

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

Veterinary

Item number: 27/4/8

Title: Deputy Assistant Director Veterinary
Services, 1st Australian Division

August 1916



AWM4-27/4/8

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
CANAPLES	1916	1/8	Inspected transport of 7 th and 8 th Inf Batts. satisfactory. Also Engineers and Div Sig Coy all improving.	
"	2/8		Went to ABBEVILLE in Car, interviewed Brig Gen Moore DSO. Capt O'Reill ADC reported for duty. Memo from 1st ANZAC that suggestion to promote 25% of Captains ADC to Major had been submitted to Australia.	
"	3/8		Inspected D.A.C. reported to A.A. & G. their unsatisfactory condition, he promised to visit them. Visited 2nd Field Ambulance at Pado court sent horse to 4 th M.S. with Laminitis. Arranged with 1st ANZAC for Capt Gore to give veterinary attention to 2nd Field Amb. Arranged to get Mallein and Syringes for 1st ANZAC mounted troops. Got Chest and wallet for Capt Gore.	

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CANAPLES	1916 4/8	1500	Conference all LCOs in office. Lt. Capt O'Neill AALCB evacuated sick "Poriasis" Lt.	
"	5/8		Law BB 1st and 10th Inf Battalions re unsatisfactory state of their shoes, promised improvement. Lt. Rode to St Leger to see NZS. which had not arrived owing to 1st ANZAC ordering move and instructions having gone astray. (This should be left in the hands of ADLBS. vide Instructions Reserve Army. Lt. Inspected Infantry Battalion transport, very satisfactory. Pioneers also so. Lt.	
"	6/8		Went to CONTAY to see Capt Hore with 1st ANZAC mounted troops took mallein and Syringes and gave him demonstration on mallein testing. Lt. Mobile City Sectn arrived ST LEGER. Lt.	

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CANAPLES	1916. 7/8		Inspected 1st Dab sent number of horses to M.S. # 2nd 7.A. Bde moved out ^{of line} sent some horses to M.S. #	
RUBEMPRE	8/8		Arrived by car and fixed up office. # Received notification of Lieut Bourke A208. being attached temporarily in place # of Capt C. Neill evacuated sick # also Capt Bruce to take position in arrival #. Capt Mc Donald A206. attached 21st 7.A. Bde, looking after 3rd & 21st Bdes. # Spoke to G.C. Division re condition Artillery horses #	
"	9/8		Moved to ST LEGER. inspected 1st and 2nd 7.A. # Interview with G.C. Div Artillery re working, feeding, veterinary attention etc. #	

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RUBEMPRE	1916- 10/8	1030	Lieut Bourke AMB reported for duty. Lt. Instructed by AA & B Fls to send in weekly horse return showing evacuations, remnants drawn strength etc.	
"	11/8		Rode to CONTAY and VADENCOURT and inspected all horses of 1st FA Bde with Lt Col Anderson, drew his attention to a number of horses not in satisfactory working condition, sent some to M.C.S. Lt Bourke AMB attached to 3rd FA Bde Inspected 3rd & 21st FA Bdes, saw number of horses for casting, which I arranged with DDTB Reserve Army. Lt.	
"	12/8		Visited 1st A/2AC in connection with scheme of evacuation of sick horses in Corps area, Lt.	

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RUBEMPRE	1916 13/8		motored to ALBERT to see ADLS 4 th Div and to CANAPLES to see ADLS 2 nd Div re Corps arrangements. Inspected Dab at MONTRELET. Jh.	
"	13/8 14/8		motored to ST LEBER in connection with return of Remunts required, artillery figures not being satisfactory, managed to get them correct. Jh. To RAINCHEVAL to see DDB Army re corps moving MZS, he promised to see them and arrange matters, also saw DDTZ re castings etc. which were satisfactorily arranged. Jh. Put up scheme attached for corps City arrangements.	
"	14/8 15/8		Moved MZS to RUBEMPRE. Jh. Received orders to move to ALBERT. Jh. Visited MZS. Div sig boy. Traffic Police. Changed house for Police. Jh.	

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RUBEMPRE	15/8	9/16	Sent some suggestions, Copy attached, to DWS at the request of DDLS 2nd Reserve Army Hq.	
ALBERT	16/8		Moved again to ALBERT took over same office Hq.	
"	17/8		Inspected 3 rd Field Coy and 1st Inf Bde at morning stables, found some hot watering before feed. Hq. 1st Mobile Cety Section arrived ALBERT. Hq.	
"	18/8		Second anniversary of appointment ADLS. at Din Hq. Inspected all Inf Bdes & Pioneers at morning stables found system of watering unsatisfactory, saw Commandant of area re improving same. Hq. All Cety officers conference in afternoon Hq. Capt Bruce reported for duty Hq. Capt Bruce attached to Hq. temporarily. Hq.	

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ALBERT	1916 19/8		<p>Lot of shelling in early morning few horses hit Inspected Engineers and Dbb who have been placed under Duty Charge of Capt Bruce, introduced him to his officers and his work. 7/6.</p>	
"	20/8		<p>Resumed work of remounts. arrived ACHOUX. 6 am Remount arrived 1 pm inspected and issued the one mule died fatal colic 10 minutes after arrival 7/6. Arranged casting of horses in 24th Battery. 7/6.</p>	
"	21/8		<p>Gave lecture and demonstration to officers and NCOs, 1st FA Bde at morning stables. 7/6. Bombs dropped from aeroplanes in horse lines of 7th Battery killed and wounded 42 horses 7/6. Arranged with MLS re wounded. 7/6</p>	

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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ALBERT	22/8	0630	Inspected Div Sig Coy and 21st FA Bde. Lt. Received orders to move to RUBEMPRE. Lt. DDLS Reserve Army came out. Lt.	
"	23/8	1000	Left ALBERT. Lt. RUBEMPRE took same office etc. Lt. left ALBERT leaving 35 horses to 2nd MDS.	
RUBEMPRE	24/8		wired Capt Hindmarsh att'd to 2nd FA Bde Lt. wired DDLS Army re handing horses to 4th MDS leaving Lt.	
"	25/8		Capt McKenzie evacuated sick Pyrexia. Lt. Capt BRUCE sent to Div Fran to replace Lt.	
"	26/8	1530 2200	moved to DOULLENS and entrained for BELGIUM Lt. Reached HOPOUTRE Detained. Lt.	

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HOOGRAAF	1916 27/8		Forced up Mobile L. Sect temporarily JH	
"	28/8		Moved into new offices and billets JH forced site for MLS. would all 250's + DD25 2 nd Army position of office and MLS. JH	
"	29/8		Called on DD25 and DDP 2 nd Army HAZEBROEK. JH	
"	30/8		Inspected DAC and 2 nd F.A. Bde. out all day in pouring rain. horse standings very muddy. JH	
"	31/8		Inspected all 1 st F.A. Bde with Capt Hindmarsh. also 3 rd Field Ambulance. JH	
			Inspect 3 rd Inf Bde transport JH Attached Sgt Walker a/c to 8 th F.A. Battery vice Sgt Bunn transfer vacated sick JH. of Hator	

1.9.16 ADLS 1st Dist Div Hator

D.D.V.S.

Reserve Army.



In reply to D.V.S. memo. 17/3169/16, I am forwarding a few suggestions; probably all or most of them are obvious or unnecessary, but some of them may be useful.

Duties of A.D.V.S. Divisions.

1. He will supervise the work of all Veterinary Officers attached to the Division, and will visit units with them at frequent intervals.
2. Assure himself that proper Veterinary attention is given to all units in Division, frequently inspecting cases.
3. Inspect cases sent to and evacuated by Mobile Veterinary Section.
4. See that all V.O.s are fully instructed in their duties, and are familiar with method of preparing returns.
5. Check all requisitions for Veterinary Stores, with a view of preventing waste, and to see that necessary economy is practised.
6. To inspect all Vety. Equipment on issue to Vety. Officers, Sgts A.A.V.C. or units, and assure himself that it is all correct, enquiring into any deficiencies.
7. Notify at once any casualties of Veterinary personnel to D.D.V.S. Army.
8. Keep the horses of all units in the Division

under close observation, enquiring into the cause of animals losing condition, advising the officers concerned re matters of feeding, watering, or stable management.

9. To keep in touch with units when the Division is on the move, and make the best possible arrangements for units without a Veterinary Officer attached. (To do this satisfactorily the A.D.V.S. should have a free hand to dispose of his officers as he wishes, in order to meet varying circumstances).
10. To see that the Mobile Veterinary Section attached to Division is in a suitable and convenient position, and that all concerned are familiar with its location.
11. Supervise the working of the M.V.S., and see that all instructions etc. are properly carried out.
12. To see that A.Ds.V.S. of other Divisions or V.O's. of detached units are notified of cases evacuated by M.V.S. attached to his Division.
13. To arrange Veterinary attention, when required, for units of other Commands in Divisional Area which have no Veterinary officer attached.
14. To arrange inspection of all Remounts drawn by Division, and to see that they are not mixed with other horses until he is satisfied that they are free from contagious or infectious disease.
15. To take all measures necessary to prevent the introduction or spread of contagious or

infectious disease in the Division, to isolate cases, evacuated where necessary, and to make what investigation is possible in the field.

16. To assure himself that horses or mules unfit for service for Veterinary reasons are not retained with units.

17. To keep a close watch on forage issued to Division, and to report on any not considered satisfactory; if necessary he should condemn any absolutely unfit for use.

18. To supervise shoeing in Division; to advise, and where necessary report if not satisfactorily carried out.

19. Notify D.D.V.S. Army of any horses left behind with farmers or residents, by units of Division when on move, which he cannot arrange to collect.

20. Arrange for Veterinary attention to units of the Division in areas other than that in which the Division is stationed; this can be ^{arranged} done by notifying Army H.Q. or the A.D.V.S. of Division area where detached is.

21. To furnish weekly A.F. A2000 and any other returns or particulars required.

22. To keep the G.O.C. and Staff of Division informed of any matters affecting the welfare of the animals of Division.

Some of these may be useful, but will probably need amending

15.8.16

Majr.
A.D.V.S. 1st Aust. Div.

Scheme for Mobile Veterinary Sections
in 1st Army Area.
Approved by A. D. V. S. of each Division.

Mobile Veterinary Sections will move
with its own Division, but will only move to
or from the following places:-

Albert.
Rubempre.
Canaples.

where they will take up the position vacated
by the outgoing section, as arranged by the
A. D. V. S. of each Division concerned.

Sufficient men will be left during the move
to keep the Section always open to receive
cases.

Each A. D. V. S. will know the position
of each M. V. S. and will notify every V. S. Officer
who will therefore be able to send cases to the
nearest M. V. S.

The O. C. of each M. V. S. will notify
the A. D. V. S. of his own Division of all evacuations
and the A. D. V. S. of other Divisions of any cases
evacuated from his Division.

Horses can be conveniently evacuated as
follows :- Albert - Mericourt.
Rubempre - Achoua.
Canaples - Tignacourt.

19. 8. 16

A. D. V. S. 1st Aust. Div. Major