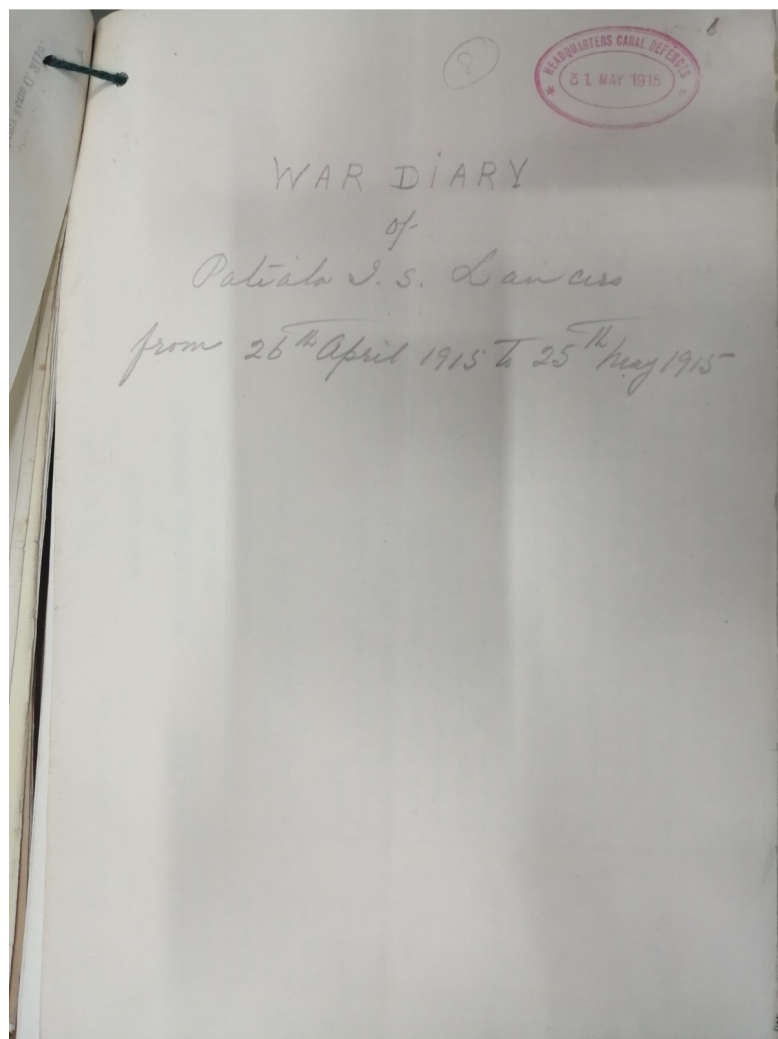


War Diary of Patiala Lancers – April 1915. National Archives Ref: WO 95/4423



CONFIDENTIAL

PATIALA I.S. LANCERS.

ORIGINAL

Army Form O. 2118.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
26 th + 27 th April 1915 Camp MOASCAR	ordinary parade drill + manoeuvres	
28 th " "	Ditto Brigade order was received at 3 1/2 p.m. to move early morning on 29th for operations on East Bank SUEZ CANAL, and to leave transport to move in advance at 5-45 P.M. on date. Accordingly the transport left Camp at 5-30 P.M. to join the Column. Again the order was received for the Brigade to move at 9-45 P.M. and the Regiment moved in Column of the Brigade accordingly. Arrived at Ferry Post and crossed at 10-15 P.M. Continued marching all through the night leaving troops as connecting file with the Column - Before day break halted for 1/2 an hour. 2nd halt at 9 am - marched about 10 towards north of BIR EL MAHADAT being directed by an aeroplane	Inaccurate H. Arthur For 1
29 th April 1915		

Army Form C. 2113.

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OF
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
	which moved along with the Column. B Squadron under Captain BALWANT SINGH was held off as advanced guard to the Brigade which after changing direction arrived about 6 miles EAST of BIREL MAHADAT at 1 P.M. A message was received from G.O.C. by B Squadron ordering to send a patrol under an officer to ascertain if the enemy had vacated the position at BIREL MAHADAT. When this patrol under Temadar MANNA SINGH arrived near BIREL MAHADAT the fire was opened on them by the enemy and they retired. Patrol Commander personally gave this information verbally to Brigade Major and then to G.O.C. The enemy at BIREL MAHADAT was ⁵⁰⁰ seen about 50 Infantry men and 40 Camel Sowers, they fired volley on us when we saw them down the hill. There was ^{are} some enemy numbers unknown on a hill NORTH EAST to that place who have also fired on us. on this report - G.O.C. Called up the machine guns ^① by an order.	Inaccurate Lt. Arthur Major From I.S.C. Kde ① Mysore Lancers m. G Section. <u>Lt.</u>

WAR DIARY

Army Form O. 2 18.

OF

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
	The remainder of the regiment remained with the Brigade, about 1-15 P.M. About a section of Lunny Infantry & some loaded carts were observed by the advanced party of B Squadron. On this report G.O.C. came himself to the point where the advanced party was dismounted for action. At this point the G.O.C. called up the Special Service officers and gave the orders for operations. Captain Willis ordered Captain Balwant Singh to rally his Sqdn and come into mass with the regiment & the regiment moved in mass towards the Lunny with usual ground Scouts. After changing direction several times the regiment was brought into Column of Squadrons. Two or three of the Lunny and a camel were captured. Lunny now opened fire. The regiment advanced under Gun & machine gun fire straight on the Lunny - Capt Balwant Singh's horse fell and he was left behind and did not join in the attack. At about 1-30 Regiment attacked the Lunny estimated about 200 Infantry, but when the regiment climbed	Inaccurate. 6 times only reported the Brigade. Times very inaccurate. 24

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2115.

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
	up a high sand hill, the enemy fire and machine gun fire was heavy, and as the horses were very exhausted after this long march & were unable to carry on a pursuit, the Regiment retired. Casualties ^{est.} Captain Willis was wounded severely Lt B.H. GOLDIE was wounded and died on way in 6 NCOs & men were wounded - Major MOHD YUSAF ALI KHAN and one Sowar was killed at the spot. 10 horses killed, 4 died from exhaustion and 12 were wounded. After this the Regiment was rallied and re-joined the Brigade. The Brigade then marched back towards BIREL MAHADAT, halted there half an hour & then proceeded towards ISMAILIA.	Inaccurate - 6 troops only reformed the Brigade. - Jfa 25.1.50

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2115.

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	Patiala dancers were specially told off to bring in wounded and prisoners. 8 wounded prisoners and one pistol, 6 rifles 3 bayonets and some ammunition of enemy were captured - When the Regiment was retired the following officers CAPTAIN GUNDASINGH, LT. JANG SINGH, RESALDAR GURDIT SINGH, JEMADAR DALIP SINGH and JEMADAR RAIHMAT ALIKHAN and 94 men were found to be missing. These eventually turned up at KANTARA and ELFERDAN and rejoined the Regiment on the 1st of May 1915. on 1st May the G.O.C. interviewed the following officers ^{and congratulated them for} their good work on ^{at} the time of attack. Adjutant Gajjan Singh, Captain Bakhtawar Singh, Resaldar Isher Singh & Jemadar Ratan Singh.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 21

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Hour, Date, Place.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to App
30 th April 1915	Regiment returned to Camp 2-30 P.M.	
2 nd May 1915 Moascar	order for holding 2 Light Troops in readiness for despatch to ELFERDAN on the morning of 30 th May was received	
3 rd May "	Thurs transport left at 6-30 am + troops marched at 8 am	
4 th + 5 th May 1915 "	usual parade.	
6 th May "	Ditto - Another party of 1 NCo + 4 men was sent to ELFERDAN as per orders from Brigade	
7 th to 13 th "	usual parades	
14 th May 1915 "	The remainder 2 troops of A Squadron ordered to leave on 14 th for ELFERDAN.	
15 th to 23 rd May 1915	Thurs Bazaar on Camels + mules left at 6.30 am + the troops marched at 8 AM.	
	usual parades, nothing worthy of report	