

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

Light Horse

Item number: 10/9/41

Title: 4th Australian Light Horse
Regiment

May 1918



AUSTRALIAN
WAR MEMORIAL

AWM4 10/9/41

ORIGINAL

4th L.H. Regiment
6th to 31st May 1918.

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.

Vol. 5
Page I.~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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645/1

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
North of JERICHO	6th	2200	Regiment ordered to saddle up and stand to, as enemy reported to have broken through our line. Three Officers sent to find the Headquarters of the 3rd L.H. Brigade, 5th Mtd. Bde., and I.C.C. Bde. at AUJA crossing, vicinity of Wadi AUJA, and Y30 d respectively, with a view to acting as guides should it be necessary to reinforce any of these positions.	
	7th	0130	"ALL CLEAR" reported and Regiment off saddled.	
		0500	Bombed by 5 enemy machines but no damage done. An officer and party of scouts sent out to reconnoitre above line and find the best tracks to the Hdqts. of these Brigades.	
		1700	Working party of 125 men sent out to erect wire entanglements near AUJA crossing, this party returned at 0400 next day. Camped in a very dusty and exposed position; weather very hot. Water fairly adjacent.	
	8th	0500	Bombed by 3 enemy machines, no damage done. Working party of 50 men employed during the day making a road across the Wadi.	
		1700	Working party of 100 men employed throughout the night erecting wire entanglements near the Asluj redoubts.	
	9th	0700	Working party of 40 men employed making roads. Lt Gen. CHAUVEL SIR H.G. CHAUVEL K.C.M.G., C.B. paid a visit to the Regiment and congratulated the Commanding Officer on the good work done by the Regiment during the recent operations. The Official Historian and Photographer also paid a visit during the day.	
	10th	0700	Working party of 40 men employed improving the local roadways.	
	11th	1200	Starting with "A" Squadron, followed by "B" and R.H.Q. at 1220 and "C" at 1240, the Regt. moved in a Northerly direction along the foothills on the W. side of the JORDAN into the broken ground on SOUTH side of WADI Auja about Y 29 a&b and took over from the reserve Battalion of the I.C.C. The Wadi AUJA is a running stream and provides sufficient water for an unlimited number of men and horses. Horses have to be kept well away from bushes and trees owing to prevalence of Surra which is spread by flies. No movement of horses allowed NORTH of Wadi AUJA as this could be observed by the enemy from his high positions and invariably drew artillery fire.	
			1700	"A" Sqdn. moved out and took up the outpost line -Y25d-B6c-B11b-Y19b-. Quiet during night.

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Officer Compiling *Prohies* Lt. & Adjnt.

- MAY 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Page 2

645/2

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
N. of JERICHO	12th	0600	"A" Squadron returned to bivouac leaving two patrols out to watch the line for any unusual movement on the part of the enemy. A deserter from the enemy who gave himself up during the night was brought in by this Squadron and sent on to B.H.Q.	
		1745	The Regiment moved out for the night on outpost duty, taking up the same line as held by "A" Sqn. the previous night. "C" Sqn. held the Picket line with "A" Sqn. in support and "B" Sqn. in reserve. Quiet throughout the night.	
	13th	0600	The Regiment, less patrols, returned to bivouac. Being reserve Regiment duties very numerous	
		1830	The 6th Regiment having taken over the outpost line our patrols returned to bivouac.	
		1900	150 men from the Regiment moved to ABU TELLUL AND were employed digging defences until 2400	
	14th to 29th		The Regiment employed digging and strengthening defences during the night time. By day Officers' patrols visited the various parts of the line.	
	30th	0800	Officers' and NCO's visited the different posts on the line and remained out during the night.	
	31st	0030	80 men employed strengthening a front line post.	
		2000	Officers and NCO's visited the front line posts and remained out overnight.	
<p>Note:- The country round about Jericho is very rough and broken up with numerous small hills and valleys. The roads, which are scarce, are several inches deep in fine white dust. JERICHO itself is just a squalid village and gives one the impression of being a very unhealthy spot.</p> <p>The scenery in the Jordan Valley is very wild and rugged. Vegetation is scarce with the exception of the "Dead Sea Apple" which seems to be particularly suited to this climate and grows profusely along the banks of the Wadi Ajua and the Jordan River. Game is fairly plentiful and wild bears are sometimes seen. Snakes and porcupines are to be found in the Wadi beds and on the slopes of the hills.</p>				
Officer Compiling			<i>J.H. Liggins</i> Lt. & Adjt.	<i>Mary Bourdier</i> Lt-Col. C.O. 4th L.H. Regiment.

MAY 1918

