

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

Remount

Item number: 28/1/7 Part 1

Title: Australian Remount Depot

October - November 1918



AWM4-28/1/7PART1



CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT DEPOT.

FOR
PERIOD

1st. OCTOBER 1918 to 30th. NOVEMBER 1918.



Signature of Officer compiling

A. H. Ferguson

Lieut.

Signature of Officer Commanding

D. McLeish

COLONEL.

COMMANDANT.



WAR --- DIARY

E141

AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT DEPOT.

- OCTOBER 1st. No entry.
- OCTOBER 7th. 55 P.B. horses marched in from Remount Depot, Belbeis. *Abf*
- " 12th. 100 horses marched in from Remount Depot, Belbeis. *Abf*
- " 13th. 55 O/Ranks marched out for Suez for embarkation to Australia. These men are going home because of their age, ill health, and injuries. They are being replaced by younger men from Australia. *Abf*
- " 16th. Major A.B.PATERSON marched out to Cairo on duty. Major C.H.BOURNE will act as Commandant during his absence. *Abf*
- " 18th. Major C.H.BOURNE and 28 O/Ranks marched out to Belbeis to bring back horses. *Abf*
- " 20th. Major BOURNE marched in with 100 horses from Remount Depot, Belbeis. The horses marched well and arrived in good condition. *Abf*
- " 21st. Colonel D. McLeish marched in from 26th. Stationery Hospital and resumes command of Depot. *Abf*
- " 22nd. Capt. R.M. SPENCE A.A.V.C. started out on 7 days leave. *Abf*
- " 23rd. Capt. FETHERS A.A.V.C. temporarily to take Capt Spence's place in Depot. Notification received that Capt Spence is under orders to proceed to France. *Abf*
- " 24th. Capt. P.D. BRIGHT with 55 O/Ranks started by train for Belbeis to bring back 200 horses. *Abf*
- " 25th. A number of men returned from Port Said where they have been sent from Hospitals; most of them had been at Remounts Ludd; some of them were suffering from Malaria, contracted probably, owing to the Turkish Prisoners of War Camp being quite close to the Depot. Capt BRIGHT and party arrived from Belbeis with 200 horses. Horses quite a good lot and in good condition. *Abf*
- " 26th. Issued 10 P.B. horses to Training Centre, Moascar. *Abf*
- " 28th. Major A.B.PATERSON and 55 O/Ranks started for Belbeis by train to bring back 200 horses. *Abf*
- " 29th. Major PATERSON and party arrived at Depot with 200 horses and Mules from Belbeis. These animals are in good condition. They appear to have been hurried rather much. Received orders to ascertain how many N.C.O's and Troopers of the Unit are willing to volunteer for fighting units, Light Horse. *Abf*
- " 31st. 49 N.C.O's and men volunteered for Light Horse. Of the reinforcements at Isolation 26 volunteered. They will remain there for the present for their training. During the period under review little of interest has to be recorded. A certain amount of sickness occurred; part of it being Malaria. The work of the Depot carried out as usual. *Abf*

D. McLeish COLONEL.
COMMANDANT
AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT DEPOT.

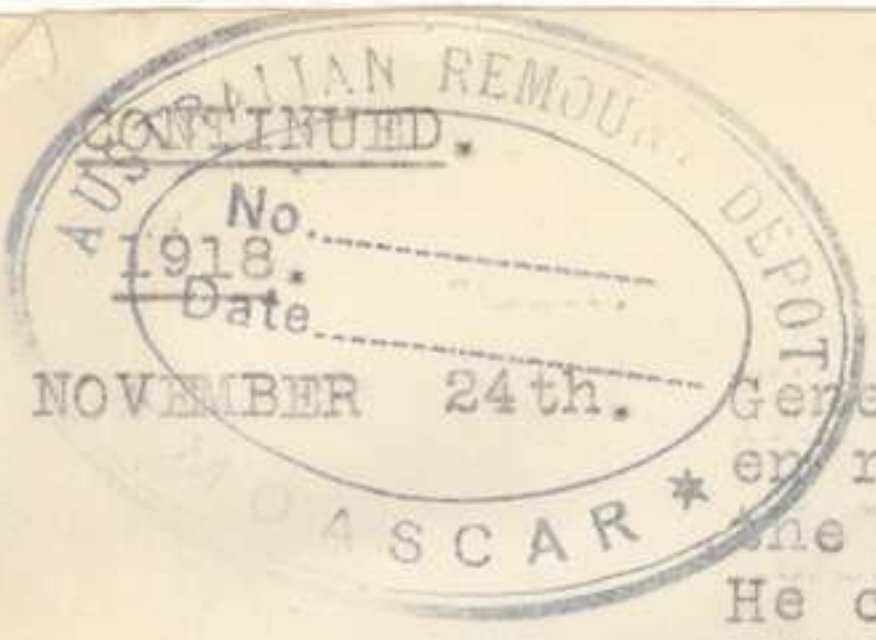


WAR DIARY.

E1412

AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT DEPOT.

- NOVEMBER 1st. Brig.Genl.BATES inspected the animals in the Depot. *Nbf*
- " 2nd. Lieut T.F.LITTLE marched out of camp to Remounts, Ludd. *Nbf*
- " 3rd. A Lecture on Venereal Disease was delivered at the Cinema, Moascar, on this date by Chaplain Capt.EWING. The attendance was compulsory for all ranks in the Moascar Area. It was non religious. It was a most able lecture. The appeal was to the finer feelings of all concerned. The lecturer endeavoured to show the probable effect to the wives of individuals becoming affected by the disease and to the children born to them after their return. *Nbf*
- " 4th. Capt. H.S.TYNDALL marched into Depot to-day. He has been with Remounts, Ludd for some time. A few O/Ranks marched in from Port Said. *Nbf*
- " 5th. (Horses in Depot on this date 619, Mules 266. *Nbf*
- " 7th. 23 Reinforcements for this Depot marched into Camp from A.& N.Z.T.C.& D.C. (Isolation). The remainder have volunteered for fighting units so are retained temporarily to undergo their training. *Nbf*
- " 12th. On the definite news of the signing of the Armistice by Germany there was great gratification and relief shown by all ranks in the Camp. *Nbf*
- " 13th. (Horses in Depot 585, Mules 262. *Nbf*
- " 14th. Received orders to make room for 1200 more animals in the Depot. These will be run in Kraals. A start was made with the erection of the fences. We have sufficient cable-this was brought from Heliopolis. The Engineers issued 300 posts, or rather road slabs that had been used; these make capital posts. They have also promised sufficient water and feed troughs but as there is likely to be a shortage of the latter we are going to build several of mud brick, similar to those built in the original kraals. We shall be able to do all work ourselves. That is, the work will cost nothing as the material will be stuff that has been already used; it will cost nothing to the Government. *Nbf*
- " 16th. Work on the new kraals progressing well; all posts, with the exception of short divisions, have been erected. A large number of feeding and water troughs have been received. *Nbf*
- " 19th. Lt.Col.D.FULTON called to-day. He could not tell me if the Remount reinforcements will be required. *Nbf*
- " 20th. The A.&N.Z.T.C.& D.C. has sent into the Depot 98 horses-mostly P.B. Owing to lack of men it was found to be impossible to water, groom, and feed them properly so they have been sent here. Sanction first obtained from the D.R. Capt. SPENCE, Veterinary Officer attached to Depot, has been sent to France on duty. *Nbf*
- " 21st. (A.& N.Z.T.C.& D.C. sent in 49 more horses. *Nbf*



NOVEMBER 24th. General ALLENBY, the C. in C., passed through Moascar to-day en route for Cairo. The Training Units and nearly 100 of the Remounts lined the platform and cheered him as he passed. He came on ~~the~~ to the platform of his carriage and acknowledged the salute. Major BOURNE was in charge of the Remounts. *Abf*

" 25th. Major C.H. BOURNE, Capt P.D. BRIGHT and 70 O/Ranks left Depot at 8 a.m. for Kantara. They will conduct 200 ponies to Jericho where they will be handed over to representative of the King of the Hedjaz. *Abf*

" 26th. Capt. PENROSE A.A.V.C. has been ordered to carry out the Veterinary work of this Depot in addition to that of the Training Centre. He started ageing the horses. All horses have to be aged. The age is being put on their rumps in white paint. *Abf*

" 27th. Horses in Depot on this date 714, Mules 265. *Abf*

" 29th. Capt. PENROSE finished ageing horses. The largest number being 14 years old. Lieut T.F. LITTLE and 6 O/Ranks proceeded to Suez by train to conduct back to the Depot 18 horses which are coming from a port in the Red Sea. Believe they had been lent to King of the Hedjaz. *Abf*

" 30th. The month just ended has been notable owing to the signing of the Armistice by Germany. This evidently affected the despatch of animals from the Depot, as none were sent out. It was expected that a large number of animals would be sent in here but, so far, none have arrived. The health of the men has been, on the whole, good, though a number were sent to hospital suffering from Colds, Malaria, and accidents. Horses and Mules have been healthy and have improved in condition generally, excepting a number of those received from the Training Centre. Some of these are very low and old - they are not likely to improve. *Abf*

D. McLush

COLONEL.
COMMANDANT
AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT DEPOT.

"METHUSILIER" - A member of an Australian Remount Unit, consisting
of men for the most part over age.