

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

Veterinary

Item number: 27/3/16

Title: Assistant Director Veterinary
Services, 1st ANZAC Corps and
Assistant Director Veterinary
Services, Australian Corps

October 1918



AWM4-27/3/16

CONFIDENTIAL.

299
ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

A. D. V. S. Aust. Corps

FOR

October
~~*September*~~ 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

[Signature]

LIEUT. COL.
ADVS. AUST. CORPS.

Signature of Officer Commanding

[Signature]

LIEUT. COL.
ADVS. AUST. CORPS.

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.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

299

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
WACO	1/10		Up well from VES. Supervising Collection and maintenance of animals of Corps, also animals of Cavalry Corps coming through	
"	2/10		Visited and inspected units of 3rd Division. Satisfactory but much difficulty re water. Held conference of American Vets Officers, at which I explained our methods and procedure	
"	4/16		DDP's 4th Army 1st Div. re American Organization Coming to WACO. Being closed today as a railhead it was necessary to truck horses from ROSEL about 4 miles. but I considered it inadvisable to move VES as we are near water and there is none at ROSEL. horses for to rest once but to water 3 times daily and with a number and limited personnel this is a big consideration	

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.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

299

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
THCOURT	19/10		Difficulties in getting dispatches and signal messages leads to lot of inconvenience	
	10/10		Asked Q to enquire re delivery of dispatches	
EV	13/10		Moved to EV a long way from Division	
	15/10		Major James was evacuated with influenza	
	17/10		Directed all Divisions to Capt Stanhope to 4th Div to act for Major James	
	17/10		Visited No 14 V.H. Abbeville and examined one suspected epiphyseal smears negative	
	20/10		Visited 3rd Army Artillery Bde	
	20/10		Wrote to DORS 4th Arm re some equipment sent to American VEB who replied it would be returned	
	23/10		Inspected 3rd Army Bde A.F.G. B.A.B. & 9th Batt	
	23/10		Good 8th and 103rd Jan 7th in bad state	
	26/10		Conference all DORS at 1st D.H. Capt J. Guyon sick	

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

299

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EV	19/10		Capt Reynolds 6 th Army Bde A7A reported Sick	
	28/10		Capt Bishop reported Sick	
	29/10		Capt McKeena reported wounded	
	30/10		considerable difficulty met with at this time with officers going sick and there being no reinforcements available to replace them. Have to make the best arrangements to carry on, during some corps troops myself.	
			J. Watson #657	
			ADL/3 Crest Corps	

O R I G I N A L.

WAR DIARY

OF

~~A. D. V. S. Australian Corps~~

FOR

October 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1	Veterinary Report for week ending 3rd October 1918.
2	D.D.V.S. A.I.F. re submission of names of A.A.V.C. men for promotion as Temp.Vety Sergeants.
3	Letter to "Q" Aust. Corps re changing of posting of Vety Officers.
4	Veterinary Report for week ending 10th October 1918.
5	Letter to "Q" Aust. Corps re delay in receiving despatches.
6	Veterinary Report for week ending 17th October 1918.
7	Letter to "Q" Aust. Corps re clipping.
8	Letter to D.D.V.S. A.I.F. re personnel etc.
9	Letter to "Q" Aust. Corps re watering of animals.
10	Letter to D.A.D.V.S. 1,2,3,4 & 5th Aust. Divisions and 3rd Army Brigade Aust.F.A. re delay in returns.
11	Letter to D.D.V.S. 4th Army, "Q" Aust. Corps, French Mission Aust. Corps re Foot and Mouth Disease.
12	Letter to D.D.V.S. 4th Army re clipping.
13	Letter from D.D.V.S. A.I.F. re prospects of obtaining Reinforcement Vety Officers.
14	Veterinary Report for week ending 24th October 1918.
15	Veterinary Report for week ending 31st October 1918.

299 Australian CorpsHeadquarters
10th October 1918.B. D. V. S.
Fourth ArmyVeterinary Report for week ending 3rd Oct. 1918.

<u>Debility</u>	Evacuations	27
<u>Digestive</u>	Colic 10 Cases 2 Died 2 Evacuated 3 Cured 3 Remg	
	Impaction 3 " 1 " 1 " 1 "	
<u>Mane</u>	1 Case in 4 Aust. Division	Remaining
<u>Specific</u>	Ophthalmia 26 Cases 26 Evacuated	
	Ulcer Cellulitis 8 Cases 7 Evacuated	
	Tetanus 1 Case 1 Destroyed	
<u>Gunshot Wounds &c.</u>		
G.S.W.	672 Cases 136 Evacuated 228 Died 108 Destroyed	
Bomb Wounds	11 " 1 " 2 Destroyed	
P.U.N.	84 " 19 "	
Gas Burns	5 Remaining.	

This return and my A2000 returns are very late this week, this is much regretted as you know I always endeavour to be prompt with returns, but those from Divisions and other Units only reached here today, notwithstanding enquiries and wires chasing them up, I am asking Aust. Corps "Q" to enquire into the reason why D.R.L.S. dispatches were not promptly delivered, the fault was not that of Officers under my administration, nor as you will see mine.

The animals moving into back areas are mostly in good condition, some of those remaining with American Corps show rapid loss of condition, notably 10th Artillery Brigade 4th Aust. Div., 6th Army Brigade Aust. F.A. and to some extent animals of the 3rd & 5th Aust. Div. Artillery.

In reference to the American Divisions we have had with us, their horse management is not by any means systematic, and therefore faulty, and I anticipate that with a severe winter they will have a lot of trouble with Debility, they like others in time past, have much to learn in horse management under military conditions in this country, but I am sure will welcome and avail themselves of all assistance from others more experienced. What should be impressed on them is the necessity of system and discipline which is most necessary in regulating stable work routine.

All Australian Mob. Vety Sections have moved and of area and the two American Sections will have a busy time carrying on, the work done by A.V.S. has been good and have had no complaints of their inability to cope with the work required.

1st Australian Vety Evacuating Station has been working well under the command of Captain Hindmarsh A.A.V.S. who has been a big help to me in coaching up the American unit attached to him and which is now carrying on the work, no transport or ordnance equipment is in possession of the American Unit and they must have it to carry on, I lent them a few things without which they could not carry on, for these, as you instructed, a receipt has been given.

A large large number of animals were evacuated during the week, from the Corps, but largely from Cavalry Units.

Wastage is chiefly due to battle casualties, mostly shell wounds.

<u>Wastage</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Mules</u>	
died	22169	70	
destroyed	104	40	
missing	17	14	
transferred	330	72	
	<u>22610</u>	<u>196</u>	
			total 816.

<u>Strength</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Mules</u>	
	24,505	9,318	total 33823.
			total 23,823

Copy to "q"

Australian Corps.

Watson

Lieut. Colonel
A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps

D.D.V.S.
A.I.F.

Reference your wire E.K. 79 of third inst. received last night, I have no names of men to submit as Temporary Vety Sergeants from Mobile Vety Sections of Divisions, as requested by you. I have interviewed D.A.D.V.S.'s of Divisions in forward areas, but have not been able to see the two in back area. Divisions of this Corps are located from near Abbeville to close to the front line and I am at Tincourt E. of Peronne.

^{send.} I did not get the names of men from them but instructed them to then direct to you, according to your previous instructions.

I might say that this procedure is the cause of considerable inconvenience to me as I am not in touch with pending movements of personnel for whose work I am responsible, for example though I understand a number of Officers are going on leave to Australia, ~~but~~ I do not know which or how many, it would be better in my opinion if all communications to A.A.V.C. personnel in the Corps came through this office as I would then be in a much better position to assist you in the selection of Officers or men for appointments.

Also with reference to seeing D.A.D.V.S.'s in back areas, I may state that I have been working at high pressure lately, the Corps has been fighting continuously, movements have been rapid, Veterinary arrangements have had to be made, for many odd Units and Veterinary services administered for many attached Troops, this being I think the biggest Infantry Corps in France from an animal point of view.

Forward movements have necessitated continuously finding new railheads for evacuation and moves of the Vety Evacuating Station which I have to arrange and I have also an American Corps Veterinarian, or the equivalent of our A.D.V.S. to coach in the work required, as well as an American V.E.S. to arrange equipment for and put to work, at present they are working independantly but under my guidance. Add d to this my clerk has gone to Australia and I have an untrained man to train, also lack of water supply, constant moving and hard work have affected the condition of animals to such an extent, that I have had to be a fair amount of my time out amongst units, I do not object to a lot of work, but this will explain to you my difficulty in getting you the information you require and which by your instruction, is usually arranged between D.A.D.V.S. Divisions and you direct.

If it was arranged that such matters pass through this office, all such information would be collected, filed and available when required.

5/10/13.

Lieut. Colonel.
A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps.

May

299

A.I.F. Headquarters,
Care Headquarters Fifth Army.

In confirmation of this office Telegram No EK 88 dated 6.10.18 the following appointment and changes of posting of OFFICER are recommended:-

Major S. Fletcher M.C. O.C. 1st Australian Evacuating Station, to be acting D.A.D.V.S. First Australian Division, vice Major Meslop G.C. D.S.O. to England on 1914 leave, dated 6.10.18.

Captain T. Bell A.A.V.C. from Australian Veterinary Hospital to First Australian Division, to complete establishment, dated 6.10.18.

The following additional changes are also recommended:

Captain W.L. Hindmarsh A.A.V.C. Australian Veterinarian Hospital, to be O.C. First Australian Veterinary Evacuating Station, temporarily, vice Fletcher, dated 6.10.18.

Captain H.S. Lucas A.A.V.C. First Australian Division, to command First Australian Mobile Veterinary Section, temporarily, vice Major G.F. Finlay to Australia on 1914 leave, dated 6.10.18.

Major Fletcher is due to return from leave in England on 10.10.18. Pending the return of this Officer, his duties as A.D.V.S. First Australian Division should be carried out by Captain J. Robson A.A.V.C. of that formation.

If you approve, may orders for the moves of these Officers please be issued to the formations concerned?

Signed:- E.A. Kendal
Colonel
D.D.V.S. A.I.F.

6/10/18.

Copy to D.V.S. B.E.F.
Aust. Corps Q
First Australian Division
D.D.V.S. Fourth Army.

Australian Corps Q.

For information.

Sgd. E.A. Kendal
Colonel
D.D.V.S. A.I.F.

6/10/18.

Dam

12 Q 97

Australian Corps

Noted:

These changes are to my satisfaction but considering these Officers with the exception of Captain Bell have been working under me, I consider it in the interests of the service that I should be asked for an opinion of their suitability.

It may be remembered also that I am responsible that Veterinary services are satisfactory and therefore consider I should be consulted.

9/10/18.

Hatsch
Lieut

Lieut. Colonel
A. D. V. S.
Aust. Corps

Australian Corps.Headquarters
17th Oct. 1918.D.D.V.S.
4th Army.Veterinary Report for week ending 10th Oct. 1918.

<u>Debility.</u>	Evacuations 6.
<u>Respiratory.</u>	Catarrhal Fever. 1 Evacuated.
<u>Digestive.</u>	Colic Cases 6 Cured 4 Died 2. Volvulus Case 1 Died.
<u>Mange.</u>	1 - 1st Division, 1 - 5th Division both Evacuated.
<u>Specific.</u>	Ophthalmia 17 Evacuated 3 Ulcer Cellulitis 1 Evacuated. Suspected Anthrax 1 Died. Tetanus 2 Destroyed 2.
<u>Wounds.</u>	G.S.W. 37 Evacuated 12, Died 3, Destroyed 4. Bomb Wounds 1 Remaining. P.U.N. 30 Evacuated 3. Gassed Nil.

Returns are again late owing to non arrival of those from the Divisions.

The condition of most of the animals with units other than Artillery is satisfactory, but there is rather a large number of debilitated animals in the 1st Division Artillery and the 3rd Army Brigade Aust. F.A. which will be evacuated.

Reference clipping I think it would be advisable to clip many of the animals of units in rest, where we have cover and rugs, past experience has justified the opinion that they will do better especially if clipped this month.

First Australian Division has one suspected Anthrax which was disproved on Bacteriological investigation, also was a case of suspected Epizootic Lymphangitis in 3rd Army Brigade Aust. F.A.

D.A.D.V.S. 4th Aust. Division was evacuated with Influenza on the 13th inst. I lent Captain Stanhope Vety Officer Corps Troops to carry on until Major McKenna can be brought in from Artillery in forward area. Captain Morgan will take Major McKenna's place on his return from leave.

Major Fletcher M.C. late O.C. 1st Aust. V.E.S. has reported to 1st Aust Division to act as D.A.D.V.S. during the absence of Major Meslop D.S.O. who has leave for six months to attend a course at Liverpool University. Major Finlay O.C. 1st Aust. M.V.S. has gone to Australia on 6 months leave and his place is taken by Captain Lucas A.A.V.C. 1st Aust Division.

A number of Sergeants A.A.V.C. attached to units have gone to Australia on 6 months leave and their places have been filled by temporary promotions, also several D.A.D.V.S.'s have lost their clerks the same way, all these changes have led to considerable disorganization, which will however soon be remedied.

Wastage is lower, also strength, but we should have few if any battle casualties in this area.

A lot of the correspondence from this office is notification of animals evacuated by M.V.S. or V.E.S. and I consider your suggestion that all animals sent to M.V. Sections should be immediately struck off strength a good one and should be acted on, it is not intended that M.V. should be turned into Field hospitals, and special cases might be made the reason for special arrangement, this would do away with any necessity for notification as striking off would become automatic.

The units in this area are very scattered and it will be difficult to see them all, but I will try and see every unit while we are out.

Mobile Vety Sections are evacuating direct to No. 14 Vety Hospital-Abbeville, the V.E.S. is near Longpre-les-Corps-Saints but will be moving the site prepared by the No. 3 V.E.S. at Baucourt Sur Somme from where will evacuate for all Divisions to Abbeville.

<u>Wastage.</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Mules.</u>
Died	14	-
Destroyed	5	-
Missing	-	-
Transferred	41	7
	<u>60</u>	<u>7</u>
		Total 67
		<u>==</u>

<u>Strength</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Mules</u>
	10,843.	3,483. Total 14,326.

Copy to "Q" Aust. Corps.

W. H. H. H.
 Lieut. Colonel
 A.D.V.S.
 Aust. Corps.

"Q"

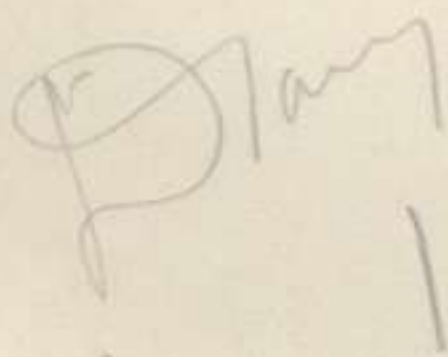
Australian Corps

Attached I am forwarding some wires and other correspondence received by this office today, they are only part of those received, but on looking at them you will understand the great inconvenience I have been put to by their non delivery, a number of the wires are dated the 4th inst, also many of my weekly returns, for the week up to the 3rd, only arrived to-day, these should be at Army H.Q. on Sunday, and are sent to G.H.Q. and to the War Office, as well as being published by Q of the Army on Mondays, this was published this week as less Australian Corps, I have always been very particular to have returns rendered promptly,

There are also wires giving me information asked for to enable me to arrange veterinary attention for units on the move and for those remaining in the area, and I had to make the best arrangements possible without them.

I was at this time located where instructed to go by Corps H.Q.

May this be enquired into please and attached correspondence returned.



Lieut Col

A.D.V.S. Aust Corps

18/10/18

Australian Corps.Headquarters
20th Oct. 1918D.D.V.S.
Fourth Army.Veterinary Report for week ending 17th Oct. 1918Debility.

Evacuated 68. (58- 1st Aust Div.)

Respiratory.

Hoarser Admitted 1 Evacuated

Digestive.Colic Admitted 10, Cured 8, Died 1, Remg 4.
Impaction of Colon Admitted 1 Remaining
Inguinal Hernia Admitted 1 RemainingMange.

Nil.

Specific.Ophthalmia Admitted 22, Evacuated 7
Ulc. Cellulitis Admitted 2 Evacuated 1
Tetanus Admitted 2 Died 1 Destroyed 2
Stomatitis Admitted Remg under isolation.Wounds etc.G.S.W. Admitted 5 Evacuated 19
Bomb Wounds Nil.
GJS P.U.N. 28 Evacuated 2.
Gas Burns Evacuated 4. Remaining previously reported
3rd Oct.

The condition of animals is generally good except those of Artillery units 58 were evacuated for Debility from the 1st Aust Division and a similar number will be evacuated from the 3rd Army Brigade Aust. F.A., these animals lost condition very rapidly during the latter stages of the advance largely owing to the shortage of water, in reference to this I drew the attention of Corps "Q" to the fact that the inadequate water supply was often not used to best advantage owing to overcrowding and lack of discipline of horses from all kinds of units at watering points in forward areas, parties were often without Officers and often not in properly formed bodies, men did not dismount or remove bits and there was much congestion on tracks leading to watering points, watering is satisfactory in our present area.

Grazing is only procurable in parts, mostly by the side of roads but every advantage is being taken of it, some green fodder is also available. The forage ration is not generous, and though it will possibly maintain condition if work is not excessive, there is none to spare to condition animals already Debilitated.

An increase in hay would be appreciated.

Clipping could be done with advantage where animals have cover and as it is still early, strong coats would grow before the coldest weather sets in.

Vacancies caused by most of the personnel on leave to Australia have been filled. Capt Stanhope Vety Officer Corps Troops is temporarily attached 3rd Aust. Division which is short of an Officer. Corps Troops not being numerous in this area. I am looking after Corps H.Q. and H.A. H.Q. animals myself.

Capt Ward A.A.V.C. attached Heavy Artillery was left behind with 2 American Corps, as all Batteries and Horses, except H.Q. were left behind but by someone's order were returned on the 12th inst to H.A. H.Q. and immediately evacuated to Hospital, I was not notified until I rang up Corps H.A. H.Q.

Mobile Vety Sections are not very fully employed at present, they are evacuating to No. 14 Vety Hospital Abbeville direct, by road, M.V.S. being supplied with mounted men. V.E.S. is at present functioning as it not nearer the Base Hospital than some M.V.S. but is moving toaucourt Sur-Somme where all units will send horses for evacuation to Base Hospital Abbeville.

299

<u>Wastage.</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Mules.</u>	
Died	2	1	
Destroyed	3	-	
Missing	-	-	
Transferred	<u>121</u>	<u>121</u>	
	126	22	Total 148.
<u>Strength.</u>	9332	3125	Total 12457

Copy to "Q" Aust Corps.

Hatton

Lieut Colonel
A.D.V.SM
Aust. Corps

299
"Q"
Aust. Corps

Clipping

As many of the units of this Corps have their animals in good standings under cover, several Divisional Commanders have spoken to me re clipping.

It is quite appreciated that it is not advisable to clip animals in forward areas, where units are fighting a moving war, and unable to find transport for rugs, but experience has taught us that animals clipped early will do well under almost any conditions and I suggest that approval may be requested for the matter to be left to the discretion of Divisional Commanders.

17/10/18.

Lieut. COLONEL
A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps

D.D.V.S

A.I.F

Re 4th Aust Div, Major James was evacuated on the 13th inst suffering from a severe attack of Influenza and will probably be away from duty a month, his clerk had gone to Australia and I had lent him Pte Dickson from the V.E.S, this man was to go to the 1st Div as a Vety Sgt but was unfortunately evacuated on the same day and with the same complaint as the R. D.A.D.V.S and the office was shut up and disinfected, it being in this state when I visited the Division, as I had Capt Stanhope available I sent him along to act, Capt Morgan was on leave, on his return, he is about due now, Major McKenna will be brought back from the artillery in the forward area, Morgan will go to his unit and Stanhope will temporarily relieve Morgan, I will divide Corps K Troops amongst the Divisions, there are not many in the present area.

I have asked for a nominal roll of all personnel, with details of any projected move or leave, Callow will I understand ask for 75 days and also later McKenzie, also as I notified More,

My new clerk No 1222 Pte L.J. Harvey A.A.V.C is shaping very well, may he be made a Vety Sgt and attached to Corps H.Q in that capacity, I am promised another, whom I intend to hold in reserve to help a Division when necessary, as well as to assist me, it is advisable to have a Sgt in the office during moves etc, a private does not get much consideration and it is necessary for him to go ahead and establish the office.

You will observe that I have got a Typewriter which I bought from a unit having one purchased out of private funds as well as one issued later, it is an Oliver almost new and I paid for it myself, if you have 500 Francs available, perhaps you could pay for it for me, I am thinking of asking one of my friends in Australia to collect some money for me as I am often out of pocket for small but necessary items and have never seen a penny of any public fund.

A.D.V.S., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.	
No.	5/13
Date	

17 OCT 1918

Hatson

Lieut Col

A.D.V.S. Aust Corps

"Q"

Aust. Corps

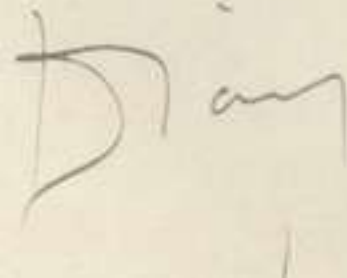
During the recent operations great difficulty was experienced in finding sufficient water for horses, between Tincourt and the canal past Bellicourt there were few watering points and the supply was limited, it was noticable that the best advantage was not made of the facilities available through the slackness in discipline of horse watering parties, units seem to have got slack in this respect and parties were in many cases neither accompanied by an Officer or by a responsible N.C.O. but came to water in two's and three's often at a trot or canter, and men often remained mounted and left bits in the horses mouths.

There has been a big loss of condition during the last two months chiefly due to lack of water and I suggest that the necessity for proper discipline be pointed out now and remembered during the present period of training.



Lieut. Colonel
A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps.

18/10/18.



Copy of letter sent to D.A.D.V.S. 1,2,3,4,& 5th Aust. Divisions and the 3rd Army Brigade Aust. F.A.

Re correspondence owing to changes of location, personnel going to Australia, messages of all kinds not reaching their destinations and other causes, there has been a lot of difficulty with returns, administrative arrangements etc, no one in particular is blamed for this, but in future we must try and be more punctual with returns etc, and where new clerks have to be employed they will be initiated into all routine as soon and as thoroughly as possible, doubt on any point will be referred to this office and it must be understood that I must be kept notified of all changes or projected changes of locations or A.A.V.C. personnel.

Weekly reports must be as comprehensive as possible, suggestions for improvements in organization, equipment etc, are always appreciated and it is not necessary to adhere to an official form but to make the report a short resume of the work done by the A.A.V.C. and the condition and general welfare of the animals.

Return A 2000 must always be in this office before midday on Saturdays accompanied by Horse recovery Form No.3 from Divisions, animals evacuated from Colonial Units and Butchery Returns must be in this office by the 1st of each month.

Correspondence must be answered promptly, if this is not possible at once receipt will be acknowledged and action being taken notified.

Lieut. Colonel
A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps

18/10/18.



A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps
20/10/18.

D.D.V.S.
4th Army
"Q"
Aust. Corps
French Mission
Aust. Corps

The following wire was received from the D.A.D.V.S. 1st
Aust. Division,

Two cases of foot and mouth disease in this village
(Long) in farm adjoining Chateau A.A.A. Divisions and French
Authorities notified and isolation regulations put into operation
A.A.A. Repeat Aust. Corps "Q".

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

Lieut Colonel
A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps

D.D.V.S.
4th Army.

Re clipping, you will I know quite appreciate the different condition of animals in the area re clipping and I think will agree with me that clipping should be carried out.

Corps "Q" though agreeing are rather dubious about asking Army approval unless there were grounds for believing the request would be favorably received.

Can you do anything in the matter?

Bray

20/10/13.

Hakon

Lieut. Colonel
A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps

299

D.D.V.S.
709
A. I. F.

APPENDIX

14
(3)A.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps.

Reference your No.4/8 dated 22.10.18.

The prospects of obtaining reinforcement Veterinary Officers up to our requirements, at an early date, are not good.

Information was received in June last that several Veterinary Officers would be available in Australia at the end of that month for service in the A.I.F., and a request was accordingly cabled to Defence for five to be despatched at the earliest opportunity.

Subsequent enquiries have elicited the fact that only one of these is now on the way, and that the other four are being sent as soon as possible.

One Officer A.A.V.C. is being despatched from Egypt to England, and he should be available soon.

It is hoped, also, to obtain another Veterinary Officer from the A.I.F. Depots in U.K. by re-arrangement of the Veterinary Service of A.I.F. Units in England.

The question of the 75 days' leave to England of 1914 A.A.V.C. Officers has been referred to A.I.F. Headquarters, and it is understood that instructions have been issued for all applications from the Officers concerned to be ~~XXXXXX~~ submitted to A.I.F. Headquarters and forwarded to D.D.V.S. A.I.F. for recommendations, with a view to regulating this leave, and thus reduce dislocation of Veterinary Services to the lowest degree under the circumstances.

Sgd E.A.Kendall
Colonel
D.D.V.S. A.I.F.

299
Australian Corps.Headquarters
17th October 1918.D.D.V.S.
4th Army.Veterinary Report for week ending 24th October 1918.Debility. Evacuated 69. (50- 3rd Army Brigade Aust. F.A.)Respiratory. Broken Wind Admitted 1= Remaining.Digestive. Colic, Admitted 3, Cured 2, Died 1.
Indigestion, Admitted 2, Cured 2.
Impaction, Remaining 1 = Evacuated
Enteritis, Admitted 3, Cured 1, Died 2.Mange. Admitted 2. 1 = 3rd Aust. Division Remaining.
1 = 550 Army T.V. Coy. R.E. Evacuated.Specific. Ophthalmia. Admitted 25, Evacuated 7.
Ulc. Cellulitis, Admitted 3, Evacuated 1.Wounds. G.S.W. Admitted 3, Evacuated 7.
P.U.N. Admitted 26, Evacuated 5.
Gas Scold, Evacuated 5. Previously reported, 4 = 26/9/18
1 = 4/10/18.

69 Animals were evacuated for Debility, 50 from 3rd Army Brigade Aust. F.A., these animals were reported last week, since then I have inspected this brigade and all remaining animals are improving, Stable management etc is being carefully gone into and I am sure with a rest these animals will be satisfactory, the area they are in, though named as an Artillery rest area for the Army, has no standings, cover or other conveniences for animals, though the Division to which they are attached is doing its best to assist the Brigade in this matter.

The condition of other animals in Corps is satisfactory.

The position regarding Veterinary Officers is rather serious we are 3 short one in each of 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Divisions and no Officers are available to replace them, D.D.V.S. A.I.F. has been written to and has the matter in hand.

1st Aust. V.E.S. and Divisional M.V. Sections are busy training new men to fill the places of those sent to Units as Temp Sgts to replace personnel on 1914 leave to Australia, and as other ^{work} is not heavy this can be done, the V.E.S. has not yet been able to move to site selected at Eaucourt, but when 1st Div. vacates it they will move in and will then be able to carry out evacuations and training of personnel.

<u>Wastage.</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Mules</u>
Died	3	-
Destroyed	3	-
Missing	-	-
Transferred	114	20

Total 140

Strength.

9237 3267 Total 12504.

Copy to "Q"
Aust. Corps

Watson
Lieut. Colonel
D.D.V.S.
Aust. Corps

299

Australian Corps.APPENDIX
15Headquarters
5th Nov. 1918.D.D.V.S.
4th Army.Veterinary Report for week ending 31st Oct. 1918.

Debility. Evacuated 94 (chiefly from Artillery units.)

Respiratory. Catarrh Admitted 2 Remaining
Cong. of Lungs Admitted 1, Died
Rearer Admitted 2 Evacuated

Digestive. Colic Admitted 25 Cured 21, Died 3 Evacuated 1
Ruptured Stomach Admitted 2 Died.
Enteritis Admitted 1 Destroyed.

Mange. 1 Case of Mange 2nd Aust. Div. remaining from last return
Evacuated.

Specific. Ophthalmia. Admitted 56, Evacuated 23
Ulc. Cellulitis Admitted 4 Evacuated 2.

Wounds. G.S.W. Admitted 13, Destroyed 5 Evacuated 5.
P.U.N. Admitted 51 Evacuated 2.
Bomb Wounds Admitted 1.
Gassed. Admitted 5 Evacuated 9.

Debility cases are spread amongst Artillery Units, the causes have
been stated in previous reports.

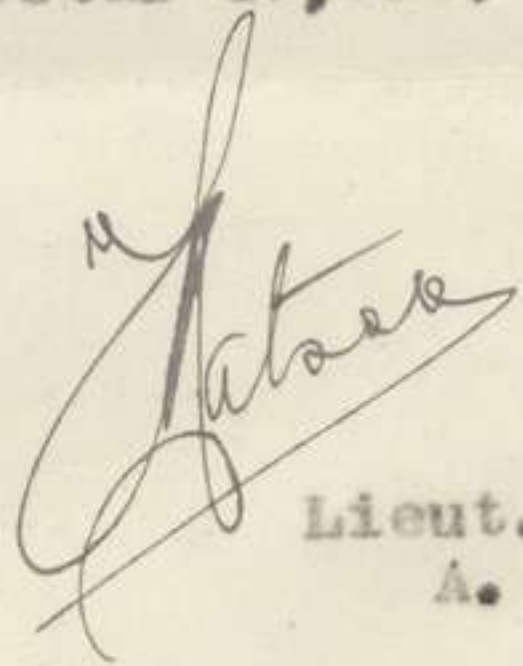
Opportunity has been taken of these units being in rest to clear
Debility cases out.

The Corps is still short of 5 Veterinary Officers, 4 sick, 1 wounded
all evacuated.

<u>Wastage.</u>	<u>Horses.</u>	<u>Mules.</u>
Died	7	1
Destroyed	10	1
Missing	1	1
Transferred	156	14
	<u>174</u>	<u>17</u> Total 191.

<u>Strength.</u>	<u>Horses.</u>	<u>Mules.</u>
	<u>12,754</u>	<u>4,944.</u>
		Total 17,698.

Copy to "Q"
Aust. Corps.


Lieut. Colonel
A. D. V. S.
Aust. Corps

Veterinary Units for

Australian Corps and

~~1. 2. 3. 4. 5 Divisions. from~~

November 1918 to April 1919.

