

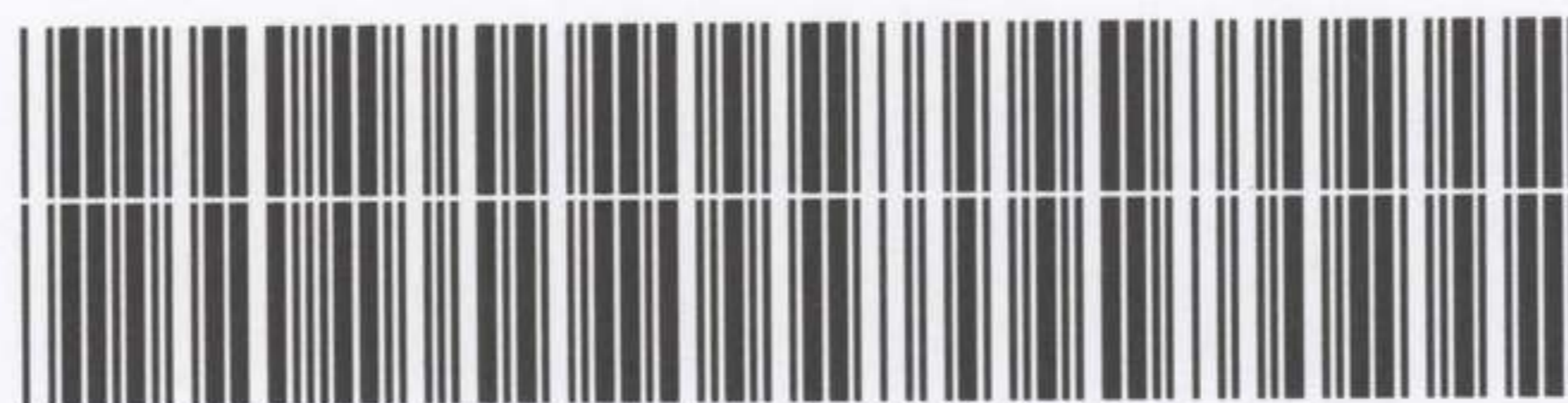
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Veterinary

Item number: 27/10/21

Title: Assistant Director Veterinary
Services, ANZAC Mounted Division

November 1917



AWM4-27/10/21

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1917.

NOVEMBER

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
November <u>JAFFA</u>	Nov		<p style="text-align: center;"><i>VETERINARY SERVICES</i> <i>A & NZ Mtd Div.</i></p> <p>1st <i>gr</i> 1st A.H.L.Bde situated on Hill 960 near Beersheba and water at wells at Beersheba. 2nd <i>gr</i> N.Z.M.Bde water at well at Beersheba before moving to <i>Dhahaiyeh</i>. The water which was in small pools in the Wadi Saba as a result of rain on the nights of 28th & 29th October, and which saved many animals from dying of thirst at this period, has dried up and the situation in regards to water was very serious. The Australian Mtd Division move to Karm so that the pressure on the wells is greatly relieved, and from this time the animals get one drink daily. 2nd A.L.H.Bde were at this period again 40 hours without water but they developed a little in the Wadi. 7th Mtd Bde come under command of G.O.C. Anzac Mtd Divn 1-11-17. 3rd A.L.H.Bde " " " 31-10-17. Good barley and tibben is found at Tel el Saba so that there is no difficulty in forage matters, except that several cases of Laminitis were caused from overfeeding of barley and little water. The weather being very windy during the day and very cold during the night, tucked the animals up somewhat. 6th, 7th & N.Z.No 2 Mob Vet Sections arrive at Beersheba and take up position near the wells. An average of 30 cases of wounds and debility were sent by the brigades to their respective sections. These are retained as the distance is too far to evacuate. 6th & 7th <i>gr</i> Anzac Mtd Divn less N.Z.Mtd Bde, which comes under the command of the 53rd Division, leave Tel el Saba for a point in the hills 5 miles north of Beersheba. 8th <i>gr</i> Division moves to Amedat and afterwards to Tel el Negile. 9th <i>gr</i> Water is very scarce and the horses of this Division from Tel el Saba on, only received one small drink in each 30 hours and the Mobile ration of 12 lbs grain. Small parties occasionally found small heaps of tibben. Division moved to a point 1 1/2 miles East of Julis. 11th <i>gr</i> Major Stafford N.Z.V.C. posted with the N.Z.Bde and Capt E.Elphick returns to the N.Z.M.Vet Section. 10th <i>gr</i> Division moved to Hamane and then on to Esdud, 11th <i>gr</i> " " Khurbet Sukeria and on the 12th to 1 1/2 miles south of Yebnah 14th <i>gr</i> " " Nebi Khunda. 15th <i>gr</i> " " a point 1 1/2 miles S E of Richon Ce Zion. N.Z.M Bde at Jaffa. 2nd A.L.H.Bde at Ludd and 1st A.L.H.Bde at Khurbet Derrain.</p>	

Stewart Major
Nov 17

NOVEMBER
DEC 1917

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WAR DIARY

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	VETERINARY SERVICES	Summary of Events and Information ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISION.	Remarks and references to Appendices
JAFFA	November	22nd	A.D.V.S. inspected the horses of the Division and found them in very good order considering the work they had done under very trying circumstances (short rations and practically no water for several days). As the brigades passed through the various villages, difficulty was found in procuring water. All the villages had one well which was generally very deep, there being never less than 150 feet to draw water by a wire or rope and bucket, so that it was a long process to water even a troop of horses and many animals only got one drink in two days. The Division moved to JAFFA. N.Z.M.R.Bde now getting plenty of water and also straw, requisitioned from the German Colony at SARONA. A chaff cutting plant was found in this place so that the straw is chaffed which greatly relieves the animals after being for so long on grain only. Owing to the difficulty of supplies the 1st A.L.H.Bde returned to Esdud where they are able to requisition tibben locally.		
		25th	A.D.V.S. returns to Esdud and inspected the animals of the 1st A.L.H.Bde and found them in very fair condition but a number of fatal cases of flatulent colic had occurred owing to the continual feeding on grain only, and bulk food is urgently required.		
		28th	1st A.L.H.Bde moved from Esdud to Richon Le Zion. All units are still drawing only Mobile ration but in most cases are getting tibben or straw locally. Water is plentiful so that horses regain a great deal of their former condition. The veterinary arrangements of this Division during the operations from Beersheba down to Jaffa were as follows. The Mobile Vet Sections less the N.C.O.s and four men with each brigade Vet officers were instructed to move to Sheria on the 9th-11-17. and from there to Haj accordingly, as the forage dump moved, but as the Division moved so quickly, communication was cut off except by wireless telegraphy so that the sections did not get orders until the Division moved to Hamame, when they moved to a point 2 miles East of Gaza from Beersheba by the 12-11-17 (2 days Stage) On the 13-11-17 they move to Mejdel and remain there till the Division has reached the Jaffa area, and the 7th M.V.S. joins the 2nd A.L.H.Bde at Yarrur, the 6th M.V.S. joins the 1st A.L.H.Bde at Esdud and the 2nd N.Z.M.V.S. joins the N.Z.Bde at Jaffa on 25th.		
		29th	Up to this period of operations the Mob Vet Sections have each returned to their respective Bdes about 100 horses, fit, besides evacuating a large number along a long line of communication. The N.C.O. and 4 men with each Bde conveyed animals to the sections at Mejdel, varying from 15 to 30 miles and the sections conveyed them then on to Belah 24 miles distant.		
		31st	The total animal casualties for the operations from 26-10-17 till 30-11-17 were Killed 328 Died 26 Destroyed 71 Evacuated to L of C 450 Total 923. .. Missing 48.		
				Major. A.D.V.S. A.&N.Z. MOUNTED DIVISION.	

- DEC 1917

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