

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/12/37

Title: 7th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

October 1918

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

7th Light Horse Regiment, A.I.F.

FOR

OCTOBER 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

C. G. Holland

Lieutenant
Adjutant 7th Light. Horse Regt. A.I.F.

Signature of Officer Commanding

J. D. P. ...

Lieut. Colonel
C.O. 7th Light. Horse Regt. A.I.F.

OCT 1918

E.H.F.

WAR DIARY

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ammam	1.10.18	18	The usual Regimental duties watering horses etc. News was received that Bulgaria surrendered unconditionally. At 1400 Adjutants met the Brigade Major to get particulars re a move back to Jerusalem, the whole Brigade less the 7th Light Horse Regiment and transport is to proceed to Jericho by the Ain Sir Road. 7th Regiment to escort prisoners to Jericho via Es Salt. Opportunity was taken of the quiet day to put crosses on all Regimental graves of men killed in the Ammam Battle at the end of March. Transport was sent to Ain Sir to collect Grain and tibbin. 7 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick	cct
Ain Hemar	2.10.18.	18.	The Regiment moved off at 0530 to take over prisoners from the A.P.M. Ammam. Considerable difficulty was experienced in counting them, as they were nothing more than a rabble all their Officers having been taken away. 2962 were taken over and before half a mile was covered 7 had fallen out, and further along the road 15 more were put on camels and handed to the O.C. Receiving Station SUEILWEH. The Turks are in a very bad way having had forced marches from Maan with practically no food or water, they rush every spring or soak endeavoring to get a Drink. AIN HEMAR was reached by 1230 where the remainder of the day and night are being spent. There is very little water here and it was only by getting a party on with shovels and confining the water to the main course that enough is being procured for the prisoners and horses. 5 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cct
Es Salt Nimrin Road	3.10.18.	18.	The Regiment and prisoners left Ain Hemar at 0800 and after counting them proceeded along the Es Salt Road to a camp site 1½ miles the Nimrin side of Es Salt. They travelled very well and it was a nice cool day. Es Salt was passed at 1100 and after a short spell on the water party moved along the Nimrin Road where the motors were met with rations for Regiment and prisoners. Some difficulty was experienced in rationing them at first.	cct

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Es Salt Nimrin Road	3.10.18	(Cont)	<p>After the first few had been done the system worked well. Batches of 20 were marched past and given one tin of biscuits 5 tins of bully about 5 lbs. of onions and 2 lbs of dates. The rationing was completed in 2 hours and as every 20 men were were rationed they were kept separate from the remainder until the whole party were rationed. 26 tins of biscuits were left left over and it was decided to issue them to about 1500 of the last of the column at midday to-morrow so as the weak ones get a little extra. Great assistance was given by some Turkish N.C.O'S. while rationing. 6 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.</p>	
Nimrin	4.10.18		<p>Moved off at 0800 for Nimrin and had a very hot and dusty ride. A camp was made at HOWEIG BRIDGE for a hour to allow prisoners to water and also for a Motor convoy to pass. A camp was made for lunch at 1300 where the enemy had had a big camp and near where the long range gun that used to shell Jericho is dumped in the Wadi. A great deal of Turkish stores are lying about the road and a number of cookers are conspicuous. Nimrin was reached at 1700 the prisoners were rationed in batches of 16 as they marched past, the whole rationing was completed in an hour. 21 sick Turks were put into Hospital at Nimrin and one committed suicide by jumping over a cliff along the road, another one tried to follow his example but only cut his head. It is a pitiful ^{sight} site at the rear of the column as the amount of sick and foot sores is increasing daily. 4 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.</p>	
Jericho	5.10.18		<p>Started at 0800 for Jericho and the Jordan was reached at 1100 and a camp made on the West bank, the prisoners were put on a small island where they indulged in a good wash dozens of them went in for a swim and all except about 200 sick and foot sore seemed quite happy. A start was made for Jericho at 1400 about one mile from Jericho 1300 of the lead were counted out and handed to the 38th Battalion Fusiliers (Jewish Battalion).</p>	

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Jericho (Cont)	5.10.18		The remainder were taken on to Jericho and counted into A.P.M's Compound.. Receipts were obtained and every prisoner was accounted for. The Regiment then joined the Brigade at HAJLA MONASTRY. Mail, Y.M.C.A. and Canteen Stores were there for us. 2 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cch
Hajla Monastery	6.10.18		The Brigade remained remained in bivouac all day, dumps were cleaned up and all spare horses collected. 46 Reinforcements were picked up which are a great help. 11 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cch
Talaat ed Dumm	7.10.1918		A start was made for Talaat ed Dumm at 0810 and horses were watered at the Junction of Old Roman and New Road at 1100. Bivouac was reached at 1300 and rations and forage were drawn. 5 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cch
Mount of Olives	8.10.18		Left Talaat ed Dumm at 0800 for bivouac site on Mount of Olives. horses were watered at 0600 and again at 1500 at Jerusalem. After a good march an camp was reached at 1130, main road was left at Bethany and the Brigade came through the village on Mount of Olives. 10 Leave was granted to 30 men per Squadron until 2100. 11 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cch
"	9.10.18		Regiment remained in bivouac at Mount of Olives and 16 men per Squadron were allowed in town from 1400 to 2100. There was a very good issue of A.I.F. Gifts and also a free issue of beer. The men are behaving very well in the city and so far no complaints have been received. 8 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cch
"	10.10.18		Remained in camp all day. Leave was granted -10% from 0900 to 1400 and same per cent from 1400 to 2100. Church Army have arranged for conducting parties through the old city. Winter clothing and extra blankets are being issued. 3 O.R. Evacuated to hospital sick.	cch

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Mount of Olives	11.	10.18	Usual Regimental duties as the Brigade remained in bivouac the town was placed out of bounds to all Chaytors Force to-day as two or three men had played up previous day. Taking the stay in Jerusalem on a whole the men behaved splendidly, and only ^{every} one much regretted that such drastic steps had been taken. Orders were received to move to LATRON next morning. 16 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	ced
Latron	12.	10.18	Brigade left bivouac at 0800 for Latron, horses were watered as the Brigade moved out, after a very good trip LATRON was reached at 1500 where rations and forage were issued. The absence of traffic was very noticeable on the road now the troops have withdrawn from the area. 4 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	ced
Wadi Hanein	13.	10.18	Camp was left at 0800, the wagons leaving as on the previous day at 0600, a halt was made about one mile ^{from} RAMLEH towards BIR SALEM for lunch. Moved after one and half hours spell and came on to camp area near Wadi Hanein, where Regiments moved into allotted camp sites. Water troughs are very handy and it is a good camp site. KXXX 10 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	ced
"	14.	10.18	Camp site was cleaned up as it was very untidy the natives having rooted everything up the previous unit had butied butied. Cook houses and some tents were erected. Usual Regimental Duties. 9 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	ced
"	15.	10.18	Usual Regimental duties N.C.O. and 12 men are supplied by duty regiment as guard and piquet for ca orchards. An N.C.O. and 8 men as guard on water troughs. N.C.O. and 8 men as pumpers. The duties on water area are devided with N.Z.M.R. Brigade. All villages and orchards are out of bounds 1 O.R. evacuated sick.	ced.

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Wadi Hanein	16.10.1918		Usual Regimental Duties - the amount of sickness has decreased very much the last few days and everyone is feeling better for the rest and change of air. Horses are improving and feeling the benefit of the soft ground. 4 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	CEA
"	17.10.1918		Working party of Sergeant and 16 O.R. reporting to B.H.Q. 0900. Usual Regimental Duties, Hotchkiss classes are being held in Squadrons and all gear and equipment is being thoroughly overhauled. Weather beautifully fine and cool, everyone benefiting by the change. All captured Turkish animals were handed in to M.V.S. to-day. Apparently the Vets. are afraid of disease and some of them have not responded to treatment. No evacuations	CEA
"	18.10.1918.		Usual camp duties. Hotchkiss class and preliminary Musketry is being carried out. 53 cases of Australian Comforts were distributed throughout the Regiment. Divisional Band played selections in the Lines this afternoon. 4 O.R. evacuated to Hospital six sick.	CEA
"	19.10.1918.		General clean up of Camp and equipment and usual Regimental Duties. Sports meeting held and Football has commenced. 25 Tents allotted per Regiment. 1 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	CEA
"	20.10.1918		Usual Regimental duties and during afternoon games of cricket and football were indulged in. Horses are picking up very well. 4 O.R. evacuated to Hospital sick.	CEA
"	21.10.1918		Usual Regimental Duties. Hotchkiss classes and Musketry are being progressed with. All hands taking a keen interest in Sports and keeping very fit. Sickness has decreased and Malaria seems xxxx to be nearly finished. 11 O.R. evacuated to Hospital sick.	CEA  OCT 1918 E.H.P.

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Wadi Hanein	22.10.1918		Usual guards and pumping duties, and in addition N.C.O. and 4 O.R. as S.A.A. Guard. Good work is being done with Hotchkiss Classes and most of the shoeing is well up to date. Very hot and dusty day and looks like rain. 2 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cld
"	23.10.1918		Usual duties and working parties. Hotchkiss classes and musketry. Heavy wind storm struck camp at 1530 followed by rain, heavy thunder and lightning. A large number of tents fell in the Regiment and Brigade area, including Y.M.C.A. Marquee. One Squadron went to the beach for a swim. 2 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cld
"	24.10.1918		Finished the Cholera Inoculations to-day. Football is in full swing and the games are fast - players are showing some of their old form, quite a number of the old players are lookers on this season owing to Malaria. Usual Regimental and Brigade Duties. 4 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.	cld
"	25.10.1918		"B" Squadron went to the Beach swimming - both men and horses. good grazing is available along the NAHR RUBBIA. Usual guards and duties. Lieut Riley and 17 O.R. working on Rifle Range. Thunder Storms quite usual these days. 3 O.R. evacuated to Hospital sick.	cld
"	26.10.1918		Owing to it looking like rain "C" Squadron did not go to the beach. Sergeant Sergeant and 33 other ranks on Rifle range making pits etc. 11 O.R. to Ludd for Remounts. 33 were allotted this Regiment. 4 O.R. evacuated to Hospital sick.	cld

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Wadi Manein	27.10.18		<p>"A" Squadron went to the beach and also most of Headquarter The usual Brigade and Regimental Duties were found as well as small parties for the Sports ground. 4 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.</p>	
"	28.10.18		<p>"B" Squadron went to the beach for swimming. Training with the Hotchkiss Rifle and Musketry as well as Signallers is being continued, and all football teams and teams for Brigade Sports are training.</p>	
"	29.10.18		<p>"C" Squadron went to the beach. Usual Duties including party for Rifle Range which has been found for several days. 2 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.</p>	
"	30.10.18		<p>"A" Squadron went to the beach for swimming. Usual Brigade and Regimental Duties - S.A.A. Guard was increased to Sgt and 8 men owing to there being three men whose sentences were promulgated to-day getting 6 months I.H.L. - these men fortunately belonged to other Units. 3 O.R. evacuated to hospital sick.</p>	
"	31.10.18		<p>"B" Squadron went to the Beach. Usual Regimental and Brigade duties and training carried out. 4 O.R. evacuated sick.</p>	

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J.D. Richards
Lieut-Colonel
C.O. 7th Light. Horse Regt. A.I.F.

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