

**AWM4**

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/24/9 Part 1

**Title:** Assistant Director of Medical  
Services, Australian Mounted Division

May 1918 Includes appendices



AWM4-26/24/9PART1



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TRIPLICATE.



**Australian Imperial Force.**

**WAR DIARY**

OF

*Colonel G P Dixon, RSM, Australia,*

FOR

*Month Ending 31/5 1918*

Signature of Officer compiling

*G P Dixon  
RSM, Australia.*

Signature of Officer Commanding

MAY 1918



WAR DIARY of Colonel G. P. DIXON, A.D.M.S., Ausdiv.,  
Month Ending 31/5/18.

NI 7/1  
MAY 1918

place.	Date. 1918.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
ES SALT.	1	0615	Proceeded with Major Evans, D.A.D.M.S., to ES SALT and found a Turkish M.O., Capt. Shediak, with Red Crescent personnel in charge of about 120 sick and wounded in houses. Arranged for him to carry on his work. A Divisional Collecting Station was opened by 3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. tent sub-division in Church and adjoining rooms under Capt. SHELLEY. Placed D.A.D.M.S. in charge of outside arrangements and evacuations, &c. He found a German motor ambulance and touring car in working order, also 4 lorries and some carts and harness. All of these were eventually taken into use collecting casualties from Advanced Dressing Stations. He also discovered stores of petrol and wheat and some flour which he arranged to have baked by local baker. Also requisitioned cattle and arranged for flour mill to be started to grind flour (vide narrative). (App.1).	
		1030	3rd Ambulance arrived with 14 casualties on camels. Reported very bad trip over shocking roads. Wired position to D.D.M.S. Typhus present in the town. Water supply excellent.	App. 1.
		1400	Notified 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Amb. that D.C.S. was opened at ES SALT. Position of Ambulances:- D.C.S., (3rd Amb. tent sub-division) in building at ES SALT. 1st L.H.Fld.Amb. (bearers only) at K.21.b. on UMM SHERT track. 2nd L.H.Fld.Amb., Dressing Station on ES SALT - AMMAN Road at 142.0.27 (9 cacaolet camels). 3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. bearers and 25 cacaolet camels $\frac{3}{4}$ mile N.E. of ES SALT and with regiments holding Northern exits of ES SALT. 4th L.H.Fld.Amb. and D.C.S. tent sub-division of 5th M.B.Fld.Amb. in Jordan Valley under orders of Desert Mounted Corps. 5th M.B.Fld.Amb. Dressing Station 1 mile S. of ES SALT on main road and advanced station 14 miles further South. As 1st and 5th Ambulances were without any transport it was decided that they should man-handle casualties to the main road ES SALT - GHORANIYE, where they would be collected by captured transport detailed above. Wire received from D.D.M.S. that transport of 4th L.H.Fld.Amb. had been captured, and that wagons from 5th Ambulance were being temporarily attached. After dark 2nd Bde. moved down road and joined 5th Mtd.Bde. preparatory to an attack on HOWEIJ Bridge. Casualties - admitted 12, evacuated Nil.	
		1230	Wired D.A.A. & Q.M.G. for medical comforts to be sent up first opportunity (App.2) Notified D.A.D.M.S. of situation of 1st L.H.F.Amb.	App.2. App.3.
		1920	Shower of rain and morning weather cool. Received G.A.834 (App.4).	App.4.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

WAR DIARY

Form C. 2112



M17/2  
MAY 1918

place.	May. 1918.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
SALT.	2	0700	D.H.Q. on hill about 1 mile S.W. of ES SALT. Visited D.C.S. at ES SALT. Bread had been baked and given to patients. Medical comforts short. Dressings plentiful as we found a good stock in Turkish Hospital. 2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. moved to L.2.a. on main road S. of ES SALT. O.C., 1st L.H.Fld.Amb. reported that he had sent for his caolet camels. 2 captured motor cars and 2 Turkish carts now in use bringing in casualties from 2nd and 5th Amb. About dusk enemy reported reinforcing strongly from direction of AMMAN, and also down the JISR ED DAMIEH track, so 2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. had to move again to site 2 miles from ES SALT on AMMAN road. Casualties - admitted 6 sick 5. 25 casualties (slight cases) were evacuated on horses of returning Ammunition Column.	
	3	0530	Received 3 bags of dressings from D.D.M.S. by aeroplane. Report received from Major EVANS that casualties came in all night from 5th and 3rd Amb. All patients in D.C.S. fed on local bread and meat.	
		0630	Enemy shelling ES SALT intermittently, but not pushing the attack having been severely handled by 3rd and 5th Bdes. during the night. D.D.M.S. notified of position (App.5).	App.5.
		0735	D.D.M.S. wired to send caolet camels of 5th Amb. via UMM ESH SHERT track with light loads of (App.6) medical comforts, &c. Visited D.C.S. and found everything going well.	App.6.
		0925	Wired to D.D.M.S. asking for chloroform by aeroplane as stocks were getting low, and apparently no progress had been made in opening the main road (App.7).	App.7.
		1100	17 slight cases evacuated on horses. Total captured transport for wounded now in use - 1 ambulance motor car, 1 touring car, 1 motor lorry, and 4 Turkish carts.	
		1715	Received G.A.866 orders for withdrawal. Notified G.O.C. that probably some severely wounded would have to be left with personnel.	App.46
		1555	Notified verbally by G.O.C. that Division would withdraw. Issued orders for every available camel to report immediately to D.C.S. Arranged with "A" to have 40 riding horses sent to D.C.S. Notified Major EVANS to commence evacuation at once (App.34).	App.34
		1700	Notified D.D.M.S. of position and my intention to leave serious cases with personnel as did not expect to have sufficient lying caolets for all (App.8).	App.8.
		1715	Notified all Amb. to withdraw with Bdes. carrying all casualties possible on horseback with them (App.9)	App.9.
		1900	Proceeded to D.C.S. and found work of evacuation proceeding rapidly. 2nd Amb. camels all away loaded with patients; the burden camels carrying a sitting case on top of wood. Horses were provided for the light cases, and all <sup>serious</sup> cases, except 2 absolutely moribund, were put on to caolets. A lot of equipment had to be abandoned for want of transport.	

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

WAR DIARY

Y.M.C. Form C. 3112



MAY 1918

M 7/3

place.	May, 1918.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
ES SALT.	3	1930	Convoy left ES SALT. Shortly after leaving the town, were fired on, probably by inhabitants. 3 horses were hit and 1 man wounded in knee. One camel was shot and rolled down hill with two patients, Capt. SHELLEY recovered one, and brought him on his horse, but could not find the second owing to darkness. He was picked up later and brought on by 9th Regt. In spite of darkness, precipitous roads, and cold night, all camels came through without further accident, and all patients were handed over to Anzac D.C.S. at F.18 in Jordan Valley at 0600. One patient died during journey, but most of the others stood it fairly well. The performance of the camels I consider wonderfully good.	
		2100	Rejoined D.H.Q. at K.6.b. and waited till 0200.	
		2150	Notified D.D.M.S. of situation (App.10).	App.10.
Jordan Valley (113.H.34.a).	4	0845	Arrived Ausdiv Receiving Station at Bridgehead, GHORANIYEH, and arranged with D.A.D.M.S., Descorps for D.R.S., D.C.S. (5th M.B.F.A.) ambulance wagons and cars to be returned to Division.	
		1400	Report of loss of personnel and equipment of 4th L.H.Fld.Amb. received and forwarded to D.D.M.S. (App.11). Reached camp. List of men commended for excellent work (App.12). A report of the work of the D.C.S. at ES SALT by Major EVANS as attached (App.13). The method of carrying 4 lying cases in light ambulance wagons proved very successful during recent operations.	App.11. App.12. App.13.
		1800	D.R.S. returned under orders of Division.	
	5	1230	G.A.881 received.	
		1315	G.A.882 received.	
		1530	Divisional Orders No.7, copy 11 received (App.14).	App.14.
		1210	D.R.S. ordered to open on site on Roman Road 1 mile W. of JERICHO - K.27.	
		1730	Issued Medical Instructions No.4 (App.15).	App.15.
		1830.	Orders received from D.D.M.S. for D.R.S. to take over from Main Dressing Station of 60th Division. Major EVANS proceeded to D.R.S., K.27, which opened at 1200 and took over from Main Dressing Station of 60th Division. Operating Unit and Anzac Field Laboratory attached. 121st Indian Fld. Ambulance opened alongside receiving all Indian casualties. No.5 Malaria Diagnosis Station at D.R.S. Visited front line and saw disposition of Ambulances.	
	6		<u>Position:-</u> D.C.S. at 113.H.30.b. to open to-morrow. Dressing Stations <del>Anzac</del> <sup>121st Indian</sup> Fld. Amb. at 113.Y.28.a. 5th M.B.Fld.Amb. at Y.30.b. 3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. on road 2 miles from AUJA crossing, bearers and camels at crossing. 4th L.H.Fld.Amb. at H.30.c.  Received Administrative Instructions &c., Admin. Areas - Jordan Valley T.S.36. Ausdiv is responsible for area North of line from JEBEL JURUNTEL (sq.113.K.8.b.) to K.5 central, thence N.E. to junction of Wadi AUJA and Jordan River. O.C., Amballa Fld.Amb., Lt.Col. E. C. HODGSON reported.	

WAR DIARY

TELETYPE SUMMARY

(Please read and deliver)

Summary of Events and Information

Appendices  
references to  
figures and

Form C. 3113



War Diary of A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division, 31/5/1918.

N/7/4

MAY 1918

Place.	1918. May.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
ORDAN VALLEY (H.34.a).	7		<p>Amballa Indian Field Ambulance proceeded to Wadi AUJA on Roman Road and joined 5th Mtd. Bde. Fld. Amb. and started organising British Section. Portion with heavy transport and 4 "SUNBEAM" Ambulance cars remained with D.C.S. in reserve.</p> <p>Visited D.R.S. and saw O.C., 121st Indian Fld. Amb. who has a Receiving Station for all Indian Troops, also a C.E.S. at JERUSALEM. Only 3 sandcarts in front line with 20th Indian Brigade.</p> <p>Instructed 3rd L.H. Fld. Amb. to render all assistance to 121st Indian Ambulance in transporting casualties from 20th Indian Bde. to D.C.S.</p> <p>0500 Division severely bombed. Several casualties in 4th L.H. Bde., including 2 O.R. wounded and 2 horses in 4th L.H. Fld. Amb.</p> <p>Arranged with D.D.M.S. to make up deficiencies in vehicles, animals and equipment, of 4th L.H. Fld. Amb. from that of 1/1st South Midland Mtd. Bde. Fld. Amb. which is under orders to proceed to KANTARA after handing over to Amballa Ambulance.</p> <p>Report on operations of 4th L.H. Fld. Amb. received (App.16)</p> <p>Indents and A.F. I. 1230 to replace equipment lost during withdrawal from ES SALT, 3rd L.H. Fld. Amb., received and sent D.D.M.S.</p>	App.16.
	8		<p>Visited Amballa and 1/1st Sth. Mid. Mtd. Bde. Fld. Amb. and arranged for formation of British Section of Amballa Ambulance from personnel and equipment of 1/1st South Midland. Also sent instructions for 4th Ambulance deficiencies to be made up from 1/1st South Midland M.B.F. Amb.</p> <p>D.A.D.M.S. visited 3rd L.H. Fld. Amb. AUJA Crossing. Protest by Lt. Col. T. H. FORREST against his appointment to SIATKOTE Indian Fld. Amb. and forwarded to D.D.M.S. Reasons, briefly, lack of knowledge of Indian language and customs.</p>	
	9		<p>Draft for insertion in Divisional Orders submitted to A.A. &amp; Q.M.G. re necessity for strict sanitation (App.17). Also one recommending that no manual work be done by men during hours of 0900 and 1600 (App.18).</p> <p>Re-organisation of Amballa Ambulance completed. British Section personnel and deficiencies in animals, vehicles and equipment supplied from 1/1st South Midland M.B.F. Amb. Lt. Colonel T.H. FORREST handed over the work of the 5th Bde. to Lt. Colonel E. C. HODGSON.</p> <p>1/1st Sth. Mid. Mtd. Bde. Fld. Amb. also handed to 4th L.H. Fld. Amb. 2 light ambulance wagons, 1 water cart, 3 riding horses and 25 mules, complete with harness and quantity of medical equipment to replace deficiencies due to enemy action.</p> <p>Orders issued to Amballa Ambulance for tent-sub-division to open in connection with D.R.S. to receive Indian patients.</p> <p>Maximum temperature 105°. Wet bulb 80°.</p> <p>Weather extremely oppressive.</p>	App.17. App.18.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

WAR DIARY

Form C. 5112



MAY 1918

WAR DIARY



WAR DIARY of Colonel G. P. DIXON, A.D.M.S., Australian  
Mounted Division, Month Ending 31/5/18.

MAY 1918



War Diary of Colonel G. P. DIXON, A.D.M.S., Australian Mtd.Divn.  
Month Ending 31/5/18.

MAY 1918

N17/7

place.	May, 1918.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
JORDAN VALLEY (H.34.a).	16		Copy of Z.A/271 Defence Scheme Administrative Instructions (left sector of Desert Mounted Corps) received (App.34). Maximum temp: 103. D.A.D.M.S. proceeded to 4th L.H.Fld.Amb. for a few days in order to be in closer touch with Bdes. in forward area, and supervise watering, sanitation, and anti-malarial arrangements. Weather very hot. back 4th L.H.Fld.Amb. moved advanced party/to point S. of Wadi AUJA.	App. 34.
	17		Arranged with D.A.D.M.S., ONEDIV, and O.C., 22nd Mtd.Bde.Fld.Amb. for anti-malarial work in Wadi NUEIAMEH above our drinking supply. Maximum temp: 97. Temp. Chart for week att. -	App. 35.
	18		Inspected anti-malarial work in Wadi NUEIAMEH with D.D.M.S. Also visited AUJA Bridgehead. Dust and flies bad. Ground very much fouled. Watering arrangements being altered as not satisfactory at present. Weekly temp: chart, W.E. 18/5/18 (App.43).	App. 43.
	19		Made and inspection of AUJA in 4th Bde. and Gloucester Yeo. areas. A lot of canalising has been done but a tremendous amount still requires attention. Difficulty is experienced in obtaining permanent anti-malarial squads owing to shortage of men in front line. Trench latrines in use and fouling of ground prevalent due to shortage of portable latrines equipment. Far too many troops camped in bed of wadi. R.M.O.'s are holding as many slight cases as possible. A.A. & Q.M.G. requested to have the Gloucester Yeo. removed (App.36).	App. 36.
	20		Report on high sick rate of 3rd Brigade forwarded to D.D.M.S. (App. 56) Conferred with O.C., Divisional Train as to possibility of improving issue of fresh meat and bread, also supply of disinfectants. Location of Medical Units (see attached report App.No.37). Weekly Report, Summary of Sick, Postings of Medical Officers, and Infectious Diseases diagnosed, W.E. 18/5/18 forwarded to D.D.M.S. (App.37 - 40). Report on mosquito areas forwarded D.D.M.S. (App.41) Instructions issued to ensure that all cases of pyrexia have a blood film examined. Instructions issued that all men employed on mosquito destruction be given quinine prophylactically. A.Q.2034 with reference to mosquito work received (App.42). The weekly report and special report on malarial areas were forwarded to A.A. & Q.M.G. this week as they contain important information as to high sick rate which is a serious matter at present.	App. 37 - 40. 41. App. 42.
	21		Inspected D.R.S. Very dusty, and beds would be a great boon. Slight cases are being held, and all diarrhoeas have stool examinations made.	

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

WAR DIARY

Y.M.D. Form C. 2118



War Diary of Colonel G. P. DIXON, A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division, Month Ending 31st May, 1918.

11/7/8  
MAY 1918

Place.	May, 1918.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
JORDAN VALLEY (H.34.3)	21		Indian Section under Capt. LANG holding <i>Mumps</i> cases. Disinfecter needed. Hitherto, efforts of getting it down from JERUSALEM unavailing. Noticed received from D.D.M.S. that a Rest Camp would shortly be opened at JERUSALEM. D.A.D.M.S., Descorps made inspection of Wadi MELLAHAH accompanied by Major EVANS. Reported that many cases of Malignant Malaria have occurred in I.C.C.Bde.	
	22		2nd L.H. Brigade moved to vicinity AIN ED DUK H.25. Lecture on Malignant Malaria and its treatment in the Field by Capt. BAHR, R.A.M.C. at 4th L.H. Fld. Amb. 14 M.O's attended and shewed keen interest. Lt. Col. HODGSON gave results of his experience in INDIA. Capt. BAHR also gave short talk on Dysentery. 4 cases of Malignant Malaria diagnosed at No. 6 Malaria Diagnosis Station from AUJA District.	
	23		Second lecture given by Capt. BAHR. Circular memo issued to all M.O's to make every effort to tighten up sanitation (App. 48). 124th Indian Cavalry Fld. Amb. at J.13.a. Inspected Anti-mosquito work in Wadi NUREIAMEH and drinking water area. About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of stream above the water area has been cleared by 22nd Mtd. Bde. 2nd Bde. party taking over the work at AIN ED DUK.	App. 48.
	24		Made inspection of 12th Regiment lines and area about EL MASKERAH (Y.12.B) with respect to prevalence of mosquitoes. Dried swamp at foot of cliff but no surface water. Soil moist. Mosquitoes plentiful at night here and also at B.H.Q. at Y.11.a. Some specimens obtained and sent to Major AUSTEN. Ambulance Rest Station opened at JERUSALEM - accommodation for 50 patients.	
	25		Request for additional M.O. for Artillery Units submitted to D.D.M.S. Present arrangements inadequate. Notice received from A.A. & Q.M.G. that units were being moved from bed of Wadi AUJA.	
	26		Major AUSTEN made an inspection of Wadi AUJA and Wadi MELLAHAH with D.A.D.M.S. "Division of Administrative responsibilities in left Sector, Desert Mounted Corps Area" received from A.A. & Q.M.G. on 24/5/18 (App. 49)	App. 49.
	27		Permission given to O.C., Amballa Amb. to use quinine prophylactically in 5th Brigade. Major PARRY attached temporarily to Amballa Amb. for duty owing to shortage of M.O's. Suggested to A.A. & Q.M.G. that Signal Squadron camp site be changed owing to dust nuisance. Inspected water area at Y.30.a with A.A. & Q.M.G. Condition satisfactory except that some artillery units camped in wadi above the reservoir.	

Will be prepared in manuscript and the 12th Regiment respectively. Life logs summaries are contained in P.E. logs, Vol. II. Instructions regarding for 12th and Intelligence

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Notes preceding and following)

Summary of Events and Information

Appendices references to

WAR DIARY

Y.M.C. Form C. 5118



War Diary of Colonel G. P. DIXON, A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division, Month Ending 31st May, 1918.

M 7/9

MAY 1918

Will be prepared in manuscript and the still minor reworking. The diary continues to be continued in the "H. 34.a" form. It contains references to Intelligence

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

WAR DIARY

Form C. 2118

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices.
JORDAN VALLEY (H. 34.a)	May, 1918.	27	A.A. & Q.M.G. took the matter of moving them up with C.R.A. Major CLARKE took over command of D.R.S.	
		28	D.A.D.M.S. returned from front line. Inspected D.R.S. Short handed. Received Major AUSTEN's Report on mosquito breeding in Wadi MELLAHAH (App. 50). This absolutely confirms that sent in by this office. Received instructions from "G" to undertake energetic measures in anti-malaria work in the MELLAHAH; 1000 men with tools to be provided under supervision of R.E. Officer. Weekly Report, Summary of Sick, Postings of M.O.'s and Return of Infectious Diseases W.E. 25/5/18. forwarded to D.D.M.S. (App. 51-54)	App. 50.  App. 51 - 54.
		29	With Cpt. BRISBANE, Australian Engineers, and D.A.D.M.S. inspected MELLAHAH and arranged areas of work, and instructed officers of Working Party.	
		30	Mosquito work inspected by D.A.D.M.S. - good progress being made. Mosquito nets, bivouac pattern, issued to troops. Received Divisional Orders Nos. 9 and 10.	
		31.	With Major Austen, of Sanitary Committee, inspected anti-mosquito work in Wadi MELLAHAH. Very good progress being made, but a lot of work still required. Head of Wadi NUIAMAH and AIN ED DUK inspected by D.A.D.M.S. Very little anti-mosquito work done by 2nd Bde. party, and their area is very bad owing to thick growth and numerous channels and aqueducts. Received communication from A.A. & Q.M.G. giving G.O.C.'s opinion that Ambulances as a rule work too far forward and ordering 5th Bde. to move the Advanced Dressing Station of the Amballa Amb. (App. 55). Letter written to A.A. & Q.M.G. protesting against orders being transmitted to Ambulances through Brigades instead of through this office. Capt. Chirnside, R.M.C., 4th L.H. Regt. received M.C.	App. 55.

*Approved  
ADMS*



N17/10.

MAY 1918

# WAR DIARY

OF

Colonel G. P. DIXON, A.D.M.S., AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

FOR

Month Ending, 31/5/18. 191

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	Subject.
1.	Narrative of Operations against ES SALT.
2.	Request for medical comforts for sick and wounded to be sent ES SALT.
3.	Situation 1st L.H.Fld.Amb. 1/5/18 - Notification to D.D.M.S.
4.	G.A.834.
5.	Position at 0630, 3/5/18.
6.	D.D.M.S. requested to send cacolet camels of 5th MB.F.Amb. to ES SALT.
7.	Request for chloroform, &c., to be sent by aeroplane.
8.	Position at 1700, 3/5/18.
9.	Notification to Ambulances to withdraw.
10.	Situation at 2100, 3/5/18.
11.	Report on loss of personnel and equipment 4th L.H.F.Amb.
12.	List of men commended for excellent work.
13.	Report on work of D.C.S. at ES SALT by Major EVANS.
14.	Divisional Order No.7, Copy No.11.
15.	Medical Instructions No.4.
17.	Draft for insertion in Divl. Orders re sanitation.
16.	Report on Operations 4th L.H.Fld.Amb.
18.	Draft submitted, recommending no manual work be done between 0900 and 1600.
19.	Anti-malarial work, Wadi AUJA - Scheme submitted A.A. & Q.M.G.
20.	Scheme for water chlorination (revised) submitted A.A. & Q.M.G.
21.	Summary of Sick W.E. 4/5/18.
22.	Weekly Report W.E. 4/5/18.
23.	Changes in Medical Officers W.E. 4/5/18.
24.	Return of Infectious Diseases, W.E. 4/5/18.
25.	Programme of anti-malarial work submitted A.A. & Q.M.G.
26.	Report on water supply, Wadi Auja, and sanitation 5th Bde.
27.	Z.A.268 by A.A. & Q.M.G. on sanitation.
28.	Weekly Report, W.E. 11/5/18.
29.	Summary of Sick, W.E. 11/5/18.
30.	Return of Infectious Diseases, W.E. 11/5/18.
31.	Changes in Medical Officers, W.E. 11/5/18.
32.	List of Officers sick and wounded W.E. 11/5/18.
33.	Report on measures for preserving health of troops in Jordan Valley by Lt.Colonel Hodgson, Amballa Fld.Amb.
34.	Wire to Ambulances to send all camels to ES SALT.
35.	Temperature Chart, W.E. 11/5/18.
36.	Request for move of Gloucester Yeomanry.
37.	Weekly Report, W.E. 18/5/18.
38.	Summary of Sick, W.E. 18/5/18.
39.	Changes in Medical Officers, W.E. 18/5/18.
40.	Return of Infectious Diseases, W.E. 18/5/18.
41.	Report on mosquito areas.
42.	A.Q.2054 with reference to mosquito work.
44.	Report on condition of drugs, medical comforts, &c., received by aeroplane at ES SALT.
43.	Temp. chart W.E. 17/5/18.



N/7/11  
MAY 1918

# WAR DIARY

OF

Colonel G. P. DIXON, A.D.M.S., AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

FOR

Month Ending 31/5/18. 191

## LIST OF APPENDICES.

No.	(2). Subject.
45.	Letter to D.D.M.S. re difficulty in obtaining portable latrine equipment.
46.	Notification to G.O.C. that probably some severely wounded with personnel to be left in ES SALT.
47.	Report on drinking water supply.
48.	Circular memo to all M.O's re tightening up sanitation.
49.	"Division of Administrative Responsibilities in Left Sector, Desert Mounted Corps Area."
50.	Report on mosquito breeding in Wadi MELLAHAH by Major AUSTEN.
51.	Weekly Report, W.E. 25/5/18.
52.	Summary of Sick, W.E. 25/5/18.
53.	Changes in Medical Officers, W.E. 25/5/18.
54.	Return of Infectious Diseases, W.E. 25/5/18.
55.	Notification to Ambulances of G.O.C's opinion that Ambulances as a rule work too far forward, also ordering 5th Amb. to move Advanced Dressing Station, Amballa Amb.
56.	Report on high sick rate 3rd L.H.Bde. W.E. 18/5/18.
57.	Temperature Chart W.E. 31/5/18.
58.	Report on sanitation during month of May, 1918, by D.A.D.M.S., Amb.
59.	Report on anti-mosquito work during month of May, 1918 by D.A.D.M.S.
60.	<i>Medical Officers Reports - Month Ending 31/5/18.</i>



Appendix 1

M/7/2  
MAY 1918

Narrative of dispositions and work done by Medical Units of  
Australian Mounted Division during Operations about ES SALT  
from April 29th to May 4th, '18.

PRELIMINARY.

The role of the Australian Mounted Division and 1st L.H. Brigade was to advance rapidly Northwards up the Jordan Valley and throw one Brigade (4th L.H.) across the JISR ED DAMIE - ES SALT track, while the 3rd L.H. Brigade advanced up this track to ES SALT. At the same time the 5th Mtd. Brigade was to proceed up the UMM ESCH SHERT track on ES SALT. On taking ES SALT, the 3rd Brigade were to block all roads leading North and North East of ES SALT, while the 5th Brigade proceeded down the ES SALT - SHUNET NIMRIN Road towards the ridge of EL HOWEIJ. The 1st L.H. Brigade acted as Divisional Reserve and attacked the Red Hill at UMM ESCH SHERT.

The Medical Units with the Division were as follows:-

- (1). Divisional Receiving Station, consisting of Immobile Sections of 3rd & 4th L.H. Field Ambulances, with Major PARRY in command, and 3 other M.O.'s. This came under direct orders of Desert Mtd. Corps at 2400 on 29th April.
- (2). Mobile Section of 4th L.H. Field Amb., complete.
- (3). Mobile Section of 3rd L.H. Field Amb., with medical equipment on pack horses and mules, & Cacolet Camels. All wheeled transport handed over to 4th L.H. Field Amb. and D.R.S. for use in Jordan Valley.
- (4). 5th M.B. Field Amb., Mobile Section, similar to 3rd L.H. Field Amb.
- (5). Mobile Section of 1st L.H. Field Amb. complete, but without any pack equipment.
- (6). A Divisional Collecting Station formed by the Immobile Section of 5th Mtd. Bde. Field Amb.

Information was received from "G" Branch that no wheels and most probably no camels would be able to follow the Brigades to ES SALT, but must await the opening by the Infantry of the SHUNET NIMRIN - ES SALT Road which is suitable for all traffic. A scheme for transporting necessary equipment was drawn up, the 3rd and 5th Ambulances set about improvising pack-saddlery from forage sacks, etc., In spite of information received, it was resolved to try and get our cacolet camels to ES SALT as no other means of evacuating lying cases was available as the mule litters authorised had not arrived. It was foreseen that water would be a difficulty and authority was asked for the attachment of donkeys and fanattis to each Ambulance from the Donkey Transport Corps, but these were not forthcoming; therefore, some of the sitting cacolets were dumped and the camels used to carry wher. Efforts were made to obtain extra camels for carrying equipment and medical necessities.

SCHEME OF EVACUATION.

- (a). A Main Dressing Station was opened at K.27 by the 60th Division with two advanced operating units and Anzac Field Laboratory attached.
- (b). A Divisional Receiving Station was opened on the ~~West~~ East side of Jordan at GHORANIYEH Bridgehead with a second in reserve.
- (c). Australian Divisional Collecting Station at C.35 at junction of main road with the UMM ESCH SHERT track.
- (d). A Dressing Station was opened by Tent Sub-Division of Mobile Section of 4th Ambulance in Wadis and vicinity of JISR ED DAMIE - ES SALT Road. This was to receive cases from the 4th Brigade and also from 3rd Brigade during the first part of its advance to ES SALT.
- (e). The 3rd and 5th Ambulances Mobile Sections were to follow their Bdes. taking light ambulance wagons and camels as far as possible, and evacuate back to 4th Ambulance Dressing Station and D.C.S. respectively by camel, & failing that by hand carriage. When nearing ES SALT all casualties were to be taken on to the village for subsequent evacuation down the SHUNET NIMRIN Road.



SCHEME OF EVACUATION. (contd.)M/7/13  
MAY 1918

- (f). All ambulance wagons, motor ambulances, and if possible the D.C.S. were to push forward towards ES SALT via SHUNET NIMRIN directly that route was opened.
- (g). A party of bearers from each Ambulance was detailed under an officer to accompany the regiments and assist R.M.C.'s in collecting and treating casualties, pending collection by the Mobile Sections.

Evacuations back from 4th L.H.Fld.Amb. and D.C.S. to D.R.S. at GHORANIYEH were by FORD Motor Ambulances; thence backwards under arrangements made by D.D.M.S., Desert Mounted Corps.

As will be seen later, the first part of the scheme was carried out as arranged, but the failure to dislodge the enemy from SHUNET NIMRIN, and the strong counter attack from the direction of JISR ED DAMIEN and AMMAN made it necessary for all cases to be evacuated from ES SALT and its vicinity via the UMM ES SHERT track - a matter of extreme difficulty.

OPERATIONS.

On the night of 29th - 30th April, Mobile Sections of all Ambulances followed their Brigades to concentration area about F.19. The 1st, 3rd, and 4th Mobile Sections halted about 1 mile South of UMM ES SHERT and awaited orders, while the 5th Ambulance Mobile Section followed its Brigade into the foot hills, opened the D.C.S. at C.35, and pushed on with its ambulance wagons and camels to the UMM ES SHERT - ES SALT track. This was found too steep for even camels, so all the vehicles and camels were parked at the foot of the hill about 2 miles from the D.C.S. to await casualties, while the bearers with pack equipment followed the Brigade to ES SALT. At 0615 a wire was received from the General Staff that 3rd and 4th Ambulances could follow the Brigades. They did so and got heavily shelled. Fortunately only one casualty occurred (in 4th Amb.). The 4th Ambulance took cover and opened a Dressing Station while the 3rd pushed on and up the JISR ED DAMIEN track towards ES SALT. The 1st Brigade remained in reserve and evacuated direct to GHORANIYEH.

All the FORD Ambulances under Lt. KILNER were collected at the D.C.S. at C.35.

At 1430 orders received from General Staff that 1st Brigade and Divisional Troops were to proceed to ES SALT via UMM ES SHERT track, and ordering all superfluous wheels and camels back to Bridgehead as the track was considered unfit for camels.

The caacolet camels of the 5th and 1st Ambulances were therefore sent back. This was unfortunate as subsequent events proved that camels could negotiate the track if lightly loaded.

The 4th Ambulance and D.C.S. came under orders of Desert Mounted Corps at 1500, while the 2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. found the Australian Mounted Division at 2000.

The 1st Ambulance bearers with what equipment they could carry on their horses followed their Brigade to K.21.b.

The 2nd Ambulance with 9 caacolet camels followed its Brigade to ES SALT, halting in rear of 5th Brigade.

Meanwhile the 3rd Ambulance with all caacolet camels had arrived at a point about 4 miles N.E. of ES SALT at 2000 after an extremely difficult journey over an almost impassible track. The O.C. stated that he would not have thought it possible ~~that~~ for camels to negotiate such precipitous tracks. 11 wounded and 3 sick were collected at this point. At this time they were in the vicinity of ES SALT. - 2nd and 3rd Mobile Sections with 15 lying caacolets and 14 sitting caacolets and camels, 1st Ambulance bearers only, 5th Bearers and Tent Sub-Division with pack equipment but no transport for wounded.

During the ascent we were extremely fortunate in having very few casualties. One lying case was manhandled six miles down the precipitous UMM ES SHERT track to the Jordan Valley.

May 1st. At daylight Major EVANS and myself proceeded into the village and found a Syrian M.O. of the Turkish Army in charge of about 120 Turkish sick and wounded in houses. Arrangements were made for him to carry on his work, while a Church was cleaned out and used as a Collecting Station for our casualties. Major EVANS was put in charge of these arrangements and soon had things in order.

At about 1030, the 3rd Ambulance arrived with 14 casualties and took over the D.C.S. Capt. SHELLEY being placed in charge, while Major EVANS organised the outside work of evacuation, procuring food and local transport. A report by him on the work done is attached.

At 1400 positions of Ambulances was as follows:-

- D.C.S. (3rd Tent Sub-Division) in Church at ES SALT.
- 1st L.H.Fld.Amb. bearers at K.21.b.



OPERATIONS (contd.):

2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. Dressing Station on AMMAN Road at O.27, 1/2 mile S.E. of ES SALT  
 3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. bearers with caeclet camels 1/2 mile N.E. of ES SALT  
 with regiments.  
 5th M.B.Fld.Amb. (No transport) Dressing Station on SHUNET NIMRIN Road  
 about 1 1/2 miles S. of ES SALT.

The method of evacuation adopted was:-

Cases were brought to Dressing Stations of 2nd and 3rd Ambulances by stretcher bearer and camel whence they were brought back in to D.C.S. at ES SALT by captured motor cars and Turkish wagons.

The 3rd Ambulance evacuated their cases by caeclet camels direct to D.C.S. at ES SALT.

The 1st Ambulance was absolutely without transport and had to transport cases by stretcher bearer; fortunately only one case had to be thus evacuated.

May 2nd. The 2nd Ambulance moved down the SHUNET NIMRIN Road at L.2.a. during the previous night, but had to move back again about dusk to site about 2 miles from ES SALT on AMMAN Road as enemy were reinforcing strongly from AMMAN and also from JISR ED DAMIEN. In the afternoon 25 slight casualties were evacuated on horses of a returning Ammunition Column via ULM ES SHERT track.

As there seemed no immediate prospect of SHUNET NIMRIN Road being opened, requests were sent to D.D.M.S. for the caeclet camels to be sent up; also medical comforts, and a few requisites such as Chloroform, ~~antidote~~ anti-tetanic serum etc.

May 3rd. During the night and early morning fighting took place and casualties came in all night. All were fed on supplies obtained locally by Major EVANS. 3 B bags of dressings were sent by the D.D.M.S. by aeroplane and arrived in good condition.

At 11.00, 17 slight cases were evacuated on horses.

At 1.55, the C.O.C. notified me verbally that it was decided to withdraw and he was informed that probably some wounded with A.M.C. personnel would have to be left behind for want of transport.

All camels were at once ordered to report to the D.C.S. and 40 horses were requisitioned from Brigades for slight cases and Major EVANS notified to commence evacuation at once.

All C.O.'s Ambulances were notified of position and instructed to withdraw with Brigades carrying all casualties with them down into Jordan Valley. The camels of 2nd Ambulance left D.C.S. at about 1.30 loaded with wounded and those of 3rd Ambulance with slight cases on horses left at 1.30. A lot of equipment had to be abandoned owing to shortage of transport. It was found that by using horses for all slight cases, that all casualties could be taken except two who were moribund. No A.M.C. personnel therefore were left. When the last convoy was about 1 mile outside ES SALT it was fired on by the inhabitants and 1 man and 2 horses were wounded. Also 1 camel was shot and rolled down the hill with 2 patients. In spite of the darkness, precipitous tracks and the cold weather, all the camels got through safely. One patient died during the night. All the others were handed over to the Anzac D.C.S. at F.12 in very fair condition at about 0630 on May 4th.

The performance of the camels was a revelation. They carried patients down tracks which had been considered quite impassable.

That the wounded were evacuated from a position that at one time seemed hopeless was due to:-

- The good fortune in having so few serious cases to handle.
- The splendid work of officers and men of the Ambulances who displayed marked ~~starkly~~ initiative and untiring zeal in dealing with the entirely novel conditions.
- The wonderful climbing abilities displayed by camels and their splendid handling by the Officers and N.C.O.'s in charge.

During the actual withdrawal, casualties were fortunately very slight.

The 5th Ambulance evacuated 5 from the foothills by N.Z. camels, while the other Ambulances had none to handle. A few slight cases rode in independently.

On May 4th. All Brigades of this Division returned to their former camp sites W. of the Jordan where the wheeled transport rejoined. The D.R.S. returned under orders of the Division and opened at K.27.



(4).

N/17/15.  
MAY 1918

With of the 4th L.H.Fld.Amb., and Divisional Collecting Station, and 5th M.B.Fld. Amb. while under orders of Desert Mounted Corps, and Anzac Mounted Division.

April 30th. At dusk the Ambulances moved to new position in foothills about 1 mile S. of JISR ED DAMIN track. Patients were evacuated to the D.C.S. at G.35 by ambulance wagon.

May 1st. At 0730 the Brigade was heavily attacked from the direction of the Jordan River. The enemy's advance was so rapid that withdrawal of the Ambulances over the flat country was impossible and as the hills were too steep for wheels the whole of the transport had to be abandoned. The personnel, horses, and camels retreated into the foothills under heavy rifle and machine gun fire. Unfortunately 12 O.R. were cut off and captured with their horses. A detailed list of losses has been forwarded to you. The unit was finally collected some miles S. of the original position. 34 casualties were collected during the withdrawal by means of ambulance cars from the D.R.S. During the night A.D.M.S., Anzacs arranged for 4 Ambulance wagons and 6 camels to be attached.

May 2nd. Dressing Station was opened under cover about 1/2 mile S. of UMM ES SHERT track. Evacuation from all units to the Dressing Station had to be by camel except at night, owing to rifle and machine gun fire.

The Ambulance remained in this position during 3rd and 4th, withdrawing with Bde. to old camp site W. of the Jordan on evening of the 4th.

One light ambulance wagon had to be abandoned owing to collapse of the wheel and 1 camel was lost during withdrawal.

The improvised method of carrying 4 lying cases in the light ambulance wagons was fully tested and proved satisfactory.

The D.C.S. withdrew to GHORANIYEH on the 1st May and this was taken over by the New Zealand M.Fld.Amb.

Appended are:-

- (1). Report on work of D.C.S. at ES SALT.
- (2). Report of surgical work done in ES SALT.
- (3). Report on work of camel ambulances in the hills.
- (4). List of personnel commended for especially good work during the operations.

29/5/18.

*E. J. A. K.*  
Colonel.  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



COPY.

M/7/16  
MAY 1918

Camel Convoy of WOUNDED from ES SALT to  
JORDAN VALLEY.

Wounded and sick patients able to ride horses or camels were being evacuated from ES SALT during operations in the vicinity as fast as transport could be provided.

At about 1630 on 3/5/18 the rumour that ES SALT was to be vacated by our troops became a certainty and the caolet camels of the 2nd and 3rd L.H.Fld.Ambs. were brought to the door of the Hospital improvised in the R.C. Church. All wounded cases had been re-dressed and fed before notice to move arrived and there was no delay in loading the camels.

As the great majority of slightly wounded men had already been evacuated, the remainder were mostly serious cases but the accommodation for lying down cases was limited. Two very serious cases, viz., 3261, Tpr. GAYLOR, G.V. 8th L.H.Regt. with a hernia cerebra following G.S.W. of the vault of the skull, and 3180, Tpr. GONDER, A. G., 10th A.L.H.Regiment with a perforated wound of the abdomen and peritonitis were abandoned as being too ill to survive the journey.

Within an hour of the arrival of the camels the convoy had started to move the town by the steep and dangerous track to UMM ESH SHEET amidst serious misgivings on the part of the officers in charge. The convoy consisted of ten pairs of lying down caolets and fifteen pairs of sitting caolets or twenty five camels in all.

About half a mile from ES SALT, the track, which at its best is little better than a goat track, becomes very difficult and winds above a deep ravine. It was at this place the Bedouins and Turkish inhabitants of the town chose to ambush the convoy and it was subject to a continuous volley of rifle fire until eventually it moved in its necessarily sluggish fashion into the hills and comparative safety. One member of the 3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. was wounded in the knee and though able to continue his journey on horseback was later evacuated. A few horses sustained bullet wounds but none were incapacitated. One camel with two lying down cases in caolets, evidently disturbed by the firing missed its foothold and disappeared over the cliff. Capt. SHELLEY who was bringing up the rear of the convoy rescued one patient, but the other, more or less dissatisfied with his boisterous experiences forgot what had previously appeared to be a painful injury and rode the remainder of the journey on horseback. The camel was abandoned and the convoy pushed on little the worse for its disquieting experiences.

The camels had very little rest on the whole of the 12 hours journey; there were only two stops - one of ten minutes, and seven hours later one of half an hour.

In places the track was quite good, but in others, particularly one stretch about 2 miles long near the middle of the journey and another of about a mile and a half near the end of the track was so bad that the possibility of keeping down camels on their legs was beyond the wildest hopes of anybody.

The surface was composed of great outcrops of smooth rock scattered over with dirt and shingle, and the gradient is frequently as steep as one in two. The stretch of track where the descent to the Jordan Valley becomes more abrupt was reached without further incident, but here new difficulties rose. The track narrowed down to a single path about 2 feet wide winding continuously and sharply about a deep wady. The possibility of encountering such dangerous country led Sgt. Carling to remove the patients from one camel which was fairly blind. According to expectations this camel deserted at this point and the convoy entered on the last and most difficult stage with the loss of two camels, but with all patients doing excellently considering everything.

This last stage which was reached luckily just on day light was a mixture of every conceivable sample of "impossible" road varying from steep shingle covered slabs of rock to huge boulders with no sign of a fairway. The bearers were dismounted and told off to assist the camels over these treacherous parts and that no mishap eventuated reflects the greatest credit on Sgt. Carling, the bearers and camel drivers.

Leaving the dangerous ES SALT "road" the convoy breathed easier, but to the consternation of everybody, particularly one camel driver who hurried out to wait his leisurely moving camels at a safe place, the enemy repeating his performance at DAMIEH some days previously shelled the Ambulance Convoy accurately and continuously.

It is remarkable that nobody was hurt for at times the camels were almost invisible in the dust raised by bursting shells.

When the convoy got out of range, a patient, who died on the journey, was buried in the foothills at UMM ESH SHEET.

This was destined to be the end of memorable voyage for a little further on under the hills, skirting the E. of the Jordan Valley, the Anzac Collecting Station was located and there the camels were unloaded, much to the relief of every body including the patients.



(2).

The wonderful endurance of camels and camel drivers is worthy of mention, and the ability with which they were piloted over dangerous places reflects the greatest credit on Sgt. Carling.

It is also worthy of note that patients who had been operated on only a few hours before starting the journey were at the end of it remarkably well. On occasions when the convoy halted patients were found in lots of cases sound asleep. This was so only in the lying down cacolets for it appears that riding in a sitting cacolet is not a "crowning mercy".

8/5/18.

(Sd) Henry G. LEAHY, Captain,  
3rd L.H.Fld.Amb.

countersigned by Lt.Colonel J. M. STEWART, DtCG 13rd  
L.H.Fld.Amb.



COPY.

14/7/18  
MAY 1918

The following is a brief summary of operations performed at the Dressing Station by Captains QUINLAN and SHELLEY:-

- (1). Amputation of Right leg below the knee at site of ebetion. (Case Turkish prisoner) (Flap Operation).
  - (2). Amputation of Penis and plastic operation for an artificial urethra. This patient was also wounded in other places - the head, the muscles of the Right thigh badly torn and the bone fractured in its upper third. The testicles were shot away, and a large wound extended from the perineum to the lower bowel. There was so much blood lost before his admission into Hospital that further aid was impossible. This patient unfortunately succumbed in about 12 hours.
  - (3). Incision for removal of a large piece of shell embedded in Gluteus Maximus.
  - (4). Amputation of the left arm at level of junction of upper and middle thirds of humerus. Bone vessels and nerves were so badly torn that there was no chance of saving the limb. There was also great haemorrhage. (Modified flap.)
  - (5). Plastic operation on the face. The face was very badly torn in places. A wound extended from the middle point of the Right lower eyelid across the malar bone, Right maxillary bone, Right ala nasi, also cutting the lips and lacerating upper parts of mouth. The wound extended in a similar manner on the left side of the face, both nasal bones were broken and the left maxilla and part of the turbinate bones. The whole flap could be raised. Haemorrhage was severe.
  - (6). In this case the anterior one third of the tongue was shot away. The facial artery was severed and shot away on the left side, likewise both coronae and the Right infra orbital. The bone on Right side was broken and several teeth absent. Wound was caused by a shell.
- 7-8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 were cases in which small pieces of foreign bodies, fragments of shell and shrapnell pellets were removed and wounds cleaned and dressed.
- (15). Amputation of the Right arm about 1 inch below the surgical neck, as the axillary artery was badly torn and humerus fractured. Just below the neck of the bicipital groove the Brachial vessels and nerves were also torn. (Flap operation).
  - (16). Excision of a large portion of Right Quadriceps Extensor which had been badly soiled and torn by H.E.

The orderlies gave every possible assistance and ably performed their duties during each operation.

The lack of facilities for perfect asepsis and the limited assortment of instruments minimised the possibility of excellent results, but notwithstanding all these drawbacks, all patients did remarkably well.

Chloroform was the anaesthetic used throughout.

Practically all wounds were dressed with Eusol.

It may be mentioned that the majority of arm splints issued are not a success.

The above is the general account of the surgical side of the work done by the 3rd L.H.F.A. Dressing Station in ES SALT of Captain B. G. QUINLAN.

(Sd) J. M. STUART, Lt. Colonel,  
3rd L.H.Fld. Amb.



W. Evans

Appendix 2

Good! Hot Amb is  
proceeding down along WAOI ABU  
TURRA trail. It has no hospital  
I have arranged for Cam to manhandle his  
Cassette down to road at bridge EC  
HOWEIS. send us word when we need  
by road the Amb can a lorry for them.  
Can you by road them a working motor?  
let me know if it is possible if  
you have a motor for them.

John Brown

1/5/18

Prefix.....	Code.....	Words.....	Charge.....
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		This message is on alc of:	
		Sent	Reed. at ..... m.
		At.....m.	Date.....
		To.....	From.....
		By.....	By.....
		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")	

TO { O.A.Q.M.G.  
Rear Ambulance

Sender's Number. \* 04 Day of Month. 1 In reply to Number. A A A

Send chicken, meat tea sugar  
bread for 50 patients by ambulance  
motors

From	Adams
Place	Adams
Time	1230
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)	
Censor.	Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
(3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375.000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)



MAY 1918

M 7/19



Prefix.....	Code.....	Words.....	Charge.....	No. of Message.....
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		This message is on a/c of:		
Sent		Reed. at.....m.		
At.....m.		Date.....		
To.....		From.....		
By.....		By.....		
(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		

TO { *DDMS* *Deserps* *Appendix 5*

Sender's Number. *56* Day of Month. *3* In reply to Number. *AAA*

*Admission's Caramel 20*  
*Sick for evacuation: nil as*  
*Dressings received food medical*  
*comforts required*

From *DDMS*  
 Place *Amur*  
 Time *1630*

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *DDMS*  
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

Prefix.....	Code.....	Words.....	Charge.....	No. of Message.....
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.		This message is on a/c of:		
Sent		Reed. at.....m.		
At.....m.		Date.....		
To.....		From.....		
By.....		By.....		
(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		(Signature of "Franking Officer.")		

TO { *1st Bde 5th Bde*  
*2nd " 81500ps*  
*3rd " 60214*

Sender's Number. *GA 834* Day of Month. *1* In reply to Number. *AAA*

Immediately it is too dark for enemy to detect  
 the movement detachment 3rd Bde attached to  
 2nd Bde will remain at ES SALT and 2nd Bde will  
 withdraw at same time and will move into close  
 touch 5th Bde about 2 miles north of HOWET  
 Br and 5th Bde will send officer to ES SALT to give  
 2nd Bde to 5th Bde HQ and 2nd and 3rd Bdes will  
 attack towards SHUNET NIMRIN early tomorrow  
 under orders to be issued later and from  
 immediately after dusk tonight 3rd Bde will be  
 responsible for defence of ES SALT in all  
 directions from SHUNET NIMRIN road exclusive  
 to UM ES SHORT track exclusive and  
 acknowledge and addt 2nd 3rd 5th Bdes rtd  
 1st Bde Deserps 60 Div.

From *Ansdiv*  
 Place *1915*  
 Time *1915*

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *Ansdiv*  
 Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

MAY 1916  
 M7/20



Form 1000 (In books of 100.)

## MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

No. of Message

Prefix	Code	Words	Received.	Sent, or sent out.	Office Stamp.
			From	At	
			By	To	
Charges to Collect					
Service Instructions.					

Handed in at \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_ m. Received \_\_\_\_\_ m.

TO *Adms Descrip*

*Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
<i>88</i>	<i>3</i>		

*Send by ~~air~~ aeroplane*  
*Chloroform silk Catgut*  
*Silkworm gut A.T. Serum*  
*Pituitary extract medical*  
*Comforts antiseptics*

FROM *Adms*

TIME & PLACE *0925 Alameda*

\*This line should be erased if not required.

300,000.—John Rissen, Ltd.—5/17.—3280. Forms C9123.

Office of Origin and Service Instructions.	Words.	Charge.	This message is on alc of:
	Sent		Recd. at _____ m.
	At _____ m.		Date _____
	To _____		From _____
	By _____		By _____
			(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO *Adms Descrip*

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
<i>87</i>	<i>3</i>		

*Send parcels of 5th Ambulance*  
*via UMM SHORT Trench with*  
*light loads of Medical comforts, chloroform*  
*A.T. Serum AAA. Unable to*  
*vaccinate by car*

From *Adms*

Place *Alameda*

Time *0735*

The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name. \_\_\_\_\_

\* This line should be erased if not required.

(3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)

MAY 1918



Prefix.....	Code.....	m	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:		Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent		Service.		Date.....
			At.....m.				From.....
			To.....				By.....
			By.....		(Signature of "Franklin" Officer.)		
TO { <i>1st</i> <i>2nd</i> <i>12th</i> } <i>Amb</i>							
Sender's Number.		Day or Month.		In reply to Number.		AAA	
* <i>On</i>		<i>3</i>					
<i>Amb will withdraw with their Bde</i> <i>All casualties must be sent back</i> <i>if possible to nearest dressing station</i> <i>- Jordan Valley on SHERI Road</i>							
From..... Place..... Time.....							
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) <i>SP-1</i> Censor..... Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.							

(3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)

Prefix.....	Code.....	m	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:		Recd. at.....m.
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			Sent		Service.		Date.....
			At.....m.				From.....
			To.....				By.....
			By.....		(Signature of "Franklin" Officer.)		
TO { <i>80ms</i> <i>Deserpo</i> }							
Sender's Number.		Day or Month.		In reply to Number.		AAA	
* <i>810</i>		<i>3</i>					
<i>Carrying all cars down SHERI Road</i> <i>for which we have transport AAA</i> <i>Must leave many cars with some</i> <i>personnel in Church in ES S.A. 1</i>							
From..... Place..... Time.....							
The above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) <i>SP-1</i> Censor..... Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.							

(3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H. W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)

M17/32  
MAY 1918



**MAY 1918**

С о р у.

MAY 1918

I have to report that owing to the enemy advancing too rapidly on our position on the morning of May 1st, we were compelled to abandon our transport and gear in order to avoid being captured.

The following personnel are missing and probably Prisoners of War:-

No.	2110	Dvr.	Mathews, F.J.
"	2136	"	Mitchell, E.E.
"	18961	"	Wishart, P.
"	18960	"	White, G.E.
"	2113	"	Thompson, A.V.
"	3080	"	Brockhurst, H.T.
"	18861	Pte.	Clarke, G.C.
"	11243	"	Seaton, R.

In addition to the foregoing personnel, four ambulance wagons, one G.S. wagon, one watercart, and one limber (with Desert Mtd. Corps Train) are also missing. The whole of the Hospital, Office, and Cooks gear, was captured, while casualties in animals amount to 32 horses and mules and 3 camels.

May, 1918

(Sd.) C. V. SINGLE,  
Lt. Col.,  
O.C., 4th L.H. Fld. Amb.



12  
MAY 1918

24

The following names of Officers and Other Ranks are brought to your notice as having done especially good work during the recent Operations.

Major W. EVANS, D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.

Capt. Colin ANDERSON, 4th L.H. Field Ambulance.

No. 15115, Temp. Cpl. Vincent WELLSWORTH, 3rd L.H. Field Ambulance.

848, Cpl. (acting L/Sgt) L. C. CARLING, " " "

87, Pte. Harold C. OKES, " " "

64 W.O. W. H. STOREY, 4th L.H. Field Ambulance.

19372 Pte. A. J. WESTON, " " "

19383 Pte. D. T. G. BEEGLING, " " "

433076 Pte. F. B. BEALE, 1/1st Sth. Mid. Mtd. Bde. Fld. Amb.

433036 Pte. G. C. SIDWICK, " " " "

22/5/18.

*E. J. Brown*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



Appendix 13  
25  
MAY 1918

Account of work done by Divisional Collecting Station at ES SALT from 1/5/18 to 3/5/18, by Major W. Evans, D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.

1/5/18. Col. Dixon and I pushed into ES SALT from our Camping Site of previous night about 127.H.35.d., arriving in ES SALT about 0800.

Turkish Hospital found to be full of sick and wounded. One Syrian English-speaking doctor and a Syrian Pharmacist in charge. They were short of provisions and had very few orderlies but quite a number of women assistants partially trained. It was found that there were in all 4 hospitals in different portions of the town, one with 15 dysentery cases, another with 13 typhus, the main hospital next to Turkish Headquarters and an annexe near by, these two containing about 65 cases.

We decided to use the Turkish Headquarters as a hospital as it was clean and roomy, the chief objection, however, was the necessity of carrying up steep winding stairs lying patients.

Col. Dixon and I then went to the 3rd L.H. Brigade, who were in charge of the town, to ask for a guard over the hospitals, and permission to use the buildings' food, &c., which was obtained.

Capt. Shelley, with 12 bearers from 3rd L.H. Fld. Amb., was sent to take over the hospital, and I accompanied him to make the necessary arrangements concerning food, buildings, &c., Col. Dixon returning to Divisional H.Q.

Buildings. A man was sent round to locate suitable buildings on street level to avoid carrying patients upstairs, and one was found very suitable just opposite Turkish Headquarters and Hospital, and I ordered Capt. Shelley to take over this building and to leave the Headquarters building which he had partially cleaned and use it, if necessary, for sitting patients. The accommodation in the new building was sufficient for about 150 men, consisting of several rooms leading from a passage way and a large chapel in rear, all having been used as an A.S.C. dump, the chapel containing a very large quantity of wheat, barley, and maize. It was readily cleaned and soon fit for use.

Transport. The question of transport was an urgent one, as the 3rd and 2nd L.H. Fld. Amb., only had brought up some caecot camels which were very tired, and the 1st and 5th Ambulances had no transport at all. A German motor ambulance was found, one touring car, and four motor lorries, and it was reported that all were in working order. Five German wagons were found and sufficient harness for three of them and two more sets were found in a Church. All the cars had petrol in their tanks and a captured German motor driver was put on the motor ambulance and it was sent in charge of Capt. Findlater, about 1500, who had come in from the 5th Ambulance to evacuate for them along the ES SALT - GHORANIYE BRIDGE Road. A telegram note was also sent to O.C., 5th Mtd. Bde. Fld. Amb. informing him of the Turkish G.S. Wagons and harness which were available for use. The O.C., 1st L.H. Fld. Amb. was also notified to collect G.S. Wagons and harness if he wished.

Supplies. In the Chapel adjoining the Hospital was the grain above mentioned amounting to several hundreds of bushels. A large quantity of rice, raisins, and Turkish butter were also found, and Capt. Shelley directed to take possession of them for hospital use. Sufficient baked bread was found to feed our own patients and Turkish sick and wounded for a day, and this was distributed. No jam or meat could be found.

General. Capt. Shelley was ready to receive patients about 1130 and several light cases arrived soon afterwards. The camels from 3rd L.H. Fld. Amb. were expected at any moment with a number of wounded, but they did not arrive until about 1400 as a shower of rain had made the hills slippery and they had difficulty in negotiating the steep slopes.

Colonel Stewart and the remainder of his Ambulance arrived about this time and work was commenced in earnest, patients from this time and onwards arriving in twos and threes.

Soup had been prepared at my request by the Turkish Hospital, and was ready for the 3rd Ambulance camel convoy on its arrival.

The Syrian doctor was exceedingly busy with his numerous patients and further help was obtained for him by using several Red Crescent Orderlies from the prisoners, but no men of our own could be spared.

I made an inspection of the outlying Turkish Hospitals with the Syrian Pharmacist and found them in a bad state. On my return I ordered the Syrian doctor to have at least ten orderlies at each place and to ensure that sufficient food was sent them. He is making a daily round of inspection and treatment, and no more can at present be done for them.

Motor Ambulance arrived from 5th Bde. about 1730 with two wounded and was sent back again. The night of 1st was uneventful.

2/5/18. Motor ambulance reported from 5th Bde. and is short of petrol. As no further supply of petrol has yet been discovered sufficient was syphoned from the motor lorries to carry on with. Ten Turkish wagons were taken away by 5th Ambulance



by their own mule power about 0900, and about 1100 they sent in two more mules for another wagon. I collected a little more harness from the town as the sets were not all complete. About 1600 Col. Beath of 2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. collected a wagon. During the morning the touring car was got under way by means of borrowing a driver from the 3rd Fld.Troop and obtaining petrol from lorries and was sent to the 5th Amb. Petrol and lubricating oil has been discovered in large quantities in the houses of Bedouins by an interpreter.

During the morning I secured, through the agency of Dr. SHEDIAC, the Syrian Doctor, a local ~~xxxx~~ baker, and after some trouble obtained a bag of flour from a mill and ordered him to bake bread from it as our supplies are now low. A guard was placed over him to prevent theft. I was informed by him that there were ten ovens in the town each capable of turning out a thousand loaves daily.

Two ~~oxen~~ were requisitioned from local inhabitants, again using Dr. SHEDIAC as interpreter, so that the ~~needs~~ of our own and Turkish wounded are now supplied for another day. Soup packets were obtained from the Turkish Hospital. Our chief difficulty will be, if present situation continues, that I only possess one more bag of flour, all the rest of the wheat requires milling, but I understand that there are several mills in the town.

About 1600, 20 sitting cases were evacuated by means of returning horses of Ammunition Column sent down by Col. Dixon, leaving 19 in Hospital. Five Turkish wounded were also evacuated in this conveyance. The town was heavily shelled from AMMAN Road during the afternoon and a Turkish ~~attack~~ is in progress. All horses were ordered to be saddled in case of emergency. Several local inhabitants, wounded by the shelling, were taken into the Turkish Hospital. Arrangements made in case of a hurried move to leave one H.C.O. and two men with patients, but no one was to leave until orders were given.

Late in the afternoon I asked Lt. Bartoll of 3rd Fld.Troop to accompany me to the mill and see if it could be got in working order as our flour supply is so low. He was exceedingly helpful and willing to do all he could to assist me. On inspection the mill engine looked satisfactory and Field Squadron men were to try and run it straight away.

I had obtained plenty of petrol and lubricating oil by sending a search party through the town and finding eight huge drums of petrol from various places in the town, so that no trouble is anticipated from shortage of this.

A Turkish wagon, horsed by the Field Squadron, was loaded at the Hospital with wheat and sent round to the mill. Women were also engaged to sift the grain, which the Turkish baker signified contained too much bran. An excellent batch of 200 loaves of bread was delivered by the baker at about 1800 and will provide for wants of Hospital to-morrow.

Motor ambulance and touring car arrived with patients from 5th Bde. about 1815. This Brigade were having numerous and severe casualties. Touring car not running at all well and a message was sent to Signal Squadron asking if they had any men who might fix it for us. Motor ambulance returned to 5th Bde. and brought back their last cases about 2030. They had sent others in by means of Turkish wagon. Motor ambulance was retained over night and went back in morning.

During the day efforts had been made to get the motor lorries in order and use them for evacuation from 2nd L.H.Fld.Amb., and the 2nd Fld.Troop had provided a driver, but his efforts during the day were unsuccessful.

Cases from 5th Bde. which had arrived were mainly severe shell wounds and all hands were kept busy till the early hours of the morning attending to them. One amputation was performed.

During evening I informed A.A. & Q.M.G. of fact that I expected the mill to run in the morning, and thought that its capacity and that of the bakeries ~~xxxxxx~~ would be much greater than I required, and some of the bread produced could be used by the troops, but asked in the case that matter be taken out of my hands as it would interfere with my other work.

One motor lorry is now in working order.

3/5/18. Engineers had much difficulty in getting the mill to run having worked till late last night, but about 1000 this morning it was successfully put in working order. A bag I had discovered was given to the baker and should be sufficient for to-day's use by which time more flour will have been ground by the mill.

At 0600 Col. Dixon rang up to enquire how many sitting cases could be evacuated and I informed him that 17 was the total. About 1100, horses arrived for these and they were sent off.

Two more cows were requisitioned and receipts given.

Lt. Marsden this morning has taken over bread production ~~which was occupying so much of my time.~~

Town heavily shelled again during the day and more native casualties occurred. *from 2nd Bde*  
Touring car, after being overhauled, is doing fine work in bringing in patients. *Byde on*  
Arrangements were made through Col. Stewart with 3rd L.H.Brigade for more horses to *Amman Rd*  
take away patients and by this means 10 more were evacuated about 1500.  
Two extra men from 3rd and 5th Ambulances are helping in the hospital now and all



(3).

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MAY 1918

are very busy, as number rapidly increasing - about 80 being in hospital at 1600. Orders received at 1630 from Col. Dixon to evacuate all possible cases. He has arranged for 40 riding horses and all available cacolet camels to be sent down. 1 N.C.O. and 2 men were to remain behind, as it was considered impossible to evacuate all men. Capt. Marsh, with a few cacolet camels from 2nd A.L.H. Fld. Amb. arrived about 1700 and his camels were loaded immediately and he was sent off in charge of them about 1800 with directions to push off as rapidly as possible to the nearest Collecting Station in the Jordan Valley. Led horses were arriving at different times and as fast as possible were loaded and sent away. Cacolet camels from 3rd L.H. Fld. Amb. arrived about 1800 and were immediately loaded, and it was found that, except for two cases all patients could be removed. No orderlies were left, and the whole column pushed off at 1930 from the hospital.

6th May, 1918.

*W. Wans* Major,  
D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



SECRET.

Appendix 14  
28  
Copy to MAY 1918.

AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION ORDER No. 7.

Reference map:

1. (i) G.O.C. Australian Mounted Division took over command of the left sector of Desert Mounted Corps front at 1200 to-day.

The Sector consists of area bounded :-

On Right - Line from bridgehead at EL AUJA crossing (inclusive) to W. MIDAN (inclusive) at 0.6 cent.

On Left - KURN SURTUBEN (118.N.17) - Point 830 (118.N.11.4) EL KURN (118.B.1.a) - RAS EL TAVIL (118.O.14) to Point (100.J.20.a.9.9) - (EL AZIRIYEN, to Desert Mounted Corps), thence to south of WADI EN NAR (114.Y.16.c.).

- (ii) The troops at his disposal are :-

Australian Mounted Division.  
I.C.C. Bde, including H.K. & Singapore Battery.  
1/1st Staffordshire Yeomanry (less 2 Squadrons).  
333rd Siege Battery.

2. (i) Until further orders are received, G.O.C. I.C.C. Bde. will be responsible for the defence of, and forward reconnaissance from, that portion of the Divisional front which is West of the JORDAN and North of the junction of the W. AUJA with the JORDAN.

The troops at his disposal are :-

I.C.C. Bde.  
1/1st Staffordshire Yeo. (less 2 Sqdns).  
333rd Siege Battery.

- (ii) G.O.C. I.C.C. Bde. will be prepared hand over right of his line to 5th Mtd. Bde. about 0400 to-morrow.

(iii)

- (a) G.O.C. 3rd A.L.H. Bde. will at 1700 to-day assume command of the EL AUJA bridgehead.  
By that hour one Regiment 3rd A.L.H. Bde. will have relieved the Regiment S.E.M.R. Bde. at present holding the bridgehead.

- (b) The duties of 3rd A.L.H. Bde. are to:-

- I. Hold the EL AUJA bridgehead.
- II. Maintain by day and by night a line of observation consisting of strong reconnoitring detachments as near as possible to the foothills East of the JORDAN and to the RED HILL (187.O.19).
- III. Employ every available man in the Brigade in digging and wiring a bridgehead defence to the EL AUJA crossing.  
The work will be carried out by day and night until completed.

NOTE.- Divisional Commander with G.O.C. 3rd A.L.H. Bde. are to select sites of bridgehead at 1400 to-day.

-/ 3.



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-2-

3. (i) 5th Bde. has been ordered to move up to the W. AUJA and render full support to I.C.C. Bde. wherever required under direct arrangements between G.O.C. concerned.
- (ii) 5th Mtd. Bde. will be prepared to take over the right of the I.C.C. Bde. line to-morrow at about 0400.
4. The C.R.A. will draw up and issue instructions to all concerned providing for the artillery defence of the whole divisional front.
5. Wire communications to EL AUJA Ford and to I.C.C. Bde. will be laid at once.
6. G.O. Field Squadron will provide all requisite R.E. material and will assist G.O.C. 3rd A.L.H. Bde. in completely wiring EL AUJA bridgehead defence.  
Every effort is to be made to push this work on with the utmost rapidity.  
Wiring will take precedence to digging.
7. 4th A.L.H. Bde. is in Divisional reserve and will be ready to move its fighting troops and 1st line transport at 3 hours notice.
8. Sherwood Rangers and Worcester Yeo. are in Divisional reserve under command of Lt. Col. Williams, D.S.O.
9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

R.H. Osborne

5th May, 1918.

Issued by S.D.R. at 1800.

Lieutenant-Colonel,  
General Staff,  
Australian Mounted Division.

Issued to:-

- No. 1. 3rd A.L.H. Bde.
- 2. 4th A.L.H. Bde.
- 3. 5th Mtd. Bde.
- 4. I.C.C. Bde.
- 5. 80th Indian Inf. Bde.
- 6. Lt. Col. Williams, D.S.O.
- 7. C.R.A.
- 8. Field Squadron.
- 9. Signal Squadron.
- 10. A.A. & Q.M.G.
- 11. A.D.M.S.
- 12. A.D.V.S.

Copies to:-

- No. 13. Desert Mtd. Corps.
- 14. A. & N.E. Mtd. Divn.
- 15. 60th Division.
- 16. 14th Sqdn., R.A.F.
- 17. 53rd Division.
- 18. File.
- 19-22. War Diary.
- 23. G.O.C.





MAY 30 1918

SECRET.

App. 15  
Copy No. 9

MEDICAL INSTRUCTIONS NO. 4.

MAY 1918

- (1). Ausdiv. Receiving Station came under orders of Ausdiv. at 1800, 4th May.
- (2). D.R.S. will open on Roman Road, 1 mile West of Jericho.
- (3). Mobile Sections of Field Ambulances will accompany their Brigades and open Dressing Stations, if required, the situation being notified to A.D.M.S. forthwith.
- (4). Evacuation will be direct to D.R.S. by motor ambulance and light ambulance wagon.  
From D.R.S. to Main Dressing Station of 60th Division while in present situation.
- (5). All reports and returns to A.D.M.S., D.H.Q., at 113.H.35.a.
- (6). Acknowledge (copies 1 to 4).

Issued at 1730.  
5th May, 1918.

*G.H.W.*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.

Copies to:-

- |                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. 3rd L.H.F. Amb.     | 87. File.      |
| 2. 4th L.H.F. Amb.     | 98. War Diary. |
| 3. 5th M.B.F. Amb.     | 108. Do.       |
| 4. D.R.S.              | 110. Do.       |
| 5. A.L. Field Amb.     |                |
| 6. D.D.M.S., Descorps. |                |
| 7. Do.                 | Do.            |



4<sup>th</sup> Light Horse Field Ambulance

MAY 1918



Report on Operations commencing

We moved out from the bivouac site with the Brigade at 1900 on 29.4.1918. Camp fires were left burning in accordance with instructions. About half a mile from the camp site the lead horses of one G.S. wagon, owing to being frightened by a pack camel, wheeled round short and broke the forepart of the wagon. All necessary equipment was immediately transferred to the other G.S. wagon, which ~~was~~ with four extra horses followed on after the column. Owing to this delay the unit did not rejoin the Brigade until about 0300. The Brigade was bivouaced about 3 miles north of the GHORANIYEH bridge head.

Just before dawn the Brigade moved on. The Ambulance followed to a position about F19 (ref Map East of Jordan composite sheet, 2nd Edition). The unit halted here in accordance with instructions from A.A.M.S. and came in touch with 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> L.H. Field Ambulances and Divisional Headquarters.

Orders from the A.A.M.S. to rejoin the Brigade at 0600 were received. The unit moved forward up the Jordan and came in touch with the Brigade at about 1130 - 30.4.1918. Six casualties were collected on the way and carried on. They had been attended to by the party of bearers sent with the Brigade. When near the Brigade the Ambulance was heavily shelled by two enemy batteries. There was only one casualty. This was remarkable as probably no mounted Ambulance on this front



has yet been under such heavy shell-fire. Cover was eventually found in a series of small wadis near the foothills and about the position of the JISR-ED-DAMIEH - ESAULT ROAD. Exceedingly good work was done by the Transport Sergeant who personally saw that every vehicle was comparatively sheltered before seeking shelter himself. The unit remained in this position until dusk when it was shifted about a mile southwards along the foothills and placed under cover in two wadis.

Eleven patients were evacuated to the Divisional Collecting Station during the night in three Ambulance wagons.

At 0730 the following morning 1.5.18 large bodies of Turks were seen approaching very rapidly from the Jordan River. The attack was too severe and advance too rapid to permit the withdrawal of the transport on the flat country and as the ~~wheels~~ hills were impossible for wheels, the whole of the transport had to be abandoned. The personnel, horses, and camels retreated under heavy rifle and machine-gun fire into the hills and then southwards. Two men were struck by projectiles on the steel helmets and one slightly wounded in the leg in the first 100 yards. A statement of the losses of personnel and equipment is attached. The unit scattered and sought cover in the hills, and it was extremely difficult to get in touch with them all again. Various men were sent to <sup>locate</sup> ~~collect~~ them.



7 MAY 1918

The greater part of the unit, was collected some miles to the South of the original position. Four officers and 27 other ranks, <sup>casualties</sup> were collected or directed on during the retirement, and two motor Ambulances belonging to the Divisional Collecting Station being intercepted, all were evacuated towards the Bridge Head. The C.O. of the Collecting Station assisted materially in this evacuation by placing cars at the disposal of the Ambulance. One Ambulance wagon which had evacuated patients on the previous night did not approach until the attack was launched & was thus able to escape.

The camels having mostly lost their cacolets were sent back towards Bridge Head and during the night arrangements were made to obtain 4 Ambulance wagons to replace those lost. This was arranged through A.D.M.S., Ayac Mtd Division, who also detached 2 Ambulance wagons, and 6 cacolet camels from the New Zealand Field Ambulance to fill in the gap till the others arrived.

The new wagons having arrived on 2.5.18, the Ambulance took up a position under shelter about a mile South of Brigade Head quarters, and carried on as an evacuating unit. The 2 New Zealand Ambulance wagons were sent back and the ~~wagons~~ camels



retained.

MAY 1918

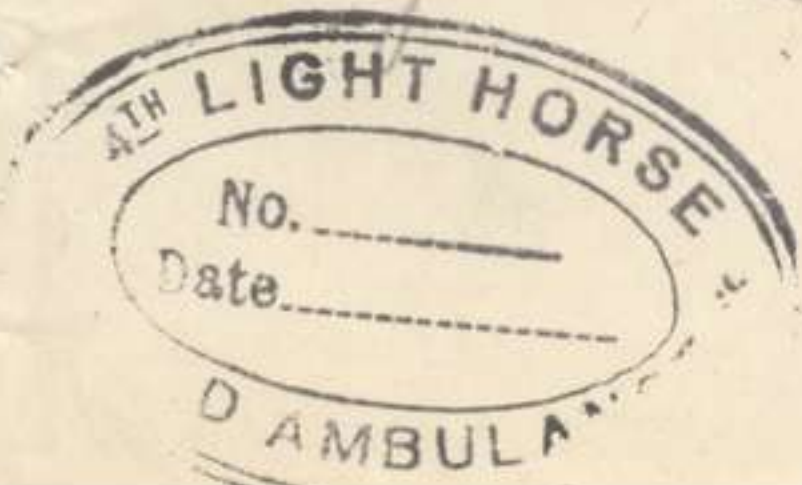
As the road to Brigade was under shell fire, and, later under machine gun and rifle fire, and also as the enemy fired on the wagons on every possible occasion, practically all evacuations from every unit of the Brigade were done by caçolet camels except at night. The natives in charge of the camels did splendid work, and their conduct under fire was exemplary. The unit remained in this position during the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> May, and withdrew on the night of 4<sup>th</sup> with the Bgde to the present camp site arriving at 0215 on 5.5.18.

During the retirement one caçolet camel would not load and had to be left behind. A wheel of one of the ambulance wagons having collapsed, the wagon also - stripped of equipment - had to be abandoned.

During the five days of the operations the unit put through 152 casualties, and no case was left out which could possibly have been recovered. The improved method of carrying four lying cases in one wagon, was fully tested and proved entirely satisfactory.

A. Dingle.

Lieut. Col  
O.C. 4th Light Horse Field. Amb





# Hospital Equipment Lost in Action.

MAY 1918

34

Tents, S. G. L.	3	Buckets, Tin	2
" O.P.	1	" Enamel	2
Flag Pole	1	Bed pan	1
Ground Flag	1	Urine bottle	1
Panthers G.S.	3	Basins, Enamel Large	3
" Med Ben	1	Flags, Union Jacks	1
Brumms stoves & boilers	2	" Red Cross	1
Blankets	50	Bowls, Enamel, Large	6
Ground Sheets	30	do Small	6
Stretchers	18	do Kidney	4
Operating Lamp obs	1	Acce	1
Crow's Nest Latrine	1	Butchers knife & forks	1
Dixies	6	Steel	1
Stove Sawyers	1	Ladel	1
Knives, forks, spoons, } 15		Cases Water Testing Biscuits	1
mugs, and plates }		Panthers, F. Red B	1
Containers (S.V.M. & Kersaw)	2	" F. Surg	1
Feeding Mugs	6	Medical companions	3
Water Bottles, Medical	8	Haversacks Surgical	8
Haversacks, Shell Dressing	8	Boxes, Reserve Dressing	2
Measure Graduated Glass	1	Thomas Thigh Splints	8
Syringe Serum	1		

## Transport Lost in Action

Ambulance wagons	4	Horning reins	5 pairs
G.S. wagons (one smashed)	2	Rifles & bandoliers	10
Water carts	1	Ammunition	900 rounds
Harness Head Sets	7	Packs Saddles	8
" Pole	7	Horses, Riding	8
Saddles complete	17	(does not include 1 to M.V.S.)	
Pallets Saddle	7	Horses Draught	8
Peck bollards & chains	25	Mules	17
Bridles	25		

## Signal Gear Lost in Action.

Helio and Stand	1	Signal Lamp Electric	1
Telescope and Stand	1	Flags and poles	4
Phone	1		



# Stationery List in Action.

Stationery Cases, Tin	2	Vanous Army Forms	250
Cash Book	1	Plain Foolscap	1 ream
Routine Order	8 files	Map & Reg Form Books	1
Triplicate copies of War Diary	4	Army Books	1 doz
		Intt Bowdler	3 phs
		Acct Books (blanks)	1
Pencils	2 doz	Ruler	1
Pens	1/2 "	Table Folding	1
I.S. Regs Part I & II	1	Stool	1
Military Hygiene	1	Repper Lamp	1
General Correspondence	1	Returns	1 file
Medical	1	Maps	?
Personal	1		

## Personnel.

### Missing

11250	Dev	Sloan M. V	1. 5. 18
11249	"	Sloan J. B	"
1015.	"	Armstrong, A	"
16961	Pte	Bryant, B. J	"
17649	Dev	Hebbard, H. L	"
5468	"	Miller, E. M	"
2110	"	Matthews, F. J	"
2136	"	Mitchell, E. E	"
2113	"	Thompson, A. A	"
3080	"	Brockhurst, A. T	"
18861	Pte	Clarke, E. B	"
11242	"	Seaton, B	"

### Wounded.

487	Cpl	Appleton, E. N	30. 4. 1918.
7773	"	Pearce, E. B	"

A. Single Lieut. Col.  
O.C. 4th. Light Horse Field. Amb





A.A. & Q.M.G.

17  
MAY 18

35

May the following draft be inserted in next Divisional Orders please?

"SANITATION. The importance of sanitation in preserving the health of troops in Summer is again brought to the notice of all ranks.

O's C. Units will ensure that all faeces, refuse, and manure are thoroughly incinerated; proper grease traps constructed, Squadron cooking adopted wherever possible, and every endeavour made to prevent the access of flies to food.

It is essential that only water drawn from an authorised source and efficiently chlorinated should be used for drinking purposes as cases of dysentery have already occurred from failure in this respect."

3175  
9/5/18.  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



*Wentworth*

*Apr 18*

General Staff.

MAY 1918

36

Under the present climatic conditions in the Jordan Valley, it is considered dangerous to the health of the men to engage in out-of-door work between the hours of 0900 and 1600.



*Spencer*

Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



A.A. & Q.M.G.

19  
MAY 1918

37

Inspection to-day shewed that the anopheles mosquito is breeding in enormous numbers in Wadi AUJA and vicinity, and it is desired to commence anti-mosquito work immediately in that area.

As the 3rd A.L.H.Bde. is already established, may 1 N.C.O. and 12 men from each regiment (this being the number authorised by Desert Corps Circular) report daily to an N.C.O. from Sanitary Section stationed at Amballa Field Ambulance for that work. It is desirable that the same men report daily and that they be equipped with shovels.

When the 4th L.H.Bde. take over from Camel Bde. it is desired that the same number of men should report to an N.C.O. from Sanitary Section at 4th L.H. Field Ambulance.

It is proposed at present to sub-divide areas into Sections as follows:-

4th L.H. Brigade.

Wadi AUJA W. of main road.

Whole of aqueduct on Northern side of Wadi AUJA and parallel to it.

5th Mounted Brigade.

Wadi AUJA between crossing of main road in H.39.a and junction of Wadi OBEIDEH and Wadi AUJA.

3rd L.H. Brigade.

Wadi AUJA from its junction of Wadi OBEIDEH to its outlet.

Wadi El Mellahah as far as practicable along its course.

No. 3200,  
10/5/18.

(Sd) W. EVANS, Major,  
D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



JUN 20  
MAY 1918

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Reference drinking water.

- (1). The present supply is unsafe owing to the pollution of the stream by men and horses of the 22nd Mounted Brigade who are camped upstream. There is a road crossing the wadi and their camp and also horse troughs are in the wadi bed. Under these circumstances pollution is unavoidable.
- (2). A proposal is put forward by the Engineers to reopen an old aqueduct running from the spring at Ain NUEIAMEH along the Northern edge of the valley. I cannot recommend this for the following reasons:-
  - (a). Danger of pollution of the long sluggish stream by troops and natives.
  - (b). The road leading up the valley crosses this aqueduct, and to gain access to their road the 22nd Mounted Brigade will have to cross it.
  - (c). The opening of this aqueduct will provide an additional ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes.
  - (d). The uncertainty of getting sufficient flow of water.
- (3). A pipe line from the spring at Ain NUEIAMEH, if practicable, would give a safe supply of excellent water which would not need chlorination.
- (4). Failing (3) I think the best method will be to prohibit all troops from camping by or using this stream in the Wadi NUEIAMEH above our drinking water reservoir. If this is done and the wadi efficiently policed, & as to enforce obedience to the orders already published on the subject of bathing and washing in wadi beds, a fairly safe supply can be obtained from the present source. Chlorination will be necessary.
- (5). An alternative scheme is to draw all drinking water from TEL ES SULTAN; but this supply also is not above suspicion.
- (6). The matter of supplying a safe supply of drinking water, both here and at the AUJA, is one of extreme urgency owing to the rapidly increasing incidence of diarrhoea and dysentery in the Division, and the danger of cholera. The remarks made above apply also to the AUJA where units apparently are taking no measures to safeguard their drinking water; washing and watering of horses goes on in spite of orders, and it has been reported that manure has been dumped actually in the stream.



*Gibson*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.

Copy to:- D.D.M.S., Des corps.



# AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Weekly Statement of Sick Admitted, Evacuated and Discharged to Duty, W.E. 4/5/18.

39

MAY 1918

Brigade.	Admissions.		Evacuations.		To Duty.	Strength.	% Admitted.	% Evacuated.
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.				
3rd L.H.Brigade.	4	43	4	43	-	1770	2.65	2.65
4th L.H.Brigade.	3	35	3	32	3	1622	2.34	2.15
5th Mtd.Brigade.	-	38	-	38	-	1619	2.34	2.34
19th Bde.R.H.A.	-	11	-	11	-	806	1.36	1.36
Divl. Units.	-	2	-	2	-	880	.22	.22
Total Division.	7	128	7	126	3	6697	2.03	1.98
Other Formations:-								
Cant: Mtd.Rfles.	-	1	-	1	-			
7th L.H.Reg.	-	1	-	1	-			
10th Mtd.Btty.	-	4	-	4	-			
1st L.H.Reg.	-	1	-	1	-			

Indians admitted - 1.

	Off.	O.R.
Total wounded admitted - Ausdiv.	12	197
Other formations.	-	4

## Prevailing Diseases :-

Miscellaneous Surgical	...	27
Septics	...	5
Pyrexia N.Y.D.	...	17
Intestinal N.Y.D.	...	4
Diarrhoea	...	12
Heat	...	1

+ 4 showed clinical symptoms of Dysentery.  
 \* Were fed hat and had full issue drinking water.

Colonel,  
 A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.





D.D.M.S.,  
Desert Mounted Corps.



A. LOCATION OF MEDICAL UNITS. 4/5/18.

D.R.S. at K.27 with Operating Unit and Anzac Field Laboratory.  
121st Indian Field Ambulance at K.27.  
D.C.S. (5th Mtd.Bde.Fld.Amb.) rejoined Unit at 113 H.30.b.  
3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. K.4.b.  
4th L.H.Fld.Amb. H.30.c.

B. DISEASES.

Percentage of admissions 2.03. Evacuations 1.98. 3rd, 4th, and 5th Bdes. over 2%.

Analysis of diseases:-

3rd L.H. Brigade.

Miscellaneous Surgical 10; Diarrhoea 6; N.Y.D. Pyrexia 7;  
Venereal 2; Heart 4; Intestinal N.Y.D. 4; Debility 3; Heatstroke 1.

4th L.H. Brigade.

Debility 4; Miscellaneous Surgical 5; Diarrhoea 3 (1 clinically  
Dysentery); N.Y.D. Pyrexia 7.

5th Mtd. Brigade.

Miscellaneous Surgical 9; Boils 4; Diarrhoea 3 (2 clinically  
Dysentery); N.Y.D. Pyrexia 3;

Large percentage of admissions largely due to strenuous conditions of  
operations, exposure, and poor food.

Infectious Diseases. NIL.

C. SANITATION.

As the Division moved for operations against ES SALT without any  
transport sanitation reverted to primitive conditions. Water supply  
at ES SALT was drawn from a spring and very good.

Food.

3 days rations were carried and eked out by requisitioned cattle. Hospital  
patients were supplied with bread baked locally. Men generally were very  
short of food on the last 2 days.

Mosquito Work. NIL.

D. OPERATIONS.

From 29/4/18 to 4/5/18. The Division made a dash through the hills to  
ES SALT. Mobile Sections of Field Ambulances accompanied Brigades, the  
4th with its equipment as they were not expected to leave the Jordan Valley.  
The 3rd and 5th took equipment on improvised packs. Light ambulance  
wagons and caquet camels were ordered to proceed as far as possible. It  
had been reported that tracks were impassible for camels. Eventually 25  
camels of 3rd Ambulance and 9 camels of 2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. (attached to the  
Division) reached ES SALT and enabled all lying cases with the exception of  
2 moribund to be evacuated during the withdrawal. (meat obtained locally.

A D.C.S. was opened in a Church in ES SALT, and patients fed on bread and

When Division moved into hills, all transport unable to proceed was sent  
back to Bridge Head to await opening of SHUNET NIMRIN Road.

Turkish tek and wounded in hospital at ES SALT had to be abandoned.

A captured motor ambulance, touring car, and lorry, and 4 Turkish carts  
were utilised to bring casualties from Dressing Station to D.C.S.

All sitting cases were sent down on horseback and 2 stretcher cases were  
man-handled for a distance of about 7 miles.

During the operations 224 wounded and 84 sick were evacuated by the  
Mobile Sections.

The performance of the camels in negotiating the almost precipitous track  
was marvellous.

A narrative of the work of Medical Units is in course of preparation.

E. GENERAL.

Men are tired, and diarrhoea is becoming prevalent. Septic sores on the  
increase. Weather is hot and conditions generally unhealthy.



AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Changes in Medical Officers, W.E. 4/5/18.

*R/f. 23*  
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MAY 1918

Rank and Name.	Corps.	Date of expiration contract of T.C.Officers.	Age.	Classfn.	Remarks.
Captain. STAFFORD, S.R.	A.A.M.C.	-	28	"A"	From short leave rejoined 4th F.Amb. 29/4/18.
" BATEMAN, E.N.	Do.	-	30	"A"	From Base to 4th L.H.Reg. 3/5/18.
" CHIRNSIDE, J.I.	Do.	-		"A"	From 4th L.H.Reg. to 14th A.G.H. to await embarkation, 3/5/18.



*G. D. M.*  
Colonel.  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Return of Infectious Diseases diagnosed during W.E. 4/5/18.

NIL.

*G. P. Drew*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



*App. 214*  
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Headquarters,  
2nd. A.L.H. Brigade.  
3rd. " "  
4th. " "  
20th. Indian Inf. Bde.

T.A. /2563.

MAY 1918

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Inspection shows that the anophel mosquito is breeding in enormous numbers in the WADIS AUJA and NUBIANEN.

The parties mentioned below are to be detailed daily. The same men should as far as possible be employed daily and they should be provided with shovels.

The parties to report at 0600 on 13th. instant.

2nd. L.H. Brigade. (From 2 Regiments).

1 N.C.O. and 12 men per Regiment to report to O.C., Sanitary Section at the 2nd. L.H. Brigade horse troughs.

3rd. L.H. Brigade. (From 2 Regiments).

1 N.C.O. and 12 men per Regiment to report at 0600 to Amballa Field Ambulance.

*3rd L.H. Bde.*

20th. Indian Infantry Bde. (From 2 Regiments).

1 N.C.O. and 12 men per Regiment to report at 0600 to Amballa Field Ambulance.

*2nd L.H. Bde.*

4th. L.H. Brigade. (From 2 Regiments).

1 N.C.O. and 12 men per Regiment to report to 4th. L.H. Brigade Field Ambulance.

These instructions cancel those previously given to 3rd. L.H. Brigade and 20th. Indian Infantry Brigade.

*5th L.H. Bde INCD + 12 men per Regt to report to Amballa & Field Ambulance at 0600 on 13th inst.*

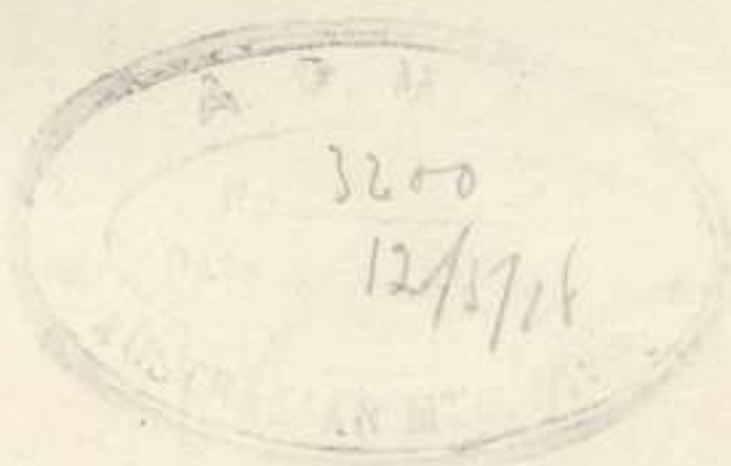
*H. Robinson*

Lieut. Colonel,  
A.A. & Q.M.G.,  
Australian Mounted Division.

H.Q., A.M.D.  
11/5/18.

Copies to :-

G.S.  
A.D.M.S.





A. A. & Q. M. G.

Apr 26

MAY 1918

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A report from the C.O. 8th. Sanitary Section on the sanitary condition of the 5th. Mounted Brigade states that it is in an appalling condition.

Manure is being spread thickly on roads and not burnt.

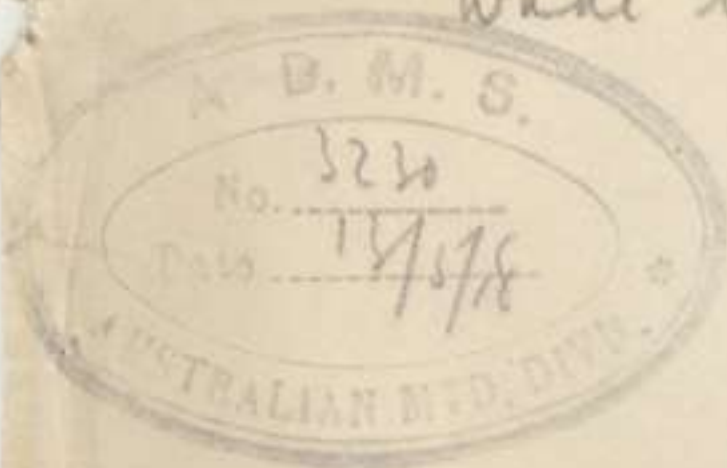
Trench latrines are in general use & even those units which are in possession of buckets are apparently making no effort to use them.

In consequence flies are in terrific numbers & the whole area is being very badly fouled. Men are using the Wadi Auja as a bathing place above the drinking water supply & manure has been dumped in & on the edge of the stream.

When inspected by myself, the drinking water reservoir was without a guard of any description & unchlorinated water was being taken by water carts.

Stringent measures are needed to improve the Sanitation of this Brigade at present, & to preserve the purity of its water supply.

*The efficient policing of the whole of the Wadi bed is an imperative necessity, vide Descomp. R.O. no 312 6/5/18*



W Evans Major.

D.A.D.M.S. Australian Mounted Division.



Headquarters,  
4th L.H. Brigade.  
5th Mtd. Bde.

MAY 1918

In continuation of this office letter Z.A./268 of 13/5/18, the following points were brought to notice whilst the G.O.C. was riding in the AUJA Valley this morning:-

- (1). The area of the 5th Mounted Brigade was better policed than that of the 4th L.H. Brigade. A Corporal of Police told the G.O.C. that 22 names were submitted yesterday to Brigade Headquarters of men found drawing water drinking water from the River or washing their horses in the River.
- (2). No guard was found over drinking water of 4th L.H. Regiment.
- (3). Throughout the area of both Brigades, the battery horses were found watering in the River. This must cease at once. Staff Captains 4th and 5th Bdes. are to arrange mutually the loan of troughs or where possible the sharing of troughs so that there need be no necessity for any Artillery horses to water as at present.
- (4). The G.O.C. was informed that the 9th Hodson's Horse water direct from the stream, this should not be and immediate steps are to be taken to allot troughing to this Regiment.

4th and 5th Brigades after consultation will forward a statement shewing where each unit in the two areas are drawing water for men and horses. Brigade Headquarters will be responsible that units concerned are duly informed of the arrangements made.

H.Q., A.M.D.,  
14/5/18.

(Sd) A. C. ROBINSON,  
Lt. Colonel,  
A.A. & Q.M.G.,  
Australian Mounted Division.

Copy to:-  
A.D.M.S.



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Headquarters,  
 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Bdes.  
 O.C., Signal Squadron. O.C., Field Squadron.  
 19th Bde.R.H.A. Divl. Train.  
 Sanitary Section. Camp Commandant.

MAY 1918

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From reports which have been received it is evident that sufficient attention is not being paid by Brigades to the sanitation and protection of the drinking water in their areas.

The localities in which troops are now encamped calls for very special vigilance more so than perhaps ever before, departure from the very strictest system of sanitation may lead to a serious outbreak of diarrhoea and dysentery and the danger of Cholera.

The G.O.C. directs me to say that he holds G.O.'s C. Brigades responsible that adequate sanitary measures are taken to safeguard the health of the troops, with this end in view, he further directs that the attention of all officers is to be drawn to the urgent necessity of improving the existing state of affairs.

The G.O.C. considers that to a great degree the present laxity of the very elementary principles of sanitation is due to the want of interest and proper inspection on the part of Squadron and other Officers.

To centralise the drinking water supply the D.A.D.M.S. will visit each Brigade area and in conjunction with the Brigade Sanitary Officer and an Engineer Officer will select site for reservoirs; no drinking water is to be drawn from any other source.

A guard will be mounted over all drinking water.

Each Brigade when in camp will, in future, detail one water duty man from each Regiment to live at its drinking water area. One of these men will be constantly on duty at this area during the hours of daylight for the purpose of chlorination, and he will also be responsible for its sanitary condition.

Brigade Sanitary Officers will supervise the work of these men and ensure that water is efficiently chlorinated.

Horses are on no account to be watered, washed or picqueted within 20 yards of any stream.

Horses are only to be watered from troughs, the sites of which are to be below but close to drinking areas.

Brigades will assist Batteries by loaning troughs where necessary.

Strictest attention is to be paid to orders that have been issued concerning incineration and laying out of manure roads.

(Sd) A. C. ROBINSON, Lieut-Colonel,  
 A.A. & Q.M.G.,  
 Australian Mounted Division.

H.Q., A.M.D.  
 13/5/18.

Copies to:-  
 A.D.M.S.,  
 G.



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D.D.M.S.:  
Desert Mounted Corps.

MAY 1918

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A. LOCATION OF MEDICAL UNITS.

3rd L.H. Field Ambulance, Dressing Station - J.16.c.  
4th L.H. Field Ambulance, " " H.11.b.  
Amballa Field Ambulance, Z.25.d.  
2nd L.H. Field Ambulance, H.30.c.  
Divisional Receiving Station (Immobile Sections  
of 3rd, 4th and Amballa Ambulances) K.27.  
Descorps Operating Unit and Anzac Field Laboratory attached to  
D.R.S.  
No. 6 Malarial Diagnosis Station attached 4th L.H. Field Ambulance.  
73rd Dental Unit with 4th L.H. Field Ambulance.  
6th Dental Unit with D.R.S.  
"B" Dental Section at D.R.S. for Corps use. "B" Dental Section  
is using outfit of 6th Dental Unit pending arrival of its equipment  
from LUDD when 6th will rejoin 3rd L.H. Field Ambulance.  
8th Sanitary Section at Y.30.H.  
121st Indian Field Ambulance joined 1st Mounted Division.  
Details of 1/1st South Midland Mtd. Bde. Fld. Ambulance awaiting orders  
to march to Base Details, KANTARA.

B. DISEASES.

Percentage of admissions 3.21. Evacuations 3.21.  
3rd and 4th Bdes. over 2%. Analysis of diseases on weekly  
statement.  
Diarrhoea shows marked increase - 48 cases (as compared with  
12 last week) 3 showed clinical features of Dysentery.  
Increase in sick rate largely due to extremely hot, dusty  
weather, and lack of proper sanitary precautions as to water supply,  
and strenuous work of digging a defensive position.

Infectious Diseases.

Malignant Pustule	...	...	...	1
Malaria, primary tertian	...	...	...	1
Dysentery, Amoebic	...	...	...	1
Dysentery, Bacillary	...	...	...	1

SAN SANITATION.

At present extremely bad. As Brigades have been strenuously  
employed in making good a defensive position, the officers of units  
have apparently let sanitation go. The great danger of this has been  
pointed out to all concerned through our "A" Branch, and the G.O.C.  
has issued orders to have the matter remedied at once.

Extraordinary lack of interest in preventing the pollution of  
drinking water was noticed and pointed out and is now being remedied.  
This matter is difficult at present as arrangements are rather disorganised  
owing to movement of troops. Small detachments are camped all along  
the Wadi Anja and men and animals were frequently found in the stream.  
Most areas are fouled and flies are very numerous.

Portable Sanitary Equipment.

As usual, after an operation, there is a shortage owing to losses  
and breakages in transit. This shortage is increased by the fact  
that the Indian Regiments joined the 5th Mounted Brigade without any  
portable sanitary equipment whatever. Indents and hasteners have  
been sent in for deficiencies and also for the extra 2%.

Water. In the front line all drinking water is drawn from the AUJA  
except that of the 3rd Brigade which uses the Jordan water. There  
was at first a shortage of reservoirs and troughs, but this is being  
fast remedied and measures taken to efficiently police the whole stream.  
Divisional Troops and detached Units draw their drinking water  
from the Wadi NUBIAMEH using canvas reservoirs. Owing to other  
Units coming into the area up stream the supply was considered  
dangerous and steps taken to have the offending troops moved. A  
splendid supply of pure spring water is available about 2 miles up  
the



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the Wadi, but is inaccessible.

A pipe line would be of the greatest benefit.

Chlorination is being insisted upon, and a more efficient system adopted, i.e., 3 water duty men have to live at the water area and one to be constantly on duty, their work to be supervised by Brigade Sanitary Officers who are responsible to the A.D.M.S.

Food. Has been good, but fresh vegetables are needed, and the men miss the advantages of being able to get extras from the Canteen.

Anti-malarial work. This presents a very difficult problem. The stream in the beds of the Wadis NUREIMAH and AUJA, as well as numerous aqueducts, are overgrown with dense shrubs and weeds. Numerous stagnant pools and eddies exist which contain anopheles larvae as well as culex and stegomyia.

The Wadi MELLAHAN with its brackish swamps forms a formidable proposition.

Gangs, under N.C.O's from 8th Sanitary Section, are at work on different sections of the Wadis, and the work organised by the O.C., 8th Sanitary Section, and supervised by Brigade Sanitary Officers and D.A.D.M.S. Superfluous aqueducts are being shut off and allowed to dry, while others are being repaired so as to prevent swampy areas forming.

D. OPERATIONS. Nil, except artillery fire and desultory skirmishes.

E. GENERAL.

The men are already showing signs of the effects of the unhealthy climatic conditions prevailing in the Valley. All unnecessary work has been dropped between the hours of 0900 and 1600 upon the advice of this Office.

The maximum temperature for the 9th was 105° F. Wet bulb 80.

Do.	10th	109.	Do.	82.5
Do.	11th	106	Do.	71

Dust is bad and flies extremely numerous.

It is considered that the great heat, dust, flies, and danger of water pollution, form a set of conditions which are a very grave menace to the health of the troops if they remain long in the Jordan Valley.

On the 9th May, the British Section of the Amballa Combined Field Ambulance was made up from personnel of the 1/1st Sth. Mid. Mtd. Bde. Field Ambulance. Horses, vehicles, and equipment to make up establishment were also transferred, and the Ambulance taken over from Lt. Col. FORREST who then took command of the SIALKOTE Combined Field Ambulance. Vehicles, horses, and equipment were also handed over to the 4th L.H. Field Ambulance to replace deficiencies and enable them to proceed for duty with their Brigade to the front line. This Ambulance has now sufficient equipment to carry on its work pending completion of their refitting.



G.P. Dixon  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Apr 29  
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Weekly Statement of Sick Admitted, Evacuated and Discharged to Duty, W.E. 11/5/18. MAY 1918

Brigade.	Admissions.		Evacuations.		To Duty.	Strength.	% Admitted.	% Evacuated.
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.				
3rd L.H.Bde.	1	98	1	98	-	1832	5.40	5.40
4th L.H.Bde.	-	70	-	70	-	1616	4.33	4.33
5th Mtd.Bde.(Brit:)	-	16	-	16	-	891	1.79	1.79
19th R.H.A.Bde.	-	5	-	5	-	796	.62	.62
Divl. Units.	-	10	-	10	-	1086	.92	.92
Total Division excluding Indians in 5th Bde.	1	199	1	199	-	6221	3.21	3.21
5th Bde. (Indians)	-	4	-	4	-	1093	.36	.36
20th Indian Bde. †	-	18	-	18	-	-	-	-
Other Formations:- (British).								
Worcester Yeo.	-	14	-	14	-			
Sherwood Rangers	-	7	-	7	-			
20th Ind.Bde. †	-	1	-	1	-			
Inc.C.Bde. †	-	76	-	74	2			
2nd L.H.Bde. †	-	31	-	31	-			

† Figures from Ausdiv Receiving Station Return.

Total wounded admitted - Officers 4. O.R. 43.

Prevailing Diseases:-



	3rd L.H.Bde.	4th L.H.Bde.	Total Division.
Debility ...	10	11	21
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Surgical	11	12	27
Septics ...	3	5	11
Pyrexia N.Y.D.	11	7	23
Hæmorrhoids	5	4	9
Eyes. ...	4	6	10
Intestinal N.Y.D.	4	-	6
Diarrhoea	33 x	8 x	48

x None presented clinical features of Dysentery.

\* 3 shewed clinical features of Dysentery.

Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.

Copies to:- D.D.M.S., Descorps. H.Q., A.M.D.  
B.Q., 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 19th R.H.A.Bdes.  
War Diary (3). File.



# AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Changes in Medical Officers, W.E. 11/4/18.

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MAY 1918

Rank and Name.	Corps.	Date of expiration of contract of T.C. Officers	Age	Classn.	Remarks.
Lt.Col. HODGSON, E.C.	I.M.S.	-		"A"	Amballa Fld.Amb. joined 5th Mtd.Bde. 5/5/18.
Capt. LANG, R.M.	R.A.M.C.(T.C.)			"A"	Do. Do.
" FORSTER, C.M.	Do.			"A"	Do. Do.
" DUTT, S.	I.M.S.	-		"A"	9th Hodsons Horse Joined 5th Mtd.Bde. 5/5/18.
Lieut. REARDON, W.A.	I.M.S.	-		"A"	18th Lancers joined 5th Mtd.Bde. 5/5/18.
Capt. TEICHMANN, O.	R.A.M.C.(T.)	-		"A"	Worcester Yeo. To Divl. Reserve with regt. 5/5/18.
Lieut. BROWN, A.C.	Do. (T.C.)	20/5/18.	42	"A"	Sherwood Rangers. To Divl. Reserve with regt. 5/5/18.
Capt. MORRISON, -	R.A.M.C.	-		"A"	No.6 Malarial Diagnosis Stn, joined A.C.F.Amb. 6/5/18.
Lieut. COMINS, F.A.	A.A.D.C.	-	24	"A"	Rejoined Division from A.F.C., MEJDEL, 7/5/18.
Cpt. COLLIER, W.T.	R.A.M.C.	-		"A"	Rejoined A.C.F.Amb. from leave in U.K. 7/5/18
Major, TORRANCE, W.T.	R.A.M.C.(T.)	-	31	"A"	Transferred to Amballa Combined F.Amb. 9/5/18.
Capt. JUDAH, N.J.	R.A.M.C.(T.C.)	Duration.	31	"A"	Do. Do.
Lt.Col. FORREST, T.H.	R.A.M.C.(T.)	-	34	"A"	From 5th M.B.F.Amb. to SIALKOTE Fld.Amb. 9/5/18
Capt. MITCHELL, A.	Do.	-	30	"A"	5th Amb.Details awaiting move to Base. 9/5/18.
Capt. FINDLATER, T.C.	R.A.M.C.(T.C.)	Duration.	30	"A"	Do. Do.
Capt. DEMPSEY, A.J.	Do.	"	33	"A"	Do. Do.



Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



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AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Return of Infectious Diseases diagnosed during W.E. 11/5/18.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Date of onset.	Diseases
-	pte.	COOPER, A.E.	4th L.H.F.Amb.	7/5/18.	Malignant Pus-tule.
1275	Tpr.	HUMBY, F.H.	8th L.H.Regiment.	7/5/18.	Malaria (Benign Tertian).
18107.	Pte.	STEWART, A.	A.M.C. att.D.H.Q.	9/5/18.	Dysentery, Amoebic.
-	Pte.	HENRY, -	4th L.H.F.Amb.	11/5/18.	Dysentery, Bacill:



*G. Dixon*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



OFFICERS ADMITTED TO FIELD AMBULANCES  
W.E. 11/5/18.

App. 32.

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			<u>Admitted.</u>	<u>Evacuated.</u>
	LT. R. W. McCallum,	10th L.H.Regt.,	10/5/18.	10/5/18.
+	Lt. L. BIRCH,	4th L.H.Regt.	4/5/18.	4/5/18.
/-	Lt. L. W. GOODING,	4th L.H.Regt.	4/5/18.	4/5/18.
+	Maj. C. A. MUNRO,	11th L.H.Regt.	4/5/18.	4/5/18.
+	Lt. F. HIRON,	11th L.H.Regt.	4/5/18.	4/5/18.

+ WOUNDED.



APR 33  
- MAY 1918

There are large numbers of anopheles breeding throughout the valley, but especially in the marshes near the Gloucesters. Whether the varieties present are good "carriers" of Malaria should be settled by an expert with good experience of Palestine and the varieties which usually carry it in this country. Both the stream and marshes should be rough drained.

Prophylaxis by quinine - this is a doubtful point. Regiments who have had none or practically no Malaria during the last 2 years, and who will take it regularly without fail or great obstruction would be benefitted by it if issued at once before they became infected, such as the 2 Indian Regiments. 5 gns. a day in liquid form appears best.

With regard to other regiments, all proved cases of Malaria should be evacuated from area at once and the spleen examination of the whole regt. should be done once a week, all large spleens being evacuated at once for treatment elsewhere.

If infected regiments, such as SALONICA troops, or Indian Troops from India lately landed are brought in, then all health troops should be removed and not allowed to return until November.

Infected and non-infected troops should on no account be mixed, nor should non-infected troops follow infected troops till well into November.

Mosquito nets for all troops must be provided.

#### HEAT.

It is obvious that the heat in this valley will be very great. Huts or tents must be provided unless great losses are to be incurred. Reed huts are better than tents.

Water must be supplied in large quantities for drinking and ablution purposes. Tanks well protected from the sun must be provided and means to fill them. Iced water or ice will relieve greatly.

I feel sure if it is decided to hold this valley during the hot weather especial precautions must be taken greatly in excess of the rest of Palestine and I would suggest the minimum is :-

1. Pure water supply.
2. Anti-malarial measures.
3. Hutting and plentiful supply of cool water.

15/5/18.

(Sd) E. C. HODGSON, Lt.Col., I.M.S.,  
O.C., Amballa Combined Field Ambulance.

D.D.M.S., Desert Mounted Corps.  
A.A. & Q.M.G., AUSDIV.

The foregoing is an extract from a letter by O.C., Amballa Combined Field Ambulance, and is forwarded for your information, please.

3257,  
16/5/18.

(Sd) G. P. DIXON, Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Divn.



Temperatures recorded

to 11-5-18

Apr 25

DATE.	0700		1200		1700	
MAY	Wet	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet	Dry
1	64	76	74	84	73	85
2	64	76	72	91	70	87
3	65	76	70	93	65	84
4	64	78	71	91	64	81
5	66	78	64	76	64	80
6	62	70	63	67	66	77
7	66	70	66	85	63	78
8	65	75	67	89	67	83
9	62	75	69	92	76	97
10	66	79	74	104	82.5	107.5
11	71	89	70	98		



Geo. L. Grant  
Lieut

Prefix.....	Code.....	m	Words.....	Charge.....
Office of Origin and Service Instructions.			This message is on a/c of:	
Sent			Recd. at.....m.	
At.....m.			Date.....	
To.....			From.....	
By.....			By.....	

TO { 2nd Lt Hld Amb  
3rd Lt Hld Amb

Sender's Number. \* 29 Day or Month. 3 In reply to Number. A A A

Send every available camel  
to SALT at once

From	ADMS
Place	Amman
Time	1858
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.	
Censor.	(Z) 3rd Lt Hld Amb
Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.	

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
(3198.) Wt. W 12952/M1294. 375,000 Pads. 1/17. H.W. & V., Ltd. (E. 818.)

MAY 1918

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MAY 1918

App. 36

MAY 1918

A.A. &amp; Q.M.G.:

It is brought to your notice that the Gloucester Yeomanry is at present camped in the bed of the Wadi AUJA. If there is no urgent tactical reason for their presence there it is recommended that they camp outside the Wadi bed for the following reasons:-

- (1). The presence of so many men, horses, cook-houses, greasetraps, and latrines in the porous gravelly bed of the Wadi forms a dangerous source of pollution to the already contaminated Auja which supplies drinking water to other Units downstream.  
breeding
- (2). Malaria-bearing mosquitoes are ~~already~~ freely in the Auja at this point and forms a serious menace to the health of any troops camped close to it.
- (3). Men camped close to the water apparently cannot resist the temptation of filling their water bottles direct from the stream instead of from the authorised source.  
This Regiment shows 15 admissions to hospital for diarrhoea last week, including 2 showing clinical symptoms of dysentery. These are in addition to any that were treated in their lines. Drinking of polluted water is probably the chief cause of this high rate.
- (4). The danger of troops camping near running water is pointed out in Descorps R.O. No. 290 of 25/4/18.



Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



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D.D.M.S.,  
Desert Mounted Corps.

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MAY 1918

A. LOCATION OF MEDICAL UNITS.

3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. Advanced Dressing Station in river bed at Auja crossing with cacaolet camels.  
Relay Station with wheeled and motor transport about 2 miles back at J.16.c.  
4th L.H.Fld.Amb. Dressing Station at H.11.b. with some transport at the crossing over the Auja at Y.30.Central.  
Amballa C.F.Amb. at Z.25.d. in the Wadi bed with an Advanced Dressing Station at Z.30.a. in Wadi MELLAHAN.  
2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. at H.30.c. This Ambulance acts as a Relay Station when required.  
Divl.Receiving Station, with "B" Dental Section, Descorps Operating Unit, and Anzac Field Laboratory attached, at K.37.  
73rd Dental Section with 4th L.H.Fld.Amb.  
6th Dental Section under Capt. MITCHELL with 3rd L.H.Fld.Amb. Relay Station  
No.6 Malarial Diagnosis Station with 4th L.H.Fld.Amb.  
8th Sanitary Section at Y.30.d.  
Details of 1/1st Sth.Mid.Mtd.Bde.Fld.Amb. proceeded to Base Details, KANTARA, 15/5/18.

B. DISEASES.

Percentage of Admissions 3.38. Evacuations 2.85. 3rd, 4th, and 5th Bdes. (white troops) all over 2%.

Analysis of Diseases on Weekly Statement.

Diarrhoea 64, of which 13 showed clinical symptoms of Dysentery. In addition many mild cases were treated regimentally.

N.Y.D.Pyrexia 21, of which many are most probably Phlebotomous Fever - the vector having been found in many localities.

The probable causes of the Diarrhoea are fully discussed in my Report on the 3rd L.H.Brigade for <sup>last</sup> past week. An improvement in many respects has taken place, and it is hoped that the number of cases will show a decrease this week. Diarrhoea of a simple type, however, is very prevalent throughout the Division, but most cases recover perfectly in a few days.

An analysis of Diarrhoea cases admitted to the D.R.S., and examined by Anzac Field Laboratory, herewith:-

No. of cases -	Imperial Troops	...	93
	A.I.F.	...	75
	Indian	...	12
	Total.		180

No. of cases from Australian Mounted Division and attached Units	...	80
--	-----	----

No. of stools examined - Australian	...	32
New Zealand	...	2
Imperial attached to Ausdiv.	...	16
Imperial	...	14
Total.		64

Analysis of examinations:-

Amoebic Dysentery	20	(Aust. 8. Imperial attached to Ausdiv 5. Imperial 7).
Bacillary Dysentery	1	
Probably bacillary dysentery without full examination.	12	
Flagellate diarrhoea	5	
Simple diarrhoea	26	



Infectious Diseases:-

57

Relapsing Fever	...	1
Dysentery, Amoebic	...	10
Dysentery, Bacillary	...	1
Diphtheria	...	1
Malaria, Primary	...	5
Bilharzia	...	1

MAY 1918

The increase in Amoebic Dysentery is most marked, and its chief causes are almost certainly food contamination by flies and drinking of unchlorinated water.

C. SANITATION.

The sanitation of the Division is still far from satisfactory, one of the chief causes being the deficiency of latrine equipment. D.A.D.O.S. states that he is unable to obtain any at the Depot, and the inevitable result of this shortage is the use of trench latrines and an enormous amount of fly-breeding.

Carelessness in sanitation is still marked among the troops themselves, although definite improvement took place last week.

Individual cooking is still frequent, even among the troops in reserve, but Squadron cooking and good grease traps have been established in some instances during the week.

Flies are exceedingly prevalent and great difficulty is experienced in protecting food from them, but muslin (300 yards for the Division) has been issued this week, and fly poisons and deterrents are in use.

Water.

The drinking water areas have improved considerably, and all have now guards and water chlorination details constantly on duty.

The 3rd L.H. Brigade reservoirs have been moved above the outlet of the Wadi AUJA into the JORDAN to prevent contamination from the AUJA.

The most dangerous water supply at present is the lower reservoir of the 5th Mounted Brigade on the AUJA, as many Artillery Units are camped on the stream above, but no alternative supply is available.

The supply of disinfectants and fly deterrents have improved this week, but no soap has been available for some time.

Anti-mosquito work.

This has been actively carried on. The Wadi NUBIAMEH is practically cleared in the neighbourhood of our troops, and arrangements have been made with the 22nd Mounted Brigade to continue the work upstream.

Parties are working on the AUJA where anopheles breeding is taking place very freely and Report by D.A.D.M.S. shows results of investigations of this area.

Food.

Bread has arrived dried up and mouldy - evidently been baked far back along the line. At times good white bread is issued.

Fresh meat has had to be condemned at times by Units in the front line, being decomposed. It has been proposed to S.S.O. to issue half preserved meat in lieu.

Vegetable issue is very small by the time it reaches the men after discarding the amount unfit for use. Owing to the long journey, marrows, turnips and cabbage often arrive in an unusable condition.

The condition taken on the whole is very fair.

An increased issue of rice, dried fruit, and lime juice has been approved.

An issue of oranges would be much appreciated by the men.

Cooking. Owing to military exigencies and want of equipment, cooks have not yet had much chance to vary the diet, but are doing their best.

Canteen Stores have been better this week, but are still hard to get.

D. OPERATIONS. NIL.



MAY 1918

## E. GENERAL.

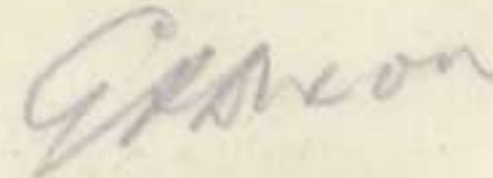
The health of the troops in this area is a cause of great anxiety. The men are beginning to show the effects of the climatic and local conditions, and cases of debility and diarrhoea are on the increase. It is hoped that Rest Camps may shortly be available, as their utility in saving men from evacuation was fully proved last Summer.

The rapid increase in Dysentery is rather alarming and the methods for fighting this disease at our disposal at present are most unsatisfactory. Medical Officers are zealously striving to prevent its occurrence, but are seriously handicapped by want of sanitary equipment. The interest of combatant officers has been awakened and it is expected that improvement may be reported shortly.

Hitherto only sporadic cases of Malaria have occurred, but it is evident that a serious outbreak in the near future can hardly be avoided, and it is considered almost certain that troops remaining in this locality must necessarily become heavily infected with both Amoebic Dysentery and Malaria.

As were the Divisions in the STRUMA Valley, I would earnestly suggest that the matter of providing shelter for the men, mosquito nets, cookhouse appliances, as varied a diet as possible, and a liberal supply scale of disinfectants, portable sanitary equipment, and fly deterrents, be treated as one of urgency. At present these supplies are promised, but do not come to hand owing to shortage of transport.

Unfortunately the most effective and easiest way of avoiding infection with the malarial parasite, i.e., the removal of troops to camps at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from mosquito breeding areas is, I understand, impossible for tactical reasons.



Colonel,

A.D.M.S., Austrian Mounted Division.





AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

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Weekly Statement of Sick Admitted, Evacuated and Discharged to Duty, W.E. 18/5/18.

**MAY 1918**

Brigade.	Admissions.		Evacuations.		To Duty.	Strength.	% Admitted.	% Evacuated.
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.				
3rd L.H.Brigade.	1	79	-	74	1	1774	4.50	4.17
4th L.H.Brigade.	1	41	-	29	5	1596	2.63	1.81
5th M.Bde.(Brit:)	1	58	1	52	2	819	7.20	6.47
6th Bde.R.H.A.	-	7	-	6	-	791	.88	.76
Civl. Units.	-	15	-	9	1	1019	1.47	.88
Total Division excluding Indians.	3	200	1	170	9	5999	3.38	2.85
5th Bde. (Indians)	-	8	-	8	-	1000	.80	.80
7th L.H.Bde. (att.)	-	84	-	66	-	1853	4.53	3.56
Other Formations:-								
(British).								
C" Btty. 301st Bde.								
R.F.A.	-	4	-	4	-			
A" Btty. Do.	-	10	-	10	-			
1st Heavy B. R.G.A.	-	3	-	3	-			
10th Mtn.Btty.R.G.A.	-	9	-	9	-			
B" Btty. 301st Bde.								
R.F.A.	-	3	-	3	-			
3rd Siege Btty.	-	6	-	6	-			
1st Coy. I.C.C.	-	3	-	3	-			
1st R.F.A.	1	11	1	11	-			
(Indians).								
1st Bn: Patalia Inf.	-	4	-	4	-			
2nd Bengal Lancers	-	1	-	1	-			
10th Btty. Amm.Col.	-	1	-	1	-			

Total wounded admitted (Ausdiv) - 2 O.R.

Prevailing Diseases:-

	3rd L.H.Bde.	4th L.H.Bde.	5th M.Bde.	Total Divn.
Debility ...	7	1	-	9
Miscellaneous Surgical	11	1	-	12
Diarrhoea ...	24	8	17	64
N.Y.D.Pyrexia. ...	6 +	-	7 +	21
Malaria P. ...	9	3	8	3
Heatstroke ...	-	-	3	2

+ Showed clinical features of Dysentery.

& Wore helmets and had plentiful supply of drinking water.



*G. Brown*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Changes in Medical Officers, W.E. 18/5/18.

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MAY 1918

Rank and Name.		Corps.	Date of expiration contract of T.C. Officers.	Class fn.	Age.	Remarks.
Capt.	LEAHY, H.G.	A.A.M.C.	-	"A"	28	From 3rd L.H.F.Amb. to SUEZ 13/5/18.
Lt.Col.	STOREY, J.C.	Do.	-	"A"	31	From Operating Unit to duty at Base Hospitals 14/5/18.
Japt.	TREGGAR, W.G.H.	Do.	-	"A"	40	From Divl. Train to Operating Unit, 13/5/18.
Capt.	STAFFORD, S.R.	Do.	-	"A"	38	From 4th Amb. to Div. Train, 13/5/18.
Capt.	WOODS, G.H.	Do.	-	"A"	26	From D.R.S. to 3rd Fld.Amb. 14/5/18.
Lieut.	COMINS, F.M.	A.A.D.C.	-	"A"	24	From No.6 Dental Unit to S.O.A.D.S. 13/5/18.
Capt.	MITCHELL, J.F.	Do.	-	"A"	33	From Base to No.6 Dental Unit 18/5/18.
Capt.	MORRIS, P.A.	A.A.M.C.	-	"A"	27	From short leave to D.R.S. 28/4/18.
Capt.	JUDAH, N.J.	R.A.M.C.(T.C.)	Duration.	"A"	31	From Amballa F.Amb. to Hospital 7/5/18.
Capt.	WOODS, G.H.	A.A.M.C.	-	"A"	26	From 3rd L.H.F.A. to D.R.S. sick 17/5/18.

21/5/18.

Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Return of Infectious Diseases diagnosed during W.E. 18/5/18.

*App 40*  
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MAY 1918

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Date of onset.	Disease.
	Sergt.	HANDY, K.	Gloucester Yeo.	17/5/18.	Relapsing Fever.
932	Tpr.	CASHMORE, A.	4th L.H.Reg.	15/5/18.	Bilharzia.
2004	Tpr.	BROWN, C.O.	11th L.H.Reg.	18/5/18.	Diphtheria.
1061	Tpr.	WILSMORE, F.	3rd Bde. H.Q.	16/5/18.	Malaria Benign.
195128	Dvr.	ROBINSON, T.	Signal Squadron.	18/5/18.	Do.
3475	Tpr.	JENKINS, E.	3rd L.H.Fld.Amb.	18/5/18.	Do.
	Tpr.	WARREN, C.H.	4th M.G.S.	14/5/18.	Malaria P.
	Tpr.	WHITE, F.	4th L.H.Reg.	6/5/18.	Malaria P.
1871	"	GALLOP, T.P.	4th L.H.Reg.	15/5/18.	Dysentery (Amoebic).
3233	"	GILL, H.	10th L.H.Reg.	15/5/18.	" "
3236	"	GRIFFITHS,	8th L.H.Reg.	15/5/18.	" "
17968	Spr.	DONALDSON,	5th Fld.Trp.R.E.	16/5/18.	" "
13238	Pte.	FAERS, F.	Gloucester Yeo.	16/5/18.	" "
2955	Tpr.	SCHULTZ, L.	8th L.H.Reg.	17/5/18.	" "
127936	Sgnlr.	BEDINGFIELD,	Signal Squadron.	17/5/18.	" "
135181	Pte.	GULWELL, F.	Gloucester Yeo.	18/5/18.	" "
135501	Pte.	LONG, C.T.		18/5/18.	" "
305	Tpr.	WELLS, C.G.	8th L.H.Reg.	18/5/18.	" "
2993	"	EVANS, T.H.	8th L.H.Reg.	18/5/18.	" "
3070	"	O'BRIEN, J.B.	8th L.H.Reg.	17/5/18.	Dysentery (Bacillary)
<del>18</del>	<del>XXXX</del>	<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del>	<del>12/5/18</del>	
<hr/>					
Attached Ausdiv.					
	Gnr.	FARQUHARSON, H.	96th Bde. R.G.A.	18/5/18.	Malaria P.



*E. J. J. J.*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



MAY 1918

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The Anopheles larvae was found breeding in moderate numbers in the Wadi HUEIAMAH on the arrival of the Division in the area, but the work done by anti-mosquito parties has checked this almost completely in the area occupied by the troops of this Division.

In the forward area in the neighbourhood of the Wadis AUJA and MALLAHAN and the river Jordan no such satisfactory conditions exist.

The Wadi AUJA runs for some eight miles through our line and offers ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Though a rapidly running stream, its banks are overgrown with weeds and undergrowth of all kinds, particularly in its upper stretches, whilst lower down below the main crossing in I.I.B.V. 30.4. the stream tends to spread out among numerous small stones, and careful examination has shown that the Anopheles larvae is breeding in these places in thousands.

It is remarkable that along the course of the AUJA it is rarity to find the Culex larvae, whilst the Anopheles are so numerous.

Anti-mosquito parties are engaged in weeding the stream, reducing its width and preventing it percolating among the numerous small stones along its course, but even with 12 men per Regiment engaged on the work, the Summer will long be passed before it is completed.

In addition to the AUJA, an aqueduct runs parallel to it along its Northern bank and Anopheles were found breeding very freely along this also. This aqueduct terminated into a swamp, but at its closest point to the AUJA it was diverted into the stream of the latter, and the lower end has now dried up.

The Wadi MALLAHAN. This brackish wady enters our lines as a sluggish stream, very much obstructed with weeds, and expanding here and there into pools which are almost stagnant. Just within our lines about I.I.B.V. 2.11.d. it expands into a swamp which extends irregularly among a thick growth of weeds for some 150 yds. and is covered itself with Algae and other weedy overgrowth. Its edges are soft and ill-defined and the ground in the vicinity is full of small holes containing water. The stream then continues its sluggish way on to the AUJA as a succession of pools connected by a slowly flowing channel of water. A more favorable place for mosquito-breeding can hardly be imagined, and the number of Anopheles larvae found in a single cup-full of water is appalling. In the pot-holes round the edges larvae of Culex were also found.

Even in the day-time one is attacked viciously ~~attacked~~ by the mosquitoes and I am informed that at night the men on the posts are almost driven to distraction by the mosquitoes.

The JORDAN River. This has not yet been examined for mosquito larvae, but they must certainly exist along the banks overgrown as they are by rushes and brushwood of all kinds.

In the AUJA Bridgehead, there is a large pool 330 by 20 yds. in dimension, the result of overflow from the Jordan River, which it is impracticable to drain and it is being filled.

The condition of affairs described above is so serious in my opinion that unless radical measures are taken, an outbreak of Malaria rivaling that in SALONICA must inevitably result.

Anopheles are breeding by the thousand in the AUJA and by the million in the MALLAHAN, and though the anti-mosquito parties are daily at work it is impossible for them to clear about 3 miles of the AUJA, 3 or 4 miles of the MALLAHAN, including the partial filling in and clearing of a large swamp which in itself requires a very large party indeed, and some miles of the JORDAN, in addition to the treatment of the various aqueducts and swamps above mentioned.

The measures I consider necessary are as follows:-

- (1). No troops should camp within a  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a mile of water except when tactical necessity demands it, as mosquitoes shelter under the trees near the water in day-time and attack the troops at night.
- (2). At least 500 men from an Indian Pioneer Bn; or Egyptian Labour Corps are immediately necessary to fill up swamps, clear away weeds, narrow channels and canalize streams along the Wadis MALLAHAN and AUJA and the River JORDAN. The present parties of 12 men per Regiment (which cannot always be obtained when a unit is holding the front line) are completely

/inadequate



inadequate to do the immense amount of work necessary. *At this time*  
 such an important factor as mosquitoes are breeding in such *MAY 1918*  
 numbers that unless the work is done during the next few weeks, there  
 is a danger of all the troops being infected.

Night working parties would be necessary to clear the Wadis at the  
 front line and some little distance beyond it when possible.

Even with these measures, some trouble must still be expected particularly  
 in such pestilential spots as the Wadi MALAHAN, but if immediate and  
 urgent measures are not taken the results on the fighting strength and  
 efficiency of the troops will be nothing less than disastrous.



*Whans.* Major,  
 D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division



COPY.

C.R.A. AUJA Defences.  
Headquarters.  
3rd L.H.Bde.  
4th L.H.Bde.  
5th Mtd.Bde.  
A.D.M.S.

A.Q.2054

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MAY 1918

Adverting to the previous correspondence on the subject of sanitation and anti-malaria efforts, it has been found that the "Mosquito Squads" found by Regiments, though doing excellent work are not sufficiently large enough to cope with all the work that has to be done.

There is a large stretch of the AUJA running through No.2 Sub-Sector (5th Mounted Brigade) along which various Batteries are bivouacked. It is thought that during the day some of the R.A. personnel could find time to cut the banks of undergrowth in the neighbourhood of their Batteries.

The G.O.C. 4th and 5th Brigades will please send their Sanitary Officers to see the various O's C. Batteries with a view of arranging what work of this nature can be done.

The work is of such importance that every possible opportunity must be taken of reducing the possibility of an epidemic of malaria.

Strict orders are to be given that unless necessary for tactical reasons troops are not to bivouac near water. All shelters, messes & bivouacs at present on the banks of the AUJA are to be moved back clear of the stream, unless in the opinion of the Brigades concerned or the C.R.A., AUJA Defences it is necessary for them to remain where they are.

(Sd) A. C. Robinson,  
Lieut. Colonel,  
A.A. & Q. M. G  
Australian Mounted Division.

H.Q. A.M.D.  
20/5/18.



D. D. M. S.  
Desert Mounted Corps.

Reference your Rg/4/287.

The condition on receipt of parcels carried by aeroplane to Es Salt is as follows:-

3rd L.H.Fld.Amb.

1 Sandbag - Chloroform and Hyd: Perchlor: bottles all smashed. Pituitrin Ampoules half broken. Only 1 or 2 bottles of anti-tetanus serum broken. Wool and gauze in good condition.

2nd L.H.Fld.Amb.

2 Sandbags - Cornflour in good condition. Catgut in tubes in good condition. Chloroform and Hyd: Perchlor: of Mercury bottles all broken, and Lysol tubes squashed.

D.H.Q.

3 Sandbags - Containing cotton wool, gauze and bandages received in good condition.

Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



ADMS  
Temperatures recorded at Es Salt  
Anzac Field Laboratory Jericho  
to the 17<sup>th</sup> - 5 - 18.  
Appendix

Time	0700		1200		1700	
DAY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY
11	71	89	70	98	73	95
12	65.5	72	70	86.5	70	87
13	67	75	72	85	73	90
14	68	77	77	97	78	96
15	70	78	80	103	76	95
16	68	82	75	99	70	92.5
17	70	85	74	97	71	92.5

Highest Temperatures noticed during the day.

11<sup>th</sup> 106 at 1400. 12<sup>th</sup> 99.5 at 1400  
13<sup>th</sup> 98 at 1400 14<sup>th</sup> 99.5 at 1545  
15<sup>th</sup> 106 at 1115 16<sup>th</sup> 103 at 1030.  
17<sup>th</sup> 97 at 1400.



Geo E. Grant  
Lieut

MAY 1918

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Appl 45

D.D.M.S.,  
Desert Mounted Corps.

Great difficulty has, and is being experienced, in obtaining requisite supplies of sanitary equipment. Over a month ago indents were sent in for portable pails and seats to supply deficiencies in certain units, and when these were hastened later, a reply was received from HUSB that they were not available at the time.

The Indian troops in the 5th Mounted Brigade have arrived practically devoid of equipment, and there is a general shortage throughout the Division.

Good sanitation which is so essential at present is, under the circumstances, impossible.

An indent has just been submitted for sufficient sanitary equipment for the Indian troops in this Division, and for 2½ heavy seats and buckets for the whole Division.

Can you do anything, please, to hasten forward this supply which is so urgently needed, as D.A.D.C.S. of this Division has done his best to expedite it, but without any success.



W. W. W. Major,  
D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



# A Form MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 212  
(In pads of 100)

Prefix.....	Code.....m.	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....m.	
Office of Origin and Service Instructions					Sent	Date.....
					At.....m.	Service.....
					To.....	From.....
					By.....	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO {

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------	---------------	---------------------	-----

\* GA 866 (contd) 3  
retire ~~off~~ <sup>from</sup> ES SALT and take up  
a rearguard position SW of  
ES SALT about J 31 and will  
not retire till ordered to do so  
by the Div Commander <sup>aaa</sup> Gen Coy  
will pocket the heights the whole way  
down from 2nd Bde rearguard  
westwards <sup>aaa</sup> 3rd and 2nd Bdes will  
leave small parties on all  
tracks N and E of ES SALT to keep  
up intermittent firing all night <sup>aaa</sup>  
They will not withdraw till dawn  
<sup>aaa</sup> Div troops will withdraw  
at once <sup>aaa</sup> Div HQ will withdraw  
gradually in front of the rearguard  
and opens at K 6 B at 19 30  
today <sup>aaa</sup> Addt 1st 2nd 3rd 5th Bdes Field & Sig

From <sup>Answer</sup>	Sydn. A. Q. ADMS Camp Commandant
Place	A.P.M. Rptd Descorps, Anger, 60th Div
Time 17.15	

I he above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z) *Marmagh May 13 1918*

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
(7981) Wt. W492/M1647 130,000 Pads 5/17 D. D. & L. E1187

# A Form MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.

Army Form C. 212  
(In pads of 100)

Prefix.....	Code.....m.	Words.	Charge.	This message is on a/c of:	Recd. at.....m.	
Office of Origin and Service Instructions					Sent	Date.....
					At.....m.	Service.....
					To.....	From.....
					By.....	(Signature of "Franking Officer.")

TO { *ADMS*

Sender's Number.	Day of Month.	In reply to Number.	AAA
------------------	---------------	---------------------	-----

\* GA 866 3  
Division will gradually withdraw  
down track 13 <sup>aaa</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>his</sup> movement to  
be made before dark <sup>aaa</sup> 5th Bde  
will withdraw immediately after  
dark via track running due  
west from K 20 and come under  
~~command~~ orders of General Coy  
at K 21 <sup>aaa</sup> 3rd Bde will retire  
immediately after dark holding  
northern exits of ES SALT till  
12 midnight <sup>aaa</sup> He will push  
straight through to the Bridgehead  
as fast as possible <sup>aaa</sup> Immediately  
after dark 2nd Bde will take  
up a position to cover his own  
retirement through ES SALT to track  
13 <sup>aaa</sup> At midnight 2nd Bde will

From *	
Place	Retirement may take 2 days.
Time	

I he above may be forwarded as now corrected. (Z)

Censor. Signature of Addressor or person authorised to telegraph in his name.

\* This line should be erased if not required.  
(7981) Wt. W492/M1647 130,000 Pads 5/17 D. D. & L. E1187

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Reference drinking water.

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- (1). The present supply is unsafe owing to the pollution of the stream by men and horses of the 22nd Mounted Brigade who are camped up stream. There is a road crossing the wadi and their camp and also horse troughs are in the wadi bed. Under these circumstances pollution is unavoidable.
- (2). A proposal is put forward by the Engineers to reopen an old aqueduct running from the spring at Ain NUIAMEH along the Northern edge of the valley. I cannot recommend this for the following reasons:-
- (a). Danger of pollution of the long sluggish stream by troops and natives.
  - (b). The road leading up the valley crosses this aqueduct, and to gain access to their road the 22nd Mounted Brigade will have to cross it.
  - (c). The opening of this aqueduct will provide an additional ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes.
  - (d). The uncertainty of getting sufficient flow of water.
- (3). A pipe line from a spring at Ain NUIAMEH, if practicable, would give a safe supply of excellent drinking water which would not need chlorination.
- (4). Failing (3) I think the best method will be to prohibit all troops from camping by or using this stream in the Wadi NUIAMEH above our drinking water reservoir. If this is done and the Wadi efficiently policed, so as to enforce obedience to the orders already published on the subject of bathing and washing in wadi beds, a fairly safe supply can be obtained from the present source. Chlorination will be necessary.
- (5). An alternative scheme is to draw all drinking water from TEL ES SULTAN, but this supply also is not above suspicion.
- (6). The matter of supplying a safe supply of drinking water, both here and at the Auja is one of extreme urgency owing to the rapidly increasing incidence of diarrhoea and dysentery in the Division, and of the danger of Cholera. The remarks made above apply also to the Auja where units apparently are taking no measures to safeguard their drinking water; washing and watering of horses goes on in spite of orders, and it has been reported that manure has been dumped actually in the stream.

3235,  
13/5/18.(Sd) G. P. DIXON, Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.

Copy to D.D.M.S., Descorps.





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SANITATION.

S.M.O., 3rd L.H.Bde.  
4th L.H.Bde.  
5th Mtd.Bde.  
2nd L.H.Bde.  
M.O., Divisional Train.  
Field Squadron.  
19th Bde. R.H.A.  
18th Bde. R.H.A.

Reference my No. 3274 of 18/5/18 with regard to supervision of sanitation by Medical Officers.

It is noticed that there is still great laxity in the elementary rules of sanitation throughout the Division.

All R.M.O.'s must make a daily inspection of cookhouses, latrines, etc., and ensure that steps are taken by the O's C. to remedy defects. Incineration must be adopted wherever possible. It has been decided by "G" Branch that incineration can safely take place in the front line.

Where pit latrines are unavoidable, strictest supervision must be maintained by R.M.O.'s. to ensure that they are of sufficient depth and contents kept covered. All manure must be burnt.

All B.S.O.'s must make frequent inspections of their areas and report any defects to B.H.Q. immediately, copies of such reports to be forwarded to D.A.D.M.S., D.H.Q.

Please ensure that the contents of this circular are made known to all Medical Officers in your Brigade, and report compliance to this office.



G. H. H. V.  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



Headquarters,  
2nd., 3rd., 4th. & 5th. Bds.  
O's.C., Signal Sq., Field Sq.,  
Divl. Train., 19th. Bde. R.H.A.  
Sanitary Section, 2/32nd. Sikh Pioneers.



DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES  
IN LEFT SECTOR DESERT MOUNTED CORPS AREA.

The boundaries of the Left Sector of Desert Mounted Corps Area for purposes of administration are as laid down in Divisional Routine Order No. 221.

In order to simplify control and localize responsibilities the above area will be sub-divided as follows :-

ON THE NORTH.

From EL MANDESE at J.24 and O.19 central exclusive - AUJA Bridgehead - the Valley of the AUJA inclusive - the track leading from the South into the AUJA at T.24 O.5.5.

AN INTERMEDIATE LINE.

From EL MANDESE at J.24 and O.19 central exclusive - 3rd. Brigade Headquarters - along road 15 to its junction with road 29 - TELL EL BUREIMA at H.32 and 33 central.

The area between these NORTH and INTERMEDIATE lines will be divided into six sub-areas.

No. 1 SUB-AREA.

Controlled by

3rd. L.H. Brigade.

Right Boundary.

EL MANDESE inclusive - 3rd. Bde. H.Q. - along road 15 inclusive to its junction with road 29.

Left Boundary.

The junction of the WADI AUJA with the MALLAHAN - to the junction of roads 17 and 29 at J.13 central - and along road 29 to its junction with road No. 15 all inclusive.

No. 2 SUB-AREA.

Controlled by

5th. Mtd. Brigade.

Right Boundary.

The left boundary of No. 1 sub-area as far as J.13 central all exclusive.

Left Boundary.

The crossing of the Roman Road through the AUJA at Y.30.a.9.3. - the point where the Roman Road crosses the WADI OBEIDEH at H.6.c.5.5. and thence to J.13. central all inclusive. Except that portion of the area now occupied by the I.S. Cav. Bde.

No. 3 SUB-AREA.

Controlled by

4th. L.H. Brigade.

Right Boundary.

The left boundary of No. 2 sub-area as far as H.6.c.5.5. all exclusive.

Left Boundary.

(The same as the Defence Scheme as far as its junction with road 32) at H.10.8.0. - and thence in a Southerly direction to a point where the Intermediate line is out. All inclusive.



No. 4 SUB-AREA.

Controlled by  
2nd. L.H. Brigade.

Right Boundary.Left Boundary.

The left boundary of No. 3 sub-area exclusive.

The junction of road 28 with the WADI AUJA inclusive - the junction of road 31 with the WADI ABEID and thence along this road to TELL EL BUREIKER at H.32 and 33 central.

No. 5 SUB-AREA.

Controlled by Imperial  
Service Cav. Brigade.

The space between sub-areas Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

No. 6 SUB-AREA.

Area between the  
INTERMEDIATE Line  
and the Southern  
Boundary.

To be controlled by the  
Camp Commandant D.H.Q.

- A. The Brigade responsible for the control of each of the above Sub-areas (except No. 6) will appoint an Area Commandant. The duties of the Area Commandants will be :-
1. To assist the Brigade concerned in the superintendence of sanitation, water supply and traffic control within the sub-area of whatever unit or branch of the service may be encamped in the sub-area.
  2. To bring to notice any irregularities that may occur in any of these things.
  3. The Area Commandants will pay special attention to sanitation and water discipline where the waters of the JORDAN or AUJA pass through their areas.
  4. The Commandant No. 3 Sub-area will prepare a time table for drinking water supply drawn from his area and notify all concerned.
  5. Area Commandants will work in close co-operation with Brigade Sanitary Officers, O's.C. Field Troops and the Divisional A.I.M.
- Names of Area Commandants selected will in due course be forwarded to this office.

Should any working parties be required in No. 6 Sub-area, application will be made to the O.C., 2/32nd. Sikh Pioneers and a copy sent to the O.C., Field Squadron.

- B. In order to apply the above principles to the ground occupied to the North of the WADI AUJA and East of the JORDAN, the administrative boundaries so far as 3rd. L.H., 5th. Mounted, 4th. L.H. and 2nd. L.H. Brigades are concerned will conform to those of the four sub-sectors as given in the Defence Scheme. Within these boundaries the Area Commandants will exercise the same functions as described above.





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(3).

B. (Continued).

To define the left boundary of No. 2 Sub-sector, this boundary as described in the Defence Scheme will for purposes of administration be continued to the South from KH.EL AUJA at Y.24.b.5.0. to the crossing of the Roman Road over the AUJA.

H.Q., A.M.L.

24/5/18.

Issued at :- 1600

*H. J. Robinson*  
Lieut. Colonel,

A.A. &amp; Q.A.G.,

Australian Mounted Division.

Copies to :-

G.

A.D.M.S.

A.F.S.

C.C.

A.D.V.S.

Q. Descorps.



D.D.M.S.,  
Desert Mounted Corps.



REPORT ON ANTI-MOSQUITO MEASURES REQUIRED IN THE WADI MELLAHAH.

In compliance with your instructions, I yesterday, in company with Major Evans, A.M.C., D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division, and Lieut. Parkes, A.M.C., O.C., Australian Mounted Division Sanitary Section, visited the Wadi MELLAHAH which I examined as carefully as possible from a point a few hundred yards beyond our wire to the confluence of the Wadi with the Wadi el AUJA.

As regards mosquito-breeding places, the portion of the Wadi visited is divisible roughly into four regions:-

A. Beyond the Wire.

- (1). A small valley on the left; ground (sloping to the Wadi) full of small water holes, and densely overgrown with high weeds.
- (2). Below the ridge bounding the Wadi on the right, a running stream, partly choked in places with weeds.

B. Within the Wire.

- (3). A marshy track several acres in extent, covered with low scrub intersected by at least three streams, and full of pools of water.
- (4). The stream flowing from (3) into the Wadi el AUJA; current good in places, but elsewhere held up by dense beds of grassy weed (small fish numerous in open spots).

The area in immediate proximity to the wire, i.e., (1) and (3) above, is a most dangerous and pestilential spot, in which a species of anopheles, in all probability anopheles turkudi (a known carrier of sub-tertian malaria), is breeding in myriads (I have found all stages from eggs in abundance, to pupae), as is also OCHLEROTATUS DORSALIS, an extremely bloodthirsty culicine mosquito. While Anopheles Turkudi is also breeding freely in (2) and (4), wherever conditions are suitable, the area formed by (1) and (3) is by far the worst, and must be a source of danger to troops holding this portion of the line. The area in question is by far the worst that I have ever seen, either in this country or MACEDONIA.

WORK REQUIRED.

For the protection of troops holding this portion of the line, the work outlined below should, in my opinion, be carried out forthwith; and, in view of the rate at which mosquito-breeding is now proceeding, should be completed within a fortnight from the present date. For the sake of clearness and convenience of reference, the work required is stated under the 4 regions enumerated ~~below~~ above.

Region (1). Reeds should be cleared, and a broad arrow drain cut, to drain area into stream in main Wadi. Any pools found after clearing away reeds, to be filled in with dry soil from the hill side.

NOTE:- Since this area is not under observation, the reeds, at least in the upper part of the small valley, can safely be cleared away.

REGION (2). Bushes and other vegetation should be removed from the banks and all weed raked out of the stream.

NOTE:- As a screen to the working party, it may be necessary to leave the reeds in the Wadi standing.

REGION (3). Should be drained thoroughly. Margins of drains must be made up with dry earth from the hill side, and all weed raked out of channels, isolated pools, even places no larger than hoof marks, must be filled in with dry earth.

REGION (4). All weed must be raked out of stream, and all obstructions to the flow of water cleared away. After this is done, the fish will probably keep the stream free from larvae. But, after completion of work constant supervision by a permanent working party of, say, 12 men will be necessary to keep the stream free from weeds. If the work be properly carried out, the 12 men would be able to keep the whole 4 regions in order.

The bed of the stream in Region (4) consist of deep mud; it will therefore be necessary to work from the bank.

On completion of the work it may be advisable to submerge oil-bags in places, and to renew them at weekly intervals.



REQUIREMENTS.

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In view of the magnitude of the task, and the urgent necessity for despatch as explained above, I consider that the work cannot be carried out as it should be unless the following be supplied:-

<u>Working Party</u>	...	1000 men.
<u>Horsed Limbers</u>	...	6
<u>Tools:-</u>		
Rakes, long handled	100	(8 foot handles).
" short "	100	
Spades	200	
Bill Hooks	100	
Baskets	100	

If possible, the entire work should be under the supervision of an officer of the R.E.

If the work outlined above be carried out as indicated, and within the time specified, it should go a long way towards protecting the troops, holding the portion of the line concerned, from Malaria. It will not protect them entirely, owing to the existence of mosquito breeding ground, which cannot be dealt with since they are well beyond our lines. In certain conditions of wind malarial mosquitoes will still be blown into our front line from the North, and, against these, mosquito nets, veils, gloves, a good mosquito repelling ointment, and prophylactic quinine are the only possible means of protection.

On the other hand, if the work be not carried out, the fighting strength of the force concerned is in imminent danger of grave reduction owing to Malaria.

4th I.H. Fld. Amb.  
27/5/1918.

(Sd) E. E. AUSTEN, Major,  
Sanitary Inspection Committee, EGYPT.



App 51

D.D.M.S.,  
Desert Mounted Corps.

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A. LOCATION OF MEDICAL UNITS.

2nd L.H.Fld.Amb. moved to H.19.d. on 22/5/18.  
124th I.C.F.A. attached to Division and located J.13.a on 23/5/18.  
Other Medical Units unchanged.

B. DISEASES.

Percentage of admissions 3.97. Evacuations 3.72.

All units (British) over 2%. Analysis of diseases is attached.

Diarrhoea, Dysentery (Amoebic) and N.Y.D.Pyrexia are the chief causes.  
Malaria, especially Malignant Tertian, shewed marked increase this week.  
An analysis of the diarrhoea cases admitted to the D.R.S. herewith:-

Admitted to D.R.S.	...	...	...	162
Simple diarrhoea	...	102	(Ausdiv 53; Others 49).	
Flagellate "	...	8	( " 4; " 4).	
Amoebic Dysentery	...	31	( " 18; " 13).	
Probable Bacillary	...	11	( " 5; " 6).	

Infectious Diseases.

Malaria	...	Ausdiv 22 (Malignant 11)	Other Formations 11 (Malignant 3).
Relapsing Fever	"	1	Other Formations NIL.
Dysentery (not specified)	"	4	" " NIL.
" , Amoebic	"	22	" " 2
" , Bacillary	"	1	" " NIL.

An attempt is being made to classify the Malaria cases according to probable source of infection. Results for 4 days - 22nd to 25th - are as follows:-

Wadi AUJA	17
" NUBI AMEH	2
" MEL LAHAN	2
Jordan and Auja)	5
Bridgehead )	
Wadi KELT	2

Owing to movement of troops this return can only be approximate. The great majority of troops in this area are camped at the AUJA and at the Auja Bridgehead.

C. SANITATION.

Improvement has taken place throughout the area, but still leaves much to be desired. However, latrine equipment and an increased supply of disinfectants are now available. It is hoped that the issue of latrines to 5% will be sanctioned as experience has shown that 3% is quite inadequate, especially when dispersion of units take place as at present. Efficient incineration by units in the front line trenches is difficult owing to lack of fuel, shortage of latrine equipment, and native labour. The number of flies are reduced owing to improvement in sanitation and the use of fly poison and deterrents, the increased issue of which will be greatly appreciated.

Water.

Drinking water supplies are now satisfactory, except that some few units of artillery are still camped in the AUJA bed. Efforts are being made to have all of these moved. Most of the units formerly camped near the stream have moved their camps.

Food.

Bread much better this week.

Meat. Part of the fresh meat issue was replaced by preserved meat. There are no complaints about this issue.

Vegetables. Condition fair, but amount very small.

An issue of oranges was made, but unfortunately arrived in bad condition.



C. SANITATION (contd.).

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MAY 1918

Anti-mosquito work.

This has been actively proceeded with during the week. Almost a hundred men from various units in the Division and attached Artillery have been engaged on portions of the Wadi AUJA from the point where it enters our lines to its exit into the Jordan. A large amount of work has been necessary in clearing away thick jungle, removing weeds, narrowing the channel and concentrating streams when it splits into several channels into one central bed. Algae has been increasing and has been removed as fast as the means at our disposal allowed. It is estimated that 4 miles of the stream have been thus treated, but portions of this require still more work owing to the water percolating through the banks made at the side of the stream, and the amount of damage done by men and horses crossing the stream at innumerable points along its course.

An aqueduct which ran along the Northern portion of the stream and parallel to it had been previously diverted into the main stream near the main crossing and this week it was traced to its source high up the wadi outside our own wire and cut off at its origin. By this means a very active breeding ground has been completely destroyed.

It has not been possible to employ any men on the Wadi MELLAAH owing to the magnitude of the task, but inspections have been made in conjunction with Major Austen whose report has, I understand, been forwarded. Work has also been done on the head of the Wadi NUELAMEH by parties from the 2nd L.H. Brigade and 2nd Mounted Brigade and good progress made. The work in this Sector is also large owing to the amount of thick undergrowth. It is hoped that shortly the Wadis AUJA and NUELAMEH will have been effectively treated and mosquito breeding obliterated in them, but the Wadi MELLAAH presents such a huge task that outside assistance is absolutely necessary as the small parties available would be useless.

Even when the Wadi is treated, there still exists the large area of swamp in the Wadi MELLAAH outside our own territory from which mosquitoes carried down by the Northerly wind attack the troops in the Sectors held by the 4th and 5th Bdes. in hundreds. Specimens were obtained from "Musallat" and submitted to Major AUSTEN who decided that they were Anopheles Turkudi. A reconnaissance was made during the week of the area about MUSALLAT and no water found, but the low bushes in the vicinity offer splendid shelters for mosquitoes coming from the swamps in the Wadi MELLAAH.

In addition to work in the above areas, a swamp on the Eastern bank of the Jordan in the Auja Bridgehead has been oiled, as it has been found impossible to drain it.

D. OPERATIONS. NIL.E. GENERAL.

The remarks made last week apply with even greater force at present.

Diarrhoea and Dysentery are both prevalent and Malaria of the malignant type is commencing. As pointed out before, the grave danger of the troops being permanently infected with Malaria and Amoebic Dysentery becomes more apparent each week.

The report on anti-mosquito work shows how serious is the problem of protecting our troops from infection, especially as anophelines were found to be numerous in posts more than two miles from water.

Mosquito nets are now in use. Repellent cream not yet to hand. The issue of tents is a great boom and the amount of work done is less than last week.

Climatic and local conditions much the same. Appended is list of maximum shade temperatures for the week:-

18th	...	...	96	time	1030.
19th	...	...	90	"	1300
20th	...	...	96	"	1400
21st	...	...	101	"	1100
22nd	...	...	96	"	1400
23rd	...	...	90	"	1100
24th	...	...	95	"	1400

The question of disinfection at the D.R.S. is one to which attention should be drawn. Cases of Relapsing Fever and Scabies have been admitted and there is no efficient means of sterilising the clothing. Disinfectors are also required for the "delousing" of Egyptian natives. Vermin are practically non-existent at present among the white troops, but this state of affairs cannot be expected to last.

*G. H. Brown*  
*Adm. Asst. M. H. Division*  
*Col.*



# AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

Weekly Statement of Sick Admitted, Evacuated, and Discharged  
to Duty, W.E 25/5/18.

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Brigade.	Admissions.		Evacuations.		To Duty.	Strength.	% Admitted.	% Evacuated.
	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.				
3rd L.H.Brigade.	-	84	-	79	1	1743	4.81	4.53
4th L.H.Brigade.	3	50	3	44	1	1629	3.25	2.88
5th Mtd.Bde.(Brit.)	4	56	4	54	5	810	7.40	7.16
19th Bde. R.H.A.	-	30	-	19	1	809	2.47	2.34
Divl. Units.	-	22	-	21	1	1035	2.14	2.14
Total Division, excluding Indians.	7	232	7	217	9	6016	3.97	3.72
5th Mtd.Bde.(Ind.)	-	6	-	5	-	920	.60	.50
2nd L.H.Bde.(att.)	-	38	-	32	2	1282	2.01	1.69
I.S.C.Bde. (att.) B.	1	10	1	10	-	72	<sup>15.27</sup> <del>11.11</del>	<sup>15.27</sup> <del>11.11</del>
Do. I.	-	28	-	23	4	1711	1.69	1.40
Other Formations (British):-								
6th Field Troop	1	1	1	1	-			
1st Field Squadron	-	4	-	3	-			
Aust. Pack Wireless	-	1	-	1	-			
Ayrshire Btty.	-	15	-	15	-			
Inverness Btty.	-	5	-	5	-			
Somerset Btty.	-	5	-	5	-			
18th Bde. R.H.A.H.Q.	-	2	-	1	1			
13th Pontoon Bk. R.E.	-	5	-	4	1			
A.S.C. att. No.5	-		-		-			
Mal. Diagnosis Stn.	-	1	-	1	-			
Essex R.H.A.Ammn.Col.	-	2	-	2	-			
Essex R.H.A.	-	1	-	1	-			
A.S.C. att. "T" Coy	-		-		-			
C.T.C.	-	1	-	1	-			
Dorset Yeomanry	-	2	-	2	-			
"B" Sec. Fld. Survey	-	1	-	1	-			
35th Convoy A.T.Coy.	-	1	-	1	-			
301st R.F.A.	-	19	-	19	-			
11th Mtn.Bty.R.G.A.	-	8	-	8	-			
393rd Siege Btty.	-	9	-	9	-			
91st Heavy R.G.A.	-	16	-	16	-			
Middlesex Yeomanry	1	-	1	-	-			
20th Bde. R.H.A.	-	1	-	1	-			
1st W.D.G. H.Q.	-	1	-	1	-			
120th A.A.Section	-	1	-	1	-			

Total Wounded Admitted, AUDDIV (Brit.) 1 Off.  
(Ind.) 1 Off. 5 O.R.  
Other Formations (Brit.) -  
(Ind.) - 1 O.R.

Prevailing Diseases (See summary attached).



Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

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Summary of Diseases, W.E. 25/3/18.

MAY 1918

	<u>3rd L.H.Brigrade.</u>	<u>4th L.H.Brigrade.</u>	<u>5th Mtd.Bde.</u>	<u>Total Divn.</u>
Miscellaneous Surgical	4	5	2	16
Septics ...	1	4	4	9
Boils ...	1	-	6	7
Pyrexia N.Y.D.	12	16	6	42
Haemorrhoids ...	5	1	1	8
Malaria (P). ..	5	9	3	22
Dysentery, Amoebic	7	3	7	22
" Bacillary	1	-	-	1
Diarrhoea ...	12	9	14	55
" ...	φ 6	2	1	
" ...	α -	-	2	

φ Shewed clinical symptoms of Dysentery.

α Indians, and shewed clinical symptoms of Dysentery.



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AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

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Changes in Medical Officers, W.E. 25/5/18.

MAY 1918

<u>Rank and Name.</u>	<u>Corps.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Classfn.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
Major. CLARKE, C.L.	A.A.M.C.	34	"A"	From Base to 3rd L.H.F.A. 25/5/18.



*G.P.D.*  
Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.

MAY 1918

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Return of Infectious Diseases diagnosed during W.E. 25/5/18.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Date of onset.	Disease.
1403	Tpr.	JOHNSTON, A.H.	4th L.H.Reg.	22/5/18.	MALARIA, M.Tertian.
536190	Pte.	BURKMAR, A.I.	No.6 Malaria Diagnosis Stn.	"	" Double Inf.
206531	Gnr.	CROMPTON, -	19th Bde. R.H.A.	23/5/18.	" M.Tertian.
235135	Cpl.	ARCHIBALD, S.H.	Rl. Glos. Hrs.	"	" " "
1949	Tpr.	PAINSH, L.C.	11th L.H.Reg.	"	" " "
3004	"	LAWLER, -	8th L.H.Reg.	24/5/18.	" B. "
2403	Sgt.	NEWELL, H.H.	4th L.H.Reg.	"	" " "
612023	Bdr.	BANGROFT, -	H.Q., 19th R.H.A.	25/5/18.	" M. "
	Dvr.	TOWSEND, T.L.	12th L.H.Reg.	22/5/18.	" P.
	Cpl.	LONGWILL, L.I.	12th L.H.Reg.	21/5/18.	" P.
	Tpr.	MITCHELL, J.	4th Bde. H.Q.	21/5/18.	" P.
3308	Dvr.	ROOTE, A.J.	Ausdiv Train.	19/5/18.	" B.
935	Dvr.	CHRISTOPHERSON, -	Do.	21/5/18.	" B.
1090	Tpr.	FORREST, E.V.	10th L.H.Reg.	21/5/18.	" B.
3003	"	INGLIS, E.A.	Do.	23/5/18.	" B.
24/247222	Dvr.	MCFARLANE, J.	A.S.C. att.	23/5/18.	" B.
			Amballa F.Amb.		
2811	Tpr.	BROADHURST, -	10th L.H.Reg.	23/5/18.	" B.
971095	Cpl.	STEVENS, C.E.	19th B.A.C.	23/5/18.	" M.
1775	Q.M.S.	McRAE, -	4th L.H.Fld.Amb.	25/5/18.	" M.
3493	Tpr.	KENNEDY, J.A.C.	8th L.H.Reg.	25/5/18.	" M.
634256	Q.M.S.	BUCKERIDGE, -	19th B.A.C.	25/5/18.	" B.
-	Capt.	LANG, R.M.	Amballa F.Amb.	25/5/18.	" M.
-	Idcut.	HIMMONS, M.	4th L.H.Reg.	24/5/18.	Relapsing Fever.
469	Tpr.	ROBINSON, H.L.	10th L.H.Reg.	11/5/18.	Dysentery.
1822	"	ANDREWS, B.	12th L.H.Reg.	2/5/18.	"
2234	Farr.	COLE, S.A.	3rd Airline A.E.	10/5/18.	"
2433	Tpr.	HOLMGREEN, T.E.	12th L.H.Reg.	2/5/18.	"
762	L/Cpl.	ROBERTS, A.	9th L.H.Reg.	19/5/18.	" Amoebic.
321	Pte.	PEARCE, R.L.	9th L.H.Reg.	19/5/18.	" "
3467	Tpr.	GILLIES, J.L.	8th L.H.Reg.	19/5/18.	" "
3492	Tpr.	RONALD, A.C.	8th L.H.Reg.	19/5/18.	" "
608031	Gnr.	GRIMMER, H.	Notts R.H.A.	20/5/18.	" "
3438	Tpr.	WHITE, W.	10th L.H.Reg.	20/5/18.	" "
43066	Pte.	GOLDING, H.	Gloucester Yeo.	20/5/18.	" "
19107	"	STEWART, A.K.	D.H.Q., Ausdiv.	20/5/18.	" "
2380	Tpr.	McKENNA, -	12th L.H.Reg.	21/5/18.	" "
36304	Pte.	BICKNELL, F.	Gloucester Yeo.	21/5/18.	" "
3621	Tpr.	CLARK, -	4th L.H.Reg.	21/5/18.	" "
16713	Pte.	COHEN, L.A.M.	3rd L.H.F.Amb.	22/5/18.	" "
42867	"	BATES, M.	Gloucester Yeo.	22/5/18.	" "
237844	Cpl.	KERN, A.	Signal Squadron.	22/5/18.	" "
2594	Tpr.	BEALE, C.R.	4th L.H.Reg.	22/5/18.	" "
23334	Pte.	FORREST, E.G.	Gloucester Yeo.	22/5/18.	" "
110540	"	FLETCHER, J.A.	19th M.G.S.	22/5/18.	" "
31157	"	HILL, W.H.	Gloucester Yeo.	23/5/18.	" "
199591	Dvr.	BUSST, F.	Signal Squadron.	23/5/18.	" "
1617	L.Cpl.	WESTOVER, H.	9th L.H.Reg.	24/5/18.	" "
276242	Pte.	HILL, -	Gloucester Yeo.	24/5/18.	" "
624610	Dvr.	ELLIS, E.C.	19th B.A.C.	25/5/18.	" "
1499	L/Cpl.	DOWIE, R.S.	8th L.H.Reg.	25/5/18.	" Bacillary.



Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.



MAY 1918

## OTHER FORMATIONS.

MAY 1918

Return of Infectious Diseases diagnosed during W.E. 25/5/18.

No.	Rank.	Name.	Unit.	Date of onset.	Disease.
8072.	Dvr.	BROOMFIELD,	W. Hants Btty. R.H.A.	19/5/18.	Dysentery, Am.
5534	Dvr.	BHOLA,	- 8th Mtn. Btty.	24/5/18.	Malaria B.
1053	Bdr.	DUDDRIDGE,	W.T. Somerset Btty. R.H.A.	21/5/18.	Dysentery, Am.
1925	Tpr.	SHORE,	- 6th L.H. Regt.	24/5/18.	Malaria M.
5787	Bearer	JACKEY,	A.B.C. 124th I.C.F. Amb.	25/5/18.	Malaria, B.
	Tpr.	SHARPLEY,	- 6th L.H. Regt.	24/5/18.	" M.
434	Tpr.	LISTER,	- 6th L.H. Regt.	25/5/18.	" B.
1216	Gnr.	DUNLOP,	- Ayrshire Btty.	23/5/18.	" M.
072	Dvr.	DAVISON,	- Inverness Btty.	25/5/18.	" M.
698	Gnr.	MANNION,	C. 383rd Siege Btty.	23/5/18.	" M.
662	Spr.	MERRY,	W. 6th L.H. Regt.	22/5/18.	" M.
487	Gnr.	FARROW,	C. 383rd Bde. R.G.A.	22/5/18.	" M.
463	Tpr.	GRANT,	- 6th L.H. Regt.	22/5/18.	" M.

Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.Temperatures Recorded at the Anzac Field Laboratory  
4 - Week ending 25-5-18.

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DATE	0700		1200		1700		Highest Temp. recorded	
	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	HT	TIME
18	64	80	73	90	70.5	83	96	1030
19	63	76	71.5	83.5	69.5	81	90	1300
20	72	80	76	95	75	92	96	1400
21	70	80	75.5	96	75	93	101	1100
22	70.5	48	77	94.5	73	88	96	1400
23	70	79	78	86.5	71	85	90	1100
24	71	79	71	90	71.5	88.5	95	1400

Lt St Grant.  
per A.S.

app





MAY 1918

AUSTRALIAN MOUNTED DIVISION.List of Officers admitted W.E. 25/5/18.

				<u>Admitted.</u>	<u>Evacuated.</u>
4th A.L.H.Regt.	Captain, (Chaplain)	MacGoun,	J.H.	21/5/18.	21/5/18.
4th A.L.H.Regt.	Lieut.	HEMONS,	M.	24/5/18.	25/5/18.
4th Bde. H.Q.	Lieut.	MASSIE,	F.R.	22/5/18.	22/5/18.
19th M.G.Squadron.	Lieut.	MURRAY,	T.K.	18/5/18.	18/5/18.
Gloucester Yeo.	Lieut.	TOWNSEND,	E.G.	20/5/18.	20/5/18.
Do.	2ndLt.	PAGE,	L.J.	22/5/18.	22/5/18.
Do.	2ndLt.	PRETTY,	W.J.	24/5/18.	24/5/18.
18th Lancers.	Capt.	FRAZER,	D.S.	22/5/18.	22/5/18.
Hyderabad Lancers	Lieut.	COWAN,	G.J.	22/5/18.	22/5/18.
9th Hodsons Horse.	Capt.	CORBETT,	T.W.	24/5/18.	24/5/18.

+ WOUNDED.

~~X~~ Temp. att. Ausdis.



An investigation as to the causes of the high sick rate of the 3rd A.L.H. Brigade for the W.E. 11/5/18, reveals the following facts.

The chief diseases prevalent were:-

- (a). Gastro intestinal trouble, chiefly simple diarrhoea.
- (b). M.Y.D. Pyrexia.

- A.
1. The severe strain of the BS SALT operations: (many men were without sleep for 6 nights) followed by the arduous labours of trench digging, lowered their vitality, and predisposed to infection and even caused actual exhaustion from debility.
  2. General conditions of life (climatic and local) were very unfavourable. Heat was very great and dust extremely bad. Shelter provided by bivouac sheets is almost useless unless a breeze is blowing. The 3rd Brigade felt the effects of these conditions more than the 4th and 5th Brigades who were camped in better localities.
  3. The chief cause of the diarrhoea: (both simple and dysenteric) is, I think, the drinking of polluted unchlorinated water. There is no doubt that water discipline was lax and men drank freely from the Jordan and Auja, which is here a particularly dangerous source of supply owing to the large number of troops camped in its bed upstream. The attention of the G.O.C. was drawn to the necessity for strict water discipline and matters have been improved. The water guard at the chlorination tank apparently did not realize the importance of its duties for some days, and representations by the Medical Officers were necessary to have this matter put right. An important contributory cause of diarrhoea is, without doubt, the inadequate means of protection of food from flies and dust. Efforts have been made to supply these and muslin has been obtained by many units. General sanitation has been bad. The ground is extensively fouled with faecal deposits and rubbish, chiefly owing to insufficiency of sanitary material. In spite of all our efforts, nothing is yet obtainable from Ordnance in this respect, and consequently fly breeding is very prevalent and flies have free access to faecal matter. However, I regard the water supply as the chief cause of the large amount of diarrhoea: as:-
    - (a). This Brigade drew its drinking water largely from the lower reaches of the Auja, contaminated by troops upstream.
    - (b). The Regiment in the trenches, which had not easy access to the stream and had chlorinated water provided by water carts and fantasses, did not have nearly so much diarrhoea as those camped near the water.
  4. Drugs and medical comforts were somewhat difficult to obtain at first and led to the admission of mild cases which are now being treated in their own lines.
  5. Fresh meat on more than one occasion arrived in a tainted condition and may also have been the cause of the diarrhoea.

B. M.Y.D. PYREXIA.

In the opinion of the Medical Officers who saw these cases, phlebotomous fever probably accounted for many of the febrile cases. The phlebotomous midge is fairly common in this locality.

Malaria has not yet made its appearance to any great extent.

It would appear that the extreme urgency of preparing a defensive position and consequent shortage of men for any other duty led to a regrettable lack of insistence on the primary principles of sanitation, such as policing of water supply and prevention of promiscuous fouling of the area. Matters are slowly improving, but all units are seriously handicapped by the shortage of sanitary material and disinfectants, which shortage is largely due to tax on transport.



Colonel,  
A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.





MAY 1918

Wentworth

Apr 57

Temperature returns for week  
ending 31<sup>st</sup> May 1918.

	0700		1200		1700	
Date	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY
25	72	81	77	93	73	87
26	70	79	77	97	72	89
27	72	82	74	92	70	87
28	73	80	76	94	72	89
29	70	78	76	100	74	95
30	73	84	78	101	76	97
31	76	87	80	110.5	79	104

Chouther Clarke  
Major



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MAY 1918

Report on Sanitation of Australian Mounted Division during month  
of May, 1918.

Good sanitation during the month was most difficult and almost impossible to attain owing to several factors:-

The troops had returned very exhausted from active operations, during which portable sanitary equipment had decreased to an alarming extent. The ~~xxxxxx~~ troops were then dismounted and used to hold and dig a trench line, leaving one man to four horses some miles in rear. 3% portable equipment, always totally inadequate, became, under these conditions, almost useless, and it was found necessary to use it all in the led horse areas and incinerate there, and use the trench system in the front line. When units are thus divided 6 or 8% sanitary equipment is essential if incineration is to be carried out, and a further difficulty arises in that there are not sufficient natives to be allotted to both forward and back areas, and it would be necessary also to increase them to obtain satisfactory results.

The chief objection of the trench system appears to me to be that men are too careless to cover their excreta when deposited and thus allow fly-breeding to take place. The only method is to have a sanitary policeman constantly on duty at the latrines to insist on men carrying this out.

In addition to shortage of sanitary equipment, disinfectants were very hard to obtain - the whole question apparently being one of transport. At the end of the month, however, sanitary equipment had arrived and disinfectants being expected any day.

Sanitation which at the beginning of the month had been of the crudest variety had considerably improved toward the end of the month, but some units still require constant supervision to bring them into line.

Some months ago application was made for authority to use sacking or hessian to make "aprons" for latrines in order to render them fly-proof, but without result, and when one sees how rapidly flies make their entrance and exit from the portable latrine buckets when without this "apron" and then examine the monthly returns which show an almost tragic number of dysentery cases, the intimate connection with the two is obvious.

Meat safes are unprocureable, men are, therefore, unable to adequately protect their food from flies contaminated with latrine contents.

Great difficulty was experienced in the early part of the month in preventing men from drinking the water from the numerous streams in the district and it was only when severe disciplinary action was taken that the warning to abstain from drinking unchlorinated water was attended to by the rank and file.

Another difficulty has been to prevent contamination of running streams by men washing on the banks or in the stream itself, and to prevent units from camping in the bed of the Wadis. This latter, after many representations, has only been partially carried out owing to tactical disposition. All ranks have needed educating to the fact that running water is not necessarily pure water.

W. Evans  
Major,  
D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Divn.



87 59

MAY 1918

Report on Anti-mosquito work done during the month of  
May, 1918.

The Australian Mounted Division during the first week of this month occupied the area in the Jordan Valley which included the upper portion of the Wadi NUEIAMEH, the lower ten miles of the Wadi AUJA, and the lower three miles of the Wadi MELLAHAH. Inspection of these areas was made as early as possible in connection with mosquito breeding and a very serious condition discovered.

Breeding of anopheles was first found in the Wadi NUEIAMEH and work commenced as soon as possible to weed and narrow the channel and cut off aqueducts which arose from it and which were sluggish channels choked with weeds which formed ideal breeding places.

Inspection of the AUJA was then made and an enormous amount of anophelae breeding found. Parties from the various Brigades and Artillery Units in the neighbourhood, amounting to about 100 men were employed daily on this work and good progress made.

The Wadi MELLAHAH was then explored and an appalling condition found. This Wadi consisted of a sluggishly flowing stream of brackish water choked with weeds and Algae, in some places forming a succession of almost stagnant pools connected by a sluggishly winding stream; in others expanding to large marshes where the water extended under thick low bushes with no definite boundary, the surrounding earth being boggy and water logged and pitted with numerous small holes full of water. On the right bank of the Wadi MELLAHAH some 3 miles from its outlet a small branch of the Wadi contained a swamp thickly overgrown with tall rushes. All these places were swarming with anopheles larvae and a report was immediately sent to the D.D.M.S., Desert Mounted Corps and to our own "A" Branch stating how serious the position was. Major AUSTEN was then sent down to investigate by D.D.M.S., Desert Mounted Corps, and advised the employment of 1,000 men immediately in order to prevent the development of these larvae. These men were obtained two days later and extensive work commenced. Drains were cut, swamps filled in, rushes and weeds cut down and cleared and in a short space of time an enormous improvement was made. What had formerly been stagnant swamps overgrown with rushes and weeds and swarming with anopheles larvae was now dry ground intersected with narrow drains down which water was running at the rate of 4 to 5 miles an hour and not a single anophelae larvae could be found in the area thus treated. The upper area of the Wadi NUEIAMEH was later occupied by our troops and an inspection of this area showed that anopheles were breeding very freely in a swamp resulting from the overflow of the channel near its source. Elsewhere breeding was not found either in the main channel or the aqueducts arising from it. This was very unexpected and may possibly be attributed to the low temperature of the water in this region, as it here issues from the hill side as a spring. A party of 50 men were to drain and clear the area in which anopheles are breeding here.

Inspection was also made of a large pool in the Auja Bridgehead which had been caused by overflow from the Jordan. It is about 300 yards long by 30 yards wide covered with Algae and overgrown with weeds. The depth is 5 to 6 feet and its level is about the same as the Jordan so that drainage is impossible, the only course being to connect both ends to the river by channels 5 to 6 yards wide and allow the river to sweep through and maintain a continuous flow of water through it. Each end is separated from the Jordan by some 120 yards. A report on this matter is being sent to our A.A. & Q.M.G. and it is hoped to have this work carried out.

W. Evans Major,  
D.A.D.M.S., Australian Mounted Division.