

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

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/26/14

Title: Assistant Director of Medical Services

September 1918



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A. D. M. S. 4TH CAVALRY DIVISION.

1918.

September.

Lt.Col.A.W.Moore having been evacuated sick, this diary is compiled from notes forwarded by him.

JERICHO.

- 1st Cases of Sandfly fever still occurring in considerable numbers in Middlesex Yeo. Cases retained at Div. Rec.Station & regiment withdrawn from valley.
- 4th D.G. Australian Med. Services visited 10th Cav. Bde. C.F.A.
- 5th Div. H.Q. marched to TALAT ED DUM by night.
- 6th To ENAB by night 6th - 7th. Very trying march, cold & dry.

JUNCTION STN.

- 7th To JUNCTION Stn. by night 7th - 8th.
- 8th Remained at JUNCTION. Mosquito breeding (Anopheles) near bivouac. A.D.M.S. P.L. of C notified.

MEJDEL.

- 9th Marched to MEJDEL by night 9th - 10th.
- 10th 12th Bde. Middlesex Yeo. & Dorset Yeo. in area. Sickness as result of Jordan Valley considerable.
- 14th A.D.M.S. to JUNCTION & interviewed O.Cs. 10th & 11th Bde. C.F.A. then Bdes en route from Hordan & RAMLEH.
- 15th Conference with D.D.M.S. at SORONA. A.D.M.S. rejoined Div. H.Q. at VEBNA.
- 16th Arranged for Cacolet Camels to be drawn by Fd.Amb. Marched to RAMLEH by night.
- 17th Conference of O.Cs. Fd.Amb. issued Medical orders. Immobile Sections grouped & organized & henceforth marched as Divl. units. Motor Ambs formed into convoy under Capt. Wallis (Dental Surgeon). Divl Receiving Station consisted of Immobile Sections of 11th & 12th Fd. Ambs under Capt. Woods. Div. Collecting Station 10th C.F.A. Immob. Section under Capt. Thomson. Each Immobile Section consisted of approximately the following -

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- 17th
(contd.) British 1 O. 28 O.R. Indian 45 O.R.
Animals 28. G.S.Wagons 5. Water-cart 1.
These units marched between A & B.
- 18th Echelons Mobile Sections marched with
Brigades. 1900 Div. marched to SELMEH &
bivouaced in orange groves & remained all
day.
- 19th 0300 Division marched to position of
Readiness behind the Trenches occupied
by 7th Indian Infantry Div. 0400 Bombard-
ment began. Infantry gained all objectives
according to programme. Head of Div. crossed
trenches at 0400. No casualties. Division
marched North along plain - heavy going -
Immobile Sections with divl. transport
under direction of D.A.D.M.S. Division
reached area TEL ED DHUR KERKUR area by
1830 off saddled, watered & fed. Resumed
march at 1230 from SUMRAH through MUSMUS
pass, marched all night & reached LEJJUN at
dawn.
- BEISAN.
- 20th Advance Guard 2nd Lancers fought an action
at LEJJUN, took 200 prisoners but had no
casualties, treated a number of wounded
prisoners. 0800 2nd Lancers captured
AFULEH with one casualty. One regt with
small Fd.Amb. detachment at 1300 sent to
occupy JISR MAJAMIE. Advance continued to
BEISAN, which was taken at 1600 with 4
casualties. Divl. Receiving Station
established at TUL KERAM at 1800.
- 21st Prisoners taken in large numbers. Two
large Turkish hospitals complete with
medical personnel (4 med. officers) taken
over at BEISAN - over 150 serious cases
(Malaria & wounded Turks). Feeding is a
great difficulty. Water supply arranged,
all streams much polluted.
- 22nd Evacuated British & Indian sick by Motor
Ambulance & lorries, also prisoners by
lorry.
- 23rd Div. Commander visited 10th Bde C.F.A. &
Turkish hospital.
- 24th Four or five thousand prisoners taken each
25th day. 10% of them sick & wounded & admitted
to hospital. Evacuated at rate of about
150 per diem by motor lorry. British &
Indian sick average about 35 evacuated per
diem. Div. Collecting Station arrived on
24th & opened at BEISAN.

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- 26th 1300 Div. marched to Nisr MAJAMIE. Div. Coll. Station marching with "B" echelon & opened on 27th in station buildings taking over casualties 4 & sick 10.
- 27th Div. marched across Jordan along Irbid Road. 10th Bde fought action at IRBID, about 30 casualties, evacuated by wagon & camels & met motor amb. convoy about 10 miles from Tisr MAJAMIE whither they were evacuated to D.C.S. 10th C.F.A. opened at ER REMTE with 35 sick & wounded who were evacuated in succeeding 48 hours by motor Amb. convoy to Tisr MAJAMIE. This tent section had an escort of 4 men, but the armed Bedouins showed threatening attitude. Div. bivouaced at REMTE.
- 28th Division marched to DERAA & thence to MEJERIB. After consultation with Div. Commander it was decided to carry forward all casualties from this point on.
- DILLI.
- 29th Marched to DILLI. A few cases of Pyrexia were carried on by Ford Amb.
- ZERAKIYE.
- 30th Division marched to ZERAKIYE. No fighting or casualties have occurred since leaving REMTE. During the march from the JAFFA area the health of the troops may be said to have been good. A certain number of cases of Pyrexia occurred, but these were only to be expected after the divisions long stay in Jordan Valley and the strain of the seven night marches prior to operations & the march to BEISAN between 80 & 90 miles in 38 hours. The area occupied by the division at BEISAN was considered to be probably of a highly malarious nature & representations were made by A.D.M.S. to the G.O.C. that it would be desirable to move the bivouac area to higher ground. The military situation however would not admit of such a move. An outbreak of Malaria in about a fortnight's time was predicted.

H. RICHARDSON,

Col.

A.D.M.S.

for Lt.Col. A.W.Moore, A/A.D.M.S.
evacuated sick.