

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

Veterinary

**Item number:** 27/10/3

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

May 1916



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WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY  
(Erase heading not required.)

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Stie 40	1916 May			
	14		All wheeled transport found impracticable and as camel transport was not available all transport was done by rail.	
	15		Ist Field Squadron receives horses at Kantara West. Telegram from Stralis re Major E.A.LeSouf received and replied to that Major LeSouf is not wanted at that time.	
	23		6th Mobile Veterinary Section arrive at Kantara.	
	24		Increase in the supplies of Veterinary stores because at this time the Veterinary Sections are practically converted into Mobile Veterinary Hospitals & are called upon to treat many cases on their lines that under other circumstances would be evacuated.	
	17		Remounts are scarce and at this period are not in good condition.	
	R		Units are instructed through Divisional Routine order No 64 para 204 that the 6th Mobile Veterinary Section is made a temporary base hospital at Kantara for receiving casualties, from other Mobile Veterinary Sections, Evacuating any cases that the Brigade Veterinary Officer wishes and retaining others.	
	25		Ist A.L.H.Bde reach Kantara and march to Hill 70.	
	30		2nd A.L.H.Bde & N.Z.Mtd Bde move towards Romani and the horses are then compelled to drink well water. For at least a week this has a very debilitating effect on the horses and particularly the coarser type (early) of beast.	
			The weather at this time is very hot and travelling in the sand is heavy.	
			The fodder is also of bad quality and short. The animals suffered very much for at least three weeks but then they began to improve and hold their condition.	
			This was particularly so with the New Zealand Mtd Bde horses which were completely exhausted but gradually recovered when settled in camp at Bir-et-Malek	
			Mobile Vet Sections having returned vehicles to Base Details Kantara & requisitioned on their Brigades for transport.	
			Somerset & Ayreshire Batteries move from Salhia to Kantara with sand tyres and suffer from heat badly.	

# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hcei 40	1916 May 27		<p>Capt Callow reports for duty and is allotted to Divisional Transport at Kantara. 1st L.H.Bde leave Hill 70 for Romani. 6th &amp; 7th Regts return to Hill 70 whilst 5th Regt remain at Duedah Horses at Duedah did exceptionally well; and no difficulty was found with the water.</p> <p>Capt Paterson reports sick with Enteric . F.Q.M.S. Johnston in charge of Brigade (2nd A.L.H)</p> <p>A.D.V.S. visits 3rd A.L.H.B. and Inverness Battery at Serapeum. Horses here are getting fresh water and under shelters . They are in exceptionally fine condition, with few sick. Capt Legg takes over duties of Capt Paterson at 2nd A.L.H.Bde. Draught or transport horses although having done all transport work up to this time are in exceptionally good condition. Horses of 2nd A.L.H. &amp; New Zealand Field Ambulance (Light draughts) are slow over the sand with limbers and sand carts but hold on very well and soon recover after a journey.</p> <p>The R.H.A. Batteries after resting at Kantara moved to Hill 70 on an Exceptionally hot day and suffered greatly from the heat. Owing to the want of a variety of food and fresh water these animals commenced sand eating with the result that several died . The ration was improved and sand muzzles used with the result that the habit was stopped. Evacuations 156 Died and Destroyed 20 Total strength 9708 horses. Debility and Exhaustion from the heat and want of fresh water. Division practically completed.</p>	
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