

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/41/20

Title: 3rd Australian Light Horse Field
Ambulance

February 1918



AWM4-26/41/20

CONFIDENTIAL.

ORIGINAL.
DUPLICATE.
TRIPLICATE.

Australian Imperial Force.

WAR DIARY

OF

3rd Aust. Light Horse Field Ambulance

FOR

February 1918



M/11
FEB 1918

Signature of Officer compiling

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Signature of Officer Commanding

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Belah	1/1/18		Six draught horses and Mule transferred to 8th h'd Regt. in accordance with new Transport Establishment	
"	2/1/18		3 operands arrived at Moascar Details taken on strength Capt. Morris and Capt. Leahy proceeded to Medical Officers School at Moascar 1 draught horse transferred to 3rd h'd Sqdn. and draught horse evacuated stayed off strength Signal members present with the Unit held a dinner - smoke night to which was invited all old members in the country. 12 were present including Col R.M. Downes C.M.G. D.D.M.S. Desert Regt. Col. G.R. Lewis was chairman. The dinner proved a great success.	appendix I
"	2/1/18 3/1/18		1 operand evacuated sick - stayed off strength	
"	4/1/18		1 ride horse returned from 1st Mule Section 3 AT natives arrived from Advanced AT Depot to replace 3 returned for discharge Time expired for programme of training see Appendix no 3	appendix 3
"	5/1/18		Two operands evacuated sick - stayed off strength. Two operands transferred to No 1st Aust General Hospital 1 operand (Lt. Sgt. Stanley) proceeded to A.I. headquarters for three days tour of duty. Capt. Quinlan (batman) rejoined from detachment with 10 h'd Regt.	
"	6/1/18		2 operands transferred from No 4 Aust General Hospital - taken on strength 6 ride - 15 burden camels returned to No 1 Camel Hospital RAFA 21 CTC natives returned to No 2 Camel Corps Depot RAFA. 12 lying, 6 sitting 13 ride saddles - 14 burden (pack) saddles returned to ROO BELAH. Authority 3rd h'd Bde letter A/765, 5/1/18 in accordance with new Transport Establishment G.S. 873/1B G.S.(O) & HQ, 11/1/18	

FEB 1918
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Date
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3rd L.H.F. Amb.
5th L.H. BRIGADE

D. D. & L., London, E.C.
(A800) Wt. W1771/M2031 750,000 5/17 Sch. 52 Forms/C2118/14

Full strength

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	7/1/18		1. Ride dose evacuated to 8 th Mobile Veterinary Section. 2. For statement of sick admitted, discharged and evacuated see Appendix No 6 3. For Programme of Training for week commencing Feb 11 th see Appendix No 4	appendix 6 appendix 4
"	9/1/18		2. AT ASC natives arrived from advanced AT Depot.	
"	10/1/18		1. Quark rejoined from AT 8 S.P. Cairo. 3 Quarks proceeded to MOASCAR to await embarkation to Australia on transport duty. Names and length of service with Unit as follows:- 943 Cpl SNOWBALL. T. K. 3 years 3 1/2 months, 918 Cpl LONG. F. E. 3 years 3 months, 843 Pte HEFFERNAN. D. 3 years 4 months.	
"	11/2/18		Lieut COMINS SA rejoined Unit from hospital. 1. Quark transferred from 101st and General Hospital taken on strength. Practice rehearsal Parade C in C's inspection. The parade of the 3 rd L.H.F. Ambulance was not a success and led to some alteration in appointments of N.C.O's in the Unit. Sergeants SUTTON and CARLING appointed Transport Sergeants	
"	17/1/18		1. Ride dose returned from Mobile Section.	
"	13/1/18		1. 1543 Coy Q. (Transport) evacuated to 8 th Mobile Vet Section. 2. Quarks to 6 Dental Unit (attached) transferred to Angas Base Depot Camel Corps ABASSIA. 1. Quark evacuated sick struck off strength.	
"	14/1/18		4 Quarks rejoined at Desert Med Corps Rest Camp & Aid. 5 Quarks proceeded to D. Med Corps Rest Camp. For statement of Patients admitted, discharged & evacuated see Appendix No. 7	appendix 7
"	15/1/18		3 Quarks arrived at Moascar details taken on strength. 1. Quark evacuated sick struck off strength. Practice rehearsal Parade. C in C's inspection. The parade on this occasion was very creditable and reflected well on the work of the Transport Sergeants and men. Programme of Training for week commencing Feb 18 th is the same as for week commencing Feb 11. See Appendix No. 4	appendix 4



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J. M. Stewart Col.

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	16/1/18		1 grand transferred from no 1st Aust General Hospital taken on strength	
-	17/1/18		Capt Morris Pa rejoined at School of Instruction Moascar Capt Woods RQ batman proceeded to School of Instruction for Medical officers Moascar 1 Douglas Motor Cycle arrived	
-	18/1/18		no 3917 ches field (Transport) & no 2591 Black Mare (Transport) were exchanged for 2 Transport Horses (Draft) of 'B' Battery M.A.C.	
-	19/1/18		Cholera inoculation.	
-	20/1/18		1 grand transferred from no 70 Dental Unit to no 6 Dental Unit attached to 3rd L.H.F. Amb	
-	21/2/18		2 ride horses evacuated to 8th Mobile Vet Section 1 grand evacuated sick to hospital struck off strength to no 1st Aust General Hospital 2 grand transferred to no 2 Aust Stationary Hospital	
-			1 grand detached H.F. M.A 746 for instructional purposes for statement of sick admitted evacuated & discharged see appendix no 8 programme of training week commencing Feb. 24 appendix no 5	appendix 8 appendix 5
-	22/1/18		1 ride & draft horse returned from Mobile Vet Section 2 grand at Moascar details taken on strength	
-	23/1/18		1 grand rejoined unit at hospital	

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
BELAH	25/18		Capt Leahy etc rejoined unit & leave from School of Instruction MOASCAR all ranks of the Brigade in possession of effective small box respirators attended a Gas Test. Field Ambulance. 80. Remainder of Ambulance on following day	
"	26/18		Remainder of personnel in possession of effective S.B. Respirators. attended Gas Test at 1100. 5 ranks rejoined unit & Desert Aid Corps Rest Camp Fort Said. 5 ranks proceeded to Desert Aid Corps Rest Camp Fort Said	
"	27/18		1 rank rejoined & at Headquarters Cairo.	
"	28/18		3 Hds → draught horse etc evacuated to 8th Mobile Vet Section 2 ranks at Moascar taken on strength 1 MT ASC (British) driver attached to complete establishment of Motor drivers 3rd abd brigade held their dismounted sports commencing 1330. Capt Shelley Chairman proceeded to Central Gas School R.A.F.A. for 3 days Gas Course. For statement of patients admitted discharged & evacuated see appendix no 9	appendix 2 appendix 9



FEB 1918

J. M. Schmitt

WAR DIARY

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FEB 1918OF
3rd Aust. Light Horse Field Ambulance

FOR

February 1918

LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject
1	School of instruction for Medical officers
2	Sports
3	Programme of Training week commencing Feb 4 th - 18
4	Programme of Training week commencing Feb 11 th
5	Programme of Training week commencing Feb 18 th 1918
6	Weekly Statement of Patients admitted Discharged & Evacuated week ending Feb 7 th
7	Weekly Statement of Patients. week ending Feb 14 th
8	Weekly Statement of Patients week ending Feb 21 st
9	Weekly Statement of Patients week ending Feb 28 th 1918.



[Signature]
M. S. S. Col.

Appendix no I

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Subject.

FEB 1918



School of Instruction for Medical Officers.

During this month a School of Instruction for Medical Officers came into being, situated at Moascar, under the disciplinary control of the Camp Commandant & with Major Gen. P. M. of the 14th A. G. H. as chief instructor.

That such a school has been badly needed for a considerable time is a fairly unanimous opinion, not so much as the R.A.M.C. are concerned but rather in regard to the A.A.M.C. It is understood that the R.A.M.C. all go through preliminary schools.

Referring to the Moascar School two officers from this unit were amongst those in the first "class". That they have profited is beyond doubt, but —

From the information given by these officers the subjects dealt with, coincided practically completely with those dealt with in the schools for combatant officers at Guiton. Consequently it might seem strange at first but would it not prove exceedingly useful to attach medical officers to these schools which are on a definite footing?

If a little more knowledge concerning combatant work was gleaned than is necessary, it is not thought that this would be amiss.

a medical officer in an ambulance ^{is} not
only a "doctor" as is fondly imagined ^{by the}
great majority, but has also to assume ^{July 1918} similar
duties to a combatant officer

Consequently it is considered that a month or
five weeks spent in a cavalry school
would not be uselessly wasted but would
in the end add to the efficiency of the
ambulance to which that officer was attached.
Certain lessons have been learnt - this was
& it is at the combatant schools that
these lessons are remarked on & discussed.



appendix 1

W. M. Stewart

FEB 1918

Sports.

Appendix no 2

MII

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The saying "mens sana in corpore sano" is undoubtedly true & sports play no little part in its achievement.

Accordingly the various mounted brigades within this area have arranged their "sports" & how far these "sports" have reacted to the benefit of men horses & equipment is very striking.

This unit has been somewhat unfortunate in the respect that just at this time when the Brigade sports are taking place there have occurred a large number of exchanges & transfers in the personnel, nevertheless the spirit of friendly yet keen competition shown by certain men has been good to see.



J. M. Stuart D. Col.

3rd Australian Horse Field Ambulance

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- FEB 1918

General Daily Routine ~~for the~~ Commencing Feb 4th 18

0600	Reveille	1300	Midday meal
0615	General Parade	1545 - 1700	Watering Stables
0630 - 0700	Stables	1715	Tea
0730	Breakfast	1800	Roll in of Picquet
0830 - 1145	Training	2130	lights Out.
1145 - 1300	Watering Stables		

Programme of Training Commencing Feb 4th 1918

Monday Feb 4th

0830 - 0945 Mounted Amb drill for whole Unit.
 0945 - 1045 Stretches and handseat drill for T Division & bearers.
 1045 - 1145 Instructions in handling of teams and wagons for drivers (Lytham)
 Grazing of horses

Tuesday Feb 5th

0830 - 0945 Mounted Amb drill for whole Unit
 0945 - 1045 as on Monday
 1045 - 1145 Grazing

Wednesday Feb 6th

0830 - 0945 Dismounted Troop drill for whole Ambulance
 0945 - 1045 Gas Parade
 1045 - 1145 Grazing
 Lecture to Tent Division NCOs & men on elements of asepsis, fractures and application of Thomas' splint (Capt Woods RQ)

Thursday Feb 7th

0830 - 0945 Mounted Ambulance drill for whole Ambulance
 0945 - 1045 Stretches and handseat drill for Tent Division and bearers
 1045 - 1145 Rifle inspection for drivers
 Grazing

Friday Feb 8th

0830 - 0945 Troop drill for bearers at all faces
 0945 - 1045 Instruction in linking, haltering and coupling horses
 1045 - 1145 Wagon drill for drivers with similar instructions as for bearers
 Lecture on sanitation and water duties to whole Ambulance (Capt Leahy)
 Grazing of horses

Saturday Feb 9th

0830 - 1145 cleaning of saddlery and harness and camp throughout

Sunday Feb 10th

1030 - 1130 Grazing of horses at 1200 O.C.'s inspection for week



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3rd Aust Light Horse Field Ambulance

Appendix No 4

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Programme of Training for week Commencing Feb 11th 18

Monday Feb 11th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045

Mounted Ambulance drill for whole Unit
Stretchers and handseat drill for Tent Division and bearers
Instruction in handling of teams and wagons for drivers
Grazing of horses

1045 - 1145

Tuesday Feb 12th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045

Mounted Amb drill for whole Unit
Stretchers and handseat drill for Tent Division and bearers
Drivers same as on Monday.
Grazing

1045 - 1145

Wednesday Feb 13th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045
1045 - 1145

Dismounted Troop drill for whole Unit.
Gas Parade.
Grazing
Lecture to Tent Division on ordinary duties of a nursing orderly, e.g. (changing blankets) (giving an enema) (nasal douches) (application of eye lotion, methods of dressing of minor wounds and abrasions.)

Thursday Feb 14th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045

Mounted Amb drill for whole Unit
Stretchers and handseat drill for Tent division and bearers with application of first field dressing and slings (am).
Rifle inspection and drill for drivers
Grazing

1045 - 1145

Friday Feb 15th

0830 - 0945

Troop drill for bearers at all faces with instructions in leading, haltering, hobbling and coupling horses
Wagon drill with instruction in handling of teams leading, coupling and hobbling.
Continuation of above drill.
Continuation of lecture to Tent Division on duties of a nursing orderly with practical demonstrations

0945 - 1045

1045 - 1145

Saturday Feb 16th

0830 - 1145

Cleaning of saddlery and harness and camp throughout
Inspection of camp by C.O. at 1130.
Church services. Cleaning of camp.

Sunday Feb 17th

0830 - 1145

at 1130 C.O. will inspect camp. Men will be fully dressed and standing to their bivouacs and tents weather permitting. Kit will be deployed neatly in front of bivouac - tent for inspection as to care and condition.



3rd Aust Light Horse Field Ambulance

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Programme of Training week Commencing Feb 25 1918

Monday Feb 25th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045

Mounted Amb drill for whole Unit
Sketches and handseat drill for Tent Division & Bearers.
Instruction in handling of teams and wagons for drivers
Grazing of horses

Tuesday Feb 26th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045

Mounted Amb drill for whole unit
Sketches and handseat drill for Tent Division and Bearers
Drivers same as on Monday

Wednesday Feb 27th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045
1045 - 1145

Dismounted Troop drill for whole unit.
Gas Parade.
Grazing

Instructions as to the forming of an advanced dressing station with the carried out practically with tent pitching etc. (Capt Shelley)

Thursday Feb 28th

0830 - 0945
0945 - 1045

Mounted Amb drill for whole unit
Sketches and handseat drill for Tent Division and Bearers with application of first field dressing & sling (arm)
Rifle inspection and drill for drivers.
Grazing

Friday Feb 29th March 1st

0830 - 0945

Troop drill for bearers at all faces with instruction in linking, haltering, hobbling and coupling horses
Wagon drill with instructions in handling of teams, linking, coupling and hobbling.
Continuation of above drill
Lecture in "first aid" and treatment of wounded (Capt Morris)

0945 - 1045

Cleaning of saddles and harness and camp
Thorough inspection of camp by CO at 1130

Saturday March 2nd

0830 - 0945

Sunday March 3rd

0830 - 1145

Church parades. Cleaning of camp.
at 1130 CO will inspect camp
Men will be fully dressed and standing to their bivouacs and tents.
Weather permitting kit will be displayed neatly in front of bivouac tent for inspection as to care & condition



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Appendix no 6

3rd Aust Light Horse Field Ambulance

Weekly State of sick admitted Discharged & Evacuated

Date	Number admitted	Number Discharged	Number Evacuated	Remaining in hospital
Feb 1st	1	1	2	8
2nd	4	4	1	7
3rd	8	-	7	8
4th	4	1	3	4
5th	3	1	6	5
6th	1	-	1	5
7th	5	1	3	7
Total	26	7	22	



W. Medhurst St G

Appendix no 8

3rd Aust Light Horse Field Ambulance

Weekly Statement of Patients admitted

Discharged & Evacuated

Date	Number admitted	Discharged	Evacuated	Remaining
February 14				14
15	7	3	6	12
16	4	1		15
17	1	2	1	13
18	3	1	2	13
19	10	1	5	17
20	3	1	2	17
21	4	2	4	15
Total	32	11	20	



W. Stuart Steel

Appendix no 7

3rd Aust Light Horse Field Ambulance

Weekly Statement of Patients admitted Discharged

& Evacuated

Date	Number admitted	Number Discharged	Evacuated	Remaining
February 7				7
8	3			10
9	3	1	3	9
10	2			11
11	2	1		11
12	9	1	4	15
13	5	3	5	12
14	3		1	14
Total	26	6	13	



FEB 1918

W. Stuart Steel

14/15

11/16

FEB 1918

appendix no 9

3rd Auslight Horse Field Ambulance

Weekly statement of Patients Admitted

Discharged & Evacuated.

Date	Admitted	Discharged	Evacuated	Remaining
21				15
22	1	2	3	11
23	4	2	3	10
24	4			14
25	5	2	4	13
26	3	3	2	11
27	5			16
28	3		2	17
	25	9	14	



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