

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

Light Horse

**Item number: 10/9/28**

**Title: 4th Australian Light Horse**  
**Regiment**

April 1917



4<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regt  
31.

WAR DIARY  
for APRIL 1917

1/4/17 Left RABAH 0800 watering at KHIRBA  
which was left at 1300. BIR el  
ABD was reached at 1610. Camped  
here for the night.

Address for mail

2/4/17 Left BIR el ABD at 0745 arrived  
at TILUL 1530 and camped for  
night

Address for mail

3/4/17 Left TILUL at 1130, arrived MAZAR  
at 1500. Camped for night

Address for mail

4/4/17 Left MAZAR 0800, arrived BARDAVIL  
1645 Camped for night  
Cap. CHANTER rejoined Regiment.

(1 Sgt 130<sup>th</sup> were left at BARDAVIL, relieving  
1<sup>st</sup> LHB pipe line patrol.

Enemy aero plane fired a few rounds  
from machine gun just after Brigade  
left MARDAN for BARDAVIL. No  
casualties

(The heavy baggage and waggons were  
loaded on rail at ROMANI and taken

WAR DIARY  
of

4<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Regt

from

April 1<sup>st</sup> 1917

to

April 30<sup>th</sup> 1917

Pages numbered 31 - 36

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SHAKAL for a distance of 5 miles from SHAKAL.

- (3) Night standing patrols on road just North of Hill 190 and on Southern road to EL GURA near SHAKAL.
- (4) One troop at BIR EL MASM. This troop will supply day Observation Post on Hill 120.

B Squadron will be camped at BIR LAHFAN  
Duties

- (1) Day observation Post on HILL 500 one mile W. of BIR LAHFAN.
- (2) Daily patrols  
(a) Along the WADI HAREIDHAN Road for a distance of 5 miles  
(b) To JEHAM
- (3) Night standing patrols on the BIR LAHFAN - EL GURA road, and at junction of WADI HAREIDHAN and MAGDHABA roads
- (4) Patrols to MAGDHABA twice weekly.

6/4/17

C Sqn 4<sup>th</sup> LH Regt proceeded, under command of Major RANKIN to ~~SHAKAL~~ RAFA

Major DAY. W. reported on 5/4/17 for duty as second in command of the Regt

*awssd Capt rankin*  
*awssd Capt rankin*

4/4/17

(to EL ARISH by special train). An enemy aeroplane dropped 3 bombs and fired a few rounds from a machine gun at ROMANI whilst train was being loaded, but inflicted no damage.

*awssd Capt rankin*

5/4/17

Left BARDAWIL at 0800 for EL ARISH. Arrived about 2 miles W of EL ARISH opposite 1<sup>st</sup> LH Bde camp at 1030 watered and stayed till 1230.

The Bde moved to the WADI and 11<sup>th</sup> L.H., 12<sup>th</sup> L.H., "C" Sqn 4<sup>th</sup> L.H. with BHQ camped. 4<sup>th</sup> L.H. proceeded up WADI to HILL 200 where HQ & A Sqn camped. B Sqn proceeding to LAHFAN about 8 miles S along wadi.

These two Sqdns (A & B) took up patrol duties, relieving 2<sup>nd</sup> L.H. Regt. Posts are established as follows:-

"A" Squadron:-

Anti-aircraft observation on Hill 200 consisting of 1 L/cpl & 3 men

Half troop at cross roads just N of first "A" in MAADHAR

This troop will have per day

- (1) Observation Post on SHAKAL 295  
(2) Daily patrol along EL GURA road running due East just South of

*awssd Capt rankin*

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21/4/17 Regimental Headquarters and B Sqn were relieved by one Sqn Hyderabad Lancers and left HILL 200 at 1200 arriving EL BURJ. watered and bivouaced

22/4/17 Left EL BURJ 0500 arriving SHEIKH ZOWAID 0800 watered and had breakfast. Moved out again at 1000 arriving KHAN YUNUS 1800. At SHEIKH ZOWAID one troop "C" Sqn joined up and the remaining 3 troops of "C" Sqn joined up at RAFA after being relieved by one Sqn of Hyderabad Lancers.

"A" Sqn rejoined on arrival at KHAN YUNUS they having also been relieved by a Sqn of the same regiment

- 23/4/17 The Regt moved out at 1500 and rejoined Brigade at ABBASAN EL KEBIR.

*Amriss of Cap Fady*

34.

8/4/17 The Brigade less 4LHR moved to KHAN YUNUS via EL BURJ.

The Regiment withdrew one troop from Lahfan and took over Pipe Patrol from Kilo 152 to Kilo 168, this regiment is now patrolling pipe line from 5 miles W of Bardwil to the vicinity of RAFA. "C" Sqn. patrolling from RAFA to EL BURJ. One troop of "C" being camped at SHEIKH ZOWAID

14/4/17 "A" Sqn marched out from HILL 200 to KHAN YUNUS at 0700

15/4/17 The patrol at BARDAWIL was relieved today by the Westminster Dragoons and reported to HQ at HILL 200

16/4/17 The "B" Squadron detachment at LAHFAN was relieved by a detachment of 16<sup>th</sup> Coy I.C.C at 1115 and moved in to join HQ at HILL 200

*Amriss of Cap Fady*

14/4/17



44/17

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24/4/17 The Regiment went out on reconnaissance taking up a line of Outposts between RAFA EL GUBBA & EL GHABA returning to camp at 1600

25/4/17 Building redoubts and digging trenches one mile S of KARIM ABU EL HISEIA

28/4/17 Work of 25<sup>th</sup> inst was continued.

30/4/17 Regiment received information that a force of Turkish cavalry & camelry about 200 strong operating in the direction of BEIT GHAZALI - GERALIN - Point 530 and thence towards EL RUEIBIA Their main observation post was reported to be point 680 - GOZ LAKHLEILAT. The Regiment reached the vicinity of GAMLI by dawn & proceeded along the Wadi SHANAG. No enemy cavalry were met with but Bedouins proved hostile firing on our troops wounding our men & killing our horse. Good water was found at Bir EL ESANU. 8 Bedouin prisoners were taken

for CO 4<sup>th</sup> LAR. *Alfred G. Bayly*  
4<sup>th</sup> L H. Ry