

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

Veterinary

**Item number:** 27/8/30

**Title:** Deputy Assistant Director Veterinary  
Services, 5th Australian Division

January 1919



AWM4-27/8/30



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**CONFIDENTIAL.**

ORIGINAL.  
~~DUPLICATE.~~  
~~TRIPLICATE.~~

**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

FOR

JANUARY. 1919.

Signature of Officer compiling

*Edmund Mair R.A.V.C.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

*Edmund Mair M.A.M.*



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# WAR DIARY

OF

D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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FOR

JANUARY.

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1919.

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3/1/19.

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WEEKLY REPORT.

PERSONNEL. Lt. Col. M. HENRY D.S.O. returned from short leave to U.K. on 27.12.18. and left again on 75 days leave to U.K. on 28.12.18.

INSPECTIONS. Visits were paid to 8th. and 15th. Bdes. during the week.

FEED. The feed is adequate and good, hay is obtainable. Grazing is being carried out when weather is fine. It should be now possible for the smaller formations to cut some rough chaff for mixing with the grain ration.

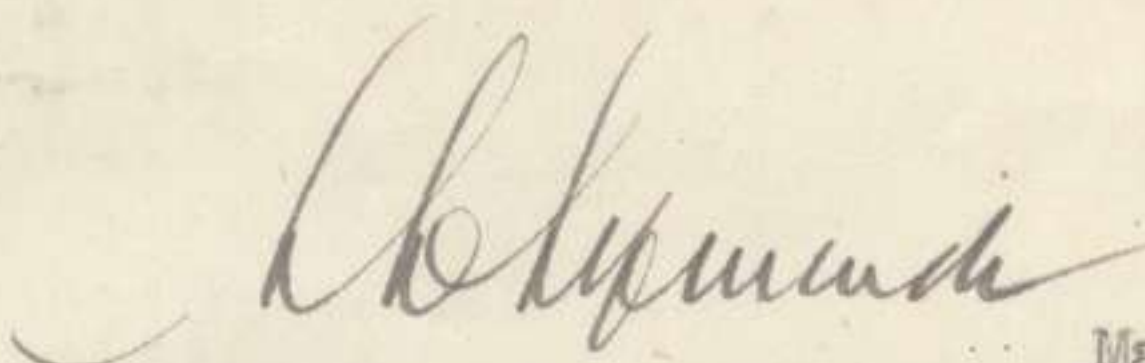
WATER. Supply is plentiful and animals are being watered 3 times daily.

STABLES. The stabling is on the whole good, but in some cases there is considerable overcrowding, owing to not enough space being available. Most of them which were very dirty have now been cleaned and disinfected.

CLIPPING. The coats are now becoming very long and a good number of animals have had to be clipped for Veterinary reasons.

SHOEING. Satisfactory in those units inspected.

CONDITION. Is being maintained.

  
Major.  
A/D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



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10/1/19.

WEEKLY REPORT.

INSPECTIONS. A visit was paid to the 14th. Bde. area on 4th. Inst. and during the rest of the week daily visits were paid to 5th. Div. Artillery area in connection with Board for Veterinary Classification of animals for demobilization. 510 animals have been inspected to date of which 232 were classified A, 119 B, 159 C, and D nil.

STABLING.

Stables and surroundings are now in a more sanitary condition and animals are on the whole well stabled. Some stables require more ventilation however as they are very low and dark, but this can be carried out in most cases.

WATER.

There is a plentiful supply.

FEED.

Grazing is being carried out when weather is suitable. Extra hay is still obtainable in some places.

CONDITION.

Is generally satisfactory. Some of the horses in the Artillery are still lacking in condition however.

CLIPPING.

Is being carried out where necessary for Veterinary reasons.

SHOEING.

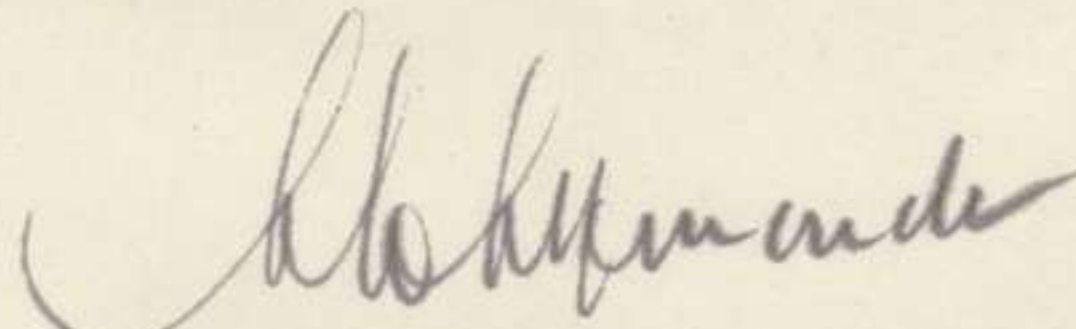
In most cases satisfactory, but more shoes require removing and replacing in Artillery units inspected.

PERSONNEL.

Capt. R. CLARKE A.A.V.C. reported for duty on 8th. inst. and was posted to 14th. F.A. Bde.

GENERAL.

The conference on "The organisation of Post Bellum Army" was attended at 5th. Aust. D.H. Q&S- on 9th. inst.



Major.

A/D.A. D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



17.1.19.

WEEKLY REPORT.

INSPECTIONS.

During the week practically the whole time has been given to the Veterinary Classification of animals in accordance with Q.M.G.'s letter No. 2003 (Q.F.I.) dated 19/1/19.

Animals belonging to the following formations have been classified by the Veterinary Board during the week. 5th. D.A.H.Q. and 49th. Battery 13th. Aust. F.A. Bde. at SAINS 5th. Aust. D.A.C. at SEMERIES, 12th. Aust. Army F.A. Bde. at AVESNELLES, 14th. F.A. Bde at LIESSIES, 10th. A.A.S.C. at RAMOUSIES, 29th. A.A.S.C., 15th. Fld. Coy. Engrs. 15th. Fld. Amb. 15th. Aust. Ing. Bde. H.Q. and 57, 58, and 59th. Battalions at DOULERS, ST. AUBIN, and SEMOUSIES.

CONDITION.

The condition of the animals is being maintained. The shortage of personnel is now being felt however.

STABLES.

Stables are now clean, and where possible more ventilation has been made. Owing to the construction of the stables this is not possible in all cases however.

FEED.

The milder weather has made it possible for most of the animals to be grazed. Feed is sufficient but more unserviceable nose-bags should be replaced, as there is considerable waste of grain from this cause.

CLIPPING.

A few animals are still being clipped for Veterinary reasons.

SHOEING.

Generally satisfactory, except in some cases where shoes are allowed to remain on too long without being removed.

PERSONNEL.

Capt. H. TUCKER A.A.V.C. left for BEAUMONT as instructed on the 7th. Inst. to report on the outbreak of "Foot and Mouth Disease" and to take necessary action.

  
Major.  
A/D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



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24/1/19.

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WEEKLY REPORT.

INSPECTIONS. During the week practically the whole time has again been devoted to the Veterinary Classification of Animals in accordance with Q.M.G.'s letter No.2003  
 Animals belonging to the following units were classified during the week:-  
 5th. Aust. M.G. Battn. H.Q. 8th. 14th. 15th Land 25th. M.G. Coys at STREMY, 15th. Inf. Bde. H.Q., and 57th, 58th. 59th. 15th. Fld. Coy A.E. and 15th. Fld. Amb. at DOULERS, ST. AUBIN, and SEMOUSIES. 14th. Bde. H.Q. 53rd. Battn. and 14th. Fld. Coy. A.E. at SIVRY, 55th. Battn? at RANCE; 14th. Fld. Amb. at SAUTAIN, 56th. Battn at SOLRE-ST GERY. 18th. and 28th. Coys A.A.S.C. at LEUGNIES and 5th. Pioneer Battn at BEAURIRUX.  
 The Veterinary Classification of animals of the Division should now be completed in a few days.

CONDITION.

The condition of the animals is being maintained though want of personnel is rendering the proper care of animals more difficult.

FEED.

Is adequate and grazing is being carried out daily.

SHOEING.

is being kept up to date as much as possible but the shortage of farriers is now being felt.

CLIPPING.

A few animals only are being clipped for Veterinary reasons.

PERSONNEL.

Capt. H. TUCKER A.A.V.C. returned on 19th. inst. from investigating cases of "Foot and Mouth Disease" reported at BEAUMONT.

CONFERENCE.

A conference on (1) "Reorganisation of Battalions etc." was attended at Div. H.Q. on 19th. inst.

GENERAL.

Part of mallein indented for having arrived, animals which have been classified Y and Z by remount Board are now being tested so as to be ready for evacuation when required.

Major.  
A/D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



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5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

31/1/19.

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WEEKLY REPORT.

INSPECTIONS.

The Veterinary Classification of animals of 5th. Aust. Division and other units in this area was continued during the week. Visits were paid to 14th. Inf. Bde. at BIVRY, 18th. and 26th. Coys A.A.S.C. at LAUGHIES, 14th. Aust. F.A. Bde. at LIMBOISS, 18th. Aust. F.A. Bde. at SAINS and SEMERIES, 5th. Aust. Pioneer Battalion at BEAUREGARD, 31st. Labour Coy. at HESTRUD, and 375th. P.O.W. Coy at AVIGNES.

The Veterinary Classification of all animals in this area i. e. 5th. Aust. Division, 18th. Aust. Army Bde. and attached and B.S.F. units is now completed. A total of 4841 animals were classified, the result being in attached return, ~~the "X" and "Y" class animals of the 5th. Aust. Division were returned to the concentration camp.~~

CONDITION.

The condition of the animals is being maintained.

FOOD.  
AND  
HOUSING.

is sufficient and animals are grazed whenever possible.

Is being kept up to date as much as possible with reduced personnel.

CLIPPING.

Only a few animals are being clipped for Veterinary Reasons

PERSONNEL.

There were no changes during the week.

GENERAL.

Malleining of all "z" and "y" class animals is being done as quickly as possible, an adequate supply of mallein is now available.

245 French Army Horses suffering from Mange were received during the week for evacuation by 5th. Aust. M.V.S.. As evacuations are stopped for the time being accommodation was arranged for these animals in a separate stable and they are being attended to and dressed pending evacuation, the French Army supplying personnel.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Major.

A/D. A. P. V. S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



RETURN OF ANIMALS GROUPED BY VETERINARYBOARDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEMOBILIZATION.

Certified that ~~the~~ all horses and mules in 5th.Aust.Div., 12th Army Bde. & B.E.F. units. .... (Formation) have been examined by Veterinary Boards in accordance with Q.M.G.'s letter No. 2003 (Q.F.I.) dated 19/12/18. and that they have been grouped by the Boards as follows:-

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Animals	Horses				Mules			
	Riding.	L.D.	H.D.	P.	TOTAL.	L.D.	P.	TOTAL.
Group "A"	181	773	132	8	1094	775	20	795
Group "B"	192	523	153	6	874	355	9	364
Group "C"	108	477	136	5	726	169	1	170
Group "C-"	83	211	71	8	373	128	9	137
Group "D"	3	2	-	-	5	-	-	-
Group "D-"	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	1
Totals.	567	1988	492	27	3074	1428	39	1467

Grand total: 4541.

  
 .....Major R.A.V.C.  
 A/D.A.D.V.S. Appointment.  
 5th.Aust.Division (Formation)

.....Date.

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5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

ANIMAL WASTAGE FOR MONTH ENDING 31st. January. 1919.

(6)

EVACUATIONS.

Class 1.	4.
" 4.	1.
" 5.	2.
" 9.	12.
" 10.	8.
" 11.	27.
" 12.	4.
" 13.	24.

Total. 82.

DIED.

Class 2.	1.
" 3.	1.
" 6.	2.
" 7.	1.

Total. 5.

DESTROYED.

Class 13.	6.
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Total. 6.

31.1.19.

*M. J. Munn*

Major.

A/D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

CONFERENCES.

(7)

A conference at 5th Aust. Div. H.Q. on "Organisation of Units of Post Bellum Army" was attended on 9/1/19.

The following questions in connection with A.A.V.C. with a Division were referred to.

Q1. PERSONNEL. D.A.D.V.S. pointed out that the present establishment of V.O's was insufficient. At least one more A.A.V.C. Officer was necessary.

A Sergeant A.A.V.C. was also required for Div. Train.

C.R.A. said that only two Veterinary Officers were allotted to Divisional Artillery and that three were required.

G.S.O.1. stated that the original establishment provided for a Veterinary Officer with each Infantry Brigade, Field Artillery Brigade and D.A.C. but there was later a shortage of such Officers.

Q2. MOBILE VETERINARY SECTION.

D.A.D.V.S. pointed out that this was a necessity and it was agreed that this was required.

A conference on "Reorganisation of Battalions and Equipment etc." was attended on 19/1/19. at 5th. Div. H.Q.

No matters affecting the A.A.V.C. personnel or equipment were discussed however.

*M. J. Munn*

Major.

A/D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



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5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

(5)

PERSONNEL.

The following changes in personnel have occurred during the ~~Month~~-Month.

Capt R. CLARKE A.A.V.C. rejoined from Sick leave on 8/1/19. and was posted to 14th. Aust. F.A. Bde.

3 men from the M.V.S. were promoted during the month to Temp. Vet. Sergeants to fill vacancies caused by the withdrawal of 1915 personnel.

During the month 3 Sgts. A.A.V.C. were withdrawn from this Division for return to Australia.

There has not been any sickness during the whole Month.

1.2.19.

*L. H. Shepherd* Major.  
A/D.A.D.V.S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.



5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

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INSPECTIONS.

It has not been possible to carry out many routine inspections during the month as the time has been mainly devoted to the Veterinary Classification of animals in this area.

In examining the animals of this Division it was found that a considerable proportion showed signs of having suffered from SPECIFIC OPHTHALMIA, the greater proportion of animals placed in "C" class belonging to this category.

*R. Schmidt* Major.  
A./E. A. D. V. S. 5th. AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.