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ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
CENTRAL REGISTRY
1513/14/1
A.I.F. LONDON

1st AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION

Report for March 1918

A52223 178/28

Up to March 14th the Station remained a Corps Rest Station, continuing the work of the previous three months.
During that period 22 Officers and 647 O'Ranks were admitted.
On March 14th we received orders to close down at midnight as a C.R.S, but to continue to hold 200 Rest Station cases.
Work was immediately started to evacuate cases down to the 200 limit, and then to transfer the Pack Store to a tent, re-equipping the Dressing Room which had been used as a Pack Store. The wards were allotted to their special wards and equipped accordingly.
In this matter I would like to mention a heating device arranged by Major R.O.Douglas. It is only in an experimental stage, and owing to later orders to move it has not been possible to test it.
It is intended to re-erect it at the new Station, and I will report later on its servicability.
Since the 21st of the month we have received both C.C.S. and C.R.S. cases, but have not had any regular receiving day allotted, and only overflow cases from the neighbouring C.C.S. have come.
On March 26th orders were received to move the Station to a new site. (Sheet 27 V4 C2.5) I inspected the site with Major Glisson and made a rough plan of the camp.
The following day the ground was measured and a plan to scale drawn up. Verbal instructions had been received that we were to continue receiving at our old site, and would not move till other C.C.S's that were moving also were ready to receive. However on March 27th we got notification by telephone that 5 lorries would report next morning to commence removing the C.C.S.
We asked to be allowed to close down, but it was only to-day, 31st, that this was permitted and our patients evacuated.
The holding of patients and keeping the Station ready to receive has made the move somewhat difficult, but things are well on the way and we should be ready to receive the 400 wounded ordered by Wednesday the day stated.
I append to append
It is impossible any orders or copy of orders received, as they have been all verbal.
The following are the figures for the month.

	Officers	O'Ranks
Admissions	50	884
Evacuations to Base	14	256
Transfers to O/Hospitals	26	720
Discharged to Duty	21	320
Deaths		6

DIRECTOR MEDICAL SERVICES 8 APR 1918 I.F. HEADQUARTERS

The figures for transfer to other Hospitals are high, but this is due to our reduction from 700 to 200 when ordered to open as a C.C.S.
During the period we have acted as a Rest Station 76 Officers and 1236 O'Ranks have been returned to duty.
As there has been little Surgery I have not asked the Surgeon Specialist for a report. Major Glisson who has been acting as Physician is appending to his report some remarks on the nature of the cases.
There has been no X Ray work except sprains, fractures, and a very few wounds.
The following changes in Personnel took place.

Lieut-Col Maclure to No 2 A.G.H.
Major Douglas and Capt. Williams, Sister McRae, and Ptes Jones and Crossman to Surgical Team No 1 A.G.H.
Major Bell reported as Surgical Specialist.
Head Sister Anderson transferred to England.
Head Sister Fleming reported for duty.
Sister Galway and S/Nurse Faulkner evacuated sick.
Sister Galway has reported back for duty.

A.D.M.S.

A.D.M.S. No 2 [illegible]

Lieut-Col
O.C. 1st A.C.C.S.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
A.I.F.
8-4-18 —10—.... A.M
Central Registry
15-13 / 14/1

1st. Australian Casualty Clearing Station

To/

D.M.S.,
A.I.F.

A52773

During the month the Station has undergone several changes. The latter part of February and the beginning of this month found the C.R.S. number gradually increasing, until on 2/3/18 there were 735 cases being held. This number was just in excess of that asked for by D.D.M.S., The latter was asked to defer any further transfers from Divisional Rest Camps to the Station for 48 hours. On 4/3/18 the number had sunk to 651 and we began readmitting, though only small numbers came in, the accomodation was not pressed again. On 14/3/18 a telephone message from D.M.S., Army ordered the Station to close as a C.R.S. from midnight 14-15/3/18.

On morning 15/3/18 there were 560 cases in Hospital. Under instructions from D.M.S. 200 sitting cases were transferred to No. 13 C.C.S., ARNEKE, as many as possible were discharged to duty and in addition the ordinary evacuation to C.C.S. was held. The number of cases remaining after these moves was 223 of which 83 were bed cases and the remainder convalescent. These 83 cases were transferred to A1 and A2 wards and steps taken to prepare the vacated wards for reception of C.C.S. cases. The Dressing Room which was being used as a Pack Store was cleared of Packs and other gear and prepared for its usual work, the Packs were removed over to a ~~Swiss Cottage~~ tent in Q.M. section. E.P.I

Instructions were received from Army that 200 C.R.S. cases were to be held in addition to the C.C.S. work. The wards were prepared and equipped for cases as per appendix. The wards A1 and A2. gave accomodation for 132 lying C.R.S. cases the balance of the 200 were to be held as convalescent cases & housed in convalescent sections.

Written orders were received from D.M.S. to be prepared to receive Casualties from left section 15 Corps. The Station was ready to receive 630 C.C.S. cases on the morning of 17/3/18. No further word was received with reference to receiving cases and the opportunity was taken to still further make permanent C.C.S. preparations by painting the Dressing Room and re Kalsomimeing some of the wards.

On 21st. D.M.S. was asked for further instructions as to receiving as the Station was ready but nothing definite was settled. On the 23rd the O.C. No.2.C.C.S. asked that an overflow of Gas cases might be sent here as his Station was filled. About 20 Mustard Gas cases were received.

D.M.S. was again asked for instructions and orders were given that we were to receive cases alternately with No. 2 British C.C.S. No definite days however were arranged and the only cases received apart from C.R.S. were the overflow from No.2.C.C.S. The number of Sick & Wounded cases received since 23rd are Sick 150 Wounded 102. The C.C.S. work has therefore very irregular until on the 26th. verbal instructions were given O.C. 1st. Aust.C.C.S. to move Camp to a field near Hazebrouck. Preparations were made immediately and up to date 57 lorry loads of material have been shifted.

The Station was cleared of cases this morning by transfer to 15th.C.C.S. of 46 sitting cases and by Evacuation to Base of 96 Off. & O'Ranks, by Discharge to Duty of 20 Off. & O'Rs The balance of the cases are convalescent and can be transferred to the new camp.

46

5 Enc. Rec'd

The Sick cases received as C.C.S. have been of the same type as that admitted as C.R.S. regime, except that on the whole they have been more severe. P.U.O. is the prevalent condition. The Gas cases were all of the Mustard type and none developed serious signs whilst in this Station.

Appended here is chart showing principal diseases admitted during the month.

Ward	Accomodation		Bedding	Remarks
A 1	Stretchers	66	Palliasses	Rest Station
A 2	"	66	"	"
B 1	"	66	"	Slight Wd. not for Evac. Recreation Room, but to be used first as waiting room for light Wd. awaiting dressing & later as acute surgical.
B 2	not specified with Cots 50 beds			
C 1	Beds	50	Biscuits	Acute Surgical & Chest
C 2	Stretchers on Trestles	66	Biscuits 24 (not palliasses)	Walking Wounded for Evacuation.
D 1	do.	66	do 36	Walking Wd. for Evac. and overflow from D.2.
D 2	Beds	40	Biscuits	Acute Medical & Gassed
E 1	Stretchers	66	"	Lying Wd. for Evacuation
E 2	"	66	"	do.
F 1	Beds	22	"	Officers
E 3	Beds	26	"	Post-operative acute surgical.
G	Trestles	30	-----	Pre-operative
	Total	630		

H. J. Glenister Major

Adjt. 1st. A. C. C. S.

In the Field
31/3/18.

1st Aust Casualty Clearing Station

Chart showing principal diseases during

March 1918

1. P.W.O. 167
2. Trench fever 97
3. Scabies 95
4. I.C.T. 72
5. Sprains Fractures, etc. 61
6. Influenza 51
7. Catarrhal infections of Bronchial Tubes 41
8. Debility 32
8. Bronchitis 32
9. Rheumatism 25
10. Diarrhoea 20
11. Synovitis of joints 18
12. Cardiac Disease 17
13. Orchitis 11.
14. Pleurisy 10
15. Enteritis 8
15. Venereal Disease 8.
16. Appendicitis 5.
16. Otitis Media 5.
17. Haemorroids 3
17. Nephritis 3.
18. Broncho Pneumonia 2.

To D.M.S
2nd Army.

A. Munro Major
adj 1st Aust. C.C.S.

To/

Commanding Officer,

1st.Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

Attached please, resume of my department for month of March, 1918.

L. J. Linstead

Hon.Capt.& Q.M.

for O.C.1st.Aust.C.C.S.

31/3/18

1st.Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

RESUME of Q.M.Dept. for Month of March, 1918.

I have to report that the Australian Corps Troops Ordnance are still unable to supply distinguishing colour patches for the unit also chevrons for Service Overseas.

My various departments have efficiently carried out their many duties, during the month under review.

STEWARD'S STORE.

Rations:- These have been sufficient and of good quality.

Fuel :- Supplies have been maintained.

Other Supplies:- No difficulty in drawing same.

Diets :- The following diets were issued to the cook-house during the month.

Soft.	Full.	Total.
2274	36625	38899

LINEN & CLOTHING STORE.

All patients returning to duty, have been fully equipped before marching out.

Laundry :- 23818 pieces were washed at the Army Laundry, during the month.

Shoemaker :- The following repairs were done during the month.

HEELED	SOLED.
39	51

CARPENTERS.

Some constructional work and many sundry repairs were effected by this department during the month.

COOK-HOUSE. The work of this department has been carried out to satisfaction.

Fat Saved. 1st.Class Only. The quantity of fat saved during the month is as follows :-

Sent to Railhead.	1926 lbs.
Issued to messes.	125 lbs.
Used in cooking.	51 lbs.
	2102

SANITATION. The sanitary arrangements of the camp have been creditably maintained.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS. An additional 250 Fire Buckets and 72 Hand Pumps have been received. Standing orders re fire precautions are rigidly adhered to.

No Dentist.

Bakers

Light entertainments

V.D.

Establishment

Abbreviations

Shoemaker

Tailors: Just repairs

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
A.I.F.
7-8-18 — 4-....P.M
Central Registry
15/3/14

1st. Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

Report for February 1918.

A36994

During the month we have continued to work as a Corps Rest Station.

The following are the figures:-

	Admitted	Transferred to C.C.S.	Returned to duty	Deaths	Remaining
OFFICERS	58	47	18	-	16
OTHER RANKS	1099	626	396	1	633
	1157	673	414	1	649

With these members in Hospital, the Staff has been taxed to its utmost, and I have applied for a Tent Division from a Field Ambulance to be attached temporarily.

Again during this month, as there has been little Surgical or "X" Ray work, I have not asked the Surgeon Specialist or Radiologist for a report.

The water supply has at last been arranged, and the men are now able to get baths. All patients as admitted who are in a fit state of health are given a bath, and a clean change of clothes before going to a ward, and their uniforms are sterilized.

I would like to draw attention to the fact that we have been without a Dental Surgeon during the whole time the Station has been a Rest Station. It would have been possible to send the 1000 odd men we have returned to duty, back in a fit Dental state, instead of as at present, many of them having to go sick again to get Dental Treatment at the Field Ambulance.

A certain area of ground has been prepared for vetetables growing, but it is to early yet to say exactly how much we will be able to cultivate.

I have applied during the month to have half a dozen "P.B." men attached to act as Batmen to the Sisters and attached Officers. The establishment carrying Batmen for 8 officers is not sufficient when the number is increased to 15 and 15 Sisters.

I would like to put on record the excellent work done by the "V.D." convalescent patients. We have returned to duty 50% of the patients sent to us, and they have been better workers and generally more use than "P.B." men or Labor Battalion men who were formally attached. It is absolutely impossible to run a C.C.S., or Rest Station with the bare establishment.

The following changes in personnel have occurred:-

Captain BOTHAMLEY, A.J., to the 2nd Field Ambulance.
Captain COWEN, S.O., from the 2nd Field Ambulance.

S/Nurse HOYLE, E., to No 10 Stationary Hospital, - Sick.
Sister RUSH, E.D. reported for duty.

Enc. Rec'd

Lieut-Colonel.
Officer Commanding,
1st. Aust. C. C. S.

A.D.M.S. 1
A.D.M.S. 2.

P.A. 12/3/18

1st AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION

Registrar's Report

February 1918

During the month the Station has continued to function as a Corps Rest Station.

ACCOMMODATION

The pressure on our accommodation has gradually increased, and to-day we have 666 patients (including 52 Convalescent Venereal patients). To meet this increased pressure it has been necessary to open up a new ward, consequently A1 has been fitted to receive Light Medical cases, the Light Duty cases previously housed in this ward have been transferred to 2 marquees and a hut, the latter being ultimately designed for a recreation room for the Personnel.

With the opening of A1 as a medical ward, we have now available the number of beds demanded by the D.D.M.S. Australian Corps.

The increased in the number of patients has thrown a big strain on the personnel of all departments, and it would be impossible to carry on the work of the unit without the help afforded by the Light Duty patients and attached V.D's.

PERSONNEL

The personnel of the unit is distributed as follows (vide appended list) Of the 90 O.Ranks here shewn, there are unavailable at present through leave or sickness, 3 N.C.O's and 13 men.

It will be seen then that it is necessary to employ largely Light-duty men and Venereal patients to augment our personnel if the work of the various departments is to be carried out.

The D.D.M.S. Aust.Corps has also been asked for a Field Ambulance Subdivision to assist us.

Both these measures are makeshifts, and do not make for the best results.

The difficulty, and the disadvantages attendant upon the present ~~ma~~ method of trying to meet it, are not likely to be lessened when the Station resumes work as a C.C.S. It is the intention of the D.D.M.S. Aust.Corps to ask that we hold then 300 cases as under C.R.S. conditions. If as will easily happen in any period of rush, the number of our C.C.S. type of cases reaches 300, we will be faced with the difficulty of providing labour on a scale such as holds at present with a lesser number available of the type of patients which furnish our Light Duty cases.

It is evident that the old C.C.S. establishment is inadequate to meet the requorements of the Station under the greatley increased pressure that is put on it.

COOKHOUSE

One of the departments upon which this strain has fallen rather heavily is the cookhouse. It is worth noting the excellent work that has been done in this department under Sgt. WALLER. With a staff much under the cooking strength of a battalion, in quarters that have proved inadequate, he has provided meals for numbers that closely approach that of a battalion. He has done this always most satisfactorily, and has proved a big asset to the unit.

LEAVE

The unit has been very fortunate in the matter of leave. With the exception of those Officers whose period of service in France has not warranted it, and 3 O.Ranks with whom lack of funds was an obstacle, all other members of the unit have had leave either to the U.K. Paris, or South of France within the last twelve months.

MEDICAL OFFICERS SCHOOL

Capt. D. Barton and Sgt. Barrett were detailed to the 4th Army Medical Officers School on 27/2/18

ALBUMEN IN TROOPS

AT the request of the Consulting Physician 4th Army, the urines of all cases (with very few exceptions) admitted during the period 21/1/18 to 25/2/18 were examined to determine the presence or otherwise of Albumen. 999 cases were thus examined, and in 35 Albumen was discovered giving a percentage of 3.513%. In many of these cases, the presence of Albumen would not have been suspected. This figure falls short of that mentioned by MORET (Daily Review of Foreign Press 1/1/18) in which a routine examination of 1854 wounded soldiers showed Albumen in 5.77%.

Appended is a chart showing the principal diseases for the month.

D. Barton Capt. A.A.M.C. 1/3/18

1st. Aust. Casualty Clearing Station.

Chart showing principal diseases admitted during month of Feby. 1918.

1.	Trench Fever	196.
2.	P. U. O.	143.
3.	I. C. T.	139.
4.	Bronchitis	79.
5.	Influenza.	74.
6.	Sprains, Fractures etc.	68.
7.	Rheumatism	56.
8.	Debility	53.
9.	Catarrhal Infections of Bronchial Tubes	45.
10.	Cardiac Disease	42
11.	Diarrhoea	31.
12.	Otitis Media	26.
13.	Gastritis.	23.
14.	Scabies	22.
15.	Synovitis of joints	20.
16.	Trench Feet	14.
17.	Pleurisy	10.
18.	Venereal Dis.	8.
19.	Haemorrhoids	7.
20.	Appendicitis	7.
21.	Var. Veins.	6.
22.	Gingivitis	5.
23.	Nephritis	4.
23.	Orchitis	4.
23.	Hernia	4.
23.	? T. B.	4.
24.	Jaundice	3.

In the field.

1st. March 1918.

Major.

Adj., 1st. Aust. C. C. S.

Distribution of Personnel

		N.C.O.	Men
Warrant Officer		1	
Orderly Sergeant		1	
Orderly Corporal		1	
Bugler			1
Nursing Duties		5	30
General "		2	2
Steward Stores	Q.M.Dept.	2	1
Linen Store	"	1	1
Pack "	"	1	1
Clothing Store	"		1
Q.M.Clerk	"	1	
Cook House	"	2	7
Orderly Room		2	3
Dispensary		1	
X Ray & Electricians		1	3
Carpenters		1	1
Sanitary Section		1	1
Sergeants Mess			1
Painter			1
Thresh			2
Mens Mess			1
Batmen			4
Canteen			2
Recreation Room(Patients)			1
Sisters Mess			1
Post Orderly			1
Camp Cleaning			1
Total 90		23	67

To/

Officer Commanding,

1st.Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

Herewith please, resume of my department for the month of February, 1918.

R. Johnston Quartermaster & Hon.Capt.

1st.Aust.Casualty Clearing Station.

Maren 1st.1918.

1st.Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

RESUME OF Q.M.% Dept. for Month of February 1918.

During the month under review, the accomodation for ~~paxxes~~ patients at this hospital has been increased to 700 beds.

The baths have been working since the 20th.inst., with every satisfaction. On admittance, every patient, who is fit to be bathed, is put through and clean underclothing and pyjamas issued also the regimental clothing sterilized. All patients in hospital are bathed at least once per week.

The Water Supply has been at times inadequate. However, during the last few days, the supply has been ample.

The 351 (E.& M.) Coy.R.E. have promised to instal the additional Electric Lighting engine on March 5th..

It is essential from the point of view of economy, to have a shoemaker and tailor permanently attached. At present I have to depend on V.D. and Light duty patients to do the former work. So far, I have not been able to obtain a tailor for any temporary work.

The majority of boots handed in to my department can be made serviceable, if there is a shoemaker working. This also applies to at least 50% of the Regimental Clothing handed in. Chronic V.Ds. or P.Base men should fulfil these offices with satisfaction.

On the morning of the 15th.inst. a tent marquee, Hospital (small) pattern, which formed a prtion of a Brigade of 6 tents, (Ward A1) caught on fire and was slightly damaged. A board of enquiry sat on the 16th.inst., and forwarded ~~its~~ their report to D.M.S. 4th.Army.

The Tent repairer was evacuated sick during the month. This man was too decrepit and possessed very little knowledge of his work. I would like to point out, Sir, that to keep the Tentage in good order and condition, it is necessary to have a man, well skilled in his work and agile. Most of the repairs have to be effected whilst the tents are standing. The majority of the tents at this Station have been in constant use from 10 to 18 months, consequently there is more than sufficient work for a capable man.

The food waste has reached the irreduceable minimum. I always personnally inspect all waste, three times per day.

The Drying room is now in use. The heat for same is derived from the incinerators, which are established close by.

The "Thresh" Disinfecter has been temporarily loaned to the D.D.M.S. Australian Corps. The improvised steam disinfecter is working with excellent results.

By authority D.M.S.Fourth Army, I have borrowed 1000 Blankets from NO.36 Casualty Clearing Station. have been borrowed

All spare ground in the camp has been prepared for the cultivation of vegetables.

I have to report that the Australian Corps Troops Ordnance are still unable to supply distinguishing colour patches for the unit also chevrons for service overseas.

My various departments have efficiently carried out their many duties during the month under review.

STEWARD'S STORE.

Rations :- These on the whole have been ample and of good quality.

Fuel :- Owing to lack of transport, I have had some difficulty in drawing the weekly supplies.

Other Supplies :- No difficulty in drawing same.

Diets :- The following diets were issued to the cook-house during the month.

	Milk.	Light.	Full.	Total.
Feb 1-7	-	543	9893	10436
" 8-15	-	402	10182	10584
" 16-22	-	550	9861	10411
" 23-28	-	664	10539	11203
TOTAL	-	2159	40475	42634

LINEN & CLOTHING STORE !

The new linen and clothing store, by being connected with the baths, has made the work of this department much simpler.
All patients returning to duty, have been fully equipped before marching out.

Laundry :- 24000 pieces were washed at the Army Laundry, during the month.

Shoemaker :- The following boots were heeled and soled, during the first 14 days of the month, the balance of the month I had no boot repairer.

HEELED	SOLED.
19	23

Pack Store :- Despite the present congestion existing, the work of this department has been excellent. The pack store was only designed for 500 each, Packs and Rifles and 50 Officers' Kits.

WASTE PAPER. 700 lbs. were sent to salvage during the month.

POWER HOUSE. Nothing further to report.

CARPENTERS. Some constructional work and many sundry repairs were effected by this department during the month.

COOK-HOUSE. Additional Soyer Stoves have been installed during the last fourteen days, consequently the congestion in the cook-house has been relieved somewhat.

The staff are to be congratulated on the quality of the food cooked and the cleanliness of the premises, utensils etc.

Fat saved, 1st. Class Only. Quantity of fat saved during the month is as follows:-

Sent to Rathmead	1563 lbs
Issued to messes	140
Used in cooking	44
	1747

SANITATION. The work of the Sanitary Squad is excellent. The portion of the camp under their care is kept scrupulously clean and neat.

PAINT SHOP. The hospital buildings are being renovated. Through lack of labor, progress is slow.

FIRE DRILL & PRECAUTIONS. Fire drill is carried out twice each week. Standing Orders re fire precautions are still being rigidly adhered to.
An additional 100 ~~FIRE~~ Fire Buckets and 6 Pumps have been lately installed also 256 Fire Buckets and 72 Pumps are on indent, still to arrive.

1st Aust. Casualty Clearing Stn.

A22303

Report for month ending 31st January 1918.

The station has continued during the month as a Corps Rest Station.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
CENTRAL REGISTRY
1513/14/1.
A.I.F. LONDON.

	Admitted	Evacuated to C.C.S.	Discharged to Duty	Deaths.
Officers	55	33	27	–
Other ranks.	1286	702	447	2
Totals	1341	735	474	2

During the month the Engineers have completed the works in hand, and we are now in a position to make the patients almost, if not quite as comfortable as in a Base Hospital.

It is interesting to record that, though we have had all the time some 150 convalescent patients, able to be up and about, and we are surrounded by estaminets, there has only been two cases of drunkeness.

The D.D.M.S. Australian Corps, inspected us on several occasions and was quite satisfied.

The G.O.C. Aust. Corps inspected the Station on January 29th and expressed himself as pleased with the condition of the patients and the station in general.

The only engineering work remaining to be completed is the Extra Electric Light engine, and the water supply from the bore at the No 2 British C.C.S.

DIRECTOR MEDICAL SERVICES
A.I.F. HEADQUARTERS
FRANCE
1 FEB 1918

DA 1/2/18

A.D.M.S. 1
A.D.M.S. 2

During the month the following changes in personnel have taken place:-

Major G. W. Macartney, transferred to command 10th Field Ambulance.

Lieut J. J. Boyers, reported for duty as dispenser.

The Nursing Staff has been increased to fourteen.

As there has been no surgery beyond minor cases, I have not asked for a report from the Surgeon Specialist

There has been little "X" Ray work beyond diagnostic work with Sprained ankles.

As the cases held are all of a mild character, and very varied, a report from the S.M.O. would be of very little value.

We have instituted a weekly Medical Meeting for the officers with the idea of keeping the interest & work up to a high standard.

There have been three meetings.

At the first Major Maclure gave a paper on Shock. The second Major Glissan dealt with Chest Wounds & Chest Surgery & the third Capt. Barton on Blood Transfusion.

We have also during the month arranged the working of the Station, so that, when the order comes for us to change back to C.C.S., work, a minimum of disturbance and delay will be caused.

Lieut-Col.
Officer Commanding.
1st Aust. C. C. S.

1st Aust. Casualty Clearing Stn.

Registrar's Report for the month of January 18.

I took over from Capt. R.O. DOUGLAS, on 17/1/18.

The work of the Orderly Room Staff has been satisfactory. The number of Returns to the various formations is a large one, but all have been rendered well up to date. Work in this department has been handicapped by the breakdown of the Typewriter. So far, all attempts at repair by a French Mechanic, have been a failure.

The ward work has gone on smoothly. Consequent on a wish expressed by the G.O.C., Aust. Corps, to house as many patients as possible in huts, the hut (Hospital Nissen, large), up till now used as Dining and Sitting Room for officer patients, is being transferred into a ward of 32 stretchers for light Medical cases. A Nissen Hut, small, housing 10 beds is being fitted as dining room for officers. This reduces to 20 the number of beds available for officers.

D 2. Ward, part of which is fitted up as a Dressing Room, has been fitted with 33 stretchers for light surgical cases.

H Kenrick Mapa.
adj & Regtr.
1st A.C.C.S.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
A I F.
7-2-18 — 3-30 P.M
Central Registry "

1st AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION
No.
Date

To,
Commanding Officer,
1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

Herewith please, resume of my department for the month of January 1918.

L. Johnston Q.M. Hon. Capt.

4 Enc. Recd

February 1st 1918.

1st AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION
No.
Date.

Resume of the Quartermaster's Dept for the month of January. 1918.

I have to report that the engineers have completed the baths, linen store etc.. The improvised steam disinfector is working satisfactorily. The "Thresh" disinfector is at present under repair at the R. E. Park, Steenwerck.

The 351 (E & M) Coy. R. E. have made a start to repair the water bore. Until the bore is working, there will not be enough water to supply the baths.

Stewards Store.

Rations :- These on the whole have been ample and of good quality.

Fuel :- Owing to lack of transport I have had many difficulties in drawing the weekly supplies.

Other Supplies :- No difficulty in drawing same.

Diets :- The following diets were issued to the cook-house during the month under review :-

	Milk.	Light.	Full.	Total.
Jan. 1-7.	-	778.	8290.	9068.
" 8-15.	4.	881.	11680.	12565.
" 16-23.	9.	753.	11864.	12626.
" 24-31.	-	574.	11263	11837.
Grand Totals.	13.	2986.	43097.	46096

Linen & Clothing Store :-

The linen store has been moved to the building recently erected adjacent to the baths.

Laundry :- 21,200 pieces were washed at the Army Laundry during the month.

Shoemaker :- The following boots were heeled and soled during the month :-

Heeled.	Soled.
33 prs.	60 prs.

Re-equipping of patients returned to duty.

All patients returning to duty were fully equipped before marching out.

Pack Store.

Owing to having to increase the sleeping accomodation of the Station, the pack store is now very congested.

Power House.

The 351 (E & M.) Coy R. E. have not yet been able to deliver the extra motor engine authorised. The additional wiring of the wards will be completed early next month.

Carpenters.

Many sundry repairs have been effected by this department, also much assistance has been afforded the engineers.

Cook-house.

The cook house is far too small for a C. R. S.. However, despite the congestion at present existing, the food has been well cooked and the premises and utensils have been kept up to their usual high standard of cleanliness

Fat. — 1st. Class. — The quantity of fat saved during the month was as follows:—

Sent to Railhead	1064 lbs.
Issued to messes.	184 "
Used in Cooking	64 "
Total	1312 lbs.

Sanitation.

The sanitary squad are still keeping the latrines, urinals, grease-traps etc. in excellent condition. The engineers have completed the additional incinerator authorised.

L. Johnston Quartermaster & Hon. Capt.
1st. Australian Cas. Clg. Station.

1M

D. M. S.

A. I. F.

LONDON.

A25072

1st AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION
No. 248
Date

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS A.I.F.
15-2-18 — 12-45 P.M.
Central Registry
1513 / 14 / 1

Reference your memo 1 M / 1513 / 14 / 1 of the 5th., inst., with reference to W. O. D. Beckett, of this unit.

This N. C. O., has been informed that his work was not satisfactory.

In the field.
11th February 1918.

Lieut-Colonel
Officer Commanding,
1st. Aust. C. C. S.

DIRECTOR MEDICAL SERVICES A.I.F. HEAD-QUARTERS 16 FEB 1918

BF 16/4/18

PRattled C.G.

H M

A/MH

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQU
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL F
6 FEB. -11- A.M
CENTRAL REGISTRY.
" " BRANCH.
1513 / 14 / 1

1.M.1513/14/1

5th February 8

6 FEB 1918

From: D.M.S., A.I.F.
To: O. C.,
No. 1 Aust.Casualty Clearing Station,
A.I.F. FRANCE.

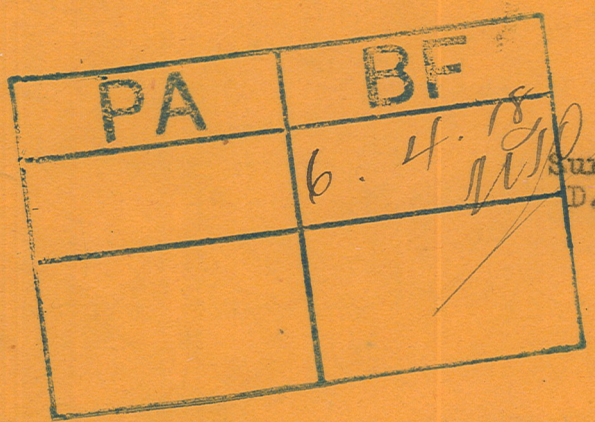
Further to this office 1.M.1513/14/1 of 23.1.18 and your reply thereto with reference to No.1384 W.O., BECKETT D.

Will you please state for the information of the D.M.S., A.I.F. what steps have been taken by you to inform the N.C.O. in question that his work is not satisfactory.

If such action has not been taken, please arrange to do so and forward a further confidential report on this Warrant Officer in two month's time stating in same, if any improvement has been noticed as a result of your instructions to him.

(Sgd.) N. R. HOWSE.
Surg. Genl

Surgeon-General,
D.M.S. A.I.F.



Confidential

A16438

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
A.I.F.
28 1-18 —5-.... P.M
Central Registry
1513 / 14 / 1

From O.C. 1st Aust. C.C.S

To D.M.S. A.I.F.

In reply to your I.M. 1513/14/1

I W.O. Bechett

This N.C.O's general character is good. He is hard working and I believe honestly tries to carry out his duties, but he has a bad way of handling the men and very little aptitude for administration.

A certain amount of the trouble is that this N.C.O has been with the unit from its inception and was not at any time in touch with the men this undoubtedly has made his position difficult.

As he has been W.O. for 16 months and under this person C.O., I would not care to recommend his reduction now as I think there is sufficient justification, but I consider he might do much better in another unit. I think he would do better with the boys than in the field.

II Sgt. Morgan

This N.C.O has been with the unit since its inception. He is hard working and painstaking and thoroughly reliable. He has had rather a difficult position to hold as the W.O has not at times given him as much scope as he might.

I consider he would be quite suited for W.O rank but a spell of six months with

a field Force unit would be to his benefit.
The lack of drill and the necessary irregular
routine of a camp does not tend to ~~the~~ the gaining of that knowledge of mobility routine
and smartness that is essential in a W-O.

Alfred Martin
Lt. Col.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.
23 JAN. 18 - 0 - ... P.M
CENTRAL REGISTRY.
BRANCH.
15-13 / 14 / 1

A/MH

I.M.1513/14/1

22nd January 8

23 JAN1918

From:
D.M.S., A.I.F.
To:
O. C.,
No. 1 Australian Casualty Clearing Station,
A.I.F. FRANCE.

With reference to your Monthly Report for period ending 31st December 1917, para. d, page 4.

Will you please forward for the information of the D.M.S., A.I.F. a confidential report on the Warrant Officer and senior N.C.O. of your unit therein referred to: such report should state if you consider it advisable that these N.C.O's. be reduced in rank or whether you think a change to some other unit would be advisable, and if so, the nature of such unit whether field or base In the case of recommending an exchange, please state reasons for such recommendation.

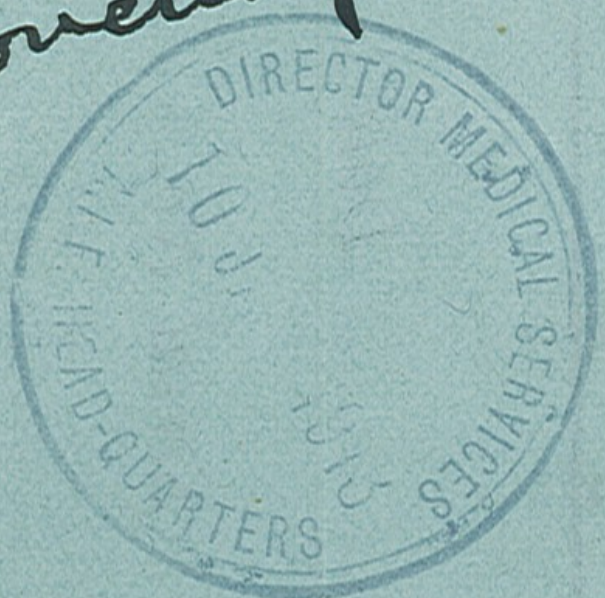
PA	DF
	4. 2.18 1130

(Sgd.) J. H. ANDERSON,
Lt. Col.
Surgeon-General,
D.M.S. A.I.F.

Medical Section

Please note that the annual letter without a covering letter

Thd 10/1/18



1513/14/1

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
CENTRAL REGISTRY
1513/14/1.
A.I.F. LONDON

1st. Australian Casualty Clearing Station

Report for month ending December 31st 1917

Resume

Dec. 1st. Under instructions from D.M.S., 4th. Army we had drawn up a list of the requirements to open as a Rest Station for 1000 cases including 100 Scabies. Certain Material arrived here but a week was lost as the Engineers had not received authority to construct.

Dec. 6th. General Birdwood inspected and instructed that we would only receive 500 patients, and that the requirements had been cut down to that number and passed. The engineers then commenced erection, but as the companies were altered several times, work was delayed.

Dec. 12th. Patients were received on this day and we have continued to receive since. For a time, Dec. 8th to the 18th. 100 men from the 6th. and 7th. Field Ambulances were attached for duty and on their being returned to their units, 26 men of the 1st. Field Ambulance were attached as a working party. The Engineers engaged have varied in number from 11 to 34. The weather has been for the later part of the month very cold and the frost has delayed the work considerably.

WORKS The extra work eventually passed for construction was as follows:-

2 MESS HUTS for the men, each 4 small Nissens Brigaded
1 MESS HUT for Officers, 1 small Nissen
These Huts have been raised on walls 2'6" high making very good buildings. These are now finished.
BATHING ACCOMODATION, with a clean and dirty Linen Store. The Huts for these are completed but as the boilers have not yet arrived there will be some delay in this. A separate bath for Scabies is arranged and extra storage for water. This is almost complete.
DRYING ROOM, This has not yet been commenced.
INCREASING THE COOK-HOUSE, Nothing has yet been done here.
INCREASING ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT, nothing has been done yet

PATIENTS We commenced receiving on Dec. 12th. and kept all P.U.O. cases passing through, working in conjunction with the laboratory in order to see if early treatment under good conditions would save the relapsing type of case. After 3 weeks we have come to the conclusion that roughly 25% of them will be fit for return to duty in three weeks from admission but the majority will need from 4 to 6 weeks care which is more than can be given in a Rest Station.
At midnight on Dec. 31st. we had 425 patients with 106 men attached (Engineers & Ambulance) This with our personnel of 94 makes 625 which number puts a strain on our cook-house unless the men are fed on stew all the time.

A Concert party has been working, giving up much time to rehearsing and we have been able to get other parties from other units so that the patients have a concert about twice a week.

DIRECTOR GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES
TO OVERSEAS
A.I.F. HEADQUARTERS

ADMISSIONS DISCHARGES ETC.		Admitted	Evacuated	Transferred	Discharged
	OFFICERS	55	NIL	33	1
	O'RANKS	591	7	174	151

PERSONNEL Captns. BARTON, FEATONBY and CHAMPION rejoined from work with C. C. S.
Capt. FEATONBY, reported to D.M.S., LONDON.
Capt. BOTHAMLEY, reported for duty
The Dental Unit was transferred to 3rd. (Army) F.A.B. temporarily by order of the D.M.S., 4th. ARMY.
Chaplain VINE, reported for duty to 5th. A.D.B.D. and was replaced by Chaplain GRIFFITHS.
The Nursing Staff was reduced to five.

A.D.M.S 1
A.D.M.S 3

Contd.

Nursing Staff. Believing that extra Nursing Sisters would be of great advantage with the approval of the D.D.M.S. I wrote as follows:-

D.D.M.S.
1st. Anzac Corps.

Our nursing staff has been reduced to five. As a fair number of the cases are P.U.O. and other fairly sick cases, which require skilled nursing, I would like to have the number raised to eight. If possible I would like Sister Malcolm who was here till recently, returned. She is besides being a very excellent nurse, a brilliant pianist, and is able to add so much to brightening up the time the patients are here. We have a concert party but are lacking a pianist to play the more difficult accompaniments.

This application was replied to by the Matron-in-Chief B.E.F. to the effect that Nursing Sisters could not be spared for the entertainment of patients in Rest Stations.

I am appending report from Q.M. & Registrar, and as there have been only 14 minor operations and a few X rays for fractures during the month, the Surgeon and Radiographer state there is nothing to report on. As the Medical work is only just in full swing, I am waiting till next month for the report from the S.M.O.

Remarks. Now that this station is running as a Corps Rest Station I think a few remarks on rest station work would be in place.

There is no question but that during the winter months when battle casualties are few it is a very sound proposition to turn some of the C.C.S's to rest stations in order to save the sick wastage from minor complaints, in the same way as Field Ambulances are used in divisions, but a great danger must be guarded against in both cases. The crowding together of men suffering from minor ailments (coughs, colds etc.) and especially " Not yet Diagnosed" "P.U.O's" and Trench Fevers) in large numbers in confined spaces is not, to my mind, likely to tend to lowering the sick wastage.

We have tent and hut wards holding 70 patients and the floor space is 120 feet by 20 feet.

Since January 1st. I have been instructed to take in 600 patients, and to be prepared to take 750, and there is a fair chance that this number will be reached, if not exceeded.

This increased number raises difficulties with cooking, sanitation pack-store etc. that it is difficult to make combatant, and Medical Officers realise.

As an example of what I mean, with our present buildings and personnel it will be possible to care for 500 cases, give them a fair air space in the wards, give good medical attention, feed well and give them a fair amount of amusement in special huts, but the increasing to 700 is going to put such strain on personnel, accomodation, feeding and sanitation, that the patients will not do so well and the percentage returned to the front will be so much lowered that the actual number will be less than if we remained at 500.

From my experience of Rest Stations last year the scheme of crowding a large number of minor cases into a camp without good cooking and feeding accomodation is absolutely wrong, and is not in the interests of either the military situation or the patient, for it is certainly not fulfilling the first duty of the A.M.C. which is to keep the fighting line as near full strehgth as possible.

Lt-Col.
O.C. 1st Aus CCS

Report of Adjutant and Registrar

1st. Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

DECEMBER, 1917

A WARD ACCOMMODATION:-

The Station as at present constitued consists of the following essential parts.

A 1 Brigade of 6 Swiss Cottage Tents (with concrete floor in course of construction)
A 2 Brigade of 6 Swiss Cottage Tents with wooden floor
B 1 " " " " " " "
B 2 Hospital Nissen Hut 120 x 20
C 1 " " " " "
C 2 Brigade of 6 Swiss Cottage Tents (concrete floor)
D 1 " " " " " (concrete floor in course of construction)
D 2 Brigade of 4 small bow Nissen Huts raised on 2ft. walls 104x16
MESS HUT " " " " " " " "
E 1 Brigade of 5 Swiss Cottage Tents (earth floor)
E 2 Hospital Nissen Hut 60 x 20
F 1 " " "
F 2 " " "
F 3 Single small Nissen Hut 27 x 16 raised on 2ft. walls
G Brigade of 5 Swiss Cottage Tents (concrete floor in course of construction)
H 1 Latapie Hut
H 2 Latapie Hut
K Tarrant Hut

A 1 Will be ready for equipment tomorrow 70 patients stretchers on floor.
A 2 Equipped for 70 patients stretchers on floor
B 1 " " " " "
B 2 Equipped with 70 stretchers on floor for patients fit to be up all day. A stage has been made at one end and this is used as a recreation room and concert hall twice weekly in the evening. in the day.
C 1 Equipped with 20 beds and 30 stretchers on trestles for acute cases. To be equipped later with 50 beds.
C 2 Equipped for 70 patients stretchers on floor.
D 1 To be equipped by 7th or 8th of Jan. with 70 stretchers on floor
D 2 Equipped with 60 stretchers on the floor (when construction in other wards is finished to be equipped with 50 beds)
E 1 Equipped for 60 Scabies patients.
E 2 At present used as a Reading & Writing Room for convalescents, will probably have to be converted into a ward for 30 stretchers on trestles.
F 1 At present used as Officer patients Mess & Recreation Room (May have to be converted into a ward for 22 beds)
F 2 Equipped to take 22 Officers in beds.
F 3 Equipped to take 10 Officers in beds. May have to be converted into Mess & Recreation Room for officers if F.1 has to be made into a ward.
G To be equipped sometime during the month to hold 60 stretchers on the floor.
H 1 Theatre. At present used as Dressing, Massage & Examination Room.
H 2 Dressing Room. At present used as a Pack Store.
K Reception Hut but can be equipped for 30 convalescents to sleep who are up all day.

When completed the maximum number we can take and treat at all fairly, will be 612 including 32 Officers. Maximum accomodation using all available areas and cutting out Rest & Recreation Rooms will be about 750.

B TYPE OF CASE RECEIVED

The principal diagnoses of cases admitted were:-

P.U.O.	132	)
Trench Fever	45	)- About 15% of these either already had or later developed Pneumonia or Pleurisy.
Influenza	23	)
Rheumatism / MYALGIA 1917		→ Many of these probably residues of trench fevers since atypical bronchopneumonia were common.
Bronchitis	30	
Pleurisy	9	
Pneumonia	3	
Tonsillitis	21	
I.C.T.	52	
Contusions & Wounds	36	
Synovitis	20	
Gastritis	20	
Diarrhoea	16	
Debility	18	some were chronic Trench Fevers
D. A. H.	14	some were the result of Trench Fever
Scabies	24	
Trench feet	28	

The great wastage from Trench Fevers or P.U.O. is the most remarkable feature of the work so far.
Many of the admissions were much more ill than the diagnosis on the Card gave evidence of , and the question arises:- Which is the better for the patient (1) To nurse him until fit to transfer toward base (2) to transfer at once. To transfer from the Rest Station to Base Hospital means in all probability 4 moves (since we do not evacuate to Ambulance Train but transfer to a C.C.S.) without counting the moves through Ambulance and D.R.S's before reaching here. This amount of shifting during the onset of an illness must in many cases convert a trivial ailment into one much more serious and prolonged.
On the other hand if we keep these cases the lack of skilled nursing is the great obstacle. At present we only have 5 nurses and they are quite inadequate to cope with the demand on their services. Although this is a Rest Station quite a number of cases are received that to shift would cause grave danger to the patient, and already 2 deaths, one from Preumonia and the other from acute Pulmonary Oedema have occurred. There was no nurse available for duty in the ward where the Pulmonary Oedema occurred, and the orderly although a fairly reliable surgical nurse did not recognise the gravity of the condition and call the Medical Officer until to late. The need for Sisters is a very urgent one but does not seem to be realised by the Matron in Chief.

C TRANING OF ORDERLIES

A scheme for more detailed training of orderlies in C.C.S. work was commenced, but when we changed into a Rest Station material available for surgical teaching practically ceased to exist. The training scheme had therefore to be greatly modified, and during the past month very little has been done except weekly lectures and occasional demonstrations. It is hoped in the present month when building construction is out of the way that considerably more teaching will be done. With the present number of Sisters it is quite out of the question to expect them to have any time to show orderlies how to handle sick patients. The number of Medical Officers competent to train orderlies in actual nursing manipulations is very limited, though the total number is quite adequate for the ordinary routine of Medical & Surgical duties.

D. INCOMPETENCE OF SENIOR N.C.O's.

The Warrant Officer and Senior N.C.O. of this unit possess neither energy, brains nor power of controlling men so necessary for these positions, and the running of the place is thereby hampered.

The Warrant Officer is absolutely useless and the senior N.C.O. while a very hard worker and fairly capable as a nursing N.C.O. would be quite hopeless as a Warrant Officer.

E. PREPARATION FOR RESUMPTION OF C.C.S. WORK

It is not likely that we will run more than 8 to 10 weeks as a Rest Station, and may be called on suddenly to resume C.C.S. work of the heaviest type. It is of the greatest importance that the whole surgical care of the patient should be properly co-ordinated.

Up to the present in this, and far too many other C.C.S's, the Pre-operative care of the patient has been largely a matter of leaving Shocked Wounded on the Ambulance stretcher in a most inadequately warmed ward, and leaving them to recover from their shock as best they may, with perhaps the doubtful assistance of submammary saline. Death in the pre-operative ward has been too common occurrence.

In the same way in the Post Operative ward the surgeon has far too often been too busy in the Theatre to properly superintend the post operative care of the patients.

It is absolutely essential that, to obtain the best results, very great improvements indeed must be made in the pre-operative ward and very considerable ones in the post operative. Above all, the time that patients have to await operation and spend under anaesthesia must be cut down by every available second.

This cannot be obtained in a few days or even in a few weeks. It presupposes faithful and continuous training of Medical Officers themselves, of sisters and orderlies in the pre- and post- operative wards, of surgical assistants, anaesthetists (we only have one man competent to administer gas and oxygen) sisters, orderlies and bearers in the operating theatre, so that the whole lot blend into one smoothly working team. At present we seem to regard the Surgeon, Sister and one orderly as the whole team, and I suppose this is better than nothing especially when a surgical team is sent to another unit.

In order to get the best results during the heavy casualty season it would seem essential to have attached before work starts Surgeons, Anaesthetists and Sisters who would likely to be have a certain degree of permanency during the heavy surgical season. Thus only can surgical training be continuous, and efficiency constantly increase as co-ordination between pre-operative, operative, and post operative manipulations becomes closer and closer.

R.A. Douglas Capt.

Adjt. & Regr.1st. A.C.C.S.

1st.Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

RESUME OF THE Q.M.DEPT.FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER,1917.

The work of the Q.M.dept.has been increased,through the Station being converted into a Corps Rest Station,also to the fact of patients being admitted whilst the engineers are in the midst of constructional work. Unfortunately this work has made slow progress,the delays being mainlycaused by want of authority to proceed with work,lack of skilled labor at commencement,changing of engineers on the work,and at times,through lack of material.

My various departments have,however,despite many disadvantages efficiently carried out their many duties.

STEWARD'S STORE.

RATIONS.:- These,on the whole,have been ample and of good quality.

FUEL. Owing to lack of transport we have had many difficulties in drawing our weekly supplies.

OTHER SUPPLIES :- No difficulty in drawing same.

DIETS.:- The following diets were issued to the cookhouse, during the month under review.

	Milk.	Light.	Full.	Total.
Dec.1-7	-	63	2943	3006
" 8-15.	-	322	2148	2470
" 16-23.	32	841	5926	6799
" 24-31	-	855	9124	9979
Grand Totals	32	2081	20141	22254

LINEN & CLOTHING STORE.

The work of this department has greatly increased The majority of patients admitted are minus portions of their equipment,consequently with the small quantity of clothing,which we are allowed to stock,the re-equiping or replacing of same is most difficult.

LAUNDRY. The Army laundry is still doing the washing to satisfaction.

SHOEMAKER. This man is barely able to cope with the present work.

TAILOR. I urgently need a tailor. Many articles of clothing,particularly tunics and breeches could be repaired here.

PACK STORE.

On the 18th.inst.the engineers completed the Pack Store.
The accommodation now is :-

Packs.	Rifles.	Officers Kits.
500	500	30

PACK STORE. (contd.) Rifles and bayonets are carefully cleaned and oiled the same day as handed in. The patients on discharge are as usual, issued with clean underwear.

POWER HOUSE.

The lighting plant is working satisfactorily. Through the light in the tent wards being bad at certain hours during the day, it is necessary to to run the electric power, so that the medical Officers can thoroughly examine their patients.

Three tent wards and the personnels quarters have not yet been installed with electric light. The 351 E.& M.Coy. who have the matter in hand, cannot give any definate date as to when they can supply the additional engine required.

The wards and quarters referred to, are at present lighted by F.S.Lamps. These lamps are most unsuitable for a Station under canvas, as these lamps are continually going up in a blaze. This Station is too congested to allow any risks, whatsoever, of fire.

CARPENTERS.

Many sundry repairs have been effected by this department, during the month, also much assistance has been afforded the engineers. Material unfortunately at present is very scarce.

COOK-HOUSE.

The cook-house was constructed to meet the requirements of a C.C.S., not a Corps Rest Station. If the food is to remain at the present high standard the cook-house will need duplicating.

On Xmas.day, the patients and personnel, also attached labor had a 5 course dinner. Despite the disadvantages the cooks were under, they served an excellent meal.

FAT.

The quantity of fat saved during the month is as follows:-

	Fat 1st.Class.
Sent to Railhead	1345 lbs.
Issued to messes	204 lbs.
Used in cooking	107½ lbs.
Total	1656½ lbs.

Contd.

SANITATION. The sanitary squad despite extra work, have kept the latrines, urinals, grease traps etc. in excellent condition.
The officers (patients) latrine has been moved to a more convenient site.
Another incinerator is urgently required to cope with the quantity of refuse etc.

FIRE DRILL AND PRECAUTIONS :- Fire drill is carried out twice each week.
Corps orders re fire precautions have been and are still rigidly adhered to.
During the severe weather all fire buckets are kept indoors.

Recreation Rooms :- These have been equipped and handed over to Chaplain Dorman.

L. Johnston

QUARTERMASTER & HON. CAPT.

Ist. AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STAT.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.
21 DEC. 17-12-30 P.M
CENTRAL REGISTRY.
BRANCH.
1513 / 14 / 1

A/MH

I.M.1513/14/1

20th December 7

21 DEC 1917

From:
D.M.S., A.I.F.

To:
O. C.,
No. 1 Australian Casualty Clearing Station,
B.E.F., France.

Reference your report of work of your unit for the month of November 1917.

I am directed by the D.M.S., A.I.F. to draw your attention to the extreme brevity of your report. These reports are required for two purposes, -

1. To afford information as to the working of your unit in order that advice may be tendered or help given to increase its efficiency.
2. To serve as a basis for the compilation of records when the history of the war from the Australian standpoint comes to be written.

I think you must admit that your report hardly fulfils either of these requirements.

Would you please take the necessary steps to ensure that future reportedrendered by you are more comprehensive and it is suggested, for your guidance, that in addition to the general part of the report, special reports are obtained from -

1. Surgical Specialists.
2. Senior Medical Officer.
3. Radiographer.
4. Quartermaster.
5. Pathologist.
6. Registrar.

(Sgd.) J. H. ANDERSON, Lt. Col.
Surgeon-General.

17-12-17 —12-.... Noon
Central Registry
1513 / 14/ 1

1ST AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION
No.....
Date.....

1st. Aust. Casualty Clearing Station.

In the field.

13th. December 1917.

A95266

D. M. S.

A. I. F.

LONDON.

Herewith please Report of work of 1st. A. C. C. S., for month of November 1917.

The unit worked as a C.C.S., until 30th. Nov. 1917.

During the month the statistics are as follows:-

Admissions	1526.
Evacuations to Base	1465.
Trans to O/Hospitals	87.
Discharged to duty	57.
Deaths	15.
Operations under General anaesthetics	98.
Admissions Sick	1237.
Wounded	289.

DIRECTOR MED. SERVICES
A.I.F. HEAD-QUARTERS

On 30th., November the station was closed as a C.C.S., and reorganization commenced in order to open a Rest Station for 1st. Anzac Corps under orders from D. M.S., 2nd. Army.

Lieut-Colonel.
Officer Commanding,
1st. Aust. C. C. S

A DMS 3

Barrity is the soul of wit
but this seems rather brief.
Would you DO us a K on
should ask for a fuller report

18/12/17

A DMS!
a little 'politics in medo':
a better effort at least in the
future, if not on this
we can call both by you!
Thank H.B.H.
19/12/17

1st. Australian Casualty Clearing Station,

2nd. November, 1917.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE
12 NOV. 17-10-30 A.M.
CENTRAL REGISTRY BRANCH.
1573 / 14/1

1ST AUSTRALIAN CASUALTY CLEARING STATION
No. C/420/17.
Date ... ..

A79345

To/

D.M.S., A.I.F.
Administrative Headquarters,
LONDON.

Report from O.C. 1st.A.C.C.S. for October,1917.

SITE:- The unit is camped in two fields. There are no permanent buildings. The Operation Theatre, Dressing Room and Pre-Operation Ward are in huts. The remainder of the Hospital is under Canvas. Two other huts (Nissen Hospital) are in course of erection and three others remain to be erected. The "X" Ray department is in a special hut.

OPERATIONS:- During October the fixgures of Admissions Discharged etc. are:-

	Off.	O'R.
Admitted	85	3166
Transferred	7	135
Discharged to Duty	1	25
Deaths	4	64
Evacuated to Base	71	2900

General Anaesthetics were administered:-

Operation Theatre	400
Dressing Room	348

Wounded Admitted Off. 40 O'R. 1658.

STAFF:-

During the month the following changes on the Staff took place.

Lieut-Col.Marks,A.H. reported for duty and took over Command.
Lieut-Col. Dick,J.A. relinquished command and proceeded to 1st. A.G.H.
Capt. Barton, D. reported for Surgical Duty.
Lieut-Col.Shaw,C.G., D.S.O. left to report to No. 1. A.A.H.

3
4
Enclosures Received

DIRECTOR MEDICAL SERVICES
12 NOV 1917
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Lieut-Col.
O/C. 1st. A.C.C.S.

Seen
20/11

P.X. 21/11/17

Report. on work of Surgical Department of 1st Aus. C.C.S.
for. month Ending. October 31st 1917.

Operations performed in main Theatre.	386
Operations performed in Dressing Room.	403
Total.	789

Operations performed in Theatre included cases of.

Knee. (perforating joint).		25.
Fracture of Long Bones.	Humerus.	31.
	Radius & Ulna	17.
	Femur.	17.
	Tibia & Fibula	18
Head (involving bone)		44.
Chest. (perforating pleural cavity)		19.
Abdomen - perforating		10.
Amputations		24.

Deaths. -	operated	35.
	Unoperated.	22.
	Total	57.

Fay Mackie Major.

Senior Surgeon.

Report of the Pathological Department.

During the month 64 cases came to autopsy.
In 57 of these complete autopsy was performed and in 5 of the remainder partial investigation alone was done.

Whenever an opportunity of obtaining useful specimens presented itself, such specimens were placed in the preliminary hardening fluid with a view to dechalch to base for museum purposes.

R M Douglas Capt.

1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station

X Ray Report for month of October.

Total no of Cases done — 130.

Chest	30
Head	8
Abdominal	20
Knees	30
Others	42
	130.

C.B. Marshall M.D.
Radiologist

JRD.

Shepheard's Hotel,
Cairo, 1st March, 1915.

D.M.S.
Egypt.

Forwarded herewith a copy of report from Captain R.D.Campbell, of the 1st Casualty Clearing Station, Australia, on the work carried out by motor ambulance at the fight at Kantara. It might be of interest to the G.O.C. the Force in Egypt.

Director Medical Services.
A. I. F.

JRD.

4/2444

1/2/15

Cairo, 1st March, 1915.

MEMORANDUM FOR

The Secretary,
Department of Defence,
Melbourne.

Forwarded herewith a copy of report from Captain R.D.Campbell, 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station, showing the excellent work which can be done by motor ambulances, even under the most trying conditions in the desert.

Work of this description proves the extreme value of motor ambulances, and also opens up the question of motor transport for field ambulances generally, such as the transport of personnel, stores, supplies, travelling kitchen and water carts. This matter is receiving my attention in Egypt, and reports will be forwarded from time to time.

Director Medical Services.
A. I. F.

JRD.

DIRECTOR MEDICAL SERVICES A.I.F.

4/2470

1/5/15

Shepheard's Hotel,
Cairo, 1st March, 1915

Official Secretary,

Forwarded herewith for the information of the High Commissioner, a copy of report received by D.M.S., A.I.F., as to the work done by the Motor Ambulance of the 1st Casualty Clearing Station (Australia), under Captain R.D.Campbell.

This proves beyond all doubt the value of motor ambulances under conditions which were never dreamt of, and it is the first time in war, as far as I know, that they have ever been so employed.

A copy of this report is being posted to the Minister of Defence, and also one to the Director General, War Office, London.

The manner in which the motor ambulance in this desert fight dealt with casualties, has cleared up many points on the value of motor ambulances, and motor transport for Medical Field Units, which had previously to be determined by practical results.

The D.M.S., A.I.F., will place on record the excellent work achieved by Captain Campbell and his unit.

Director Medical Services.
A. I. F.

JRD.



Shepheard's Hotel,
Cairo, 1st March, 1915.

Director General Medical
Services,
War Office,
LONDON

Forwarded herewith a report from Captain R.D.Campbell, 1st Casualty Clearing Station (Australia), on the work carried out by motor ambulance at Kantara on 2nd February, 1915, and subsequent days.

Good initiative was displayed and the performance was excellent - and I desire to place on record the able manner in which Captain Campbell grasped and surmounted the difficult questions he was faced with.

Director Medical Services
A. I. F.

COPY.

To. O.C. 1st. Casualty Clearing Station

From.- Capt. R.D. Campbell

As instructed I beg to report on the work done by the 16 - 20 "Welsley" Motor Ambulance Car at Kantara, where I was sent on Feb. 1st. and attached to the 108th. Indian Field Ambulance

On Feb. 2nd. I was asked by the O.C., I.F.A. to ascertain whether the track between the Sweet Water Canal and the Suez Canal from Kantara to El Cap, a distance of 6 miles, could be used for the transport of wounded by Motor Ambulance in the event of the Railway, which was exposed to attack over that distance, not being available. This track was bad the first four miles being sandy with many patches of very deep sand, and the last two miles were of greasy clay. The Car stood the work well and the driving wheels having been roped, the return journey was made in good time and without any stops.

I reported on this track as being unfavourable for the carriage of wounded, but undertook to transport them if it was found necessary. On the following day the fight commenced. There was difficultu at first in getting permission to take the ambulance across the Canal as the probability of its being useful in the heavy sand was not considered great, and when permission was eventually accorded, the transportation had to be faced. The Car was taken over on a chain ferry, and with the assistance of some 20 Sikhs was pulled up a steep sand bank on to the level. From there no serious difficulty was experienced in the drive out to No. 5 Picket, about one and a half miles from Kantara. The sand was very heavy over some parts of the distance and first gear was frequently used, but our return journeys with wounded were made in under seven minutes, and with, as far as I could ascertain, a minimum of discomfort even to those badly wounded.

The pontoon bridge was then available, and this, combined with the fact that the stretchers of the I.F.A. fitted our car, obviated any handling of the wounded from the time they receiv their first attention on the field, till they were admitted to the

/ hospital

hospital on the west bank of the canal. I think that the advisability of painting our cars Khaki color instead of White should be considered, for soon after our arrival at the picket the enemy's artillery opened fire with shrapnel, and I believe that probably the colour of our cars drew their fire.

On the four days after the fighting when a fresh attack was anticipated, the lines of evacuation laid down in case of a retirement were tried, and in only one case, that of the line of evacuation between No. 6 Picket and the Canal where there was much soft clay, was it found that the motor ambulance could not be utilised. In addition to this the ambulance was on several occasions driven through the desert to Hill 70, where the Turks had been strongly posted - a distance of 7½ miles, and once to their main camp, 9 miles out.

I reported to the O.C. , I.F.A. that our ambulance cars would be able to evacuate wounded from any part of the area of hostilities with above mentioned exception.

The alternatives available at Kantara for the transport of wounded were hand transports, Camel transport, and transport by mule drawn sand carts. The first is slow and excessively hard on the bearers owing to the heavy sand, the second is faster but very unsteady, and the last, while steady is slow, and the number carried limited. The motor ambulance transport on the other hand is fast, causes little inconvenience to the wounded, and one car with a personnel of 2 men can carry 4 wounded lying down at each journey.

All my tests were carried out with a full load of six men, and with roped driving wheels, rubber buffers being used to lessen the swaying. In no case was the car in difficulties from which it could not be extricated by the use of ropes, bags, and matting, all of which can be readily carried, and I believe that Stepneys or double driving wheels, especially if fitted with slats as in caterpillar wheels, would make the driving of any class of desert country easy.

As a result of my weeks experience with the cars at Kantara, I beg to report that in my opinion motor ambulance cars in desert warfare would be of the greatest assistance.

R.D. Campbell Capt.
1st. Casualty Clearing Statio

26th. Feb. 1915.

COPY.

DIRECTOR MEDICAL SERVICES A.I.F.

To:- O.C. 1st. Casualty Clearing Station

From.- Capt. R.D. Campbell

As instructed I beg to report on the work done by the 16 - 20 "Wolseley" Motor Ambulance Car at Kantara, where I was sent on Feb. 1st. and attached to the 108th. Indian Field Ambulance

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All my tests were carried out with a full load of six men, and with roped driving wheels, rubber buffers being used to lessen the swaying. In no case was the car in difficulties from which it could not be extricated by the use of ropes, bags, and matting, all of which can be readily carried, and I believe that Stepneys or double driving wheels, especially if fitted with slats as in caterpillar wheels, would make the driving of any class of desert country easy.

As a result of my weeks experience with the cars at Kantara, I beg to report that in my opinion motor ambulance cars in desert warfare would be of the greatest assistance.

R.D. Campbell Capt.
1st. Casualty Clearing Station

26th. Feb. 1915.

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Ronald W Campbell Capt RAMC
1st Casualty Clearing Station

DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES B.E.F. 1915

D.M.S. a.17.

Forwarded

W W Gibbin Lt Col
O.C. 1st Aust. Casualty Clearing Station

29.2.15.

Have 6 typed copies of this struck off –

26th. February 1915.

Abassia Barracks.



To O.C. 1st. Casualty Clearing Station

From Capt. R.D. Campbell
1st Casualty Clearing Station

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& owing

DIRECTOR MEDICAL SERVICES

RET

A. H/24/15

Shepheard's Hotel , Cairo
February 19th. 1915

7/5/21

a/D.G.M.S.
Victoria Barracks
Melbourne.

The following extract from a letter written by Lieut. CoL. W.W.Giblin,O.C. 1st. Australian Casualty Clearing Station, relative to the part played by our motor ambulances during the recent fighting on the Canal, may prove of interest to the press and subscribers of motor ambulances in Australia, subject of course to approval of Censor.-

"Under Capt. R.D. Campbell two motors have been working at Kantara for more than a week. They were taken across the Canal by ferry boat and have been for ten miles along the Canal track towards El Arish.

During the fighting round Kantara on Feb.4th. the cars proved of great value in transporting the wounded from near the fighting line to the Indian Field Hospital near Railway Station. Without the cars the whole of the work would have had to be done by hand, carriage, or cacolet of Camels, a very slow process compared to motor transport.

By roping the driving wheels a speed of about 10 miles an hour has been kept up over the sand. If difficulty arises from sinking in soft sand, a few minutes is spent in digging under wheels, placing sand bags,and coir matting in position. Then the excellent "Wolsley" engine carries the car on to hard sand again."

Surgeon General
DIrector Medical Services.

1ST AUSTRALIAN CLEARING HOSPITAL

"B"

Port Said
Feb 12th 1915.

Surgeon General W.D. Williams
Shepheards Hotel. Cairo.

I beg to suggest that the Red Cross Society of Australia and other subscribers to motor ambulances might be interested to know that some of the cars sent had already proved their ability to work over the desert and will be of the greatest value when further fighting occurs.

Under Capt R.D. Campbell two motors have been working at Kantara for more than a week. They were taken across the the Canal by Ferry Boat & have been for ten miles along the Canal track towards ~~El Kantara~~ El Arish

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W.M. Giblin.
Lieut Col.
O/c 1ST AUSTRALIAN CLEARING HOSPITAL