

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

Veterinary

**Item number:** 27/4/29

**Title:** Deputy Assistant Director Veterinary  
Services, 1st Australian Division

May 1918



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D.A.D.V.S., 1st AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No.	.....
Date	2.6.18

**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
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Australian Imperial Force.

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*D.A.D.V.S. 1st Australian Division*

FOR

*May* 1918

Signature of Officer compiling *L. Neslop Major.*  
*D.A.D.V.S. 1st Aust. Division*

Signature of Officer Commanding .....

D.A.D.V.S.  
1ST AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISION.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

orig  
may 1918

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
St Sylvester Kappel	1918 May 1		<p>Inspected animals of the following units:- 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div. Anim. Column H.Q. 1<sup>st</sup> Inf Bde. + 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.</p> <p>Inspected 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Mobile Vet. Section at new site.</p> <p>Statement of Animals evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. from Colonial Units during April, 1918 forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps.</p>	
St Sylvester Kappel	May 2		<p>Nominal Roll of Officers and Sergeants A.A.V.C. and 1<sup>st</sup> Aust M.V.S. forwarded to D.D.V.S. A.I.F. Copy to A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps.</p> <p>Original and Duplicate copies of War Diary for April 1918 forwarded by registered post to C. in. Aust War Records Section. A.I.F.</p> <p>Received roll of 10 horses evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. on 1.5.18. Copy of roll forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps and units concerned notified.</p> <p>Forwarded to H.Q. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division recommendation that the establishment of Riding horses in a Machine Gun Battalion be increased by 1 for the use of the Sergt. A.A.V.C. attached that formation.</p>	
St Sylvester Kappel	May 3		<p>Following returns forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps:- A.F.A. 2000, Vet. Return, Weekly Mange State and Horse Recovery Form III, for week ending 2.5.18.</p> <p>10 animals evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. Copy of evacuation roll forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps, and units concerned notified.</p> <p>Received from H.Q. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division Authority of G.O.C. A.I.F. for No 139 Cpl. F.W. THOMPSON. 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. to be reduced to the ranks and transferred to Aust. Veterinary Hospital. File forwarded to OC, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust M.V.S. together with necessary movement order.</p>	

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St Sylvester-cappel.	May 3		Statement of Receipts and Issues of Remounts from and to Imperial Authorities during April 1918 forwarded to 8 <sup>th</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Division for transmission to A.I.F. Headquarters. No 215 Sgt. W. J. MANSON, A.D.V.C. reported from Aust. Vety. Hospital for duty with 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Division, and is posted to 6 <sup>th</sup> Battery A.F.A. as Vety. Sgt. vice Sgt. FITZGERALD, A.D.V.C. evacuated	
St Sylvester-cappel.	May 4		Took smears from animal in No 1 Sec. 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. D.A.C. suspected of Epizootic Lymphangitis. to No 23 Veterinary Hospital for microscopical examination. Result - Negative. Informed OC, 1 <sup>st</sup> A.D.A.C. and OC, 1 <sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. re the result of this examination. Copies of A.F.A. 2000 and Weekly Range State for week ending 2.5.18 forwarded to A.D.V.S. Aust. Corp. Weekly Vety Report for week ending 2.5.18 forwarded to H.Q., 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Division, copies to D.D.V.S. A.I.F., A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps., A.D.V.S. XV Corp., and War Diary. No 215 Sgt. W. J. Manson, A.D.V.C., 6 <sup>th</sup> Battery A.F.A., transferred to 4 <sup>th</sup> Battery A.F.A. No 19379 Sgt. R. A. Stewart, A.D.V.C., 4 <sup>th</sup> Battery A.F.A., transferred to 6 <sup>th</sup> Battery A.F.A.	Appendix I
St Sylvester-cappel.	May 5		Received roll of 1 horse evacuated by 1 <sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. on 4.5.18. copy forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps and unit notified. With Capt. HAMILTON, A.V.C. V.Oip., inspected animals of 110 <sup>th</sup> Bde R.F.A. and examined two animals in isolation for suspected Epizootic Lymphangitis. Took Pus smears and gave instructions to Oip. Wagon lines and V.O. that animals are to be kept in strict isolation pending the microscopical examination of the pus smears, and that if the unit moves before this examination is made and its result is known, the two animals are to be evacuated to 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. for isolation by OC 1 <sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. Instructed OC 1 <sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. accordingly. 10139 Pte T. W. Thompson, 1 <sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. proceeded to Aust. Vety. Hospital.	

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St. Sylvestre - Bappel.	May 6		<p>Forwarded to OC, 23<sup>rd</sup> Vety. Hospital 8 smears taken from the 2 suspected Epizootic Lymphangitis cases in A Bty, 110<sup>th</sup> Bde R.F.A., for microscopical examination and report thereon.</p> <p>Forwarded to H.Q., 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Division statement as to the present position as regards Veterinary Officers in 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division, and recommended that Veterinary Officers be restored on the Establishment of Div. Headquarters. Copies of memo to A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps, D.A.D.V.S., 5<sup>th</sup> Aust. Division and War Diary.</p>	Appendix II
St. Sylvestre - Bappel.	May 7		<p>Inspected animals for evacuation at 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S.</p> <p>Received roll of 13 horses evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. on 6.5.18. Copy of roll forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps, and units concerned notified.</p> <p>Received wire from OC, 23<sup>rd</sup> Vety. Hospital - "Smears positive in both cases". Wired D.A.D.V.S. 25<sup>th</sup> Division accordingly. Instructed OC, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. to hold the 2 animals of A Bty, 110<sup>th</sup> Bde R.F.A. under strict isolation. Instructed 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Artillery that premises lately occupied by 110<sup>th</sup> Bde R.F.A. were placed out of bounds for all army animals. Attended at office of A.D.V.S. XV Corps and informed him of the 2 cases of Epizootic Lymphangitis, and action taken.</p> <p>A.D.V.S. XV Corps called at office after inspecting the two animals affected with Epizootic Lymphangitis, and gave instructions regarding their destruction and burial.</p>	
St. Sylvestre - Bappel.	May 8		<p>Forwarded report on 2 cases of Epizootic Lymphangitis in A Bty 110<sup>th</sup> Bde R.F.A. to A.D.V.S. XV Corps. Copies to War Diary.</p> <p>Inspected animals at wagon lines of the following units:-</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Inf. Bde Hqs. &amp; 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> &amp; 12<sup>th</sup> Battalions.</p> <p>Hqs. No. 1 &amp; 2 + S.A.A. Secs. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. D.A.C.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Aust. Field Ambulance.</p>	Appendix III

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St Sylvestre - Kappel.	May 9		<p>Reported to A.D.V.S. XV Corps that his instructions regarding the destruction and burial of the 2 animals affected with Epizootic Lymphangitis from A. Battery, 110<sup>th</sup> Bde. R.F.A. have been carried out.</p> <p>Inspected animals at wagon lines of the following units:- 1<sup>st</sup> Aust D.H. &amp; Div. Artillery H.Q. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Inf Tade H.Q.</p> <p>Received roll of 8 animals evacuated on 8<sup>th</sup> Inst and 9 evacuated on 9<sup>th</sup> Inst. by 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. Copies of rolls forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps, and units concerned notified.</p>	
St Sylvestre - Kappel.	May 10		<p>Following returns forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps:- A.F.A 2000. Vety. Return for week ending 9.5.18. Weekly Mange State " " " " Horse Recovery Form III " " " "</p> <p>Received roll of 1 animal evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. on 9.5.18. Copy forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps, and unit notified.</p>	
St Sylvestre - Kappel.	May 11.		<p>Placed permanent "Out of Bounds" notices in field at Q 19 b. 37, Sheet 27, and wired A.D.V.S. XV Corps that the field is still occupied by 148<sup>th</sup> Bde. H.Q. R.F.A. and animals of C. Bty. 129<sup>th</sup> Bde. R.F.A.</p> <p>Copies of A.F.A 2000 for week ending 9.5.18 forwarded to D.D.V.S. A.I.F. &amp; A.D.V.S. Aust Corps.</p> <p>Vety Report for week ending 9.5.18 forwarded to H.Q. Div, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division. Copies to D.D.V.S. A.I.F., A.D.V.S. XV and Aust Corps, and War Diary.</p> <p>24 Remounts received from 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Remount Section, 2<sup>nd</sup> Army.</p> <p>Inspected at 1<sup>st</sup> A.D.A.C. 9 remounts received from 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Remount Section today</p>	<p>Appendix IV</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i></p>

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A8c04) Wt W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

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St Sylvestre - Cappel.	May 11.		Received from A.D.V.S. XV Corps recommendation that deficiencies in Veterinary Equipment recently on charge to Capt. L.L. Paterson, A.A.V.C. be replaced at public expense. File forwarded to CC, No 2 Base Veterinary Stores with Indent for instruments to replace shortages. Received from D.D.V.S. A.I.F. notification that Capt. J.A. RUDD, A.A.V.C. is to be posted to 1st Aust. Division vice Capt. L.L. PATERSON, A.A.V.C. evacuated wounded.	
St Sylvestre - Cappel.	May 12.		Inspected animals at wagon lines of 1st Aust. D.A.C. Bde. No 1 Sec. + No 2 Sec. Demand for 222 Remounts to complete 1st Aust. Division to Establishment submitted to G. 1st Aust. Division for transmission to D.D.P. 2nd Army + copy to XV Corps.	
St Sylvestre - Cappel.	May 13.		With A.D.V.S. XV Corps inspected animals at wagon lines of the following units:- No 142 + S.A.A. Sections, 1st Aust. D.A.C. 2nd, 3rd, + 101st Btys, 1st Aust. F.A. Bde. 102nd Bty, 2nd Aust. F.A. Bde. 14 animals evacuated by 1st Aust. M.V.S. copy of evacuation roll forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps, and units concerned notified.	
St Sylvestre - Cappel.	May 14.		Return of amount received on op. carcasses during 4 weeks ending 9.5.18 forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps. Nil Return of stray animals handed into 1st Aust. Mobile Veterinary Section during week ending 12.5.18 forwarded to G. 1st Aust. Division for transmission to D.D. Remounts, 2nd Army.	
St Sylvestre - Cappel.	May 15.		Inspected animals at No 1 Coy, 1st Aust. Div. Train. Received from D.D.P. 2nd Army note that 30 L.D. horses and 30 mules can be drawn on 18th Inst. from No 5 Base Remount Depot for 1st Aust. Div. Artillery. Arrangements made to collect same.	

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St. Sylvester-cappel.	May 16.		<p>Inspected transport of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Infantry Brigade. Attended at 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. and inspected mule affected with Gas Poisoning (Mustard Gas).</p> <p>Attended at 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. D.A.C. Hdqrs. with D.A.G. M.G. and issued 5 Riding horses (R<sup>2</sup>) to 3<sup>rd</sup> Inf Bde.</p> <p>Attended at 3<sup>rd</sup> Inf Bde. Wagon lines with D.A.G. M.G. and arranged for 3 R<sup>1</sup> horses taken by 3<sup>rd</sup> Inf Bde. in mistake to be handed over to D.A.C. Hdqrs. for distribution to Artillery units.</p> <p>Received from D.A.G., A.I.F., notification re posting of Capt. J.A. Rudd, A.M.V.S. to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division.</p> <p>Received from D.D.V.S. A.I.F., circular memo. from D.A.G., A.I.F. No 90/6, dated 11.5.18, re formation of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Veterinary Evacuating Station and re-organisation of Mobile Vet. Sections. 6 OR. to be transferred from each M.V.S. to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. V.C.S.</p>	
St. Sylvester-cappel.	May 17.		<p>Inspected animals at 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Artillery Hdqrs. and operated on animal, staked on hind.</p> <p>Following returns forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps: - A.F.A 2000 Weekly Vet. Return, Weekly Mangle State, and Horse Recovery Form III for week ending 16.5.18.</p> <p>Copies of A.F.A 2000 and Weekly Mangle State forwarded to D.D.V.S., A.I.F. + A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps.</p> <p>Received roll of 10 animals evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. on 16.5.18 and 10 evacuated on 17.5.18. Copies of rolls forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps and units concerned notified.</p> <p>Instructed CC, 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. re transfer of 6 OR. from 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. V.C.S. on 18.5.18.</p> <p>Reported to A.D.V.S. XV Corps re two cases of Mustard Gas Poisoning in Mules at present at 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. Full report will be forwarded as soon as all data has been collected.</p> <p>Received from A.D.V.S. XV Corps, copy of D.V.S. letter suggesting a further reduction of 3 Riding horses from M.V.S. Forwarded report pointing out the inadvisability of this reduction.</p> <p>Copy of report to A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps, and War Diary.</p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Appendix V</p>

D. D. & L., London, E.C.  
(A8c04) Wt. W1771/M293f 759,000 3/17 Sch. 52 Form C/2118/14



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St Sylvester Cappel.	May 18.		<p>Veterinary Report for week ending 16.5.18 forwarded to H.Q., 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division. Copies to D.D.V.S. P. 57, A.D.V.S. XV and Aust. Corps and War Diary.</p> <p>Following men proceeded from 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. to report to A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps for transfer to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. V.C.S.:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>5583</td> <td>Lt. Col.</td> <td>W. Jansen.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5208</td> <td>Pte.</td> <td>G. Ricketts.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3124</td> <td>"</td> <td>G. F. Cunningham.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3747</td> <td>"</td> <td>T. S. Faulkner.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>744</td> <td>"</td> <td>S. F. Potter.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2651</td> <td>"</td> <td>R. S. Biggs.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Nominal Roll of above 6 men forwarded to D.D.V.S. A.I.F. &amp; A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps.</p> <p>Request forwarded to H.Q., 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. D.I. Co. for a report on two mules of S.A.A. Section, D.A.C. affected with Mustard Gas Poisoning. Details of the occurrence of shelling to be given.</p>	5583	Lt. Col.	W. Jansen.	5208	Pte.	G. Ricketts.	3124	"	G. F. Cunningham.	3747	"	T. S. Faulkner.	744	"	S. F. Potter.	2651	"	R. S. Biggs.	Appendix VI
5583	Lt. Col.	W. Jansen.																				
5208	Pte.	G. Ricketts.																				
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3747	"	T. S. Faulkner.																				
744	"	S. F. Potter.																				
2651	"	R. S. Biggs.																				
St Sylvester Cappel.	May 19.		<p>Received copy of D.V.S. Circular Memo No 237 - 3 Wallets, Vety. Mark III on charge to M.G. Coy. to be withdrawn and returned to Base Veterinary Stores, and 1 to be retained and taken on charge to M.G. Battalion H.Q. Instructed H.Q. P.A.M. &amp; Co. accordingly. 3 Wallets to be returned to this office after contents have been checked by the P.M. Vety. Sergeant. A report to be forwarded explaining any deficiencies.</p> <p>Forwarded to "S" for transmission to D.D.R. 2<sup>nd</sup> Army, a request for 1 officer in charge for G.O.C. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division to be added to Remount Demand, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div., dated 12.5.18.</p>																			

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St Sylvestre-bappel.	1918. May 20.		<p>Return of Stray Animals handed in to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. during week ending 19.5.18 forwarded to 8<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division for transmission to D.D. Remounts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Army.</p> <p>A.F.B. 222 Field Conduct Sheet of the 6 men transferred from 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. V.E.S. forwarded by registered post to A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps.</p> <p>List of all animals of 110<sup>th</sup> Code. R.F.A. received by 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps copy to D.A.D.V.S. 25<sup>th</sup> Division.</p> <p>Inspected animals at wagon lines of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Inf. Brigade, Div. Train Hqrs. and No. 1 Coy. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Train.</p>	
St Sylvestre-bappel	May 21.		<p>Following men of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. evacuated sick and struck off the strength from 21.5.18.</p> <p>No 843 Pte. J. M. Salter</p> <p>4770. Sjt Sm. C. W. Savage.</p> <p>104 Pte. C. B. Mills.</p> <p>Notification sent to D.A.D.V.S. A.I.F. requesting that Sjt. NUGENT be transferred from Aust. Vety. Hospital to 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. to complete establishment.</p> <p>Received from O.C. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. application of No 10 Sjt Sgt D. Mc Naught, 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. for return to Australia. Forwarded to H.Q. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division</p> <p>Received roll of 5 horses and 1 mule evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. on 20.5.18. Copy of roll forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps, and units concerned notified.</p>	
St Sylvestre-bappel	May 22		<p>Received from A.D.V.S. XV Corps copies of memos from D.V.S. and D.D.V.S. Southern, re the effects of Mustard Gas Poisoning in animals, and methods of treatment of same. Copy forwarded to each V.O.</p>	<p>all</p>

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St Sylvestre- Cappel	May 23.		<p>Inspected animals at Wagon lines of 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Coy. Engrs. and 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M. V. S. Capt. J. A. Rudd reported from Aust. Vety Hospital for duty with 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division and is posted to 2<sup>nd</sup> A. F. D. Brigade vice Capt. L. L. Paterson, A. D. V. S. evacuated wounded. Received roll of 1 horse and 2 mules evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A. M. V. S. on 22.5.18. Copy of roll forwarded to A. D. V. S., XV Corps and units concerned notified.</p>	
St Sylvestre- Cappel	May 24.		<p>Inspected Remounts for issue to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Division at No 5 Remount Depot. Following returns forwarded to A. D. V. S., XV Corps:- A.F.A 2000 Vety Return for week ending 23.5.18. Weekly Mange State " " " " Horse Recovery Form III " " " " Weekly Vety Report for week ending 23.5.18 forwarded to Hdq. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Division. Copies to D. D. V. S., A. I. F., A. D. V. S., XV and Aust Corps and War Diary. Received roll of 5 horses evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> A. M. V. S. on 24.5.18. Copy of roll forwarded to A. D. V. S., XV Corps, and units concerned notified. Notified to A. D. V. S., XV Corps + D. D. V. S., A. I. F. re arrival of Capt. J. A. Rudd A. D. V. S. on 23<sup>rd</sup> inst.</p>	Appendix VII
St Sylvestre- Cappel	May 25.		<p>Forwarded to Hdq. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division "Report on Gas Respirators for Horses with suggestions for improvements" received from Major Finlay embodying the results of his experiments during the past 5 months. Copies to D. D. V. S., A. I. F., and War Diary. With D. A. D. M. G. inspected 44 Remounts from No 5 Remount Depot. 43 issued to units, 1 (lame) evacuated to 1<sup>st</sup> A. M. V. S. Inspected animals at No 1 Coy. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div. Train. Copies of A.F.A 2000 and Weekly Mange State forwarded to D. D. V. S., A. I. F. and A. D. V. S. Aust Corps.</p>	Appendix VIII

B/A

P.A.D.V.S.  
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(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1918	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
St Sylvestre-Cappel.	May 26		<p>Forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps Report on 2 cases of Mustard Gas Poisoning in Hules, which occurred on 10<sup>th</sup> inst, and attaching reports on the same subject from OC S.A.A. Sectn 1<sup>st</sup> Aust D.A.C. and OC, 1<sup>st</sup> A.M.V.S. Copies to War Diary.</p> <p>Capt. J. Budd, A.A.V.C. called at office for instructions regarding units under his Veterinary Charge. Instructed him in regard to procedure to be adopted with the various Contagious Diseases, and in regard to the forwarding of reports and returns.</p> <p>Return of Stray Animals handed in to 1<sup>st</sup> Aust M.V.S. during week ending 26.5.18 forwarded to "Q" 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div for transmission to D.D. Remounts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Army.</p> <p>Demand for 98 Remounts to complete 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Division to Establishment forwarded to "Q" 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div for transmission to D.D. Rem. 2<sup>nd</sup> Army + copy to XV Corps.</p>	Appendix 13
St Sylvestre-Cappel.	May 27.		<p>Arranged new allotments of Vety Officers to units of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division and notified all units accordingly. Copy to HQ 1<sup>st</sup> Aust Div. Forwarded list of wagon line locations to all V.C.s.</p> <p>Inspected animals at wagon lines of S.A.A. Section, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. D.A.C.</p> <p>Inspected animals for evacuation at 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S.</p> <p>Received roll of 12 horses + 1 mule evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> Aust M.V.S. on 27.5.18. Copy of Evacuation Roll forwarded to A.D.V.S. <del>to</del> XV Corps, and units concerned notified.</p>	
St Sylvestre-Cappel.	May 28.		<p>Received roll of 4 animals evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M.V.S. on 28.5.18. Copy of Roll forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps, and units concerned notified.</p>	

*[Handwritten signature]*

D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISION.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
St. Sylvestre-Cappel.	1918 May 29.		<p>Inspected animals at Wagon Lines of the following units: - 1<sup>st</sup> Pioneer Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Div Signal Coy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Coy Engrs, 1<sup>st</sup> Battery A.F.A., 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M. G. Coy., 6<sup>th</sup> Battery A.F.A. &amp; 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M. V. S.</p> <p>Received from A.D.V.S. XV Corps instructions that no French animals affected with Epizootic Lymphangitis are to be evacuated to British Vety Units. Any cases inadvertently admitted to M. V. S. if not removed by the French Authorities, are to be destroyed. Instructions forwarded to OC, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M. V. S.</p>	
St Sylvestre-Cappel.	May 30.		<p>Inspected animals of 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Arty Hd Qrs and 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Div. Engineers Hd Qrs.</p> <p>Received roll of 6 horses + 4 mules evacuated by 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. M. V. S. on 30.5.18. Copy forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps and units concerned notified.</p> <p>Instructed all Veterinary Officers to forward a monthly report on all Veterinary Equipment on charge to officers and Sergeants, A.S.V.C. and Farrier Sergeants. All deficiencies to be fully explained.</p>	
St Sylvestre-Cappel.	May 31.		<p>Following returns forwarded to A.D.V.S. XV Corps: - A.F.A 2000 Weekly Vety Return, Weekly Mange State and Horse Recovery Form (ii) for week ending 30.5.18.</p> <p>Copy of A.F.A 2000 forwarded to D.D.V.S. A.I.F., and A.D.V.S. Australian Corps.</p> <p>Weekly Vety Report for week ending 30.5.18 forwarded to Hq. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division, copies to D.D.V.S. A.I.F., A.D.V.S. XV &amp; Aust Corps and War Diary.</p>	Appendix X.
			<p>L. Heston Major D.A.D.V.S. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division</p>	

# WAR DIARY

OF

D.A.D.V.S. 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Division

FOR

— May — 1918.

D.A.D.V.S., 1ST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No. ....	.....
Date .....	.....

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No.           | Subject.   |
|---------------|--|
| ✓ <u>I</u>    | Vety. Report for Week ending 2. 5. 18.   |
| ✓ <u>II</u>   | Report on the Position as regards Vety. Officers in 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. Division.                |
| ✓ <u>III</u>  | Report on two cases of Epizootic Lymphangitis in A. Bty., 110 <sup>th</sup> Brigade, P. F. A.      |
| ✓ <u>IV</u>   | Vety. Report for Week ending 9. 5. 18.   |
| ✓ <u>V</u>    | Re Proposal to make a reduction of 3 Riding horses in the Establishment of a Mobile Vety. Section. |
| ✓ <u>VI</u>   | Vety. Report for week ending 16. 5. 18.  |
| ✓ <u>VII</u>  | " " " " " 23. 5. 18.   |
| ✓ <u>VIII</u> | Report by Major Finlay, A.D. V. C. on Gas Respirators for Horses.                                  |
| ✓ <u>IX</u>   | Report on two mules of 1 <sup>st</sup> Aust. D.A. C. affected with Gas Poisoning. (Mustard Gas)    |
| ✓ <u>X</u>    | Vety. Report for week ending 30. 5. 18.  |

D.A.D.V.S., 1ST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No. <u>Q.V. 648</u>	
Date. <u>4.5.18</u>	

Headquarters,  
1st Australian Division.

VET. REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 2/5/18.

During the week there has been a considerable amount of enemy shelling in the vicinity of the wagon lines, and units have had to move their lines in order to prevent heavy casualties occurring. In spite of these precautionary measures, the number of battle casualties amongst animals in the Division is higher than at any previous week since the Division occupied this sector. The smallness of the Divisional area, and the desire of units to keep as far as possible within the limits of the Divisional boundaries has resulted in a concentration of wagon lines in about 1/3 of the total Divisional area, the remainder of the area being too unsafe for wagon lines. This is mainly responsible for the large increase in battle casualties.

Systematic inspections of wagon lines, owing to the constant movement of wagon lines, has only been carried out with a few units, but during the week animals of the following units have been seen and inspected :-

- Nos. 3 & 4 Coys., 1st Aust.Div.Train.
- 1st Infantry Bde.Hd-Qrs. and 2nd Battalion.
- 3rd Infantry Brigade.
- 1st Aust.D.A.C.
- 1st Aust.M.V.S.

Condition of animals is being well maintained. This, in a large measure, is due to the grazing which practically all units have been able to avail themselves of. Animals are accommodated on open standings in paddocks, and since they have been subject to these open air conditions, a marked diminution in disease, as distinct from injuries, has been apparent. This is particularly the case with OPHTHALMIA, the figures for this disease shewing a gradual falling off since animals have been brought out of stables and accommodated in the open, and moved from time to time on to clean lines.

Summary of Disease and injuries for the week is as follows :-

- Respiratory. 1 Pneumonia and 1 Pleurisy admitted and remaining.
- Digestive. 4 Colic admitted and cured. 1 Enteritis died.
- Locomotor. 3 cases - evacuated.
- Specific. 1 Tetanus destroyed. 1 Ulcerative Cellulitis remaining.
- Visual. 12 admitted, 9 cured, 1 evacuated, 19 remaining.
- Gunshot Wounds. 95 admitted, 18 evacuated, 36 killed, 1 destroyed.
- Other Injuries. 42 admitted, 2 evacuated, 1 died, 1 destroyed.

A.A.V.C. PERSONNEL & 1st A.M.V.S.

Capt. L.L.Paterson A.A.V.C., V.O. attached 2nd Aust.F.A.Brigade, evacuated to hospital wounded. 29/4/18.

No. 139, Corpl. F.W.Thompson, 1st Aust.M.V.S. reduced to the ranks by order of G.O.C., A.I.F. (D.A.G., A.I.F., No.85/56 of 27/4/18) and is transferred to Aust.Veterinary Hospital for further training. Dated 27/4/18.

40 animals were evacuated by 1st Aust.Mobile Vety. Section during the week.

*G. Heuloh*  
Major,

D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Aust. Division.

Copies to -  
D.D.V.S., A.I.F.  
A.D.V.S., Aust.Corps.  
War Diary.

1st Australian Division.

Appendix 2

D.A.D.V.S.	
1st AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No.	Q.V. 660
Date	6.5.18.

Headquarters,  
1st Aust. Division.

I desire to bring to the notice of the Divisional Commander the position regarding Veterinary Officers in 1st Aust. Division.

On the formation of 1st Aust. Division 13 Veterinary Officers were appointed and were distributed to units within the Division as follows :-

- A.D.V.S. on D.H.Q.
- 1 V.O. with 4th Light Horse Regiment.
  - 2 V.O.'s with 1st Aust.F.A.Brigade.
  - 2 V.O.'s with 2nd Aust.F.A.Brigade.
  - 2 V.O.'s with 3rd Aust.F.A.Brigade.
  - 1 V.O. with 1st Aust.D.A.C.
  - 1 V.O. with 1st Aust.Infantry Brigade.
  - 1 V.O. with 2nd Aust.Infantry Brigade.
  - 1 V.O. with 3rd Aust.Infantry Brigade.
  - 1 V.O. with 1st Aust.Div.Train.

Total Veterinary Officers in the Division = 13  
The V.O.'s of Infantry Brigades also attended Engineers and Field Ambulances. There was no Pioneer Battalion or Machine Gun Battalion. The Mobile Veterinary Section was an L.of C. Unit.

On the formation of the 4th and 5th Australian Divisions this Establishment was considerably reduced without a corresponding reduction being made in either the number of units with animal transport or the animal strength of a Division. The Mobile Veterinary Section became a Divisional unit, with a Veterinary Officer as C.C. The A.D.V.S. remained, as before, on the Staff of D.H.Q., and three Veterinary Officers were placed on the strength of D.H.Q. to give Veterinary attention to all units of the Division. Thus the complete total of Veterinary Officers in the Division was reduced from 13 to 5. This Establishment is shown in detail in War Establishment No. 682, Part VIIA, dated 23/8/17. The 3 V.O.'s on the strength of D.H.Q. mobilised with and were nominally distributed to units in the Division as follows :-

1 to each F.A.Brigade	=	3
1 to Divisional Train	=	$\frac{1}{3}$
Total	=	$\frac{4}{3}$

On the reduction of V.O.'s in the Division from 13 to 5 it became necessary, in providing Veterinary attention to all units, for units to share a Veterinary Officer, and the 3 Veterinary Officers and their Riding Horses were placed on the strength of D.H.Q. to allow the Divisional Commander to distribute them within the Division to the best advantage. It had to be borne in mind that the Military Situation often demanded the detachment of certain units or portions of units from the rest of the Division, and Veterinary attendance for such detached units had to be arranged by D.H.Q.

Under Authority No.71/23 D.A.G.,A.I.F., dated 24/9/17 an additional Veterinary Officer was posted to each Division





- 3 -

Appendix 2

supernumerary to Establishment, and under authority B.D. Remounts, 2nd Army No. 2197 dated 7/12/17 an additional riding horse was authorised on the strength of Divisions in the A.I.F. for this supernumerary Veterinary Officer. This V.O. and his riding horse was taken on the strength of D.H.Q. Supernumerary to Establishment.

Under Authority 33/100 D.A.G., A.I.F. dated 12/3/18 the Establishment of Headquarters of a Division in the A.I.F. is reduced by 3 Veterinary Officers and 3 batmen, who are taken off the strength of D.H.Q. and placed on the strength of units as follows:-

- 1 V.O. and batman to each F.A. Brigade.
- 1 V.O. and batman to Divisional Train.

Riding horses for these 3 Officers remain on the strength of D.H.Q. Thus a curious anomaly is created; the Officers being on the strength of one unit, his riding horse on the strength of another.

The removal of these Officers from the strength of D.H.Q. makes it impossible under certain conditions to arrange satisfactory Veterinary attendance for all units in the Division. It gives the C.O. of one particular unit Executive Control of the Veterinary Officer, which may be used to the detriment of other units in the Division requiring the services of that Veterinary Officer.

To remedy this, and to enable Veterinary attendance on all units in the Division to be arranged on a satisfactory and equitable basis, I would strongly recommend that the 3 Officers and 3 batmen which have been taken off the strength of D.H.Q. in accordance with the instruction from D.A.G., A.I.F. No. 33/100 dated 12/3/18, be restored to the Establishment of D.H.Q. They can then be distributed within the Division as the Military Situation demands and as the Divisional Commander may desire.

G. Keeloh

Major,

D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Aust. Division.

Headquarters,  
1st Aust. Div.  
6th May 1918.



Copy.1st Australian Division.  
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Appendix 3

D.A.D.V.S.  
1st Aust.Div.  
No. 653.  
5/5/18.O.C.,  
No. 23 Veterinary Hospital.

Herewith for microscopical examination 8 smears taken today from 2 animals belonging to A Bty., 110th Brigade R.F.A., which are suspected of EPIZOOTIC LYMPHANGITIS. Four smears from each animal were taken and are in separate wrappers labelled 29 and 130 respectively.

As the unit is about to move will you please wire me the result of the microscopical examination as early as possible.

(Sgd) G. Heslop, Major,  
D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust. Division.

Wire to -

D.A.D.V.S.,  
25th Division.

No. V. 297. 6th.

V.O. i/c. reports two suspected cases of Epizootic Lymphangitis in A Bty. 110th Bde. R.F.A. aaa Will wire you result of microscopical examination later

From - D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust. Division.

(Sgd) G. Heslop, Major,  
D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust. Division.

Wire to -

D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust. Division.

No. G. 374. 6th.

Smears positive in each case.

From - Commandant 23 Vety. Hospital.

Appendix, 3

17

Appendix, 3

Wire to -

D.A.D.V.S., 25th Division.

No. V.300. 7th.

Ref. my wire V. 297 dated 6th inst. aaa Smears from both animals positive for Epizootic Lymphangitis.

From - D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust.Division.

D.A.D.V.S.  
1st Aust.Div.  
No. 653.  
7/5/18.

Headquarters,  
1st Aust. Div. Artillery.

Confirming my telephone conversation this morning re  
quarantining of premises recently vacated by A Bty. 110th Bde. R.F.A.  
Two cases of Epizootic Lymphangitis have been discovered  
in A Bty. 100th Bde., and in consequence of this the whole of the field  
of which Q.19.b.3.7. Sheet ~~35~~ is the centre, is placed out of bounds  
for all Army animals. 27

Please arrange early notification of this quarantine to the  
unit relieving 110th Bde. R.F.A. in this area.

(Sgd) G.Heslop, Major,  
D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust.Division.



Appendix 3

D.A.D.V.S.  
1st Aust.Div.  
No. Q.V.653.  
7/5/18.

O.C., 1st A.M.V.S.

Re the two animals received from A Bty. 110th Bde. R.F.A. now isolated at 1st A.M.V.S. with Epizootic Lymphangitis.

A.D.V.S., XV CORPS will inspect these animals at the earliest opportunity and will give instructions regarding their disposal. Strict quarantine must be enforced until such time as the animals are disposed of and, under no circumstances, must the wounds of these animals be dressed or otherwise handled.

Please forward to this office a complete description of each of these animals. One animal is numbered 89 on the hoof, the other is numbered 130.

(Sgd) G.Heslop, Major,  
D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust.Division.



Appendix 3  
 1st Australian Division.

A.D.V.S.,  
 1ST AUSTRALIAN  
 DIVISION.

No. Q.V. 653.

Date 7.5.18.

A.D.V.S.,  
 XV CORPS.

Ref. our conversation this morning ~~this morning~~, re two cases of EPIZOOTIC LYMPHANGITIS occurring amongst animals of A Bty., 110th Brigade R.F.A., 25th Division; the following report is forwarded for your information.

On 5th Inst. Capt. Hamilton A.V.O., V.O. i/c. 110th Brigade R.F.A. called at my office and informed me he had two animals shewing lesions which resembled Epizootic Lymphangitis, and that he would like me to inspect the animals. He had previously placed the animals in isolation. I inspected the two animals at 3 p.m. on 5th Inst.

(1) No. 29 Black Mare, had button like ulcers on the off side of the face and lower jaw and under the jaw in the Pharyngeal region. Lymphatic glands were swollen and Lymphatics corded and painful. Pus smears were taken from a typical ulcer for microscopical examination. Capt. Hamilton informed me he had had this mare under treatment for 3 days, the last two of which had been in isolation. From the appearance of the lesions I would consider that ulceration had taken place about 7 days before I saw the animal. The ulcers were very dry, and it was with difficulty that sufficient pus was obtained to make 4 smears.

(2) No. 130 Bay Gelding. This animal had wounds on the Biceps, off fore, which were ulcerated and discharging a small quantity of pus. There was a large Lymphatic swelling superior to the wounds. This animal had received a contused wound about 14 days prior to when I saw the case on the 5th. Smears were taken from this animal for microscopical examination. ~~The smears were~~

The smears were sent to No. 23 Veterinary Hospital with a covering letter, Q.V. 653, copy of which is attached. <sup>for examination</sup>

The Officer i/c. wagon lines A. Battery informed me the Battery would be moving to Blaringham on the 6th Inst., and from there going South. I informed him that the animals were apparently affected with Epizootic Lymphangitis, and instructed him that they were to be kept in strict isolation pending the microscopical examination of the pus films taken, and that if I did not receive a reply from No. 23 Veterinary Hospital prior to the time he had to move, he was to evacuate the two animals to 1st Aust. Mobile Vety. Section for isolation there.

O.C. 1st A.M.V.S. was instructed to receive the two animals and to hold them in strict isolation pending the report from No. 23 Veterinary Hospital on the microscopical examination. I wired D.A.D.V.S., 25th Division, copy of which, V297, is attached.

On 6th Inst. Capt. Hamilton called at my office at about 6 p.m. He informed me that A Bty. was then moving to Blaringham, so I instructed him to hand the two animals over to 1st A.M.V.S. as I had previously arranged. A report was received from No. 23 Vety. Hospital at about 11 p.m.



on 6th Inst. stating smears from both animals were positive. (See copy, G.374 attached). On 7th Inst. I rang up 1st Aust.Div.Artillery and instructed the Staff Captain to warn the incoming unit that the wagon lines located at Q.19.b.3.7., Sheet 27 and vacated by A Battery, 110th Brigade R.F.A. were to be placed out of bounds to all Army animals and for him to warn the incoming relieving Artillery unit. This conversation was confirmed by my memo Q.V.653, copy of which is attached. I wired D.A.D.V.S., 25th Division copy of which, V.300, is attached.

At midday on 7th Inst. I reported in person to A.D.V.S., XV CORPS and informed him of this outbreak of Epizootic Lymphangitis and the action I had taken in dealing with it.

The two animals are now in quarantine and in strict isolation close to the 1st Aust.M.V.S., which is located at V.9.b.6.1. Sheet 27, and are in Veterinary charge of Major Finlay, A.A.V.C., O.C., 1st Aust.M.V.S.

As 110th Brigade had moved from this area before the positive diagnosis was received from No.23 Veterinary Hospital, I am unable to complete the attached form at -

- 3. (g)
- (h)
- (i) and
- 4.

The V.O. i/c. 110th Brigade (Capt. Hamilton A.V.C.) or D.A.D.V.S., 25th Division would be able to supply the required information.

*G. Heston*  
 Major,  
 D.A.D.V.S.,  
 1st Aust.Division.



Headquarters,  
1st Aust. Division.

VETERINARY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 9/5/18.

During the week units have been able to spread their wagon lines over a wider area, and the benefit of this is shown in the great reduction of battle casualties for the week, compared with last weeks figures.

Condition of animals is being well maintained although the work of most units is both constant and heavy. Animals are in good hard working condition and carrying plenty of flesh. No animals are under treatment for Debility. Animal management and stable routine is being well carried out by units generally despite the ~~razz~~ unsatisfactory conditions produced by wet weather and open muddy standings.

General health of animals of the Division is very good. Wastage is not excessive, being mainly represented by Battle Casualties. The percentage of wastage for the week is -

Horses	1.55%
Mules	.97%

Injuries and sickness treated during the week in this Division is summarised as follows :-

Debility. No cases of Debility were admitted for treatment during the week.

Respiratory Diseases. 2 Pneumonia and 1 Pleurisy were dealt with. Pleurisy case cured, 1 Pneumonia evacuated and 1 remaining.

Digestive Diseases. 13 cases admitted during the week, as follows -  
1 Pharyngitis, remaining.  
1 Ruptured Stomach, died.  
11 Colic, 9 cured, 1 destroyed, 1 evacuated.  
This increase in colic is mainly slight cases of Flatulent Colic caused by grazing.

Mange and Allied Skin Diseases. Mange is non-existent in the Division. The only skin cases coming under observation being 2 Eczema, 1 of which was cured and 1 remaining.

Specific Disease and Action taken. 3 cases of Ulcerative Cellulitis, and 1 case of Botriomycolosis (mule) were brought under treatment. All were evacuated.

Gas Poisoning. No cases of Poisoning in animals were reported for the week.

Eye Diseases. Admissions during the week were 19 (2 Blind, 2 Conjunctivitis, 15 Ophthalmia) One case (blind) was evacuated, and 24 remain under treatment. A slight increase on the preceding weeks return.

Gunshot Casualties, Other Wounds, Kicks, P.U.N. etc.  
51 gunshot Wounds (Shell) were admitted. Of these 20 were evacuated, 15 were killed and 3 destroyed. Other wounds were not numerous, and were only responsible for 5 evacuations, & 1 destroyed. 11 P.U.N. and 11 Kicks were admitted for treatment.

Administration. 3 Cases of Epizootic Lymphangitis were diagnosed in 110th Brigade R.F.A., which was attached to this Division for Administration. This has been made the subject of a special report to A.D.V.S. XV CORPS, and full action has been taken to localise the disease. Affected animals have been destroyed and deeply buried.

Working of 1st Aust.M.V.S. Nothing special to report. All cases are being evacuated by road to XV CORPS V.E.S. During the week 40 animals were evacuated by 1st A.M.V.S.

Personnel.  
No. 215 Sgt W.J.MANSON. A.A.V.C., reported from Aust.Vety.Hospital for duty with 1st Aust.Division, and is posted to 6th Battery A.F.A. as Vety.Sergeant that unit, vice Sgt. E.FITZGERALD A.A.V.C., evacuated.  
Dated 3/5/18.

Appendix. H.

- 2 -

No. 215 Sgt. W.J. MANSON A.A.V.C., 6th Battery A.F.A., transferred to 4th Battery A.F.A. dated 6/5/18.

No. 19379 Sgt. R.A. STEWART A.A.V.C., 4th Battery A.F.A., transferred to 6th Battery A.F.A., dated 6/5/18.

No. 205 Sd/Sm. D.L. Hole, 1st A.M.V.S., promoted Corporal A.A.V.C., vice Cpl. F.W. THOMPSON, reduced to the ranks and transferred. dated 5/5/18.

G. Heuloh

Major.

D.A.D.V.S.,

1st Aust. Division.

Copies to -

A.D.V.S., XV CORPS.  
 B.D.V.S., A.I.F.  
 A.D.V.S., AUST. CORPS.  
 War Diary.





1st Australian Division.  
-----A.D.V.S.,  
XV CORPS.

D.A.D.V.S.,	
1st AUSTRALIAN	
DIVISION.	
No.	Q.V. 689
Date	17.5.18.

Ref. your memo No. 1196 dated 16/5/18, regarding the proposal to make a further reduction of 3 Riding Horses in the Strength of a Mobile Veterinary Section.

Any further reduction in the animal strength of a Mobile Veterinary Section is considered most undesirable for the following reasons :-

(1) To meet the Military situation at various times it has been found necessary for Mobile Veterinary Sections to establish Advanced Collecting Posts. This means that a M.V.S. must maintain two mounted road parties; one to bring the animals in from Advanced Collecting Post to M.V.S., another party to convey them to the V.E.S.

It has been my experience in the past, during heavy fighting when animal casualties have been numerous, that the present animal Establishment of a M.V.S. was barely sufficient to allow of the necessary parties of men to be engaged to clear the Battle Zone of animal casualties and keep the M.V.S. as "Mobile" as it should be.

(2) Veterinary Officers of a Division have had the number of riding horses reduced until at the present time each V.O. has only one riding horse. In the event of that animal becoming a casualty and pending the receipt of another animal from Remounts to replace it - a proceeding covering an indefinite period, but usually not less than a fortnight - the V.O. is unable to give Veterinary attendance to the units allotted to him unless he can borrow a riding horse in the Division. It has been necessary in the past in such circumstances to lend the V.O. a riding horse from the M.V.S., but this could not be done if the M.V.S. is further reduced.

(3) Regarding the withdrawal of 6 men from M.V.Ss, to form V.E.Ss., It is pointed out that the 6 men in question are, and always have been, dismounted men. Their work, while in the M.V.S., was dismounted work and the fact that they have been withdrawn is not going to lessen the mounted work of a M.V.S.; on the other hand it will tend to increase it, because the M.V.S. will not have sufficient dismounted men to hold and treat cases until the usual number evacuated by one road party in the past is collected. Road parties will have to be available to pass animals on at once to the V.E.S. for evacuation.

*G. Keefe*

Major,

D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Aust. Division.

Copies to -  
A.D.V.S., AUST. CORPS.  
War Diary.

D.A.D.V.S.	
1st AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No.	D.V. 694
Date	18.5.18.

Headquarters,  
1st Aust. Division.

VETERINARY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 16/5/18.

During the week the A.D.V.S., XV CORPS inspected 1st Aust. Div. Artillery animals. Animals generally are holding their condition well, although the work they are performing is both hard and constant. General health of animals in the Division is very good; the number of sick and injured animals treated during the week being much lower than usual.

Wastage in the Division is again very low, the percentage of wastage for the week being - Horses .53%  
Mules .88%

Two cases of Mustard Gas Poisoning in Mules were admitted during the week. One was wounded by the gas shell and has been evacuated. The other is at present in the Mobile Veterinary Section, as in its present condition it would not stand the evacuation journey. These cases will be made the subject of a special report as soon as all the data is collected.

Injuries and sickness treated during the week in this Division is summarised as follows :-

Debility. 3 cases were admitted during the week, one of which (a Mule) was evacuated and the other cured. One was a case of Debility following Pneumonia.

Respiratory. 1 case Pneumonia remaining from previous week was cured during the week. No further Respiratory cases.

Digestive. 5 cases Colic treated - 4 cured and 1 died.

Skin Diseases. Mange is non-existent in the Division. 1 case Eczema from previous week now cured. No further cases treated.

Locomotory. 5 cases admitted to treatment during the week, all remaining under treatment.

Specific. 3 Ulcerative Cellulitis admitted. 2 admitted evacuated, 1 remaining for evacuation.

Gas Poisoning. 3 cases, both Mules, were admitted, 1 of which was evacuated, the other remaining in 1st A.M.V.S.

Eye Diseases. 8 admitted, 8 cured, 5 evacuated, 21 remaining. The 8 admitted comprised 6 ophthalmia, 1 blind, 1 Ruptured Cornea, (Keratitis).

Sunshot Casualties. 14 admitted, 9 evacuated, 2 died.

Other Injuries. 19 Kicks, 14 P.U.N. and 30 other injuries were admitted to treatment during the week. Only 3 required evacuation, and 1 was destroyed (broken leg).

Administration. The position regarding Veterinary Officers in the Division was made the subject of a special report to D.H.Q. Under D.A.G., A.I.F. authority 3 Vety. Officers were removed from the strength of D.H.Q., and placed on the strength of units as follows :-

- 1 to each F.A. Brigade.
- 1 to Div. Train.

The inadvisability of this transfer was pointed out and a recommendation made that V.Os. and their batmen be restored to the strength of D.H.Q.

Working of 1st A.M.V.S. All cases are being evacuated by road to XV CORPS V.E.S. 24 animals were evacuated by 1st A.M.V.S. during the week.

Personnel. There are no changes in Personnel A.A.V.S. to report.

Copies to-  
D.D.V.S., A.I.F.  
A.D.S.V.S., XV & AUSI CORPS.  
War Diary.

G. Keeloh  
Major.  
D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust. Division.

1st Australian Division.

Appendix 4

25

D.A.D.V.S., 1st AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No.	Q.V. 707
Date	25.5.18

Headquarters,  
1st Australian Division.

VETERINARY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 23/5/18.

Condition of animals is being well maintained and the health of animals in the Division is very good.

There has been a gradual diminution in the number of sick and injured animals admitted for treatment each week, until at the present time the figures are lower than they have been for some months previously.

Battle casualties have not been numerous during the week. Wastage in the Division is again very low, the percentage of wastage for the week being - Horses .43%.  
Mules .74%.

Injuries and sickness treated during the week is summarised as follows:-

- Debility. 1 case of Debility following Pneumonia was evacuated.
- Respiratory Diseases. NIL.
- Digestive. 1 case Colic was admitted and is remaining under treatment.
- Nervous. 1 case stringhalt was evacuated.
- Range and Allied Skin Diseases. NIL.
- Locomotory. 7 cases admitted to treatment, 3 were cured, 3 evacuated, and 1 is remaining under treatment.
- Specific Diseases. 2 cases of Ulcerative Cellulitis were admitted, 2 evacuated and 1 remaining for evacuation.
- Gas Poisoning. 1 case remaining for treatment and observation at 1st A.M.V.S.

Eye Diseases. 15 Ophthalmia and 1 Blind admitted, 8 cured, 27 remaining. Most of these cases of Ophthalmia are recurrent cases. For the first week or two when animals were accommodated in the open and standings frequently changed, there was a marked falling off in the frequency of this disease, and cases under treatment in the open appeared to respond to treatment better than cases kept in stables. Unfortunately these good results have not been maintained, and although animals have still remained on clean open standings this disease has, during the past two weeks, shown a tendency to increase. This fluctuation in the number of animals affected with Ophthalmia is very characteristic of the disease, and where a sudden increase has been noticed in the numbers admitted to treatment in any one week, it has not been possible at present to attribute the increase to any particular cause. At the present time the cases coming under treatment are cases which have been previously "cured" and which have "recurred".

wally,

Gunshot Casualties, Other Wounds etc. 3 Gunshot Wounds were admitted, 1 evacuated and 1 died. 1 Fracture was destroyed. Other admissions were:- 15 Lacerated Wounds, 10 P.U.W., 11 Contused Wounds (Kicks), and 9 other injuries. 8 of these were evacuated.

Administration. The inadvisability of making the proposed reduction of 3 Riding Horses from the establishment of the Mobile Veterinary Section was pointed out in a special report to A.D.V.S., XV CORPS.

Working of M.V.S. There is a great reduction in the number of animals for evacuation to L. of C. owing to the small numbers of sick and injured animals in the Division. This falling off in patients admitted to M.V.S. has enabled the G.C. 1st A.M.V.S. to put a ~~six~~ section through some drill and musketry exercises, and to smarten the men up generally.

Personnel. The following 6 men were transferred from 1st A.M.V.S. to 1st Aust. V.S.S. on 18/5/18:-

- 5583 L/Cpl. W. Jansen.
- 5208 Pte. G. Ricketts.
- 5124 " G. F. Cunningham.
- 5747 " F. Faulkner.
- 744 " S. F. Potter.
- 265 " R. S. Biggs.

-3-

Appendix. 4

The following men of 1st A.M.V.S. were evacuated to Hospital and struck off the strength. 31/5/18.

848 Pte. J.M. Salter.  
4770 S/Sm. R.H. Savage.  
104 Pte. C.B. Mills.

Capt J.A. HUBB, A.A.V.C., reported for duty from Aust. Vety. Hospital on 25/6/18, and is posted to 2nd A.F.A. Brigade vice Capt. L.L. Paterson A.A.V.C. evacuated wounded.

*G. Kellop*

Major,  
D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Aust. Division.

Copies to-

D.A.D.V.S., A.I.F.  
A.M.V.S., XV & AUST CORPS.  
War Diary.



D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Australian Division.No. QV709  
Date 24.5.18.No. ....  
Date 24.5.18

As the question of Gas Poisoning in Horses is coming under notice once more, I send you a report on my experience in the matter, and also a criticism of the present type of mask with some suggestions for another type.

Past Experience. During the ~~year~~ 1917 YPRES offensive I was attached to Field Artillery units and had some experience with Gas cases.

The horses had to pass very frequently through areas ~~which~~ shelled with gas, and this almost invariably at night. The gas was not often in great concentration, but the horse Respirator was generally used.

A few cases of serious gassing occurred and the animals were evacuated. But with the exception of these, and some skin cases, the animals were kept almost daily at work. It was difficult to find out always whether Respirators were put on or not, but I formed the opinion that though respirators were generally put on, not much harm would result without the respirator, unless the gas met with was in concentration. An amount of gas that would seriously effect the drivers, would not seriously effect the horse, except causing distress for a few hours.

The condition presented by the animals in the morning, after working at night under gas shelling was as follows :-

General depression of all; a condition evident even to the inexperienced. This persisted for several hours after return from work, and was greater than could be accounted for by muscular fatigue alone. It was probably due to a certain degree to the inhalation of Green or Yellow Cross Gas, for I understand the P.H. type of Mask prevents the inhalation of these gases only to a limited extent.

The depression exhibited was of <sup>the</sup> nature of a general Toxaemia. There was little or no evidence of Broncho-Pneumonia during the whole period, except in 2 or 3 serious cases. The great relative extent of nasal Mucosa in the horse and mule, together with the long Trachea, would tend to cause absorption of any poison gases inhaled before they reached the lungs.

I am convinced that another important factor in causing this depression is the alteration in the character of the inspired air, due to the mask. On expiration the mask balloons out with the expired air. During the subsequent inspiration, this expired air must be inhaled before fresh air can be drawn in. This necessitates a deep and prolonged inspiratory effort. Thus at each inspiration a great proportion of CO<sub>2</sub> is inhaled, and this together with the muscular effort involved in respiration must prove distressful to the animal.

In those cases where Yellow Cross Gas was met with, eye and skin affections were the result.

Eye. One or both eyes would be affected according to the direction of the wind, or according to which side the gas shell burst. The symptoms exhibited were those of an acute Conjunctivitis, - Swelling and extreme sensitiveness of the Conjunctiva, with a muco-purulent discharge. The eye would be closed. Though many of the eye cases looked alarming at first, the cases invariably took a favorable course. After the second day the acute inflammation was seen to be subsiding, and the affected eye would be normal after 6 or 7 days. In no case did I observe any after effects.

Skin. The lesions would generally appear only on one side, and in those areas of skin where sweating and friction occurred, as around the edge of the saddle blanket and girth. Slight Oedema of the skin was observed, together with the formation of a number of large blisters. These were painful, and prevented the horse from being worked, in that they interfered with harness fitting. After 5 or 6 days crusts formed over the blisters and a few days later the hair fell out. After 10 days to 2 weeks the animal would look like a badly affected Ringworm case.

Procedure to be adopted with Gas. There is a variance of opinion as to the value of the mask with horses. It is said by some that their value does not equal their cost. I think that it is established that horses, as far as their respiratory organs are concerned, have more resistance to gas than men. At any rate they are not so much affected. It must, however, be remembered that animals remain on roads, which are generally elevated. Gas lies in trenches, shell holes and dugouts. Horses do not go into these places, but on the other hand men naturally seek these sheltered places

during shelling. Gas is only dangerous to horses when gas shells are bursting all around them, or when working in woods or low lying fields with much vegetation, or if allowed to graze and drink in fields subject to gas shelling. When the animals do actually inhale the gas, then the factors I have previously stated, i.e. the relatively large area of nasal mucosa and trachea, come into play. A great proportion of the gas would be absorbed into the system before it could reach the lungs, and a proportion would be taken up by the nasal mucus and be ejected from the nostrils. The result would be, and this is supported by clinical evidence, that a general Toxaemia of short duration would be caused before a broncho-pneumonia.

~~I append an interesting article, shewing some experiences of the French with several hundred cases of gassing.~~

I consider that a mask is unnecessary except where it is anticipated that animals will have to pass through a gas barrage. To carry a mask just in case of emergency is unnecessary, for if, when working, the team is surprised with sudden shelling, it would be much wiser to withdraw as quickly as possible, than waste time in trying to adjust respirators on excited animals.

In certain operations, however, it is often of utmost importance to keep up a supply of shells, and this probably necessitates working in a "gassed" area for several hours. If this is anticipated, then the provision of a mask for the horse becomes extremely advisable.

I do not think that the present type of mask meets the requirements. If a mask is to be used, it is essential that it fulfils the following requirements :-

1. That it be easily adjustable.
2. That it does not annoy the horse and thus render him uncontrollable.
3. That it does not interfere with the bridle or bit.
4. That it admits of free breathing of pure air, whilst ~~work~~ working at least at a walking pace.
5. That it effectively prevents the entry of gas.

Criticism of the Present Mask. There is evidence that this has been of use in the past. It is fairly easily adjustable with most horses and some mules. If very carefully adjusted it allows a limited amount of work at a walking pace and it probably prevents entry of a considerable proportion of gas..

Faults - These are several :-

1. If adjusted in the manner laid down, i.e. from the alert position, the satchel is underneath the noseband attachment. After working the animal for several minutes this slides down, and in every case partially covers the opening of the nostrils. In some, where the noseband of the headcollar is loose, the nostrils may be completely blocked, and such distress is exhibited by the animal that removal of the mask is imperative.

2. If adjusted without the satchel, the openings of the nostrils is often blocked by the bands of canvas in the mask; these are evidently put in for the purpose of keeping the mask off the nostrils, but they fail in this and really do more harm than good.

3. On expiration the mask balloons out with expired air to the extent of at least 1/3 cubic foot. On inspiration this foul air must be inhaled first, - the balloon collapses, - the loose cloth is sucked tightly over the nostrils, and the air taken in the second half of inspiration must all be drawn through a few square inches of cloth. the result is, a very prolonged and deep inspiratory effort; inspiration of a high percentage of CO<sub>2</sub>; and a fatiguing muscular effort. Also the fact that all inspired air passes through a few square inches only of cloth, means that the mask will not be of much use in neutralising gas, after wearing for a short time.

The mask would be very much improved by cutting away the large cloth bag, and leaving only a small cloth muzzle fitting tightly over the nostrils. This would shorten the inspiration and allow only pure air to be inhaled, while at the same time the mask would retain any effectiveness it might have in preventing entry of gas.

Suggested improvements in Type of Mask. As the P.H. type of helmet is not considered efficient enough for man to meet present requirements, I take it for granted that the same reasons would apply to the P.H.

type of horse mask, quite apart from its mechanical faults.

I have been making some rough models to see if the principles adopted in the British, French or German types of human respirator could not be adapted for use with the horse. The sketches marked A, B and C illustrate some roughly constructed models which I will hold in case you want them.

A. This mask is very easily and rapidly adjusted. The container is similar to that in the British Box Respirator, but in order to permit of free breathing, it would be necessary to have it filled with larger pieces of charcoal than in the Box Respirator. Also the valves; both inlet and outlet would require to be large.

The valves are the worst feature of this mask. Simple and yet safe valves are essential, and they should be protected from mud by some covering wire gauze.

The one advantage of this type is that the huge volume of expired air would pass directly out through the outlet valve, instead of through the charcoal.

The inlet valve should be a hinged door, so as to allow refilling.

The faults are -

1. The presence of valves.
2. the fact that it does not enclose the mouth.

B. This mask takes the same outer form as A, but the container is different. The air, both inspired and expired, passes directly through the filling of the container, on the principles of the German mask. There are no valves.

On the inner side of the container there are two plates where the upper lip of the horse rests, a device to allow even suction on the container, so that the inspired air will be drawn through every part of the charcoal filling, instead of only through that part opposite the nostrils. This plate also protects the contents of the container from the saliva of the horse.

C. Owing to the number of cases of gassing reported in the AUSTRALIAN CORPS recently, where mouth lesions were prevalent, I have designed a type to enclose the whole muzzle. It is very similar to "B", but must be lighter in order to keep in position.

The points in favour of this type over A and B are :-

1. It encloses the whole muzzle.
2. It does not interfere with the action of the bit.
3. It is light.
4. It does not cause the horse to chew and slobber.
5. The animals allow it to be adjusted as readily as a nosebag.

Its faults are :-

1. It takes about as long to adjust it as it takes to adjust the present P.H. type.
2. The respiratory pad would have to be replaced frequently. This would necessitate keeping refills in stock.

These models are all roughly made, but will serve to show the ideas.



Major,  
A.A.V.C.  
O.C., 1st Aust. Mob. Vet. Section.

1st Australian Division.

Headquarters,  
1st Aust. Division.

P.A.D.V.S., 1ST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	P.A.D.V.S., 1ST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.
No. ....	No. <u>91709</u>
Date. ....	Date. <u>25.5.18.</u>

In forwarding the attached report by Major G.F. Finlay, A.A.V.C., O.C., 1st Australian Mobile Veterinary Section, on the subject of Gas Respirators, I would like to add my appreciation of the vast amount of research work which is represented by Major Finlay's report.

Major Finlay some time ago drew my attention to various faults in the present P.H. type of animal respirator, and asked permission, which was readily granted, to carry out some experiments with the object of evolving a new type of respirator which would give greater protection from gas, and at the same time would eliminate the faults of adjustment, design and action of the present P.H. type of animal respirator.

This research and experimentation has been carried out continuously during the past five months by Major Finlay in addition to his other duties as O.C., 1st Aust. M.V.S. Rough models have been built of the various types of respirator that his experiments have evolved. Some, as the result of further experiment, have been discarded, but in my opinion the three types illustrated by the rough sketches attached to his report are as near perfection as it is at present possible to obtain.

There is one fault - in my opinion a very serious one - in the present type of P.H. animal respirator, which Major Finlay has not mentioned in his report. During winter time and in frosty weather when examining the animal respirators of certain units of this Division, I found that there was sufficient moisture contained in the Anti-gas preparation of these P.H. respirators to freeze the whole respirator stiff inside the satchel. Respirators were difficult to remove from their satchels and when removed, could not be easily or accurately adjusted on the animals <sup>owing</sup> to their stiff and frozen condition. Whether this freezing would affect the Anti-gas properties of the respirator or not I am unable to say.

On some days the respirators had to be warmed before they could be properly adjusted.

The P.H. type of respirator in frosty weather and when frozen is absolutely useless - is even dangerous - as a "protection" against gas owing to the difficulties of accurate adjustment.

The other faults in the P.H. animal respirator pointed out by Major Finlay have been demonstrated by him to me, and I can thoroughly endorse all he has to say concerning them.

The fault I have pointed out, i.e. freezing of the respirator, is absolutely eliminated by each of the three types of respirator illustrated by Major Finlay's sketches.

I would suggest that Major Finlay be allowed to collaborate with one of the Chemical Advisors and that proper models of each of the types of respirator he has illustrated be constructed under his supervision. Also that every facility be afforded Major Finlay to carry out any further experiments he may wish to make to test the gas-resisting properties of these respirators on animals. This would necessitate placing a few worn out or otherwise useless animals at Major Finlay's disposal at a Gas School.

*G. Keesh*  
Major,  
D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Aust. Division.



A

Cover of mask to be of stiff air proof material

Outer face

Inner face of mask (of face etc)

Air chamber divided from chamber by a fixed perforated partition

Direction of air

B

Elastic Strap

Hand Strap

Direction of air

Double pane, 2nd pane perforated over 1st pane

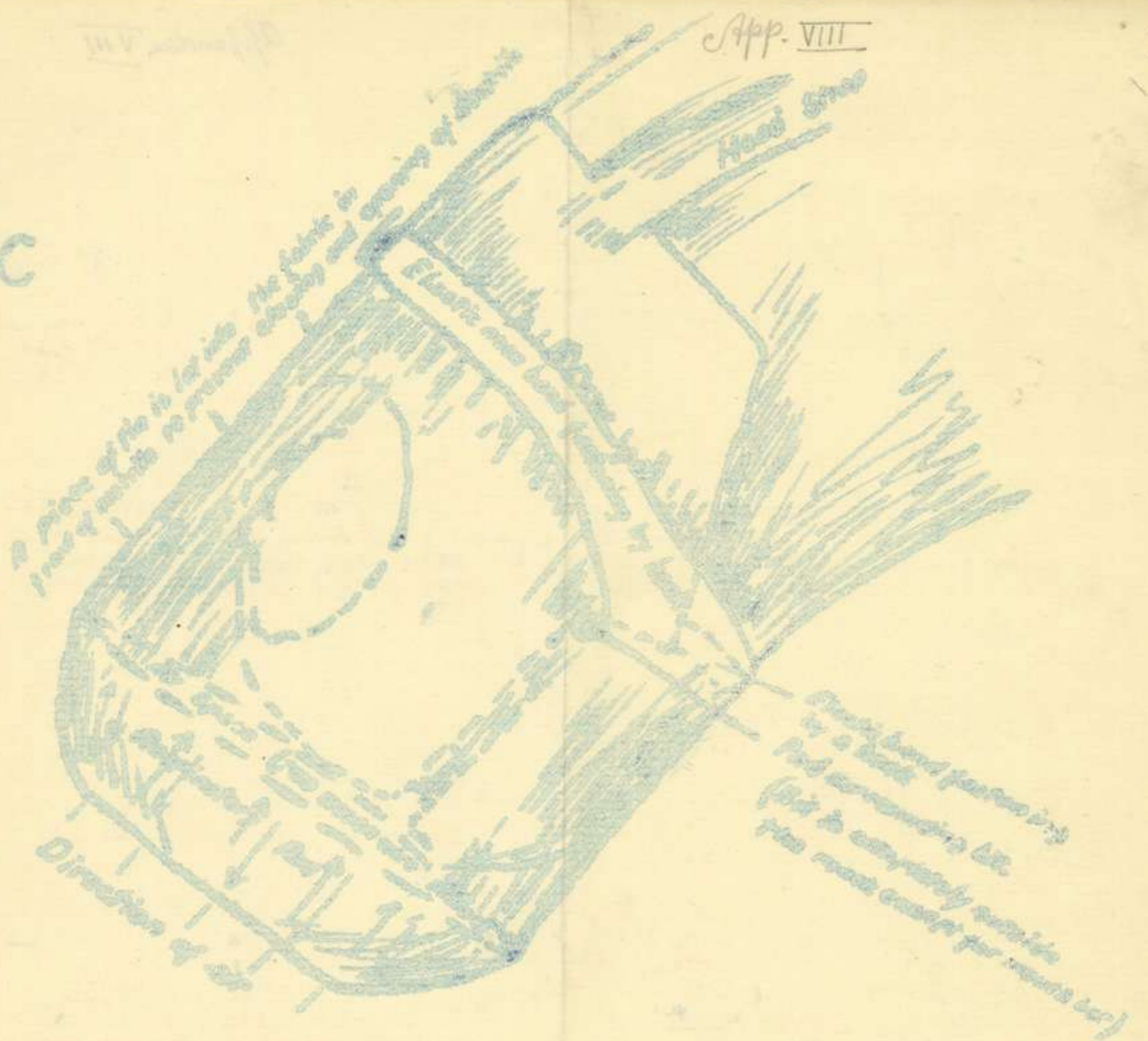
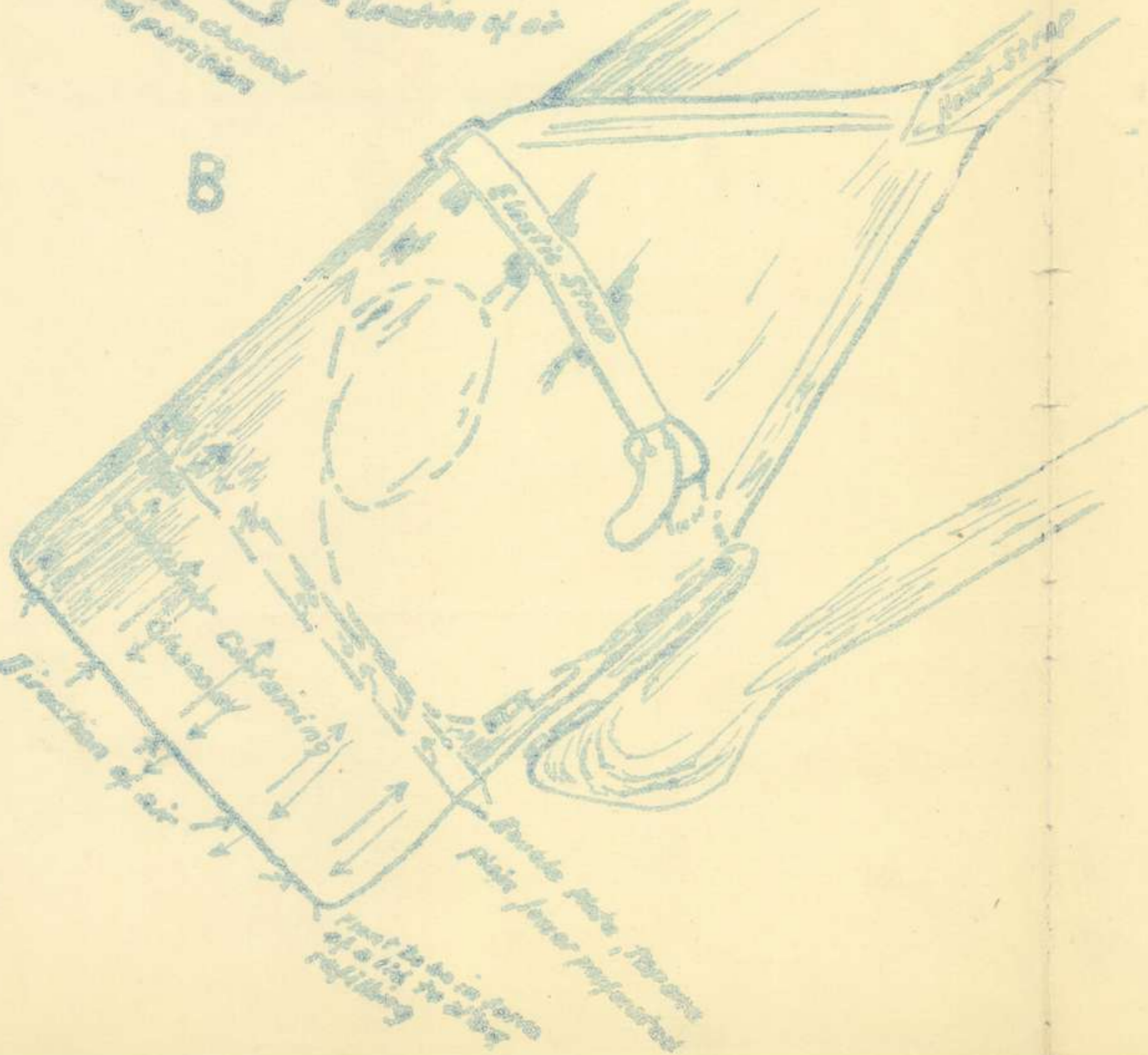
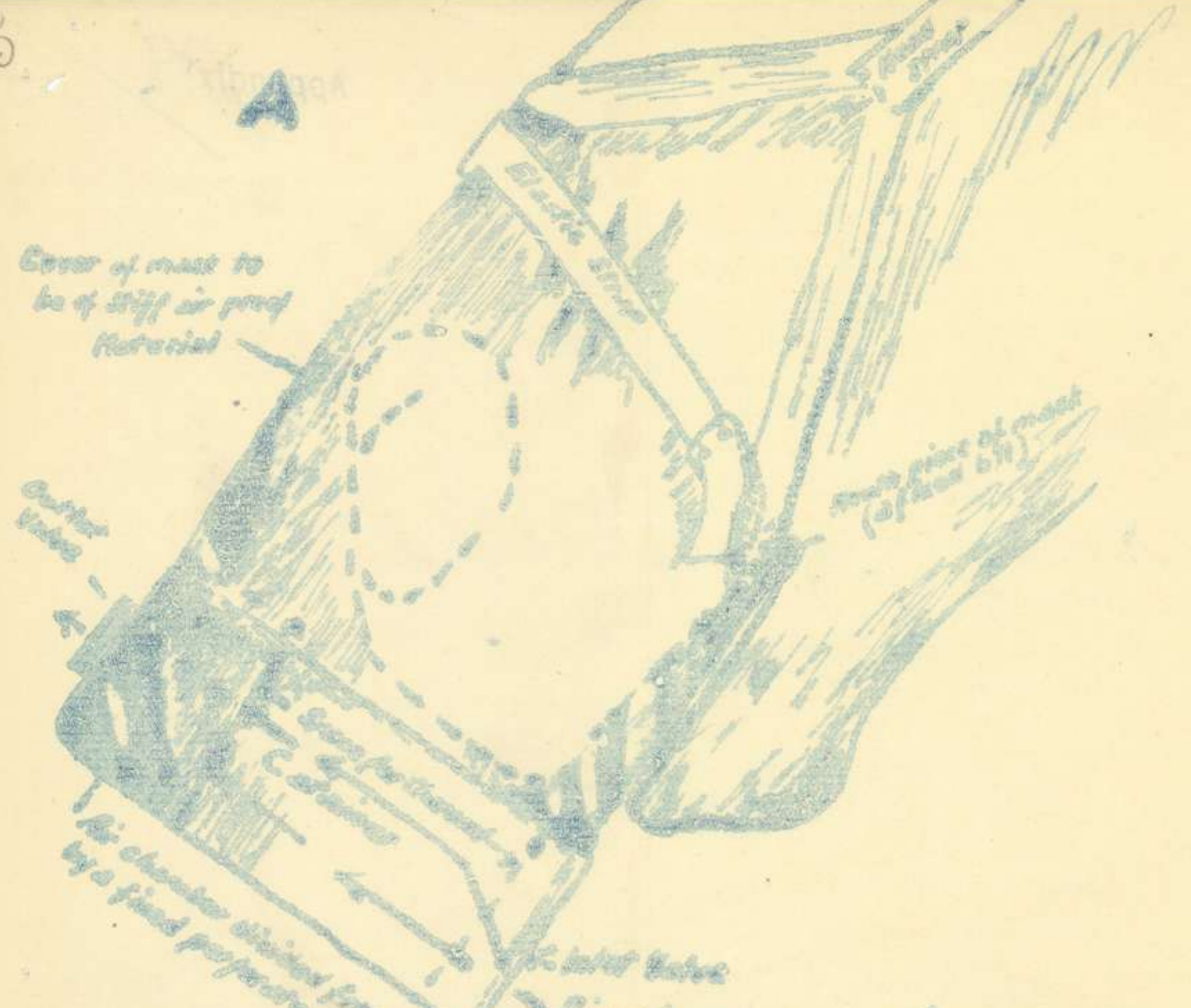
Length of air

C

A piece of the fabric is for use in case of emergency to prevent choking and suffocation

Direction of air

Double paneled partition by a hand (not to completely outside but this must connect the inside air)



Appendix VIII

Appendix 9

REPORT ON MULES SENT FROM S.A.A. SECTION, 1st AUST. D.A.C. TO 1st AUST.  
MOBILE VET. SECTION. (GASSED)

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On the night of 10th - 11th May, 1918 a detail of S.A.A. Section G.S. Wagons proceeded to near STRAZELLE.

The Drivers of one team were No. 28438 Dvr. Stewart N.L. driving lead and No. 4864 Dvr. Mann J.H. driving wheel. Both the gassed animals were those driven by Driver Stewart. Animal at 1st Aust. M.V.S. was the riding animal.

About 10 p.m., whilst the team was halted, a shell fell on the Off side of this team almost under the lead mules.

Gas masks were with the team, but not on the animals at the time.

The shock of the shell caused the mules to swing round into a shell hole and the pole of the wagon was broken.

Driver Stewart then took the four mules back about 500 yards and stayed at the side of the road alongside a hedge for about one hour. Other teams were within forty yards of Stewarts wagon. No symptoms of gas poisoning have been observed in them.

Driver Mann's wheel mules have shown no signs of gas poisoning and have been working since and are in very good condition.

Driver Stewart, the driver of the gassed animals, has been evacuated for gas poisoning. He has written to a friend stating his face was badly burnt, but I have no certain knowledge of his condition.

Vety. Sgt. Clark, of the S.A.A. Section examined the animals of Stewart's team on their return at about 5 a.m. As one lead animal of the team had been wounded, the examination of the other lead animal was thorough. Neither animal showed any sign of gas poisoning. The mule held under observation at 1st A.M.V.S. was eating hay whilst the examination of the other mule was taking place.

At 7 a.m. Vety. Sgt. Clark again visited the lines and discovered the A.M.V.S. mule with eyes and nostrils filled and the head swollen. This mule was removed to Mobile Vety. Section, the other lead mule was evacuated wounded, and up to the time of leaving the S.A.A. Section had shown no sign of "gas".

The wheel animals of this team have been kept under observation, but not the slightest sign of sickness has been observed in them.

(Sgd) Gerald Hogan, Capt.  
O/c S.A.A. Section, 1st Aust. D.A.C.

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D.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Australian Division.

Appendix 9.

D.A.D.V.S.,  
1ST AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISION.

No. QV691

Date 25.5.19.

33

REPORT ON TWO MULES ADMITTED TO M.V.S. SUFFERING FROM EFFECTS  
OF YELLOW CROSS GAS ("MUSTARD GAS")

On the 11th May two mules were admitted to the Section about 10 a.m. Both had been working in a forward area the previous night, when about 10 p.m. a gas shell burst within a few feet of them.

The appearance presented by the animals on admission was as follows :-

They were both dejected. The muzzle on the right side was swollen to an extent that suggested an advanced stage of Purpura Haemorrhagica. The mucous membrane of the tongue and lower jaw was inflamed and saliva dripped from the mouth. The right eye was closed; the upper lip being swollen and the conjunctiva greatly inflamed. The eye could only be examined with difficulty. The skin of the body was only affected in that there was slight thickening over the shoulder and girth. A faint depression was visible where the breast plate and girth had rested. The lungs did not seem to be affected in any way.

At this stage the cases did not look alarming at all. One of the mules (the least severely affected by the gas) had a gunshot wound in addition, and for that reason was evacuated. The one more seriously affected was retained in the M.V.S. Observation of this mule from day to day has revealed the following conditions:-

2nd Day. Swelling of the face still pronounced. Great soreness and ulceration of the mucous membrane of tongue and lower jaw apparent. Much salivation, accompanied by "Yawning" movements. The animal would not eat, though green fodder was offered to it. The eye was still swollen and gave off a mucopurulent discharge. Pronounced oedema of the skin over shoulder and girth.

The lesions had not developed at all on the left side of face or body, nor in the left eye.

3rd Day. Swelling of the face greatly subsided. Mouth ulcers becoming marked. Tongue white coated. Foetid smell from the mouth. The Yawning movements continued, the mouth evidently being very painful. Eye as before. Upper part of body swelling subsiding. Breathing normal. Still refused food.

4th to 6th Day. Swelling of skin of face and body subsided, but skin dry and cracking and exuding a serous discharge which attracted flies. Ulceration of mouth as before; foetid smell; slobbering. Eye rapidly improving. Animal commenced to eat after 5th day.

7th to 9th Day. Seemingly marked improvement all round. All swelling disappeared though skin still hard. Some hair coming away from the face. Mouth lesions healing and appetite good. Foetid smell from mouth remains. The eye is open and almost normal. A rapid recovery predicted.

10th to 13th day. All the hair dropped out on the affected side of face. On the 10th day a small definitely necrotic patch appeared on the face. By the 12th day there were several of these.

By the 13th day most of these had sloughed out, leaving large ulcerated areas in the skin, several inches in diameter. The course of this necrosis was almost identical with that seen in Necrotic Dermatitis of the pastern. The skin over the shoulder and girth is sore. The outer layer of the skin is peeling off, taking with it all the hair of the part. Eye is normal; mouth ulcerations making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

At the time of writing, the 13th day after gassing occurred, the skin of the face is showing very ugly ulcerations which will take a long time to heal, and when healed there will probably be a large hairless area.

From the evidence, I should judge that the mouth, face, eye and shoulder of the right side, was splashed with the liquid contents of the "Yellow Cross" shell.

It is an interesting case showing the extremely destructive effect "Yellow Cross" gas has on skin.

24.5.19

(Sgd) G.F. Finlay, Major,  
O.C., 1st Aust. M.V.S.

5  
Appendix 9.  
1st Australian Division.

34  
P.A.D.V.S.,  
1st AUSTRALIAN  
DIVISION.

No. QV 691  
Date 26.5.18.

A.D.V.S.,  
XV CORPS.

Ref. my Q.V. 691 dated 17/5/18. The attached reports on Gas Poisoning (Mustard Gas) are forwarded for your information.

Although there was a considerable amount of gas shelling in the neighbourhood of where these two casualties occurred on the night in question, only one gas shell fell in the particular place where these teams were, and this one shell only is concerned in the production of these two casualties.

From the attached report of Capt. Hogan the following interesting deductions can be made.-

(1) Although only one gas shell fell in the vicinity of the team, the two "lead" mules were subjected to a high concentration of gas.

(2) The gas diffuses slowly. This is shown by the fact that some animals remained without protection and in close proximity to a bursting gas shell for a short period without becoming "poisoned".

(3) The relative effect of the gas on the animals and on their drivers is interesting. It is usually admitted that animals are less susceptible to the effects of gas than are human beings. In this case, however, the animals appear to have suffered more severely. I have no information on the comparative susceptibility of Horses and Mules.

(4) Neither of the "lead" mules showed any symptoms of gas poisoning when carefully examined 5 hours after the shelling.

(5) One animal only showed symptoms of gas poisoning when examined 9 hours after the shelling.

(6) The difference in susceptibility to gas evinced by these two mules is most marked. The wounded animal was closest to the shell when it burst, but did not show symptoms of gas poisoning until some time after they were easily apparent in the other mule. The other two mules, forming the team of four, have shown no symptoms of gas poisoning whatever to date, although they were in very close proximity to the shell when it burst.

Major Finlay's report is interesting in that it shows the progressive effects of the gas on the skin and mucous membranes from day to day.

G. Heeloh

Major,  
P.A.D.V.S.,  
1st Aust. Division.

1st Australian Division.

A.D.V.S., 1ST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.	
No.	Q.V.722
Date	31.5.18

5

Headquarters,  
1st Aust. Division.

VETERINARY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 30th MAY 1918.

Condition of animals is being well maintained and the health of animals in the Division is very good. Animals generally, and Artillery Transport animals in particular, are in constant work, but with few exceptions are all doing well.

During the week a large number of animals in the Division have been treated for dental irregularities at 1st A.M.V.S. and returned to their units. Amongst these animals treated were a large number of recently arrived Remounts whose teeth were in such a bad state that, without dental treatment, "conditioning" and the maintenance of these animals in condition would have been impossible. It is pointed out, in the case of Remounts, that better facilities exist at the Bases for carrying out this dental work. In the Field it is often a matter of considerable difficulty to expeditiously and thoroughly remedy dental defects, and the arrival of Remounts requiring dental attention engages Veterinary Officers in the Field with a considerable amount of work which could more properly be attended to at the Base.

The number of cases of sickness and injuries amongst animals in the Division remain low. Battle Casualties are not excessive, although a considerable amount of enemy shelling has been distributed throughout the wagon line areas, necessitating the moving of wagon lines in certain instances to avoid casualties.

Wastage in the Division is again low, the percentage of wastage for the week being - Horses .68%  
Mules .84%

Injuries and sickness treated during the week is summarised as follows :-

- Debility. 2 Cases evacuated,  
1 case Tumour Benign evacuated; 4 cases Fever Simple remaining under treatment.
- Respiratory. 1 case Broken Wind admitted and evacuated.
- Digestive. 5 cases Colic admitted. All were cured.
- Lymphatic. 3 cases Lymphangitis admitted; 1 cured and 1 remaining under treatment.
- Hange and Allied Skin Diseases. 4 horses and 5 Mules were admitted as "Suspect Hange". All these cases are in working Isolation and are under observation. They are all very slightly affected, and it is extremely doubtful that they are Hange, although they are being regarded as such.
- Locomotory. 2 Ringbone and 2 Sidebone admitted. 3 Ringbone and 1 Sidebone evacuated.
- Specific. 3 cases Tetanus admitted; 1 was destroyed and 1 remains under treatment.
- Eye Diseases. 16 Ophthalmia, 2 Blind & 1 Ulcerated Cornea were admitted. 8 were cured, 7 evacuated and 51 are remaining under treatment.
- Gas Poisoning. 1 Mule, which has been under treatment and observation at 1st A.M.V.S., was evacuated during the week.
- Gunshot Casualties. 18 cases were admitted, 3 of which were evacuated, 1 died and 3 destroyed.
- Other Injuries. 43 admitted, 5 evacuated, 1 died.

ADMINISTRATION. Nothing special to report.

WORKING OF H.V.S. 52 animals were evacuated to L.of C. by 1st Aust.H.V.S. during the week.

PERSONNEL. There were no changes of Personnel A.A.V.C. during the week.

G. Heebh

Major,  
D.A.D.V.S., 1st Aust. Division.

Copies to -  
D.A.D.V.S., A.I.F.  
A.D.S.V.S., XV & AUSTRALIAN CORPS.  
War Diary.