

AWM4

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

Veterinary

Item number: 27/10/20

Title: Assistant Director Veterinary
Services, ANZAC Mounted Division

October 1917



AWM4-27/10/20

Confidential Original

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.

OCTOBER

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

1917.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	<p>VETERINARY SERVICES <i>ANZAC MTD DIV</i></p> <p>Summary of Events and Information</p>	ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.	Remarks and references to Appendices
ABASAN EL KEBIR.	Oct	1st	<p>D.V.S. inspects the horses of the 18th R.H.A. Brigade and Anzac Mtd Divisional train at Abasan el Kebir</p> <p>48 clipping machines arrive for the Division and are allotted to units. Parties are formed under an officer of each regiment to attend to the clipping and owing to only certain animals requiring clipping urgently at this time, Veterinary Officers are detailed to state which animals are to be clipped first. The machines prove to be old ones and many are unfit for use. Horses are only clipped trace high so as to get a large number done quickly, where they mostly require it in case of a sudden move.</p>		
		3rd	1st A.L.H. Bde move to Bir el Malellah from Farra for a rest.		
			A.D.V.S. visits the Mobile Veterinary Sections at Malellah which he finds in good order.		
		8th	Capt E.N. WOOD is discharged from hospital and is granted three days leave.		
		11th	18th R.H.A. Ammunition Sections are formed into a Divisional Ammunition Column.		
			Capt E.N. WOOD. returns to duty with the 2nd A.L.H. Bde.		
		12th	Major A.H. ROBIN returns to the command of the 7th Mob Vet Section after being attached to the 2nd A.L.H. Bde vice Capt E.N. WOOD.		
		14th	D.D.V.S. & A.D.V.S. inspect the Mob Vet Sections at Malallah and arrange for evacuation of all unfit animals and for return of all fit animals to their respective units. (All animals with the exception of 15 are found fit for service out of a total of 221 in the sections).		
			1st A.L.H. Bde receive 1,1b sucraphaille extra forage ration.		
		15th	A.D.V.S. inspected New Zealand Bde horses. They are retaining their condition very well. The horses of the Inverness Battery R.H.A have improved greatly owing to better supplies of water and more care taken over them.		
		16th	Forage ration is Barley 8 lbs, Gram 4 lbs. Tibben 6 lbs, Hay 4 lbs.		
		17th	A.D.V.S visited Sections and made arrangements for moving.		
		21st	2nd A.L.H. Bde moved from Fukhari to Esani.		
		22nd	A.D.V.S. inspected the Divisional Train. All horses clipped and in good condition.		
		24th	2nd A.L.H. Bde moved from Esani to Asluj and New Zealand Mtd Bde moved from Fukhari to Esani		
			Brigades have respective Batteries with them.		
		26th	D.H.Q. 1st A.L.H. Bde and D.A.C. move from Abasan el Kebir to Esani.		
		28th	D.H.Q. 1st A.L.H. Bde and New Zealand Mtd Bdes move from Esani. D.H.Q. proceeds to Asluj but owing to water difficulties, 1st A.L.H. Bde and New Zealand bdes remain at Khalassa.		

- OCT 1917

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Stendall Major
ADVS

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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AG NZ MTD DIV.
VETERINARY SERVICES

Summary of Events and Information

ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.

Remarks and references to Appendices

Oct 28th

A.D.V.S. inspected the horses of D.A.C. at Esani and found four or five horses totally "knocked up". 10 camels were obtained to relieve the loads and the column only proceeded to Khalassa on the 29th, and then on to Asluj on the 30th to where the animals had travelled very well. 50 camels relieve the loads of four wagons which are left behind.

30th

Capt J. PENROSE reports back to duty with 6th Mob Vet Section from Belbeis Vet Hospital. 1st A.L.H. and New Zealand Mtd Bdes moved from Khalassa to Asluj. At Asluj the watering arrangements were very bad and difficult to remedy. 2nd A.L.H. Bde have 2 intervals of 40 hours without water for their horses and when water was developed the whole Division could only be watered once daily with difficulty as the wells had been destroyed. The horses were fortunately in good condition and although they were tuckered up they retained their condition splendidly.

31st

Full forage ration supplied up to this date when animals are placed on Mobile ration of 12 lbs grain. Horses of the 2nd A.L.H. Bde are on several occasions sent from Asluj to Khalassa to water. They suffered greatly from lack of water and heavy reconnaissance work but are still fit to carry on.

Division (complete) move from Asluj to Beersheba, hill 1180 and D.H.Q. leave about 1630 for Tel el Saba after it had been forced by 1st A.L.H. and New Zealand Bdes.

Veterinary arrangements for the operations up to this stage were as follows. One N.C.O. and 4 men from the 6th, 7th and 2nd N.Z. Mob veterinary Sections accompanied their respective Brigades with the B.V. Officer whilst another N.C.O. and 4 men from each section formed a casualty clearing station at Khalassa under Capt Crossley whilst the remaining portions of the Mob Vet Sections with their O.C.s proceeded with the Brigades to Esani and remained there till later when Beersheba had fallen.

The distance travelled was so great that it was too far to send sick animals from Bdes back, so that after the Division had left Asluj no more Sick animals were sent back to the Sections and up to this time only 10 had been sent.

The exact number of animal casualties up to date unknown owing to operations continuing but were only slight in this Division.

J. Spence Major. A.D.V.S.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MOUNTED DIVISION.

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