

**AWM4**

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

Veterinary

**Item number:** 27/10/14

**Title:** Assistant Director Veterinary  
Services, ANZAC Mounted Division

April 1917



AWM4-27/10/14

WAR DIARY

or

ANZAC MTD DIVISION.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

VETERINARY SERVICES

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.

F. G.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	April 1st	JK	2nd A.L.H.Bde on out post duty.	
	2nd	JK	N.Z.Mtd Bde on out post duty.	
	3rd	JK	Forage unloaded from ships on Dier el Belah beach and supplies of hay, dries, bran, barley and sucraphaille are available.	
	3rd	JK	Conference of A.D.V.S. at office of D.D.V.S. at Belah held at 1500.	
	8th	JK	1st A.L.H.Bde arrive at Khan Yunis. Reorganisation of wheeled transport take place. (1st line) All camels taken from Division but camels do the convoy work. Green food causes a number of colic and bowel cases.	
			Remounts arriving are suffering from Catarrh and it spreads to most of the animals in the area.	
	9th	JK	Instructions to M.V.Sections to send N.C O. with 4 men with B.V.O in future operations until further notice	
	13th	JK	A.D.V.S. visits Khan Yunis (1st A.L.H.Bde)	
			Copy of circular on "Effects on animals of gas shells" sent to all V.O.s.	
	16th	JK	Capt PAGE.G.A.A.V.C. reports for duty and is posted with Divisional troops	
			D.H.Q. & Division move from Dier el Belah at 1900 to Shellal via Weli Sheik 0830	
	17th	JK	Nuran arriving at 0430 on 17th.	
			Division less 1st A.L.H.Bde move across the Wadi el Guzzie at 2030 and make demonstration against the enemy at Tel Abu Hascire. 1st A.L.H.Bde remain on West bank of Wadi and supply working parties. Whilst troops are moving out of the Wadi the 2nd Bde are bombed by an enemy aeroplane, animal casualties 18 horses killed and 17 wounded.	
			Water is developed at Shellal whilst the 1st A.L.H.Bde also supply a post South and South west of towards Beersheba.	
			22nd Mtd Bde have 12 horses killed during the day	
			Horse ration barley 12 lbs but tibben (4 lbs) arrives in the evening.	
			Veterinary arrangements for operations as per instructions (No 28/6) to Bde and Veterinary officers, 1 N.C O. & 6 men from each Mobile Veterinary Section proceed with the Bdes under the Bde Vet Officer, 1 N.C.O. & 2 men from each Section reports to Capt Penrose A.A.V.C. on route who forms a casualty clearing station at Shellal on 17th. The remainder of the Sections under their O?C,s remain at Khan Yunis and Dier el Belah and receive from the	

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# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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## Vet Services INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Continued.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	17th	Continued 21K	clearing station, retaining slight casualties and evacuating the severe ones to 54th M.V.S. situated at Khan Yunis (line of C section)	
	18th	JK	Watering arrangements in the Wadi are made good but the animals are too concentrated. Bde watering areas are from North to South in the Wadi, 22nd Mtd, 2nd A.L.H. Bgde & 1st A.L.H. Bde at crossing and N.Z. Mtd Bde south towards Tel el Fara. Grazing in the area is very good so that animals not at work are able to get a good supply.	
	18th 19th	JK	D.H.Q. & Division move across the Wadi at 1830 (to cross in daylight) then move to El Erk on the Wadi Sheria arriving at 0430. Somerset R.H.A. Battery have 5 horses killed by a bomb. Animal casualties for 18th were 22nd Mtd Bde 6 killed 11 wounded 20 evacuated, N.Z. Bde 5 killed. Ration barley 10 lbs tibben 4 lbs but owing to continual moving of troops the quantity could not be carried, therefore not completely used. Capt Penrose with clearing station move and take up position at main crossing near Tel el Jemie.	
	"	"	D.H.Q. are posted at Hill 280 whilst all Bdes attack towards the West from El M endur. D.H.Q. partly move to Hisea but owing to attack from enemy Mountain guns, move to rise near Tel el Jemie for the night.	
	20th	JK	D.H.Q. move to Hill 430 whilst Bdes move towards Weli Sheikh Nuran. Capt Penrose with clearing station move to Hill 430. 1st A.L.H. Bde lines are bombed in morning. Animal casualties 20 killed 30 wounded. Watering is very unsatisfactory in cisterns at Weli Sk Nuran and El Imain.	
	21st	JK	D.H.Q. & Bdes move to Abbassan el Kebir at Midday, also Capt Penrose's station. Watering at Khan Yunis 3 miles away is still unsatisfactory and animals lose condition rapidly as a result.	
	22nd	JK	D.H.Q. move back to Hill 430 whilst Bdes take up out post at Weli Sheikh nuran, Hisea and Shellal. Major Robin A.A.V.C. relieves Capt Penrose from the clearing station and moves to Hill 430 behind A.A.M.C. casualty clearing station.	
	23rd	JK	Horses rested except on out post and as grazing is utilised they greatly improve from their exertions.	

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# WAR DIARY

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Vet Services  
continued.  
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## or Anzac Mtd Division. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY-----

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	April 24 <sup>th</sup>		Continued	
	26 <sup>th</sup>		Weather very hot with wind from South West Shade Temperature reached 113-115 but no cases of heatappoplexy amongst the horses, although several camels from convoys die as a result. Water is short and animals suffer greatly through the scarcity and having to travel long distances to it.	
	27 <sup>th</sup>		Weather cooler and grazing greatly benefits the horses generally.	
	28 <sup>th</sup>		Bdes strengthening out posts.	
	30 <sup>th</sup>		D.H.Q. moves to Tel el Fara. 2nd A.L.H.Bde post at Weli Sheikh Nuran. N.Z.Mtd Bde Further North. 22nd Mtd Bde at Tel el Fara. 1st A.L.H.Bde further South. Animal casualties for the operations Killed 119 wounded 192 sick 60 Missing 10 Total 381.	
			Animal casualties for the month. Died or Destroyed 123 Evacuated 307 Missing 11.	
				<i>Monday 24/4 ADVS</i>