

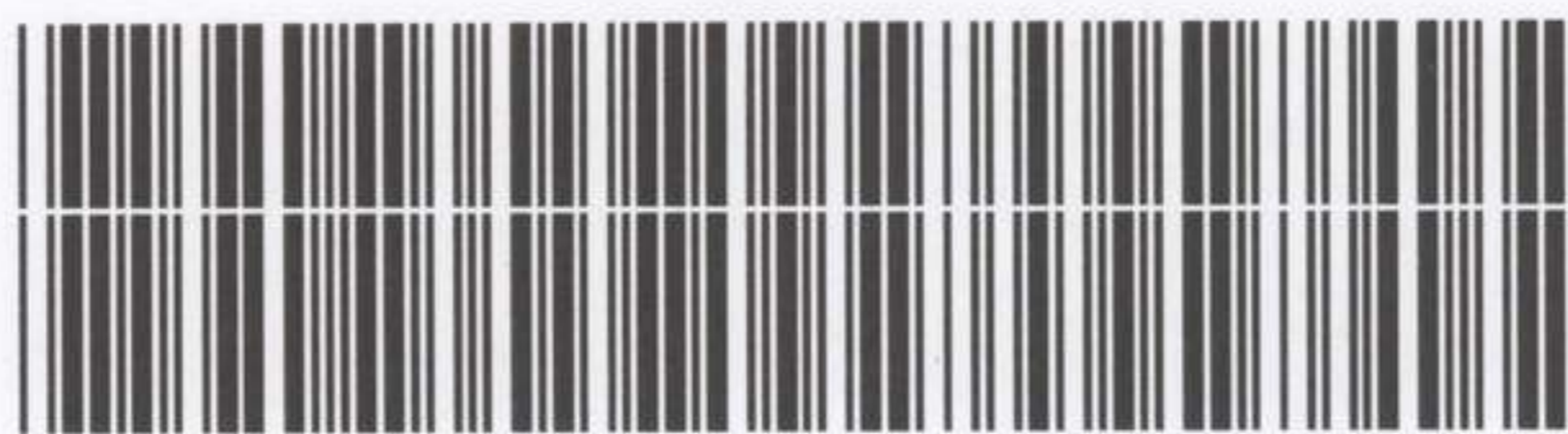
AWM4
Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War

Veterinary

Item number: 27/10/6

Title: Assistant Director Veterinary
Services, ANZAC Mounted Division

August 1916



AWM4-27/10/6

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.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
<i>Hill 70</i>	<i>1916 August 1</i>		<p>It has necessary to supply troops from Romani to Ogratina 12 miles to Dababis 5 miles and to Bir-el-Abd. and Hassaniya so that forage for the animals was taken by the d convoy camels but no difficulty arose in the supplies and the animals were fit at this time although the heat was still great.</p>	
<i>Romani</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>4</i>	<p>D.H.Q. move to Romani. Severe fighting took place, many horses being killed and wounded but the greatest casualties were caused by the long journey the animals were called upon to do in the heat without water and only grain as a ration. This continual hardship for days led to a great many animals having to be evacuated suffering from debility, Exhaustion & Laminitis. D.V.S. General Butler instructed that all unfit animals must be sent to hospital so that the rest paddocks were not used from this time consequently the evacuations were large.</p>	
	<i>12</i>		<p>No 8 Mobile Veterinary Section kept with its Brigade. Part of No 7 M.V. Section were sent with the 2nd Bde whilst the other remained at Romani where the animals were sent for loading on trucks. No 6 M.V. Section were posted at Kantara and received all evacuations cases there and despatched them by rail to Moascar, Belbies & Abbassia. The New Zealand No 2 Mobile Veterinary Section was posted at Hill 70 and received cases from Pelusium and the surrounding area and passed them to 6th M.V. Section. The position of sections as posted from the Suez Canal Railway (Egyptian) out to the fighting area was ? Capt Jones with 6th M.V. Section at Base Kantara, Major Stafford with No 2 N.Z.M.V.S. at Hill 70, (7 miles from Canal) Capt Worthington with 8th M.V.S. at Ogratina in fighting area. This method kept up a connection through to the Base so that animals sick and wounded were got away from units by road and rail and provided resting depots for parties from the Veterinary Sections bringing the animals in. AS there was only a single railway it was useless to use the Mobile Sections wholly with their respective brigades. No difficulty of any kind was met with and many stray horses were recovered in this manner. Units should be made to keep the foot numbers of thier animals distinct so that after an action of this kind stray animals may be easily sorted out and returned to them.</p>	<p><i>● Captain Robin with the 7th Mobile Section at Romani</i></p>

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118 11-10

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Romani	1916 Aug 13		<p style="text-align: center;">D.V.S. General Butler visited Brigades at Romani, Hod Amara and Hassaniya</p> <p>The horses generally were exhausted but they soon recovered . 4 cavalry trains were available at Kantara but not required as cases were sent to 6th Mobile Section and sorted out as required .</p> <p>No difficulty was encountered with respect to Veterinary Supplies . Each AVC MAN WAS supplied with dressings and halters to dress and take over any patients he met with and by placing half the Sections with the brigades it gave the Veterinary Officers more assistance. At the sametime the remaining half Sections attended to the receiving depots with the assistance (tempory) of the men whose horses were put out of action.</p> <p>Casualties for the month were as follows Evacuated 1142, Killed & Destroyed 236 Total strength of the Division 8997.</p> <p>The well water at the various Hods varied considerably but in all places such as Romani, DUiedah , Quatia, Ogratina and Bir-el-Abd, it was reasonably good. At Salmana, Bir-et-Maler and Mazar it was found to be more Saline but I do not think this was the main factor for the horses not drinking freely. The horses were so exhausted from the heat and continuous travelling that they did not care to eat or drink for it was found that when they were taken to the rest paddock at Kantara they did not either eat or drink untill they had rested at least two days, then they drank freely of the fresh water there. add Saline water at Romani and Bir-et-Maler somuch so that the sections were able to return many animals to their units that were picked out for at evacuation to Hospital.</p> <p>New Zealand No 2 M.V. Section ordered to move to Romani upto its Brigade.</p> <p>Wellington Mounted Rifles move back to Kantara to rest thier horses and give them fresh water , At this time the difficulties of developing fresh water had been overcome and these animals were only suffering from the reaction of the previous hard work .</p> <p>Capt McLeod leaves the D ivision for duty with the No 16 Veterinary Hospital at Heleopolis.</p> <p>Lieut Morgan A.V.C. also leaves the Division for duty with No 20 Veterinary Hospital.</p>	