

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

Remount

Item number: 28/1/9 Part 1

Title: Australian Remount Depot

January 1919



AWM4-28/1/9PART1

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Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

A U S T R A L I A N R E M O U N T D E P O T .

FOR

J A N U A R Y 191 9



Signature of Officer compiling *J. Lee* Lieut. A.R.D.

Signature of Officer Commanding *M. J. ...* MAJOR. A/COMMAN DANT.
Date _____
* AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT DEPOT *
* MOASCAR *

WAR DIARY

A U S T R A L I A N R E M O U N T

D E P O T

Date

1919
JANUARY

- 1st. New Years' Day was observed as much as possible as a holiday, a number of O/ranks, besides two officers being allowed to go to Cairo for the day; they probably all attended the Races at Heliopolis. At the end of the year 1918 there were 653 horses and 250 mules in the Depot. *JH*
- " 2nd. Amongst the horses in the Depot on this date were 125 sent in by the Training Centre, Moascar, as there were not sufficient men in the command at this time to feed and water the whole of those on charge to them. These horses are being held for them by Remounts should they be required, which does not seem likely. All these horses were on loan to Australian troops from Imperial authorities, mostly all P.B. A small number of horses- 38 - were brought from Kantara A.V.C. by Cpl. Garry and party. *JH*
- " 3rd. Gen. Bates ~~and~~ D.R. and Col. Hine-Haycock D.D.R. visited the Depot. Gave instructions re. disposal of very old and unsound animals. *JH*
- " 4th. Capt. Andrew A.V.C. and the C.O. examined horses in the Depot with a view to casting old useless animals. *JH*
- " 6th. Continued examination of horses. All horses over 16 years have to be cast. *JH*
- " 7th. Similar work carried out as on previous day. *JH*
- " 8th. The examination of horses for casting was completed. A considerable number being marked for destruction; most of them were 16 or over or quite unsound, over 20 being already marked P.B. *JH*
- " 10th. Capt. Penrose veterinarily examined 58 horses just sent into the Depot by the N.Z. Trg. Centre. 15 of these are owned by the N.Z. Government, the remainder are horses loaned by Imperial authorities, more than half being cast as many of them were P.B. horses when they got them. The N.Z. horses will be held until further orders. *JH*
- " 11th. A few small Indian Pack mules were despatched to Remounts, Kantara. *JH*
- " 12th. Capt. Andrew has been appointed to act as Veterinary Officer for the Australian Remounts. (So far all cast horses have been destroyed by the A.V.C. *JH*
- " 15th. A start was made to make enough mud bricks to build a larger feed mixing shed. The new building will be 60 x 30 feet. Lieut. Brown, attached, who has been in Hospital for several months, returned to duty to-day. *JH*
- " 17th. All mares in Depot, sound and suitable and under 15.3 in height, have been selected and placed in Kraals, L.D. separate from Riders. They are being kept for breeding purposes. Lieut. Brown has been placed in charge of kraals, Lieut. Foot resuming duty with "B" Squadron. *JH*
- " 18th. Genl. Bates D.R., inspected animals in Depot. He picked out a number of small horses which will be sent to Cairo later for sale. He directed that horses held for Training Centre also for N.Z. Training Centre are to be dealt with as with others in the Depot; apparently the Training Centre and N.Z. T.C. do not require them again. *JH*
- " 19th. Lieut. Brown was sent to Hospital again; may be there for some time. *JH*

W A R D I A R Y

A U S T R A L I A N R E M O U N T



1919

- January 20th. Nothing to report. *JH*
- " 22nd. Notice sent that Capt. Andrew A.A.V.C. will report to Anzac Division, Rafa, for duty. Capt Penrose to do duty for Remounts. *JH*
- " 23rd. Lieut. Ferguson marched out on 10 days leave of absence. *JH*
- " 24th. (One charger issued to Lt. Fyfe, Australian Provost Corps. Capt. Andrew marched out en route to Rafa. *JH*
- " 25th. (Capt. Penrose has received orders to carry out Veterinary work with Remounts in addition to his other duties. Lt. Sutherland of Belbeis Depot and party in charge of 200 mules en route to Kantara, arrived at the Depot. They stayed all night. The journey of animals from Belbeis to Moascar, or vice versa, takes 2 days. First stage being to Tel-el-Kebir, which is 30 miles distant from Moascar. *JH*
- " 26th. Chaplain Capt. Maund conducted Divine Service at the Depot to-day. *JH*
- " 28th. Lieut. Ferguson, Adjutant, returned to duty. *JH*
- " 29th. (A number of smallish mules received from 75th. Division, most of them being pack mules, mostly young. They were railed to Moascar from Suez. Capt. Tyndall, who applied for leave to England some time ago, marched out en route to Alexandria to-day when he will embark for England almost immediately. He has been granted one months' leave in England. *JH*
- " 30th. (22 more mules received to-day from 75th. Division, most of them being packs; they were in low condition. One mule recently received got out of the kraal and got away. After a considerable time it was tracked to Ismailia and was found tied up at Heavy Artillery Brigade in Ismailia. It must have swam the canal. *JH*
- " 31st. Nothing to report.
The work of the Depot during the month under review has been comparatively light as the number of animals has not been excessive at any time, so the men have been given every opportunity of practicing for the various sports that have been organised in Moascar. Winners to have a chance of going to Cairo for a final contest.
The health of the personnel has been good on the whole. Animals also have been healthy excepting a few cases of dermatitis, which is readily cured by application of a mixture of sulphur and fish oil.
A certain amount of improvement has been carried on in the Depot in anticipation of a large number of horses being received in the near future. *JH*

J. H. Palmer

Major.

A/Commandant
AUSTRALIAN REMOUNT DEPOT.