

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/14/23

Title: 9th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

January 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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

9th Light Horse Regiment
ANZAC. MTD. DIVN.
Page 128. Vol. 1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	January 1917.			
HOD MASAIID.	1.1.17.	1100	Moved out of HOD to "Rile 139" and bivouaced 1/2 mile SE of RAILWAY.	Ref. Map.
			3 Enemy planes flew westward overhead.	SHEET NORTH H.36 J. II.
	2.1.17.		Routine work. Weather very cold and wet.	EL ARISH
	3.1.17.	1100.	Regimental Parade for Promulgation of Sentence passed by F.C.M. on No. 1295. Tpr BIGGINS P.F. Charged with "When a Soldier acting as a Sentinel on Active Service. Sleeping on his post". Sentenced to 1 year imprisonment with hard labour.	and. SHEET NORTH H.36 E. III.
	4.1.17.		Moved with Brigade from Rile 139 at 1200 - arrived HOD MASAIID at 1400 and occupied old Camp.	RAFA.
	5.1.17.		Routine work. Squads carried out 1 hour musketry practice in morning.	
	7.1.17.		Church Parade.	
	8.1.17.	1200	The Regiment moved out with the Brigade from HOD MASAIID on road to RAFA. Lieut McFarlane remained in charge of camp.	Appendix
			Arrived EL ARISH. Used watered horses. Moved off at 1600 along telegraph line to Sheikh Zowaid. where the Division halted. An Column of Brigade passed at 2200. Moved off again at 0100. A Squad finding 1 troop under Lieut. Hummer left flank guard. 1 troop under Lt. Sharp right flank guard to the Brigade - and 1 troop under Capt. Blackman as rear guard to the Column.	30.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

9th Light Horse Regt
Cuzac Mtd Divn
Page 129 Vol. 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sheik Zornaid	9.1.17.		<p>January 1917.</p> <p>At about 0600 the column arrived about 2 miles S.E. of the Turkish position at EL MAGRUNSEIN and here the left flank guard was fixed on by a Turkish outpost. The outpost fired two green lights & was captured. The Bde moved round east of the "border" and remained in reserve until 1100 when orders were received to make a frontal attack on Redoubts C 2, C 3 and C 4. at 1130. The 9th Regt was detailed to make good trenches known as C 2 and C 3. to keep touch with the 10th L.H. Regt. on the right and the I.C.C. on the left.</p> <p>The Regiment (less A Coy less Lewis Gun.) then formed line - 3 troops of C Coy on left and 3 troops of B Coy on right - with one troop from each Coy in support. and A Coy Lewis Gun on the extreme left.</p> <p>Touch was gained on the right with the 10th L.H. and at 1400 the line moved forward mounted. to within about 2000 yards of the Turkish position - The Regiment here dismounted and continued the advance on foot. to within about 1400 yards. when the left of our line joined up with the I.C.C. From here on - as the enemies rifle fire was becoming heavy the advance was continued in short rushes - by troops from the left of Squadrons - their advance being covered & supported by the fire of the remaining troops</p>	<p>Ref Maps. EL ARISH - RAFA -</p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

045

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.)

9th Light Horse Regt.
Anzac Mt. Divn

Page 130 Vol. 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EL MAGRUBIN RAFA.	9.1.17		<p>January 1917.</p> <p>The Lewis Guns advanced with the leading troops - and covered the advance of the remainder - doing excellent work and again proving their adaptability for this kind of warfare. From the results of the MAGRUBIN and RAFA engagement it is evident that the Automatic Rifles are invaluable, and that the efficiency of the troops would be greatly increased if the establishment of these or similar Automatic Rifles was increased. At about 1000 yards, the line was straightened up along a slight fold in the ground. The left of the Regiment in trench known as "B 4." the general direction of the line being 75° - and a constant fire opened up on the enemy trenches known as C Group. The intervening ground was a slight concave and bare, and offered absolutely no cover, making further advance impossible for the time.</p> <p>At 1430 the situation remained unchanged on the Regiment's front, but the 1st L.H. Brigade on the right flank could be seen to be advancing. And a number of tanks were observed to give themselves up. The Camel Corps on our left were also unable to make headway. During the late</p>	<p>Ref Maps EL ARISH. RAFA.</p>

1500



3

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

945

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.

9th Light Horse Regt
ANZAC MED DIRN.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
MAGRUNTEN RAFA.	9.17	1330 1540	<p>January 1916. Page 138. Vol. 1.</p> <p>Bombardment of the enemy trenches by our guns (from 1430 to 1600) a continuous fire was kept up by rifles and Lewis Guns on all targets offering in the C Group. and the enemies fire was greatly subdued.</p> <p>About 1330. Lieut Brown took up a position on our left flank in a vacated enemy trench with two machine guns - and opened up fire with excellent effect. At 1530 a message was received from Lt. Col FULTON 3rd L.H. Regt. asking if we (the 9th Regt) could advance. This message with a footnote asking if they could assist was sent to the C.O. 10th L.H. Regt. but no answer was received.</p> <p>At 1540 a message was received from the 3rd L.H. Bde ordering an advance to take place at 1530. At 1540 Brig. Gen. ROYSTON came up and gave verbal orders for the 9th Regiment's advance to be timed by the 10th Regiment's advance on our right.</p> <p>Up to this time our casualties had only been comparatively slight considering the heaviness of the fire on both sides - and the absolute lack of cover. About this time Lieut J.M. McDONALD was wounded in the knee.</p>	<p>Ref Maps. EL ARISH. RAFA.</p>

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

9th Light Horse Regt
ANZAC INTD. DIEN.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<p>Rafa</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ZOWAID</p>	<p>9.17.</p> <p>0200</p>		<p>At 1545 the extreme right of the line (1st Brigade) was observed to be falling back., and the enemies fire at once greatly increased.. Numerous enemy stood up to fire and offered good targets to our Lewis Guns & rifles. At 1610 a second message was received from Lt Col Fulton 3rd Lt Regt asking for covering fire as he was being very hard pressed, and our fire was at once increased. A verbal message was also received from Major Robertson, 10th Lt Regt, via Major Siekmann (OC, B Sqdn 9th Lt Horse) that the two troops 10th Light Horse Regt, on the right of the line were retiring and would we if necessary cover the retirement of the 10th Lt Regt - which was agreed to.</p> <p>Soon after this a number of troops (N2 M R) were seen to come over the sky-line to the West of LARGE TREE, and the Turks appeared to be surrendering. The signal "Cease Fire" was given & the Camel Corps on our left & the 9th Lt Regt at once advanced directly on the trenches C2 & C3. - the enemy all surrendering before the trenches were reached. Capl Charter pushed forward & C Sqdn with some I.C.C found four (4) Mountain Guns & a number of the enemy. - He placed a gun over some and reported the matter to Brigade.</p> <p>The led horses having been brought up the Regiment was "rallied" & took up a line of outposts in accordance with orders received from the G.O.C. Brigade.</p> <p>During the engagement 15000 rounds SAA were expended the supply being replenished from the horse Baddoliers & Pack ammunition.</p> <p>Our casualties were :- Killed - Nil - Wounded:- 1 officer 14 ORANKS 2 Horses killed & 7 wounded.</p> <p>At about 2100 the Regiment (Less A Sqdn and 1 troop C Sqdn) left Rafa with the Brigade & returned to SHEIK-ZOWAID arriving there at about 0200, Horses were watered (having been without water for 36 hours) & rations drawn.</p> <p>At 0720 on the 10th inst the Regt (Less "A Sqdn") moved off with the Brigade and returned to MASARA VIA EL ARISH, where horses were watered. The condition of both men & horses in spite of the arduous operations is good.</p> <p>During the bombardment - the Artillery fire was most effective. Our total casualties for the engagement were wounded - 1 Off. Lieut J.M. McDonno, And. 14. OR. In all - Killed - Wounded.</p>	<p>Page 132⁹ Vol. 1.</p> <p>Rgt Maps El Arish. Rafa.</p>

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

9th Light Anti Air Coy.
Angzac MTD. Divd.

January 1917.

Summary of Events and Information

Page 132. Vol. 1.

Remarks and references to Appendices

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HD MASAR	11.1.17		Regiment testing. Men and horses in good condition after operations. Scouts at rate of 1 bell to 15 men issued.	By Maps Et BRISH P. 119.
	12.1.17		Maj. General CHATEL G.O.C. ANZAC MTD. DIV. Inspected the Brigade dismounted at 1100. Complimented all tanks on the work done at Zafa.	
	13.1.17		Lieut Mr. Jauranc. to Sgd. to Hospital with broken bone in hand.	
	14.1.17	0800 1100	R.M.O. Capt Keny D GIBSON was accidentally drowned while swimming. Church Parade.	
	15.1.17		Routine work. 1400 to 1530 Musketry instruction including Judging distance. Visual training. Fire discipline etc.	
	16.1.17		As for 15 th inst. Major Seiffmann H.S. Sick to Hospital.	
	17.1.17		Routine work	
	18.1.17		12 Reinforcements marched in from MOASCAR and posted A. Sgd. 3. B Sgd. 2 C Sgd. 7. 5 Reinforcements received.	
	19.1.17		Routine work. Musketry training in afternoon. (Fire Control & Fire discipline)	
	20.1.17		Commenced firing. Routine work.	
	21.1.17		Church Parade.	

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

G. L. H. [Signature]
ANZAC INF. DIV.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	January 1917.		Page 133	Vol. 1.
HQD MASAD.	22.1.17.		Commenced Course of Range Practice. A and B Sqn - field Grouping Practice at 100 yards. results good, considering bad weather conditions - gusty, with sand blowing.	Rif Maps EL FRASH RASH.
	23.1.17.		Routine work in morning. Preliminary musketry in afternoon.	
	24.1.17.		C Sqn and remaining men of A & B Sqns. field Grouping Practice.	
	25.1.17.		Routine work in morning. Field firing in afternoon.	
			A Sqn + half B Sqn. field - 5 rounds independent distribute fire at head & shoulder targets. range 300 yds - and 5 rounds mutual support fire at similar range.	
	26.1.17.		The unmentioned have been mentioned in despatches of General. P. T. MURRAY C. in C. E.E.F. dated 1.10.16. Major (Temp Lt. Col.) SCOTT. H.H., D.S.O. Capt. RICKABY T.N.	
			In afternoon - the Regiment practiced "Demonstrating for Action" and Manoeuvring of led stakes. independently by troops.	
	27.1.16		C Squadron fired 2 courses of field firing.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118. 5

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.)

9th L.H. Regiment
ANZAC MTD DNN.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Page	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<u>January 1917.</u>	<u>Page 134</u>	<u>Vol. 1.</u>
HOD MASAIID	27.1.17.		4 Officers and 5 O.R. left for Courses of School of Instruction Zeitun. Lieuts Sumner & Williams & R.Q.M.S. Farmer to Carabey Course. 5% leave granted to O.R. for 2 days & Pat SAID.		Pat Masaid - EL ARISH. RAFA.
	28.1.17.		Church Parade. 15 Reinforcements marched in from MOASCAR.		
	29.1.17.		Balance of Regiment fired Grouping Practice & Field firing. A Sqn Lewis Gun also fired.		
	30.1.17.		C.O. Adv. and Sqn. leaders attended demonstration of Artillery firing in conjunction with Aeroplane observation.		
	31.1.17.		2 nd Party of O.R. left for 2 days leave & Pat SAID. The Regiment as part of the 13 th Brigade - moved out on a trial Assembly to the Divisional Rendezvous. Hill 110. Paraded mounted at 0930 - moved out of HOD MASAIID at 1000 - Arrived Hill 110 at 1130. halted & fed horses & moved off again at 1300. Sqn. practiced dismounting for action & manouevring of led horses on hay bales to HOD Major R.A. McKENZIE. O.C. C. Sqn awarded the D.S.O.		