

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

New Zealand Units

Item number: 35/26/6

Title: New Zealand Mounted Field
Ambulance

December 1915



AWM4-35/26/6

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

N.Z. MTD FIELD AMBCE.

Place	Date 1915	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Dec		<p>The Ambulance continued receiving and treating cases sent down from the Mounted Rifles Brigade. The weather being colder the amount of sickness amongst the troops lessened, dysentery and diarrhoea becoming less while jaundice increased somewhat. Rheumatism also became more in evidence, chiefly muscular in character. Some difficulty was found in getting sufficient sandbags and iron to complete the safety of the Hospital owing to the need of the same in the trenches. The Hospital was however completed by December 11th and admitted an increased number of patients for whom there was now room. On December 12th orders were received from the A.D.M.S. OF THE N.Z. & A. DIVISION to evacuate all patients by 12 am which order was carried out. On December 13th notice was given that the evacuation of ANZAC was going to take place and the Ambulance repacked the stores which were sent away with an advanced guard on Thursday evening 15th inst. During the following days the men of the U it were kept busy looking after the area vacated by the 4th Aus. Field Ambce giving it an appearance of being still uninhabited. Troops and guns have been removed each night and the Ambulance gradually reduced. The Turks continued to shell as usual during this period and were using heavy high explosive shells which dropped all round the Hospital. On December 18th secret embarkation Orders for the Unit were received from the A.D.M.S. and the Unit moved away from Taylor's Hollow at 5.45 pm leaving the Hospital ready for the Regimental Medical Officers to use should they require it the following night. Hospital flags were left in position and the coverings over the men's bivvies untouched so that the enemy should not notice anything unusual from their aeroplanes. The Ambulance rendezvous was at No 2 Post Supply Depot and here at 6 pm the N.Z. Field Ambulance and Light Horse Ambulance were met along with other Divisional Troops. The men moved out at 6.5 pm along the sap to WALKER'S RIDGE PEER and arrived without mishap, after several waits, at 7.20 pm. The troops then embarked on a motor barge and were transferred to H.M.S Mars which left for LEMNOS immediately the men were aboard arriving there about 4 am December 19th. The troops disembarked at West Mudros but later on in the day the Unit proceeded to the N.Z. CAMP at EAST MUDROS where it stayed till December 23rd when they embarked on the H.M.T. IONIAN leaving MUDROS at 5 am next morning. The voyage down was uneventful no submarines being seen and ALAXANDRIE was reached Monday December 27th at about 10am. The troops disembarked on Tuesday and the Unit proceeded to ZEITOUN CAMP by the 6 pm train the same day, arriving in Camp by 11 pm December 28th. During the month the following casualties due to sickness occurred in the Unit:-</p> <p>3/163A Pte Andrew H., 3/137A Pte Smart H.T., 8/1542 Pte Lister H., 3/144A Cpl Hadler E.A., 3/858 Pte Montgomerie, 3/883 Pte Baldwin M., 3/1106 Pte Cambridge O.E., 3/442 Cpl Miller G., The following men rejoined from Hospital:- 3/151A Sergt Bursen C.H., 3/101 Cpl Green F.A., 3/86A Pte McDonald D.J. 3/135A Pte Nixon J.</p> <p>During the last ten days two Medical Officers and 38 men were received as reinforcements and attached for duty with the Unit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sgd D.N.W. Murray, Lt-Col O.C. N.Z. MTD FIELD AMBCE.</p>	