

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

Veterinary

Item number: 27/3/20

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

February 1919



AWM4-27/3/20

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

A. D. V. S. Australian Corps

FOR

February. **1919**

Signature of Officer compiling

Hatton

LIEUT. COL.
ADVS. AUST. CORPS.

Signature of Officer Commanding

Hatton

LIEUT. COL.
ADVS. AUST. CORPS.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

299

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.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HAM-	1919	4/2	Arrange Sale of horses from VES at Avesnes p. 13 ⁺ 14 ⁺ saw Army & and Demobilization with DDB. A27. & disposal of horses of Corps.	
SUIR-HEVRE		6/2	put in despatches for peace Gazette. (1 medal 2 mentions)	
"		7/2	Sale at Avesnelles. Animals sold well - up to 3300/£	
"		13/2	Instructions were sent out by DDB that all sales were to be controlled by DDB corps, but corps & insisted on making their own arrangements consequently during this month. ADB. were not responsible for sale of 2 class animals.	
"		15/2	Arranged with butcher in Antwerp to take a number of animals for slaughter weekly.	
"		16/2	Went to Antwerp to see method of slaughter and arrange weighing and payment	
"		18		

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ham-Sun Heure	1919 21/2		D.D.H.S interviewed Corps D.A. & G.H. re 22ly units taking over sales. He barruthers informed here that P were making all arrangements.	
"	22/2		Lajoir Home back per 75 days leave in U.K.	
"	25/2		In accordance with instructions from Army H.Q. Capt P. ordered me to supervise all local sales of horses. From March 1st except one or two already arranged. This does not seem to be the work of our branch, but as I am instructed to do it I organized all my D.A.D.H.S. & 22ly units to dispose of animals, each Division arranging their own, also V.E.S. which conducts independent sales.	Hester

D. D. & L., London E.C.
(10340) Wt W5300/P715 750,000 3/18 E 688 Forms/C2118/16.

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WAR DIARY

OF

A. D. V. S. Australian Corps

FOR

FEBRUARY 1919

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.

Subject.

1. Veterinary Report for week ending 6th February 1919.
2. Letter to D.D.V.S. 4th Army reporting on the best breed of animals for Army work.
3. Veterinary Report for week ending 13th February 1919.
4. Veterinary Report for week ending 20th February 1919.
5. Veterinary Report for week ending 27th February 1919.

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Australian Corps.

Headquarters
13th February 1919

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

Veterinary Report for week ending 6th February 1919.

Debility. Evacuated 5.

Digestive. Enteritis, Admitted 3, Died 3.
Colic, Admitted 10, Cured 7, Died 2, Remaining 1.

Mange. 10 Cases admitted Aust. Corps Troops, Remaining 10.
5 Cases admitted Army Bdes, Evacuated 4, Remaining 1.
11 Cases admitted 1st Aust. Division, Evacuated 18.
5 Cases admitted 3rd Aust. Divl Artillery, Remaining 5.
10 Cases admitted 4th Aust. Division, Evacuated 5, Remaining 5.
2 Cases admitted 5th Aust. Division, Remaining 2.

Specific. Ophthalmia, Admitted 36, Transferred 2.
Ulc. Cellulitis, Admitted 10, Transferred 4.
Tetanus, Admitted 1, Destroyed 1.

Wounds. P.U.N. Admitted 8, Transferred 1.

Condition of animals satisfactory.

Mange is still fairly common, other sickness or disease is not common.

Classification and malleining is practically finished, Veterinary inspection of all animals for sale locally or for U.K. is being carried out, and horses are being disposed of according to instructions.

All units and personnel of A.A.V.C. are working satisfactorily

<u>WASTAGE</u>	<u>HORSES</u>	<u>MULES.</u>	
Died	7	0	
Destroyed	5	1	
Missing	1	1	
Transferred	114	107	
	-----	-----	
	127	109	Total 236.
	=====	=====	
<u>STRENGTH.</u>	15,904	5,751	Total 21,655.
	=====	=====	

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

Copy to :- 13/2/19.
"Q"
Aust. Corps

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D.D.V.S.
FOURTH ARMY.

Reference your V/24/9/19 of the 12th February 1919, there is little doubt in my mind and in all I have spoken to in this Corps that the best breed for military work in the heavy class is the low clean legged Clydesdale, most of our horses from Australia were of this type and they have been much admired by good judges of horseflesh, they are smaller, more active, and yet have always been able to do as much work as the heavier Shire type, added to which they have obviously suffered less from the skin troubles of the legs, such as grease, cellulitis, or necrotic dermatitis.

Their smaller size allowed them to do better on the ration, proving them to be more economical in feeding.

For an Artillery animal, again the clyesdale mare crossed with a thoroughbred stallion gives as near the ideal as we have been able to breed in Australia and the gunner type most favored by the Indian Army, breeding with crossbred stock is not found a success as animals throw back to unknown ancestors and we get reversions to undesirable types.

The method I am advising has been proved by many animals used in this war, whose breeders and their methods I am familiar with.

For cavalry and riding classes generally, experiments which lead in other directions than the English thorobred are not in my oppinion a success, this however needs careful selection of suitable types.

Hackney, Suffolk, Punch or other types are in my opinion better left alone.

A.D.V.S., AUSTRALIAN CORPS.	
No.	1073/43
Date	13/2/19.

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

662

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A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps.
A.D.V.S. Cdn. Corps.
A.D.V.S. IV Corps.

D.D.V.S.
4th Army
No. V/24/9/19.
Date 12/2/19.

Subject :- Comparative value of the various types of animals
issued to the H.E.F.

Reference attached.

(1) Please render a report, giving the information required, as
far as possible, at an early date.

(Sgd) W.T. Tetam
Colonel

H.D.V.S., Fourth Army.

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D.D.V.S.
Fourth Army.
No. V/24/9/19.
Date 12/2/19.

6478 (Q.B.2).

D. V. S.

Your 17/3914/19 dated 12/1/19.

The Commander-in-Chief is anxious that the report and statistics asked for in War Office letter 116/Gen.No./6723 (Q.M.G.4) dated Fanuary 4th should be compiled and sent to the War Office, with as little delay as possible. The importance of supplying the information asked for cannot be over estimated, if those concerned with the horse breeding industry of the Country are to get busy and set in motion at as early a date as possible, the machinery necessary for the breeding of that type of horse deemed best suited to meet the requirments of the future, from a Military and Civil point of view.

I must, therefore, request thatyou, in conjunction with the Director of Remounts, will do your utmost to compile the report and statistics asked for, with as little delay as possible.

(Sgd) R.S. MAY.
Major-General,
for Quartermaster General.

G. H. Q.
23rd January 1919.

Copy to- D. Remounts.

- D.D.V.S., Northern. 17/3914/19.
- D.D.V.S., Southern.
- D.D.V.S., 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th Armies.
- D.D.V.S., Cavalry Corps.
- A.Ds.V.S., Corps & Cavalry Divisions.

The above copy of letter from Quartermaster General is forwarded for your information and report as soon as possible.

H.Q., D.V.S.
3rd February 1919.

(Sgd) J. MOORE,
Major-General,
DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES.

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Australian Corps.

Headquarters.

21/2/19

D.D.V.S.
FOURTH ARMY.Veterinary Report for week ending 13th February 1919.Debility. Nil.Respiratory. Catarrh, Admitted 2, Remaining 2.Digestive. Splenic Rupture, Admitted 1, Died 1.
Colic, Admitted 9, Cured 7, Died 1, Remaining 1.
Enteritis, Admitted 3, Died 3.Mange. 12 cases admitted Aust. Corps Troops, Evacuated 2, Remng 1
8 cases admitted Army Bdes, Evacuated 13.
6 cases admitted 3rd Div. Art. Evacuated 8.
1 case admitted 1st Aust. Division, Evacuated 1.
4 cases admitted 2nd Division, Evacuated 2, Remng 2.
2 cases admitted 3rd Division, Evacuated 2.
9 cases admitted 4th Division, Evacuated 2, Remng 2.
3 cases admitted 5th Division, Evacuated 7.Specific. Ophthalmia, Admitted 26, Evacuated 7.
Ulc. Cellulitis, Admitted 6, Evacuated 4, Destroyed 1.Wounds. P.U.N., Admitted 1,
=====

Condition of animals satisfactory.

All Units are disposing of animals by forwarding to
Base for dispatch to U.K. or selling by auction locally or to Butcher.The sales by auction of "Z" class animals are not being
carried out by me as you instructed but by ~~XX~~ Corps "Q".

<u>Wastage.</u>	<u>Horses.</u>	<u>Mules.</u>	
Died	7	1	
Destroyed	4	-	
Missing	-	3	
Transferred	594	25	
	-----	-----	
	605	29	Total 634
	=====	=====	=====

<u>Strength.</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Mules</u>	
	14,808	5,664	Total 20,472.
	=====	=====	=====

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

21/2/19.

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Australian Corps.

Headquarters
26th Feb. 1919

D. D. V. S.
FOURTH ARMY.

Veterinary Report for week ending 20th February 1919.

Debility. Evacuated 4.

Respiratory. Hoarer, Admitted 1, Transferred 1.

Digestive. Colic, Admitted 6, Cured 4, Died 1, Remaining 1.
Enteritis, Admitted 6, Died 5, Transferred 1.
Haematuria, Admitted 1, Cured 1.
Rupture Bowel, Admitted 1, Died 1.

Mange. 20 cases admitted Army Hdes, Evacuated 20
4 Cases admitted 3rd Div Artillery, Evacuated 11.
10 Cases admitted 1st Aust. Division, Evacuated 7, Remgt
4 Cases admitted 3rd Aust. Division, Evacuated 4.
1 Cases admitted 4th Aust. Division, Evacuated 1.
8 cases remaining last return Corps Troops, Evacuated 8

Specific. Ophthalmia, Admitted 76, Evacuated 27.
Ulc. Cellulitis, Admitted 5, Evacuated 4.

Wounds. P. U. N., admitted 2.

Condition of animals satisfactory.

All Units are disposing of animals by forwarding to
Base for despatch to U.K. or selling by auction locally or to Butcher.

<u>WASTAGE</u>	<u>HORSES.</u>	<u>MULES.</u>	
Died	7	3	
Destroyed	2	1	
Missing	-	-	
Transferred	150	19	
Sold to Horse B.	4	-	
Sold to Inhabitants.	560	6 139	
	723	162	Total 885.
<u>Strength.</u>	13,377	5,509	Total 18,886

A. G. Gibson

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

28/2/19.

Copy to
"Q"
Aust. Corps

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Australian Corps.

Headquarters
6/3/19

D. D. V. S.
FOURTH ARMY.

Veterinary Report for week ending 27th Feb. 1919.

Debility.

Evacuated 7.

Respiratory.

NIL

Digestive.

Enteritis, Admitted 3, Died 3.
Colic, Admitted 6, Died 3, Cured 3.
Calculus of Colon, Admitted 1, Destroyed 1.
Congestion of Liver, Admitted 4, Destroyed 1, Remg 3
Gastritis, Admitted 1, Transferred 1.

Mange.

8 cases admitted 1st Division, Remaining
1 case remaining last return 2nd Div. Evacuated
6 cases admitted 3rd Divisional Art., Remaining 6.
5 cases admitted 3rd Division, Transferred 5.
1 case admitted 4th Division, Evacuated 1.
8 cases admitted 5th Division, Evacuated 3, Remg 5.
11 cases admitted Army Bdes, Evacuated 11.

Specific.

Ulc. Cellulitis, Admitted 9, Evacuated 5.
Ophthalmia, Admitted 25, Evacuated 15.

Wounds.

P. U. N. Admitted 7.

There is some loss of condition in animals chiefly due to deminishing personnel and consequent lack of attention.

The Sales of "Z" class animals were taken over by me on March 1st and are being carried out by Divisions in their areas or by V. E. S., prices seem inclined to fall and there is some difficulty in disposing of Mules.

<u>WASTAGE.</u>	<u>HORSES.</u>	<u>MULES.</u>	
Died	6	2	
Destroyed	7	-	
Evacuated	73	38	
Sold to H. B.	4	2	
Sold to Inhabitants	600	434	
Tran. to Con. Camp	660	-	
	-----	-----	
	1350	476	Total 1826.
	=====	=====	
<u>STRENGTH.</u>	11,253	4,944	Total 16,197.
	=====	=====	

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

Copy to :-
"Q"
Aust. Corps

6/3/19
L. J. H.