

SUMMARY OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN G.O.C. ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION AND THE
D.A.Q.M.G., A.I.F. HEADQUARTERS (EGYPTIAN SECTION) AND STAFF CAPTAIN,
D.Q.M.G., A.I.F. ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:-

(1) ORDNANCE.

- (a) General Chauvel agreed that it was unnecessary to leave any A.I.F. Ordnance in Egypt.
- (b) A quantity of Australian equipment and clothing to be sent to Ordnance, Alexandria, for the use of the Anzac Mounted Division.
- (c) Requisitions to be presented to British Ordnance for all general equipment and clothing.
- (d) For any special Australian clothing application to be made to Administrative Headquarters A.I.F., London, by whom arrangements will be made to forward the stocks to C.O.O., Gabarri.
- (e) Special care to be taken that receipts for Ordnance Supplies are obtained from the responsible Officer of the Unit receiving any such Supplies. This receipt to be forwarded to Administrative Headquarters A.I.F., London.

(2) KITS.

- (a) Kit Store to be left at Ghazirah for the present.
- (b) O.C. Kit Store (Lieut. Rae) to remain behind pending the appointment of an Officer to take his place.
- (c) General Chauvel to appoint this Officer as soon as possible in order that he may be instructed in the system of the disposal of the Effects of deceased members of the A.I.F.

(3) REMOUNTS.

(I) Disembarkation of Remounts.

- (a) A.M.C.O. from Recon^d to be specially trained in the routine duties of disembarking Troops and horses
- (b) L.of C. to communicate direct to the Anzac Mounted Division Headquarters regarding all transport movements.
- (c) General Chauvel to detail an Officer to attend the disembarkation of Troops and horses



- (2) Re Cable From Defence asking Requirements of Horses for Anzac Mounted Division. The G.H.Q. have cabled War Office saying that after consultation with General Chauvel they suggest 2,000 Rides and Artillery horses, each, per month, as the requirements
- (3) Adjustment of Accounts between Imperial and Commonwealth Governments. In order to arrive at a decision for the settlement of this complicated Account it was decided that the following procedure be adopted :-
 - (a) That the total number of horses shipped from Australia be ascertained
 - (b) That the total number of horses that have died en route for Egypt be determined and this number deducted from the total number of horses actually shipped. To arrive at the latter figure it may be necessary to take a period for which definite figures are available and strike an average for those months for which no records exist. The above figure would represent, approximately, the number of horses handed over to the Imperial Authorities.
 - (c) In order to arrive at the total number of horses used by the A.I.F. it is suggested that
 - (1) the actual number of horses as per establishment of Units be ascertained, and
 - (2) the number of reinforcement horses be added to the above.

In connection with this it is necessary to determine exactly what proportion of horses evacuated sick from Australian Mounted Units are permanently unfit. General Chauvel considered that possibly 5% of the horses evacuated sick can never be again used for Military work. Major Young and Colonel Tunbridge think that 3% would be a more accurate estimate. The A.D.V.S. of the Anzac Mounted Division supplied the following information :-

Horses died or destroyed, A.M.D. from 24.5.16 to 29.6.16.	161 Horses
Horses evacuated sick to Hospital during the same period	578 Horses
Total Strength A.M.D.	9,800 "

(4) POST OFFICE.

- (a) It was agreed that a M.C.O. and six men be left at Ismailia to handle the mail for the Anzac Mounted Division and other A.I.F. Details.
- (b) Postal Details from all A.M.D. Units to be attached to this Section.
- (c) For disciplinary purposes this Section to be placed under the Officer i/c. Base P.O. Ismailia.
- (d) The M.C.O. in charge to call on General Chauvel and explain the system for handling Australian mails.
- (e) This Section, of course, will be responsible for forwarding the mails of any Units that have departed overseas.

(5) FINANCE.

- (a) General Chauvel did not consider Lieut. Featherstone sufficiently experienced to take control of the Finance Section on the departure of the A.I.F. Headquarters (Egyptian Section) He is desirous that a more experienced Officer be appointed to take command of this Section.
- (b) It was agreed that the Finance Section should remain stationed in Cairo.

(6) WATER BOTTLES.

- (a) The supply of these jar Water Bottles has been approved by British Ordnance and the A.M.D. have been notified that they are second on the list for supply of these articles.
- (b) Major Wright to enquire when delivery can be made by British Ordnance and if there is likely to be some delay in this to purchase them direct.
- (c) Mr. Larcombe of the Australian Comforts Fund has two patterns of which the larger one with the addition of a special leather back and two saddle straps will be suitable for the purposes required.

(7) G.S. WAGGONS.

A return is to be asked for from the A.M.D. for all G.S. and Limbered Waggon.

(8) AUSTRALIAN CABLED NEWS.

A copy of the daily news cable from Defence, Melbourne is to

Australian Cabled News (continued)

be sent direct to all Units of the Anzac Mounted Division and other A.I.F. Details remaining in Egypt.

(9) CANTEENS.

- (a) No arrangements were made by Major Hogben to meet any Canteen requirements of the A.M.D.
- (b) In view of the fact that the British Canteens only sell in bulk and that to deal with them involves starting Regimental or Brigade Canteens, General Chauvel is most anxious that retail Canteens "selling beer" be instituted.
- (c) It was agreed to cable London asking for direction in regard to the above.

(10) MEMORANDA

Memoranda to be drawn up setting out the working details of such matters as:-

- (a) Invaliding;
 - (b) Disembarkation of Troops and Horses
 - (c) Handling Mail
 - (d) Ordnance Procedure
 - (e) Finance and Payment of Accounts.
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