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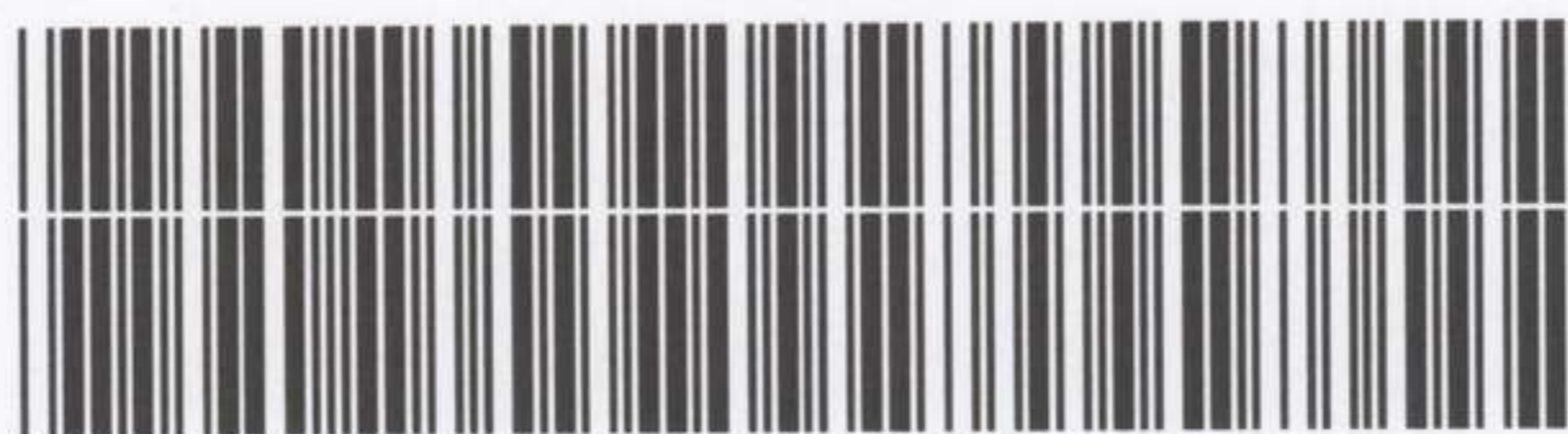
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries, 1914-18 War

Veterinary

Item number: 27/10/4

Title: Assistant Director Veterinary Services, ANZAC Mounted Division

June 1916

AWM4-27/10/4

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
	1916			
Acii 40	June 1		A. D.V.S. visits Romani and finds horses of 2nd A.L.H.Bde looking exception- ally well considering the great travelling done and patrolling. New Zealand horses were exhausted . water was bad and not very well developed . Fodder was also bad and short , grain dirty and scanty and no variety of other fodder Animals had been used to a supply of green fodder and fresh water . Rations was Barley & Maize I2 lbs Bran 3 Tibben IO.	
	2		Capt MacHattie N.Z.Mobile Vet Section.evacuated sick to No3I general Hospital Horses of 3rd Regt stampeded asa result of the air raid , one bomb was dropped in the lines ,casualties 38 killed and destroyed IO wounded. The later were quickly handed over to the 7th Mobile Vet Section and eventually recovered. Bandages (woolen) were received from transports and were flound more suitable than the Veterinary Stores issue. (Bandages. Woollen 2 and 3 inches.)	
	8		Major LeSouef posted with the 2nd A.L.H.Bdd vice Capt Legg proceeded to Engla	
	9		Divisional Headquarters receive II remounts of good type.	
	9		Capts Legg and Callow proceed to 3rd Australian Division England. Pedrails were issued for all guns and were found to make the draught consider ably lighter. It is doubtful what the result would have been with only sand tyres on the horses as the heat alone was very trying on them. Horse shelters of cane matting and white canvas are now used and have been found almost indispensible during this month . The difference with and with out is very marked on the general appearance of the horses . Flies are very bad and that commonly called the camel fly and also a tick causes the animals great pain and in many cases much swelling appeared . Light linen dust rugs relieve this greatly.	
	14		General E.C.Butler Director of Veterinary Services Visits Romani And inspect ed the Ist A.L.H & New Zealand Bdes. Permission was given by 3rd section to have a rest paddock made in connection with the 6th Mobile Veterinary Section. Horses were trucked from Romani and sent by road from Hill 70 for a rest over a period from one to two weeks. These animals quickly recovered and when returned to their units took to the salt or well water. This proceedure so developed that at one period practic ally the same number of animals were being returned to their units as were comming into the paddock each day. Very few animals became bad enough to evacuate to hospital .	ΣR.C.I

1875 Wt. W593/826 1,000,000 4/15 J.B.C. & A. A.D.S.S./Forms/C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Hie 40	June 14		I consider that during the months of June, July, August and September that the principle of paddock resting and if possible on fresh water invaluable. It is necessary to relieve the animals before they becoms too exhausted and by this method the units will keep up to strength better and also thatthe death rate will be decreased .During these months the units should be relieved frequently if possible and provided the travelling distance is not too great. Major S tafford New Zealand Bde evacuated sisk to Port Said. At this period Veterinary Officers had a very busy time during the heat in assisting in developing the water and in the meantime the animals suffered greatly from thirsty consequently these officers were overworked in endeavouring to keep the animals of thier Brigade fit.	
	20		Lieut A.D.Morgan I/ISomerset R.H.A.Battery takes over Major Staffords duties A.D.V.S.visits Romani and finds horses improving and considering that several reconnaissances were carried out to Bir-el-Abd ,Salmana,Bayoud, Quatia and Ogratina during the very hot weather the horses did exceptionally well. During this month it is sufficient for animals when working heavily to be relieved every month or six weeks from this area and if rested two to four weeks will do a great amount af work.	
	21		Capt Rait joins New Zealand Bde at Bir-et-Maler. Sledges are being used on the sand ,two horses or more with great success. Mules feed and do well but are much slower in climbing sand dunes.	
	28		A.D.V S. visits Romani and finds an improvement in the horses that have been rested ., Evacuations 320 Died and Destroyed II7 Namely heat and exhaustion. Total strength 9862.	

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