at 1630. After an uneventful journey arrived at FUKHARI at 1900. as per Appendix II.	

OCT 1917

II

*John*

*Geo Bell Lieut-Col  
C.O. 3rd L.H. Regt.*



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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
FUKHARI.	25/10/17	4B	Seventeen reinforcements joined Regt. from Details MOGASCAR.	
	26/10/17	4B	(Ref. map. RAFA + BEERSHEBA. 1/125,000.)	
			Regt. formed up at 1515 and moved at 1540 for starting point arriving there at 1630. Joined up with Bde. and moved off at 1730. After an uneventful journey arrived at ESANI at 2300. as per Appendix III. Regt. camped about 1 mile SOUTH-WEST of ESANI. reporting "All correct" to Bde. at 2315.	III
ESANI.	27/10/17	4B	(Ref. map BEERSHEBA 1/125,000)	
			"B" Sqn. was detailed to hold Outpost line at 840 - ABU YAHIA and moved out at 1545. A party of 12 ofrs were sent to TEL EL ITWEIL at 1000 with Capt Lough. B.W.I. who had verbal instructions from Desert Corps to get this party for the purpose of rounding up Bedouins in that locality. Bedouins were not to be seen and party returned to camp at 1230.	
	28/10/17	4B	Regt. stood to arms at 0400. "A" Sqn. (Mjr A. Dick) was detailed to take over Outpost line at 840. from 2nd A.L.H. Regt. and left camp at 0500. "B" Sqn. (Capt Jackberry) returned to camp at 0930. and reported all correct.	- OCT 1917
			(Ref. map BEERSHEBA 1/125,000) Regt. formed up at 1700 and moved off with Bde at 1705.	
			After an uneventful journey KHALASA was reached at 2100 where Regt. bivouac'd as per Appendix IV. Reported "All correct" to Bde at 2130.	IV
KHALASA.	29/10/17	4B	"A" Sqn. (Mjr A. Dick) returned to Regt at 0145 and reported "All correct". Regt. stood to arms at 0400 and stood down at 0600.	
			(Ref. map BEERSHEBA 1/125,000.) Regt. formed up with Bde at 1645 and moved off at 1650. "B" Sqn. (Mjr E. G. Derington) was detailed as advance guard to Bde.	

Geo Bell Lt. Col. C.O. 3rd LH Regt.

30/10/17



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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
KHALISA.	29/10/17	9.30	After an uneventful trek, ASLUJ, was reached at 2030, as per Appendix V. Regt bivouaced for night about 3/4 of a mile SOUTH-EAST. of ASLUJ.	V
ASLUJ.	30/10/17	9.30	Stood to arms at 0400 and reported same to Bde - stood down at 0600. (Ref map BEERSHEBA 1/125000.) The Regt. formed up and moved off as per Appendix VI, and moved to No. 5 well to water. Joined up with Bde. and moved off at 1930. Trekked till 0300. when horses were fed and a halt of 1/2 an hour was made. Having resumed our journey, a halt was made at Point 1390 at 0800. "A" Sqdn. (Maj A. Dick) and "C" Sqdn. (Capt. W. J. Jackaberry) pushed forward. Their objective being TELEL SABA which was strongly held by enemy machine guns and rifles. The Regt. moved with Bde. to a point on No. 5 contour line WEST of K. in KHASIN ZANNA. There received orders to take up a position near KH. EL WATAN. Advanced scouts got in touch with enemy near bend in W. SABA. - SOUTH-EAST of TELEL SABA. At 1200 received orders from Bde. to advance on TELEL SABA. - Auckland Mtd. Rifles cooperating on our right. Conferred with C.O. Auckland Mtd. Rifles at bend in Wadi - SOUTH of TELEL SABA and we agreed to attack TELEL SABA - Auckland Mtd. Rifles operating NORTH of WADI and 3rd L.H. Regt. on SOUTH. The Regt. advanced in the open from the point in bend of WADI to last A. in W. EL SABA - the whole of the Wadi being swept by enemy machine gun fire.	VI
TELEL SABA.	31/10/17	9.30		

Geo Bell Lt Col.  
C.O. 3rd L.H. Regt.

- OCT 1917

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5

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
(Continued) TEL EL SABAH	31/10/17	4/13	<p>'A' and 'B' Squadrons advanced to bank of WAQI - SOUTH of, and immediately opposite point 1007. 'B' Sqn. (Mjr E. G. Derrington) remaining in support. The Regt. with slight cover was able to bring Hotchkiss Gun and rifle fire to bear on enemy trenches and machine gun positions on TEL EL SABAH. One section of 1st Bde. M. G. Sqn. under 2/Lieut Garvie operated with the Regt and were able to bring heavy fire to bear on the enemy position. One Sqn. of 2nd L. H. Regt. (Mjr Stoddart) also operated with the Regt in the final advance on TEL EL SABAH. At 1405 3rd Regt. and Auckland M.A. Rifles commenced to assault the enemy position which was occupied at 1530, the New Zealanders converging from the NORTH-EAST, one Sqn. of 3rd Regt. ('A') crossing the WAQI to TEL EL SABAH. The remainder of the Regt. with one Sqn. 2nd L. H. Regt. following the retiring enemy to fork in WAQI. - WEST of TEL EL SABAH and were able to bring heavy fire to bear on the enemy as they retired over high ground in a NORTH-WESTERLY direction. Throughout the advance, the Inverness Battery gave excellent and accurate covering fire. Casualties for the day were - Personnel - Killed 1 officer, 14 ORs. Wounded 21 ORs. 1 OR missing - Horses Killed 12 Wounded 11. Our transport 'A' Echelon was bombed at point 1300 at 1715 by enemy aircraft. The casualties being 4 ORs killed, 5 ORs wounded, 10 horses killed and 7 wounded. (These figures are included in casualties for day shown above) Regt. watered in WAQI near TEL EL SABAH at 1700.</p>	<p>- OCT 1917</p> <p style="text-align: right;">J. B. C. &amp; A. 1875</p>

Geo Bellhew - Col.  
C.O. 3rd L. H. Regt.

J. B. C. & A.  
1875



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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>(Continuation)</i> TEL EL SABA	<i>31/10/17</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<p>Whilst watering the Regiment was heavily shelled by enemy. Regt. formed up under cover of Nadi bank and at 1930 moved down (WADI SABA to Post 960. and bivouaced for night. "B" Sqn. (Mjr E.C. Derrington) before bivouacing proceeded to Outpost line 1020-970. the Mosque. to ensure that the Outpost line was connected and the various units were in communication. "B" Sqn. returned to camp at 2200 and reported "All correct".</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Geo Bell Lieut - Col.</i> <i>C.O. 3rd L.H. Regt.</i></p>	

- OCT 1917

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- OCT 1917

SPECIAL ORDER.

Copy No.

by  
Lieut. Colonel G. J. Bell D.S.O. C.O. 3rd. Light Horse Regt.

I

Ref. Map EL SHELLAL 1/40,000.

1. INFORMATION. (a) The 5th Mounted Bde. rejoins the AUS BALKAN MOUNTED DIVISION in the forward area on 3rd. Oct. 1917.
- (b) On the same day the 7th. Mounted bde. (less the Worcester Yeomanry attached) moves to a support area to the site now occupied by the 1st. L.H. Bde.
2. MOVES. (a) The 1st. A.L.H. Bde. will leave its present bivouac Area at 0900 on Wednesday 3rd. Oct. 1917 and move to a resting Area on the BEACH, Square U 31 C, South West of the Yeomanry Division.
- (b) The 3rd. Light Horse Regt. will be formed up in Column of Squadron Lines of Troop Columns facing West 100 yards North of R.H.Q. lines and be ready to move at 0645 in Column of Route in the following order:
  - (c) R.H.Q.
  - A Sqn.
  - B "
  - C "
- (d) C.O. "A" Squadron will detail 2 Sections under an N.C.O. with six shovels to clean the crossings both the SHELLAL and BELAH Railway Lines when the bde. has passed.
3. TRANSPORT. All wheeled traffic will proceed via RAFA. The S.A.A. and G.S. Waggon will remain at RAFA on the site near the Details Camp selected by the Staff Captain.

Angus Hean. Lieut and Adjt.  
3rd. L.H. Regiment.

Issued at 1000.



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- OCT 1917

SPECIAL ORDER by Lieut. Col G. J. Bell D.S.O. C.O. 3rd. L.H. Regt.

Ref. Maps RAFA and BEERSHEBA 1/125000.

III 244  
9

1. INFORMATION. On Fri. 26th. Oct. the ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION (less two Bdes.) moves to ESANI, leaving the starting point at Cross Roads, 1000 yards due South of Kilo 14 on RAFA to SHELLAL railway at 1700.
2. MOVE. The 3rd. Regiment will be formed up 200 yards North East of "A" Sqn lines in Column of Sqn. lines of Troop Columns facing North East and be ready to move at 1515.  
Order of march as follows:  
R.H.Q.  
C Sqn.  
A "  
B " less two troops.  
Rear Guard. O.C. "B" Sqn will detail two troops as rear guard.  
Rear Guard Commander. Capt. T. Kenyon.
3. ROUTE. Via EL MELEK just East of UM AJUA and on to Route A about two miles South West of GOZ MABRUK and thence by Route A to ESANI;

25th Oct. 1917.

Angus Hearn Lieut. and Adjt.  
3rd. L.H. Regt.

20

O.C. Sqns and P.H.Q.

V

The Regt will be formed up in Column of Squadron lines of Troop column on camp area facing SOUTH and be ready to move at 1645 with the Bde to AISLUN.

\* B. Sqns under Major Derrington will act as advance guard to the Bde.

Order of march -

- A. Sqns.
- C. do.
- P. H. Q.

KHALASA.

Sgt Angus Head Lt + adjt.  
3rd Regt.

29/10/17.

3rd L.H. Regt.

28/10/17.

IV

20

O.C. all Sqns & A.O.

1st Bde moves to KHALASA at 1650 today. Regiment will be formed up in Sqns. lines of Troop column just clear of present camping area facing EAST and be ready to move at 1645 in the following order.

- H.Q.
- B. Sqns.
- C. do.

Sgt Angus Head Lt + adjt.  
for Lt-Col

C.O. 3rd L.H. Regt.

ESANI.

1650.

- OCT 1917

Bay  
10

OCT 1917

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20

VI

Oct. All Sqdms + H. O.

The Regt. will be formed up in line of Troop columns facing NORTH. on present camping area and be ready to move at 1630 in column of Route in the following order.

R. H. Q.  
A Sqdms.  
C do.  
B do.

A.S.L. 114.  
30/10/17.

Sqdr. Angus Hearn.  
Lieut + Adj. Lt.  
3rd L. H. Regt.

844  
12

- OCT 1917

WAR DIARY.

## Casualty List for October, 1917.

<u>KILLED</u>					
No.	Rank.	Name.	No.	Rank.	Name.
1493	L/Cpl.	Rodgers A.C.	3295	Tpr.	Hogarth T.
1763	Driver	Pegilgas A.S.		Lieut.	Sandland M.R.
954	L/Cpl.	Ranford C.	2659	Tpr.	Bundy J.R.
2466	Tpr.	Kelly F.	2666	"	Dawson R.R.
988	"	Troubridge H.E.	2628	"	Dearman J.H.
2879	"	Litchfield W.			
<u>WOUNDED</u>					
1415	Cpl.	Bell J.H.L.	3047	Tpr.	Dunk A.S.
730	Tpr.	Reed W.	405	Sgt.	Davies A.A.
538	L/Cpl.	Killalea H.	830	L/Cpl.	Willis M.
1067	"	Evans C.	2629	Tpr.	Doman C.
2986	"	Mudge M.	2244	"	Barber W.
2313	Tpr.	Frick W.	2455	"	Davies A.H.
2653	L/Cpl.	Reed P.W.	2217	"	Ricketts R.H.
1393	Tpr.	Murphy F.	121	S.Q.M.S.	Cornelius E.
1157	Dvr.	Porthouse A.C.	149	Dvr.	Hayes G.A.
<u>SICK.</u>					
	Major	W.J. Bennett	2452	Tpr.	Coad W.J.
755	Tpr.	Ma chant A.J.	272	L/Cpl.	Cootzee M.
2005	"	Coombs C.E.	3374	Tpr.	Winter H.S.
331	L/Cpl.	Noolan G.	2464	"	King A.E.
941	Tpr.	Ellis J.H.	1701	"	McGinty E.F.
340	F/Sgt.	Sugars W.	2354	"	Saunders S.G.
3121	Tpr.	Matters C.W.	867	"	Harvey J.
3076	"	Wagner P.	3109	"	Bell G.R.
2624	"	Belcher E.	1815a	"	Cock W.
1665	"	Trevener R.	3303	"	Starkey L.J.R.
3394	"	Cooper L.	997	"	Sullivan C.T.
3232	"	Earle W.J. (Injured)		"	
1113	Dvr.	Strugnell F.	2951	"	Watson S.L.
2945	Tpr.	Ryan J.H.	2654	"	Barker T.E.
2454	"	Davey C.	2328	"	Hull G.E.
3237	"	Mashford A.H.	1464	"	Lambert A.
3365	"	Shepherd R.C.	655	"	Gleeson C.O.
3268	"	Lee E.J.	1455	"	Harding R.
879	"	Gardner R.	334	Sgt.	Plenty C.G.
3308	"	Hardy W.			