

**AWM4**

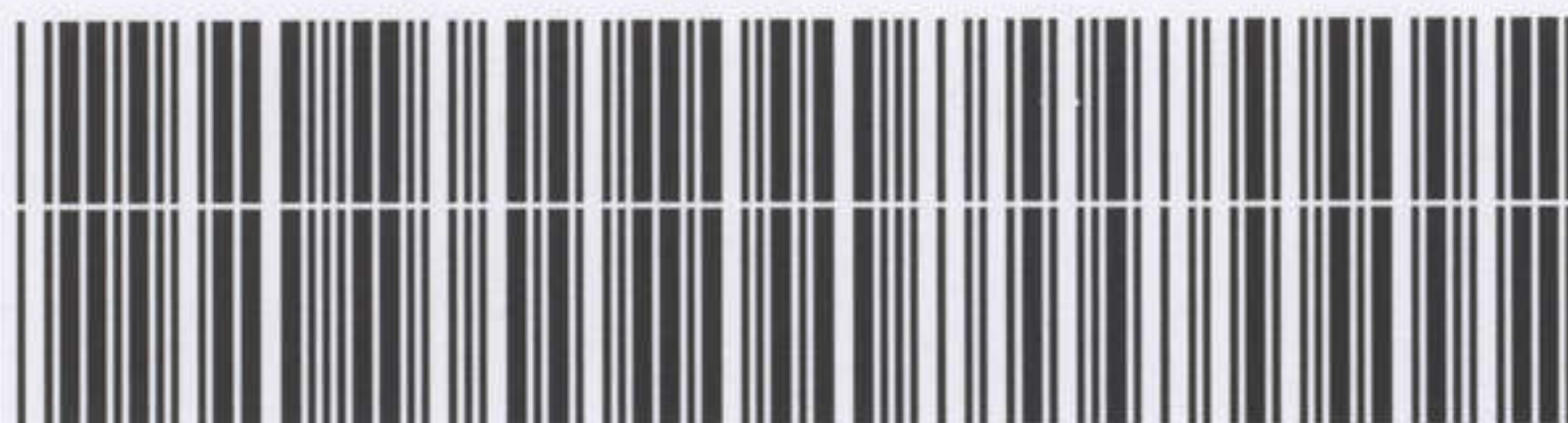
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/1/19

**Title:** Assistant Director of Medical  
Services, Sanitation, British  
Expeditionary Force

September 1917



AWM4-26/1/19



WAR DIARY

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville	1 <sup>st</sup>	Sept	Army Sanitary Committee returned from III Army Information including reports & tables in regard to dysentery program for them.	
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Sept	Approved of modifications in Egyptian Ration - Included berries to be substituted 3 days a week for meat. Cheese to be reduced from 3 to 2 oz - meat to be reduced from 8 to 6 oz. Application received from Capt C. Ponder RAME T OC 82 Sanitary Section for appointment as DADMS of a Division. DGMS has noted his case.	51

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Abbeville	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sept		Suggested improvements in steam boxes for <del>P.O.W. Camp</del> disinfection in P.O.W. Camp as put forwarded in D & W Circular Mem 267 Approval given of pickled beef to P.O.W. on one day a week instead of frozen beef. 6 lb of pickled beef = 6 lb of frozen beef.	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept		Inform Dms that issue of meat to patients in hospitals should be all frozen beef + use the composite meat ration given in post note p 5 of Ration pamphlet SS 571 Approval given for Indians working in Forests on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> EC to draw the full field Ration Army Sanitary Committee proceeded to Rouen	
	4 Sept		Approval of D.W.'s Type plans No 327 Suggests fly proof seats to latrine buckets Can sent to Pasteur Institute for treatment from Abbeville	52

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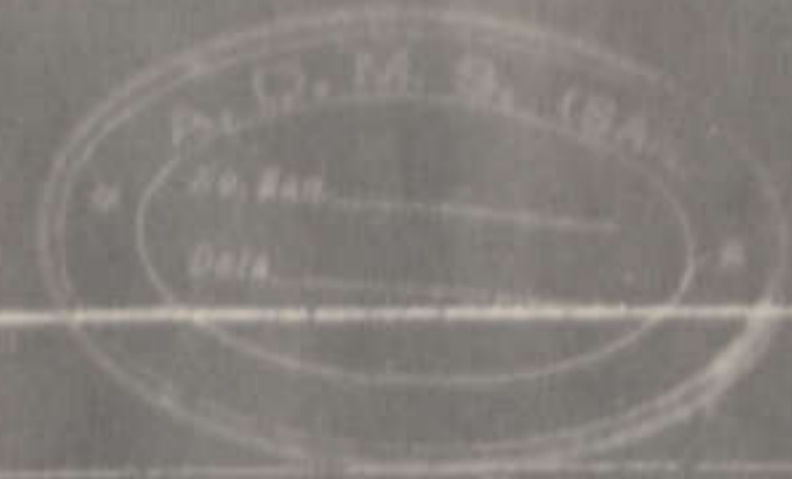
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	5 <sup>th</sup> Sept		Army Sanitary Committee proceeded to G HQ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Echelon & thence to Boulogne Capt A T Girvan OC 35 San Det applied for exchange to substitute Hygiene Lab Recommended for appointment as chemist to W.T.C. or permanent water installation	
	6 <sup>th</sup> Sept		Recommended issue of bread & meat ration as such at Convolement Depots 3 <sup>rd</sup> W T C (1 <sup>st</sup> Sub) 986 Coy M T. H. S. C has arrived at St Omer	
	7 Sept		Recommended appointment of Captain Zelter N H M C as O.C. Base Hygiene Subunit in place of Capt Wolf who is resigning his commission Completion of investigation of Army Sanitary Committee reports to D G M S D G M S reports action taken re insanitary condition of Portuguese Transports	
	8 Sept		Recommended segregation for ten days at Messines of an India Labour Coy landed at Dunkirk for a ship on which a case of cholera occurred Recommended that certain cases of dysentery or recovery could be detained Convolement camps in this country pending bacteriological examination instead of being evacuated to England	1 2

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	9 <sup>th</sup>	Sept	<p>Recommended that when dyspepsia occurs amongst nursing staff the whole staff &amp; not merely the contacts should be examined for detection of carriers</p> <p>Report on sample of Chinese rice forwarded to DofS. This suitable for issue to British troops in lieu of Indian Rice</p> <p>Recommended issue of pickled beef to Portuguese <sup>laborers</sup> in lieu of preserved meat which they do not like</p> <p>Dealt with accommodation for infection disease at Nouville Hospital Centre</p>	
	10	Sept	<p>Report on destruction of Hanoi files <del>forwarded</del> by SSO Rouen forwarded to DG M4</p> <p>Recommended issue of hand disinfectant to No 3 section 5<sup>th</sup> General Hospital at Moule</p> <p>Approved of article on "Trench foot" by Capt RT Down 5<sup>th</sup> Stat Hospital</p> <p>Extra towels for cans of tracheotomy approved.</p>	
	11	Sept	<p>Quantity of substitute of dried milk for fresh milk at Hospital at Boulogne again referred to DDMs Boulogne as adequate particular here not given</p>	54



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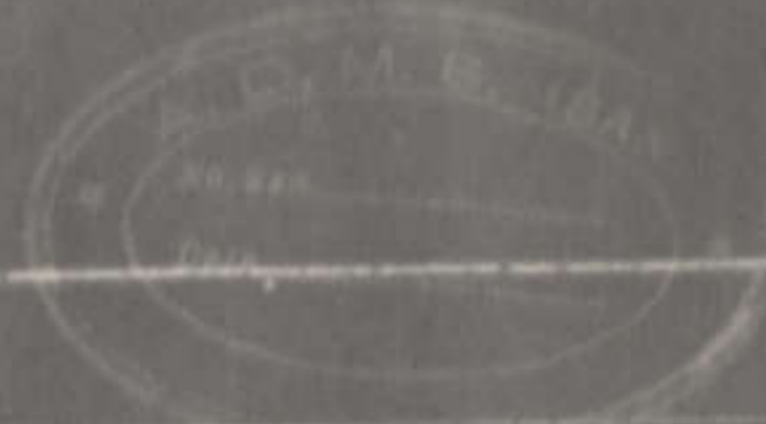
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	11	Sept	<p>Accommodation in "dug outs" at Dunkirk for Chinese approved if military circumstances require it &amp; provides adequate cover &amp; shelter is provided that more than 10 men to each dug out</p> <p>Requests that in future when troops in contact with Cholon can proceed from Mediterranean to the status of destination be notified to authorities there.</p>	
	12	Sept	<p>Recommended that contact with nungs amongst India troops Habon Coys in addition to being segregated be made deals with steam atomiser</p> <p>Recommended that a box disinfector be issued to 102 P of W Camp in lieu of hand disinfector none of which are available; ultimately to be replaced by disinfector of type DW Cine Men 267</p>	
	13	Sept	<p>No 5 Water Tank Company arrived in Abberville on way to Front Area</p> <p>Case of temporary report from <del>the</del> 46 Stationary Hospital - included</p> <p><del>Request that to B W Taj</del> Recommended that a box type of disinfector be issued to 38 + 75 P of W Coys until a hand or disinfector of type described - DW Cine Men 267 can be supplied</p>	55



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	14	Sept	<p>Application for appointment to mobile lab or San Section received from Capt DM Ballie 750<sup>th</sup> F Ambulance</p> <p>Quote of notes of Bomb proof shelters for Germans at Dombank - I did not approve of them as permanent living places but if absolutely necessary they should be constructed to hold not more than 10 men each &amp; should give usual floor &amp; air space &amp; be well ventilated &amp; kept dry</p>	
	15	Sept	<p>Belgian authorities asked that cases of infectious diseases occurring in our army in their area might be notified to them</p> <p>Recommended that No 4 Sanitary Section from Brilleval be placed at the disposal of 880 Albury Lane</p> <p>Advised the construction of a cement steam disinfectors for laundry &amp; laundry trays at Factory</p> <p>Advised as to accommodation of SAN. LC in Nunn Huts - 4 feet ground space per man each but to accommodate 14 men.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	16	Sept	<p><del>Approved</del> Amendments to Egyptian Ration approved of by me on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept have been forwarded to HQ by HQ L of C</p> <p>Approved of substitute of 2oz of sugar for 4 oz Jam in India Ration</p>	
	17	Sept	<p>Train ration for POW approved</p> <p>The case releasing of pulley platted in Rouen is being carried out by Sanitary Sections instead of by units themselves as should be done</p> <p>Recommended issue of oilskins to certain units in order of priority according to which unit needs them most urgently.</p> <p>Cholera contacts amongst Indian labour by segregation as manuals have completed their 10 days segregation with out the occurrence of cholera</p>	
	18	Sept	<p>3 Samples of water secured from GOC RFE for analysis forwarded to Bacteriological Laboratory Boulogne</p> <p>In reply to query by D. G. M. S. it is not considered that inclusion of <math>\frac{1}{2}</math> g of sugar in L of C Ration - issue of jam is necessary.</p> <p>Report from Boulogne as to use of sand mill - hospital received. Apparently</p>	57

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WAR DIARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			<p>about half the present supply of fuel milk cans to be replaced by dried milk</p> <p>Hatted accommodation for Officers at Berkh Place arranged for</p>	
	19	Sept	<p>Every endeavour is to be made to prevent men suffering from Bilhaysiosis coming to France</p> <p>Advised that health of SANLC Hospitals should proceed as rapidly as possible</p> <p>Recommended that as No 4 Station Hospital now directed is being run as a convalescent Depot it should draw full rent &amp; land value at discount of 10% as recommended for other Convalescent Depots</p> <p>Committee on Medical Services advised at Abbeville. + 1 year evidence before it</p>	
	20		<p>Visited Staples in connection with proposed accommodation for 400 WMAAC in area of I D Depots. Advised that this should not be permitted on account of being overcrowded but that another site should be found for them preferably on an area behind the Sanitary Section Camp</p>	58

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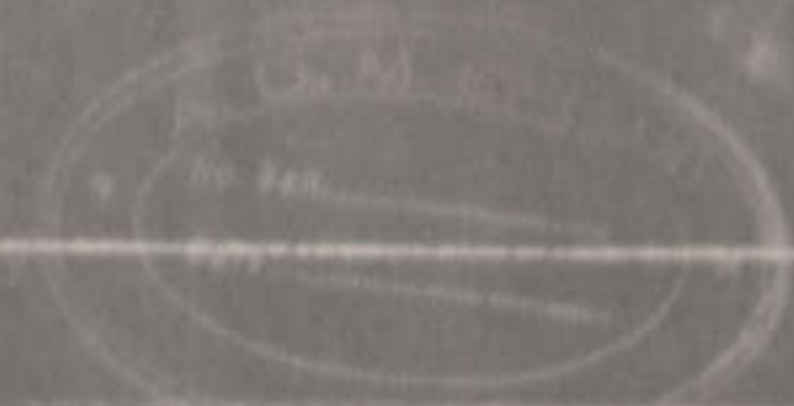
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville	21	Sept	<p>Proposal to erect camp for 400 WAAC cots in IBD area Boulogne not approved as the area is already overcrowded. Alternative sites adjacent the IBD area were suggested.</p> <p>Plans of 4 pms waterworks forwarded by DMS 5<sup>th</sup> Army for approval. Committee on position of chlorinator which appeared to be inserted before the said filters.</p> <p>Wallace &amp; Norman chlorinator orders from England by DQW for chlorination of Boulogne water supply at Bellosane.</p> <p>Fred Elliott &amp; Paton disinfecter recommended for 4 Stationary Hospitals.</p> <p>Case of typhoid from reports amongst Chinese at Wylder. Necessary steps being taken.</p> <p>Comments on W.O. Criticism of P. J. W. <sup>proposed</sup> Ration - Ration not excessive.</p>	
	22	Sept	<p>Recommended issue of second blanket to troops from October 18<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Cholera contacts at Marseille released for segregation - no further cases.</p> <p>A DMS San attended meeting of Subcommittee on Neplintes at 46 Stat. Hosp.</p>	5



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville	23	Sept	Only 3 Hospitals instead of 6 will be opened at Trouville - Couraubert Camps will remain at 5 as before - Collatis notes a Neglectus	
	24		<p>A.D.M.S. has proceeded to England &amp; back leave from 24.9.17 to 15.10.17</p> <p>Samples of Cocoa cubes received from Director of Supplies for report. They would be suitable for making isolates cups of cocoa but are in no way superior to tinned Cocoa &amp; milk. Samples forwarded to Base Hygiene Laboratory for report.</p> <p>In answer to wire from I.W.T.C. I informed them that Aluminium ferric required in urgency might be borrowed from Harrogate water works unit <del>samples</del>.</p> <p>Supplies received from DDS. 47 2<sup>nd</sup> Army</p>	
	25	Sept	<p>Letter received from D.M.S. Egypt explaining occurrence of a case of Smallpox on transport conveying Indian Labour Corps to France</p> <p>Copies of plans of Cyprus water works received from C.E. 5<sup>th</sup> Army</p> <p>Issue of men from Ration Sect 1 d VI. 885-71 &amp; NCOs &amp; men employed at G.H.Q. in light work recommended as desirable but not absolutely necessary</p>	5/10



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Albionville	26	Sept	<p>Supplements remarks on P.D.V.R. Ration in private letter to Captain Herlop R.H.M.S. W. Echels at his request.</p> <p>No change in Egypt Ration considered necessary by D.G.H. I concur.</p> <p>Samples of water forwarded to Ban Hygiene Lab for a spray at Borsbeynes from which aeroplane repair Depot is to be supplied.</p>	
	27		<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Army propose use of water tank long elements carried on 4 G.S. Wagons so as to enable it to be carried across front line. Suggests that scheme be referred to water committee.</p> <p>Informing G.O.C. <del>that</del> hope that heat from Horizontal Destructors could be used for heating water without use of extra fuel in Destructors.</p>	
	28		<p>Report on Samples of Water at Borsbeynes for R.H.C. Apparently the spring is suitable for use.</p> <p>D.D.V.S. called to inquire re Clayton Apparatus for disinfection treatment of mangy horses.</p>	511



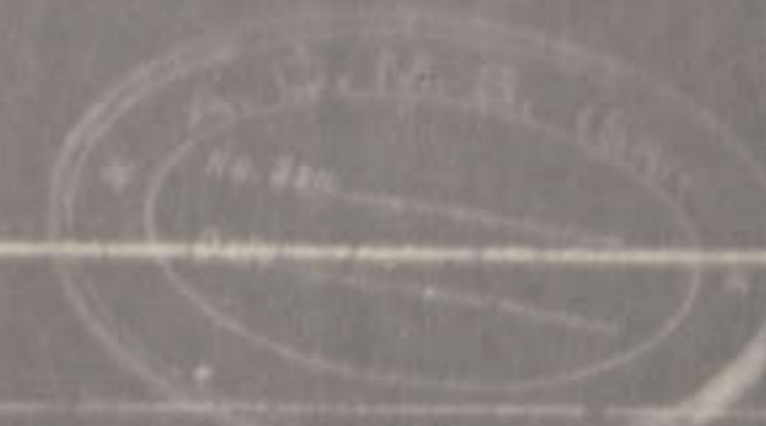
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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Athens	29	Sept	<p>16000 lbs of R.M.A. - Stock at hand. DMS left. Does not require any pit. <del>Suggest that</del> <del>run</del> <del>be</del> <del>WCEs</del>. Suggests that 5000 lbs be kept in reserve. Recommended issue of extra towel to Chinese <del>troops</del> on account of trichina. Urgency for issue to 30th LC + Indian labour boys not so great at present as they have very little trichina.</p>	
	30	Sept	<p>Recommended an extra tent for Indians labour men during winter as desirable but not absolutely necessary. Approved Captain Wolff's paper on Brochering of B. healthiness. D of W wanted to know if chlorine would be available for sterilizing Boulogne water supply. I replied that it was used in America &amp; that a supply could be obtained for Boulogne.</p>	
	Oct 1		<p>DMS left. Does not propose to proceed with construction camps for cause of dysentery in France. He adopts A &amp; P's suggestion that English rules should be modified to permit operation of <del>the</del> <del>in</del> <del>shorter</del> <del>time</del>. Depart. for Athens at 10.15 hrs. are now completed. SMO Indian labour boys recommended that N.W.F. Coy. which they are leaving <del>at</del> <del>the</del> <del>present</del> <del>time</del>.</p>	

Methamill Capt  
DMS for ADMS San

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