

Morning Reports, 25 October 1916, Wessner from Duty to Sick in Hospital¹⁵

Day of month.	REMARKS.	RATIONS.			
		FOR MEN.		FOR ANIMALS.	
		Flour	Mead.	Figs.	Midd.
21	2nd Lt. Oplinton from leave of absence to duty. (Returned to post 3 P.M. Oct 20)				
22	His mules attached to troop for rations (3 mules) Pvt. Winick from absent without leave to camp. Pts. 6 logs, ironwood and Hickam down transferred from supply troop to troop Oct 21-16 (not yet joined) Pts. Smith, with Troop 6 mules by canvas S.O.		45		
23	No change				
24	Pts. Kendall and Swallowell to duty as Cpls. (Pvt. Swallowell sick in hosp.)				
25	Pvt. Wessner from duty to sick in hospital			7	
	Troop No 16 disd Oct 24-16				

Figure 12 Morning Reports, 25 October 1916, Wessner from Duty to Sick in Hospital

If he became seriously ill with malaria, typhoid fever, or smallpox, all diseases commonly suffered by soldiers in the Philippines during this time frame, he may have been sent to a hospital in Honolulu for treatment and recovery. Hawaii is 5,300 miles south of the Philippines, requiring a journey by sea of at least 25 days for today's vessels. This suggests that if a soldier was sent to a hospital there, it was likely for a serious health problem that kept him from returning to duty for more than 60 days. This might explain the lack of an entry for him in the *Morning Reports* identifying when he returned from the hospital in late 1916 or at all in 1917.

If his illness required extended hospitalization and rehabilitation, it may have prevented him from returning to active duty. He may have received a medical discharge while in Hawaii. If he was hospitalized for an extended period of time, his stay would have provided ample opportunities for him to meet his wife, who was born and raised in Honolulu. Her father was a military musician, which may have provided a better opportunity for the couple to meet, rather than simply by chance. If his recovery took six months or longer, that puts him in the correct timeframe for when his daughter Kathryn was conceived in July of 1917, nine months before her March 1918 birth. In July of 1917, Wesner would have been in Hawaii for nine months, correlating with an extended illness.

¹⁵ *Morning Reports, 1912-1939*, page 6, Box# Reel# 00482_2.67 15TH Cavalry, Troop L - SUP TRP, 16TH Cavalry job number 21-004, NARA catalog ID 85713825, record group RG 64, series designator SL-00663; Fold3.com online database, accessed 10 October 2025, Saddler Wessner from furlough to duty. See [Page 6 - US Morning Reports, 1912-1939 - Fold3](#).