

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

Veterinary

Item number: 27/4/36

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

December 1918



AWM4-27/4/36

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

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

FOR

December

Month ending Nov 30

1918

Signature of Officer compiling.....

Signature of Officer Commanding.....

Henry H. H. H. H.
my

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.)

Month of December 1918

5

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sordale Chateau	Dec 3		<p>Received letters through G. P. Aust Div. (FA) from G. M. G. G. H. G. 2003 (O.F.1) 21/11/18. (1) That in view of time which had elapsed and changes which may have occurred, since the selection and branding of Brood mares, suitable for sending to England as brood mares, on demobilization. It is necessary that all mares be re-examined re-examined and those selected, branded or rebranded on lines laid down on attached extracts from War Office letter No. 116/Cen No 6530/2. M. G. 4 dated 6/7/17.</p> <p>(2) The re-examination & branding of selected mares, will be completed as soon as possible.</p> <p>(3) Committee formed to compose of (a) Corps adviser in horseman-ship. (b) A. D. V. S. Corps. (c) officer to be detailed by D. D. R. 4th Army.</p> <p>This committee will overhaul all mares, likely to come up to the standard laid down for 3 classes of brood mares required. Cause to be branded or rebranded with a Greek II on near check, all mares finally passed, including those formerly passed & branded, if still constitutionally fit.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Lorde-le-Chateau	Dec. 3	cont	<p>(4) D.R. arrange re-examination & branding of mares in their Area.</p> <p>(5) Return will be rendered through the usual channels to the Q.177. G. of the number of animals selected in each class, as specified in the War office letter referred to. (B) From Director of Remounts. Re selection of mares: (2) purposes required for (b) Classes.</p> <p>(C) From A/17. Q.177. G. Aust. Corps. (1) Forwarding for information.</p> <p>(2) Committee for Aust. Corps:— Lieut. Col. D. F. White 13 L. H. Regt. Lieut. Col. J. Matson, D.S.O. F. D.V. S. Aust. Corps. An Officer to be detailed by D.D. R. 4th Army. (3) Committee visits the Units of the Corps in the following order:</p> <p>(4) D.F. D.V. S. of Divisions will eliminate all mares over 12 years of age, and any not likely to be useful as brood mares. Only those under this age will be brought forward for inspection. Only all mares which were selected & branded at last inspection on August 17th and which are still with us will be paraded for inspection by committee, as well as mares under 12 years, that are considered as suitable as Brood Mares.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
la Sabre le Chateau	Dec 2nd contd		(5) Divisions to prepare an itinerary for committee - and notify Corps Q as soon as possible, the earliest date they will be ready for inspection. As far as possible all mares to be concentrated at 2 or 3 places in Divisional area (6) Divisions will be notified by wire by of date and time at which the committee will visit the various areas. (Sgd) A/A QMG. aus Corps. Leave Capt Lucas. I left for UK leave. Capt Bell doing his duties	
Sabre le Chateau	5		Personnel 754 T/Sgt. Panderson AAVC. attached 1st MG Battalion left with B class personnel for Australia. 557 Sgt. a Collett A.A.V.C. reported for duty to 1st Aus Inf Brigade from aus Vet Hosp. Calais vice Sgt. Oakley 75 days leave UK.	
Sabre le Chateau	6.		Reference proceedings Court of Enquiry on 2 rides lost by 1st AM.T.S. on the night 21/22 Sept 1918. From Q 1st Aus Div. asking to certify the tactical necessity of post referred to in Court of inquiry proceedings Replied that animals lying in a ring fence there was no tactical necessity for post.	

WAR DIARY

or

Month of December 1918

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Sorle-le-Chateau	Dec 6	cont	<u>Remounts</u> 1 rider from Remount Depot, died, while waiting for distribution at 1 st A.F.F. V.S. <u>Personnel</u> D. A. F. G. Aust. Corps. requesting that a V.O. be detailed temp. for 5 th Aust. Div. Advised that Capt. Lukey be detailed	
Sorle-le-Chateau	8		<u>Remounts</u> 1 rider to be issued to Capt. Cornick and charged to 3 rd Bde	
Sorle-le-Chateau	9		Vet'y. Attention will be given to 1 st A.F.F. Bde + D. A. F. G. by Capt. Bell. Vet'y attention will be given to 2 nd A.F.F. Bde by Major Macindoe.	
Sorle-le-Chateau	11		Report of a Post Mortem of a case of sudden death 7/12/18 to A.D.V.S. Aust. Corps	
Sorle-le-Chateau	15		Reference Brood Mares. Brood Mares will not be taken from any of the Australian Units.	
Sorle-le-Chateau	17		Lost and Found, return to 'Q.' for sig. + forwarding to D.D.R. 4 th Army.	
Presles	19		Moved from Sorle-le-Chateau to Presles.	
Presles	25		A. 2000 (in trip) Weekly Vet'y Reports, Weekly Range State, Horse recovery form III.	

WAR DIARY

Original contd

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Jan 1919
December 1918

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Bresles	Dec 26		Post and found return to DDK 4th Army.	
Bresles	27.		From Mr. Ballahon asking for vet Sgt. Incident to Base Vet Stores No 43. To ADVS A2000 weekly manage plate. Weekly Vet Rpt. From Mj Macindore case of sudden death from AMVS. Sgt. Rust transfused. Pe Newson evacuated hospital struck off strength AMVS.	
Bresles	28		ADVS. A.9 F. A2000 Weekly Vet Rpt. To DHD Weekly Vet Report. Evacuation notices to 101 How Battery and 2nd Battery AFA. From Div Quain asking for stone to sharpen clipping machine.	
Bresles	29.		To A.D.T.S. Corps. Horse Recovery Form III.	
Bresles	30		Return to ADVS Corps. amt Recd on 4e carcasses from A.M.V.S. re animals at Morialme From A.D.T.S. re collection of two animals Walcourt.	
Bresles	31		Stray animal Return to DDK. 4th Army. From amTS. re animals of 3rd AFA Brigade with amTS. To 3rd Army Page AFA. Instructing to collect same	

WAR DIARY

OF

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

FOR

December

1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- | No. | Subject. |
|-----|--|
| 1. | Vety. Report for week ending 5.12.18. |
| 2. | " " " " " 12.12.18. |
| 3. | " " " " " 19.12.18. |
| 4. | " " " " " 26.12.18. |
| 5. | Summary of animals treated during period 29.11.18 to 26.12.18. |
| 7. | Nominal Roll of 1st. Aust. Mobile Vet. Station, and of Officers & Sgts. A.A.V.C. |
| 8. | Letter from D.A.D.V.S. 1st. Australian Division to A.D.V.S. Australian Corps & Result of a postmortem on a case of Sudden death. |

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

WEEKLY VETERINARY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 5th DECEMBER, 1918.

During the past week all mares in the Division were paraded for selection for Breed Mares. These will be presented to Corps selection committee for final approval. Many excellent mares were shown by different units, especially Divisional Train and Infantry. The mares from Divisional Artillery were of excellent type, but in condition did not compare satisfactorily with other units. Unclipped animals arrived sweating from the walk in from Wattignies. Skin of clipped animals show decided improvement.

88 animals horses and 5 mules evacuated by M.V.S. 18 of these were Debility, including one with debility and dermatitis.

Fair progress has been made in clipping during the week, but work is still handicapped by poor quality of some of the clipper heads.

The condition of all animals in all units is very good, except artillery which had a very strenuous march the previous week.

Sickness. During the week the undermentioned cases have been treated:

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Admitted.</u>	<u>Cured.</u>	<u>Died.</u>	<u>Destroyed.</u>	<u>Evacuated.</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
General	2				12	4
Respiratory	1					1
Digestive	3	2				1
Skin	4	7			1	3
Locomotor	7	1			4	3
Specific	8	74			3	10
Visual	3				3	1
Injuries	57 30	104			5	62
Total	58	118			28	85

Personnel.

Capt. J. Robson, A.A.V.C., left on leave to U.K.

Left for Australia.

Engy 1st A.M.V.S.

412 Sgt. Busch J.H./left for Australia.

754 T/Sgt. Anderson A., attached 1st Aust. M.C. Bn., left for Australia ("B" Class personnel).

Reported for Duty.

557 Sgt. Collet A. ex Vet Hospital Calias, attached 1st A.I.Bds. vice Sgt. O'kley to Eng. on 75 days furlough:

Stanley Hatcher Major,
D.A.D.V.S.,
1st Aust. Div.



12 Dec 1918

5

Clipping has been progressing more rapidly owing to the arrival of new spare parts. The total number of animals clipped in the division ex. the Erd. Aust. F.A.Bde. is 2448, of these figures the 1st. and 2nd. A.F.A.Bdes. and D.A.C. account for 1045, three Inf. Bdes. for 679 and other units 724.

During the past week all good mares were reviewed by the Corps committee on Brood Mares, and a satisfactory number chosen and branded. The greater number of these were mares of gunner and draught type, suitable for breeding gunners. Very few pony mares were present and they were mostly of the heavy pony class. Some very fair mares were selected as suitable for breeding hunters but with all the latter strong sires will be necessary.

Two animals have died one from ruptured spleen and the other from ruptured heart. Eight animals were evacuated by the 1st. A.M.V.S. during the week. The following cases were admitted for treatment:-

- Debility /2. Pneumonia ~~1~~/1. Ruptured Heart /1. Haematoma /1.
- Colic /2. Indigestion /2. Ruptured Spleen /1. Dermatitis /1.
- Side bone /1. Laminitis /2. Ophthalmia /1. Ulcer Cellulitis /1
- Blind /6. Wound Cont. /5 Wound Lac. /3. Wound Punct. /10.
- Galls /6. Under run sole /1.

Stanley Shleker

Major,

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

Q. 10. 4. 18
R. E. M. 18

Vegetary Report

5

For week ending

19/12/18.

The Division moved from the Bars Potteries ~~Horie-le- Chateau~~ Area to Chatelet and Mettet Area. The march occupied three days and was economically excetuted, very few casualties resulting.

There were three harness galls, showing a marked decrease.

Only ten animals were evacuated for the week- seven horses and three mules. Five animals were lost as against one animal found.

Evacuations.

Animals	Class	Disease	class Disease	Result
1	L.D.	Sidebone	10	Evac.
1	Mule	Navicular Disease	10	Evac.
1	L.D.	Blind	11	Evac.
1	X.R.	Ulc. Cell.	11	Evac.
1	Mule	" " "	11	Evac.
1	L.D.	Laminitis	11	Evac.
1	Mule	Pun. N.H.	13	Evac.
1	R.	Bruised Sole	13	Evac.
1	L.D.	Rope Galls	13	Evac.

Progress has been made with clipping, but the difficulty of new heads still exists. Twelve new heads complete and thirty six new combs and cutters have been distributed. All machines from Units which have cut out, are sent on to help on the unclipped Units.

The Artillery have made a start at removing the blanket coat left from original clipping.

Animals treated during the week are as follows:-

Class.	Disease.	Number.
1	Debility.	1
1	Fever Simple.	1
2	Catarra	2
9	Cracked Heel	9
9	Ringworm.	9
11	Ophthalmia.	11
13	Pun. Wd.	13
13	Cont. 2d.	13
13	Lac. Wd.	13
13	P.U.N.	13
13	Abscess	13

Stanley Hobbs

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

5 1st Australian Division

Weekly Veterinary Report for week ending 26 December 1918.

All animals of the Division show improvement in condition and during the week 26 fresh cases have been under treatment as follows:- 25 horses and 1 mule.

Class	Disease	No.
4	Cystitis	1
9	Cracked heel	1
10	Sand crack	1
13	Lac. Wounds	4
	Shoeing cont.	1
	Punct. Wounds	2
	Contusion	2x.
	Abrasions	5
	Kicks	3
	Sprains	1
Totals		18 ^{x includes} 1 mule.

No animals were evacuated for the period. Capt Robson reported back from leave.

Stanley Hilditch

Major,

D.A.D.V.S.

1st. Australian Division.

Summary of Animals treated during the month.

5
 General Diseases

norses. Summary of animals treated during the month.

	in last return	admitted since total	cured	transferred sick	transferred to U.H.D.	Died	Destroyed	Cast and Sold	Remaining under trmt	Total
1 General Diseases	2	7	2	12				5	29	
2 Respiratory "	4	3	1					6	7	
3 Circulatory "	1	1				1			1	
4 Urinary "		2	2					2	2	
5 Generative "										
6 Digestive "	3	6	5					4	9	
7 Lymphatic "		1	1			1			1	
8 Nervous "										
9 Skin "	18	8	7	2				17	26	
10 Locomotory "	5	9	1	5				8	14	
11 Specific "	35	13	5	5				58	48	
12 Visual "	6	8		8				6	14	
12 Injuries "	237	82	116	6			1	196	519	
Totals	330	140	137	38		2	1	292	470	

MULES

1 General Diseases	4	4		1				3	4
2 Respiratory "									
3 Circulatory "									
4 Urinary "									
5 Generative "									
6 Digestive "		1	1						1
7 Lymphatic "									
8 Nervous "									
9 Skin "	2	1	3	1				2	3
10 Locomotory "	1	4	5	1	2			2	5
11 Specific "	1	3	4	2	2				4
12 Visual "									
13 Injuries "	49	8	57	32	5			20	57
Total	57	17	74	37	10			27	74

Stanley Shute

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

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

NOMINAL ROLL
of
OFFICERS "A.A.V.C."

Rank.	Name.	Unit.
Major	S. Fletcher, M.C.	D.A.D.V.S.
Capt.	H.S. LUCAS"	O.C. 1st. Aust. M.V.S.
"	E.J. Lukey	2nd. A.F.A. Bde.
"	J. Robson	1st. A.F.A. Bde.
"	T. Bell	Div. Train.

Stanley Helle
Major
D.A.D.V.S.
1st. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

NOMINAL ROLL of SERGEANTS "A.A.V.C."

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit attached to.
754	T/Sgt.	ANDERSON P.	M.G. Battalion,
8783	"	COOK A.	S.A.A. Sect., D.A.C.
481	Sgt.	DOUST A.	2nd. A.I. Bde.
181	Sgt.	DOYLE R.H.	1st. Sec., D.A.C.
3381	T/Sgt.	GILMORE J.F.	2nd. Sec., D.A.C.
209	"	HULL G.F.	3rd. A.I. " Bde.
1008	"	GOTHARD W.M.	4th. Baty.
735	"	MONOHAN J.T.	1st. Bty.
1984	"	NUGENT A.C.	2nd. " "
1834	Sgt.	OAKLEY J.	1st. Bde.
734	T/Sgt.	POTTER S.E.	5th. Baty.
3503	"	THOMPSON W.D.M.	1st. " "
549	"	TRIHEY R.P.	3rd. " "
888	"	WHINFIELD M.W.	2nd. " "
532	"	WILSON T.R.	6th " "

Stanley Helle
Major
D.A.D.V.S.
1st. Australian Division

2nd. December, 1918
BBB 2007

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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

HONORAL ROLL.

of

1st AUSTRALIAN MOBILE VETERINARY SECTION.

No.	Rank.	Name.	
	Capt.	H. S. Lucas.	Officer Commanding (Temp.)
412	Sgt.	Busch	(att'd, in relief Capt. Lucas on Eng. Leave)
13079	T/Sgt.	Lord	J. H.
659	T/Cpl.	Price	J. E.
3471	"	Taylor	B.
3210	Dvr.	Wheeler	D. H.
4393	"	Robertson	A. V.
5256	S/Smith	Aumann	T.
2135	Pte.	Flett	H.
1015	"	Ridgeway	J. P.
307	"	Kelleher	G.
6357	"	Marks	J. F.
3456	"	Wellington	E. E.
480	"	Wolohan	L.
1180	"	Hall	L.
6910	"	Marriott	J. B.
3272	"	Cooper	J. J.
5387	"	Keats	H. F.
2802	"	Campbell	E. W.
1007	"	Morrison	W.
3458	"	Owen	W. H.
1729	"	Newson	W.
5609	Dvr.	Mathews	O. E.
2485	Pte.	Anderson	H. P.

Stanley Mitchell Major,
D.A.D.V.S.,

1st Australian Division.

5
A.D.V.S.

AUSTRALIAN CORPS.

Enclosed please find the report of a case of sudden death from rupture of the spleen and liver.

Owing to the resemblance to the two cases reported to you in two mules of the 1st. D.A.C. at Longpre, the cases seemed to be obscured.

In over twenty years of practice, I have only seen one case of rupture spleen, previous to the two cases mentioned above.

I have sent blood smears to the O.C. No. 14 V.H. on the chance that these deaths may be due to some micro organism, but from the appearance of the organs, there was no sign of disease manifest, beyond the one patch of broken down spleen surrounding the rupture.

In the last case a second swelling, unruptured, appeared between the rupture and the apex of the spleen. The tissue composing this swelling was broken down splenic tissue whether due to a traumatic cause or not I could not say. In neither of the three cases were there any sign of Typhoid, or any discharge from any orifice.

The suddenness of the deaths gave rise to suspicions of Anthrax, but there was nothing to support that suspicion.

The cases are of such great interest, that I would like to send a report of them to one of the Veterinary Journals of the U.K. but will wait the result, of the examination of blood smears from the O.C. No. 14 V. H.

Have you any objection to this action please.

Henry H. H. Major,

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

Report of a post mortem of a case of sudden death 7/12/18
Unit 2nd. Field Coy. Australian Engineers.
Rider. Chest. Gd. 14 years.

There were no apparent external injuries and no discharge from nose, mouth, eyes or anus: The skin was not discoloured or emphysematous superficial vessels not distended. The usual distention and rigor-mortis were present.

(Post mortem 18 hours after death.)

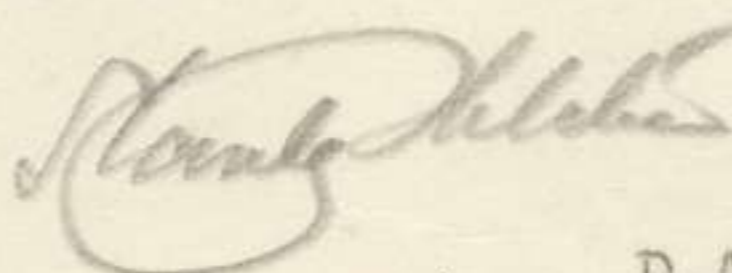
The carcas was opened down the median line. The abdominal organs were discoloured and a large amount of blood serum and clot were found free in the abdominal cavity. The peritoneum was coloured darkly, the result of staining from free blood. The spleen was found to be ruptured on the posterior surface. The rupture was about 8 inches long, extending from 4 inches from the apex towards the centre of the spleen. An enlargement- the size and shape of a hens egg, was found present between the rupture and the apex of the spleen, and the tissue of this was broken and congested.

Beyond this the appearance of the spleen was normal- of a healthy grey blue colour, while the tissue was of a normal doughy feel.

The liver was ruptured on the posterior surface of the left lobe, about 5 inches in length, extending from the outside edge towards the thickest part of the lobe. Though dark in colour from staining, the liver was otherwise normal.

The stomach contained a fair amount of partly digested food slightly moist: The contents of the bowis were moist.

Capt. Bell, A.A.V.C. did the post mortem.

 Major,

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