

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/13/37

Title: 8th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

July 1918



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ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

8th. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT.

FOR

J U L Y 191⁸

Signature of Officer compiling

Wm. McGrath

Captain.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Wm. J. McLean

Lt. Col.

- JUL 1918

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or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Army Form C. 2118.

Date.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
SOLOMONS POOLS.	1918			
	July 1st.		R.O.O. 2/Lt.W.A.McConnan, Training, Signalling, Hotchkiss Gun, and Gas Drill, . Cricket Match 8th.L.H. v. 9th.L.H. Jerusalem Leave Party;-2/Lieut.C.H.Stanbury,MM.and 12 o/r.	
	2nd.	1200	R.O.O. 2/Lt.P.Burns. Jerusalem Leave Party:2/Lieut.W.A.McConnan, and 12 o/ranks. Inspection by Divisional Commander.	
	3rd.		Duty Regiment. Field Officer: Capt.T.S.Austin. R.O.O. 2/Lieut.C.H.Stanbury,M.M.	
	4th.		R.O.O. Lieut.C.F.Newman.- Captain W.McGRATH,M.C. from Desert Mounted Corps Rest Camp, and taken on strength and to be Adjutant. Lieut.L.Richardson to be Assistant Adjutant:Lieut.R.H.Borbridge, ceases to be Assistant Adjutant and returned to Squadron Duties.	
	5th.	1000	R.O.O. Lieut.S.R.Woodfield,D.C.M. --Jerusalem Leave Party:Lt.A.H.Currington,D.C.M.and 12 o/r. Lieut.C.F.Newman evacuated to Hospital.	
	6th.		Duty Regiment. Field Officer:Captain T.S.Austin. R.R.O. Lieut.S.L.Mulholland--Jerusalem Leave Party 2/Lieut.M.L.Mitchell and 12 o/ranks. Church Party to Jerusalem :-Chaplain Canon Moore, and 10 o/r. Training:Hotchkiss Gun and Signalling. Capt.J.M.Taylor, returned from on Leave.	
	7th.		R.O.O. Lieut.A.H.Currington,D.C.M. --Jerusalem Leave Party:2/Lieut.W.A.McConnam, and 12 o/ranks Jerusalem Bethlehem Leave Party:Lieut.S.R.Woodfield,D.C.M. and 12 o/ranks. General Inspection of all saddlery.	
	8th.		R.O.O. Lieut.H.A.Patterson,: Jerusalem leave party:2/Lieut.P.Burns and 12 o/ranks . Training: Signalling	
	9th.		R.O.O. Lieut.T.R.Peppercorn,M.C.:Jerusalem Leave Party, 2/Lieut.C.H.Stanbury.MM.,and 12 o/rks. Training: Signalling. Cricket Match. 8th.L.H. versus 10th.L.H.Reg. Australian Mail arrived.	
TALAAT ED DUMM.	10th.	1700	R.O.O. 2/Lieut.P.Burns. Left SOLOMON'S POOLS.	
	11th.	0045	Arrived at TALAAT ED DUMM. R.O.O. 2/Lieut.W.A.McConnan. Watering in Area.	
		0800.	Supply proved insufficient, and afternoon watering at TALAAT ED DUMM. Lieut. R.F Mann from leave.	
		1500	Issued of goods, from Australian, Comforts Fund.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TALAAT ED DUMM.	1918 July 12th.		R.O.O. 2/Lieut.C.H.Stanbury,M.M. Watering in area resumed.- Lieut.A.H.Currington,D.C.M.proceeded to Junior Officers School at RICHON.	
	13th.		R.O.O. 2/Lieut.P.Burns. Brigade paraded for Corps Commander.	
	14th.	0730	R.O.O. Lieut.R.H.Borbridge. Hurried "turn-out".Regiment moved out for JORDON VALLEY at 0730.	
		1030	Arrived at WADI WNEUIMEAH, North of Tel es Sultan. Major Y.H.Walker.M.C. returned from on leave.	
		1100	Watering at Divisional WateringArea. and at 1535. ditto.	
		2130	Rations arrived and issued at once. Sick Horses arrived at 2200, and Transport at 2345. Regiment in readiness for Sudden "Turn-out".	
WADI NEUIMEAH.	15th.	0400.	Revielle, R.O.O. Lieut.S.R.Woodfield,D.C.M. Watering at 0845 and 1545.	
	16th.		R.O.O. Lieut.S.L.Mulholland. Lieut.S.R.Woodfield,D.C.M.proceeded on leave to Egypt.	
		0800.	C.O., Squadron Leaders and Intelligence personnel proceeded to position held by 2nd.L.H.Regiment, and returned at 1500. Major A.CRAWFORD returned from School of Instruction.	
		1830	Regiment,less Transport,left for MUSSALLABEH,held by 2nd.Regiment.L.H. arrived 2200,relief completed by 2350. Quiet night. Major H.J.SHANNON,D.S.O. returned to WADI NEUIMEAH,in charge of 100 horses.	
"F"Section No.3 Sub.Sec. MUSSA:ELABEH.	17th.	0450.	All Clear. Enemy shelled MUSSALLABEH from 1600-1800.No casualties. R.E.Material arrived 2300-1 limber and 11 camel loads? Working Party of 9th.L.H.regiment arrived Reg.Hdqs 2000. Carried out wiring and trench digging at MUSSALLABEH.	
	17th.	0500	All Clear .Quiet day. 9th.L.H. supplied working Party of 2 officers and 40 o/ranks Arrived at 2000 25 enemy dead buried. Trenches cleaned of stonesetc.,equipment collected. Quiet night.	
	19th.	0445.	All Clear. MUSSALLABEH heavily shelled all the morning. Casualties 1 o/r.killed.and 5 o/r.wounded. 9th.L.H.working Party at MUSSALLABEH?	
	20th.	0730	All Clear. Delay due to line being broken . A little shelling in the early morning and afternoon. 9th.L.H.Working party at MUSSALLABEH. 2/Lieuts M.GRAY and W.N.J.BOWMAN,D.C.M. and 20 o/ranks marched in. Branch of 3rd.Bde.Canteen opened at R2H2Q.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MUSSALLABEH.	1918 JULY	0400	All Clear. Brigadier General L.C.WILSON, C.M.G., visited the lines and VANCE post, with the C.O.	
		21st.	Situation quiet all day. Casualties: Nil.	
		22nd.	Strength of Main Body: 15 Officers 218 other ranks. Led Horses. 4 Officers 143 o/ranks.	
		0530	Lieut. L. Richardson to Alexandria on leave, also 2 o/ranks. Situation throughout the day very quiet. No casualties. Regt. Hdqrs. moved to No. 3 Post on Bluff. (Y.5.d.4.5.)	
		23rd.	Situation very quiet except occasional bursts of enemy shelling. 2 o/ranks wounded at MUSSALLABEH? of which 1 evacuated and 1 remained on duty. 1 o/r. evacuated sick. Strength. Main Body 15 off. 218 o/r. Led Horses 4 off. 143 o/ranks.	
		24th.	Situation quiet. No shelling. Casualties Nil. Strength. M.B. 25 Off. 216 o/r. L.H. 4 off. 143 o/r.	
		25th.	0700 C.O. met General HODGSON at VYSE POST. Brigadier General L.C.WILSON, C.M.G. visited R.H.Q. at 1500. Major H.J. SHANNON, D.S.O. evacuated sick from Led horses to hospital, also 3 o/ranks. Strength. Main Body 15 Offrs. 216 o/ranks. Led Horses 4 offrs. 140 o/ranks. Situation quiet, except for bursts of shell fire. Casualties: Nil.	
		26th.	- Situation quiet, except for occasional heavy shelling. 1 o/r wounded, and remaining on duty. Strength Main Body 15 offrs. 215 o/r. Evacuations Front line NIL. Led horses 6 o/rs. 19 reinforcements arrived Front Line, and 4 reinforcements at led horses. No. 3198 Trooper G. CHRISTENSEN, tried by F.G.C.M. at 10th. L.H. Led Horses Hdqrs. Re-disposition of troops made in "F" Sector. 10th. L.H. regt. took over VALE POST and the numbers manning VYSE, VANCE, AND MASKERAH were adjusted to allow of 4 troops being placed in the BLUFF. These 4 troops to act solely as Regt. Reserve. Strength. M. Body 15 off. 215 O/Y. 6.a. 2-3.) L. Horses. 3 off. 141 o/r.	
		27th.	Situation quiet: Casualties Nil: Sick Evacuations: 1 o/r. from led horses. Captain J.M. TAYLOR from Front Line to Led Horses, vice Major H.J. SHANNON. D.S.O. evacuated. Strength. 14 officers. 233 o/ranks. Led Horses. 4 officers. 139 o/ranks.	
		28th.	Situation quiet: Casualties Nil: Evacuations: 2 o/ranks from Main Body and 1 o/r. from L. Horses? Genl. GODWIN, and Col. OSBORNE, (DESCORPS) visited MUSSALLABEH, and VYSE POSTS. Strength. Main Body. 14 off. 232 o/r. Led Horses. 4 officers 138 o/ranks.	

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Place	1918 Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MUSSALLABEH. Y. 5.d. 4-5. 29th. BLUFF. (Jericho C6) (1/40,000)	July		<p>Situation Quiet: Casualties Nil: Sick Evacuations : Front line 5 o/r. <u>MALARIA</u>, MUSSALLABEH HEAVILY shelled at 1900. no damage further than wire damaged. B and C squadrons interchanged MUSSALLABEH and VYSE respectively. 2nd. A.L.H. Bde. on right of MA MASKERAH, relieved by 12th. Cavalry Brigade. 9th. L.H. Regt. ceased to supply working parties, and furnished 4 troops to patrol in front of 10th. L.H. Section nightly. One TURKISH Deserter came in to MASKERAH at 1000. C.O. went to 10th. L.H. Led Horses 0800-1900 on CHRISTENSEN'S Court Martial. Lieut. Woodfield returned from Cairo leave. Lieut. PEPPERCORN to Jerusalem on COURT MARTIAL in cases of Trooper FITZGERALD and Trooper CALLENDER</p> <p>Strength: Main Body 14 off. 228 o/r. Led Horses. 4 off. 137 o/r.</p>	
	30th.		<p>No. 1418 Srgt. L. JULIAN to Cadet School, ZEITOUN, No. 10 Sgt. A.D. CALLOW also notified to report there. No. 1505 Tpr. W.T. Fitzgerald, and 3293 Trooper J.C. Callender sent under escort of 1 Sgt. and 2 o/r to JERUSALEM for F.G.C.M. Lt. Peppercorn went as prisoners friend, and Lieut's. Mulholland and Mann as members of the Court. Trial to take place at RUSSIAN BUILDINGS, JERUSALEM, at 0900 31/7/18. Situation very quiet. Casualties: Nil. Evacuations- 2 o/r. from Front line and 2 o/r from Led Horses.</p>	
		0600	<p>Enemy plane driven down in enemy lines by one of our planes. Appeared to land. Strength. Main Body 15 Officers 223 o/ranks. Led Horses 4 Officers 137 o/ranks.</p>	
	31st.	0500	<p>Situation quiet except for occasional heavy reciprocal artillery fire. A 4.5 Howitzer Of 303 Battery was installed near VYSE and fired intermittently throughout the 24 hours. Enemy replied briskly, especially during night of 31 Jul./1st Aug. No Casualties (Personnel) 1 horse wounded. Sick Evacuated : 6 o/ranks (5 MALARIA) from Main Body -Led Horses NIL. Strength: 15 off. 222 o/r. Main Body. 4 off. 137 o/r. Led Horses</p> <p>65 Reinforcements arrived from Moascar, 13 of these remained with Led Horses, and 52 under the Charge of S.S.M., K. LAWLOR, DCM. joined main body. 40 of these reinforcements joined up from the old Camel Corps. Lieut. L. RICHARDSON admitted 31st. G. Hosp. CAIRO from ON LEAVE.</p>	

Quel McLaun
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding, 8th. Australian Light Horse Regiment.
Australian Imperial Force.

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WAR DIARY

OF

8th. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGT.

FOR

J U L Y

1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1

Disposition of Troops in "F" Section-No. 3 Sub. Sector. D.M.

2.

Statement of Strength for month of July. 1918.

Aug. McLauren Lieut. Colonel,
Commanding. 8th. A.L.H. Regt. A.I.F.

Wm. G. H. Smith Captain,
Adjutant, 8th. A.L.H. Regt., A.I.F.

8th. AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT-AUSTRALIAN IMP. FORCE.

JUL 1918

VERY SECRET. Defence Scheme of "F" Section

DES. MTD. CORPS.

No. 3 Sub. Sector.

Reference Sheets: 1/40.000 B.6. and C.6.

1. Troops Available. 8th. L.H. Regt. (less led horse personnel)
Plus 4 Machine Guns.

2. Dispositions & Locations:

The present dispositions will remain in force until the night of 29/30 July when B Sqdr. will be relieved on MUSSALLABEH by C Sqdr. and A Sqdr. personnel at present with B Sqdr. will then report to O.C., A Sqdr. The interchanges of reliefs will be carried out by 2000 29/30 July, when the following programme will be adhered to:

Sqdr.	Post.	Location.	Garrison.	H. Rifles.	M. Gs.
C.	Mussallabeh.	W.35.Cent.	Squadron.	4	-
A.	Maskerah.	W.36.d.2.3.	2 Troops. of not more than 1/2 off.37 o/r.	2	2
	Bluff.No.1. (Reg. Res.)	Y.6.a.2-6.	2 Troops.	2	-
B.	Vyse.	Y.5.a.4.7-	1 1/2 Troops of not more than 2 Off.36 o/rs.	2	2
	Vance.	W.35.c.4.3.	1/2 Troop of 9 o/r.	-	-
	Bluff.No.3 (Reg. Res.)	Y.5.d.3.7.	2 Troops.	2	-
RHQ.	Bluff.No.3.	Y.5.d.4.6.		-	-

3. Area Stores.

Officers Commanding Squadrons will be responsible that all Area Stores are handed over correctly to relieving Squadron Leaders. Receipt copies to be sent into Regtl. Office by 0800 on July 30th.1918.

(Signed.) W. McGRATH, Captain,
Adjutant. 8th. A.L.H. Regiment. A.I.F.

Issued at 1700.

P.T.O.

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Copies to:-

1. File.
2. A Squadron.
3. B Squadron.
4. C Squadron.
5. Reg.Hdqs.
6. War Diary. (a)
7. War Diary. (b)
8. War Diary. (c)

The following programme will be observed on the night of 25/26 July when 3 Coy. will be relieved on the present disposition by 4 Coy. and A Coy. The information of reliefs will be carried out by 2000 25/26 July when the following programme will be observed:-

Relief	Post	Location	Unit
1	1st Coy.	1st Coy.	1st Coy.
2	2nd Coy.	2nd Coy.	2nd Coy.
3	3rd Coy.	3rd Coy.	3rd Coy.
4	4th Coy.	4th Coy.	4th Coy.
5	5th Coy.	5th Coy.	5th Coy.
6	6th Coy.	6th Coy.	6th Coy.
7	7th Coy.	7th Coy.	7th Coy.
8	8th Coy.	8th Coy.	8th Coy.

Officers commanding Squadrons will be responsible that all Area Stores are handed over correctly to relieving Squadron leaders. Receipt copies to be sent into Hq. Office by 0800 on 26th July 1918.

(Signed) W. H. H. H.
Adjutant-General, A.I.F.

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8th.AUSTRALIAN LIGHT HORSE REGIMENT. A.I.F.

STATEMENT OF STRENGTH FOR JULY 1918.

Opening Strength.		23 Off.398 o/r.
Evacuations: Sick.	3 off. 73 o/r.	
Wounded.	5 o/r.	
Killed.	1 o/r.	3 Off. 79 o/r.

		20 Off.319 o/r.
Marched in: From Tg.Regd.etc.		3 Off.142 o/r.

Closing Strength.		23 Off.461 o/r

Average Strength for the Month.

23.58 Officers. 363.41 o/ranks.

Quayle Lieut.Colonel.
Commanding, 8th.A.L.H. Regiment.A.I.F.

W. McLeath Captain,
Adjutant, 8th.Australian Light Horse Regt.

July 31/1918.

ACL.