

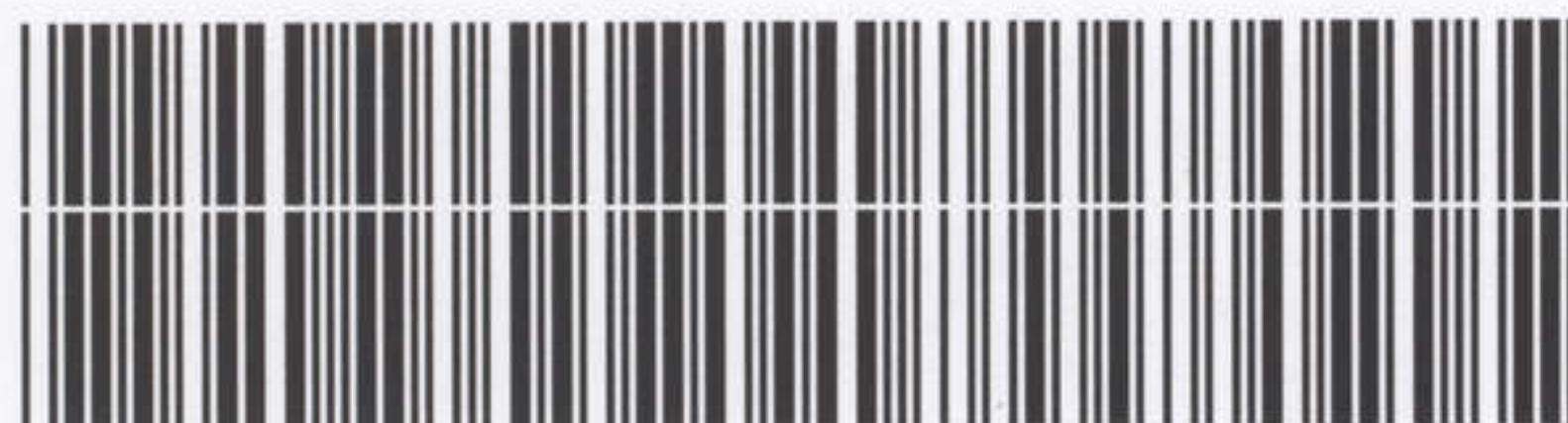
**AWM4**  
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,  
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

**Item number:** 26/1/25

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

March 1918



AWM4-26/1/25



WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q., L. of C.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	1918.	1st March.	<p>D.M.S., L. of C, consulted me in regard to a telephone message received from D.G.M.S. It appears that Typhus has occurred in Portugal and D.G. wishes D.M.S, to take all necessary precautions. I gave him copies of instructions on preventive measures to be taken which he will forward to D.G.M.S. and to Brest, the port of entry for Portuguese.</p> <p>Received report through D.M.S, of Medical occurrences at Brest &amp; Cherbourg for wk.ending 22-2-18.</p> <p>Forwarded my War Diary for February, 1918 to D.A.G., and duplicate copy of Diary for November, 1917 to Officer in Charge, R.A.M.C. Records, Woking.</p> <p>The D.M.S., L. of C, passed, for information, the decision of the A.Q.M.G, not to approve of the issue of Puttees to Prisoners of War not in possession of long boots.</p> <p>The D.M.S., L. of C, forwarded a minute from the DDOS(N) reference substitution of enamel ware by tin ware. I replied that slightly shipped enamel ware could not reasonably be regarded as unserviceable, but that chipping, once commenced, was apt to spread rapidly. Also stated that there was no objection on medical grounds to substitution of tin-plate ware for enamel ware.</p> <p>Received through the D.M.S, plan of the proposed Detention Hospital at 11 bis, Rue Christoph Colomb, Paris. I remarked that the arrangements now proposed appeared in general to be satisfactory.</p>
	2nd March.		<p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded correspondence re Naga Ration and I replied that the Naga Ration which I submitted to him on 23-2-18 is the ration given in S.S.571, Sect.7(g) amended so as to include various alterations made as result of occurrence of Beri-beri amongst this class of Native Labourers, thus representing existing ration as it should appear in any future edition of Ration Pamphlet if no further alterations were decided upon. The D. of S., however, contemplates submitting whole question of Native Rations to Q.M.G for revision and in reply to a request from him I suggested a revised ration for Naga Hill &amp; Lushai Personnel. I also stated, as suggested by the D. of S, that I thought it would be desirable to confer further on the proposed new rations before submitting to the Q.M.G. when opportunity could be taken for reconsidering the question of extras.</p>

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WAR DIARY

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or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

A.D.M.S. Sanitation, H.Q. ~~of C.~~

(Erase heading not required.)



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville .	1918. 3rd March.		<p>Received request from D.G.M.S. to furnish table showing calorie value of various items of the Indian Ration, which is required for the information of the O.C., Lucknow C.C.S. I forwarded complete table.</p> <p>The D.M.S., forwarded minute of D. of W, reference small destructors I had recommended for CREIL. I agreed with D. of W, that multiplication of destructors requiring building material was undesirable and forwarded to him a sketch of an improvised destructor which could readily be constructed out of corrugated iron.</p> <p>I forwarded to D.G.M.S., and A. in P. copies of translations of French Circulars, "Treatment and Recuperation of Malaria cases" and "Instructions regarding discharge from Hospital of Amoebic Dysentery Cyst Carriers", for information.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S. forwarded trade circular of Adams Hydraulic Ejector. I replied that this was a well known mechanical device but that there was no immediate need for such appliance at present.</p> <p>D.M.S., L. of C forwarded report on inspection of Chinese Camp at Havre, by Lt-Col. Gray. / I pointed out to the D.D.M.S of that Base that there was a certain amount of overcrowding in Adrian Huts, also that not more than 70 men should be accommodated in a hut. He informed me that the matter was under consideration, and would be rectified.</p> <p>Received from the D.M.S., L. of C, a copy of a report on the inspection of the Camps of Indian Labour Corps in the Rouen and Havre Areas. I had recently inspected these camps and found them satisfactory.</p> <p>Captain Barnes, O.C., No: 1 Sanitary Section, Rouen, applied through D.M.S, for transfer to a Sanitary Unit in the Front Area. I noted this officers' name in the event of a vacancy.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S. forwarded application from Fifth Army for protection of fever cases against mosquitoes by nets. I replied that anopheline mosquitoes are generally distributed in areas occupied by the British Army in France and that it is undoubtedly desirable to take necessary precautions as cases of benign tertian have occurred from time to time, but that it was questionable whether the number of cases occurring annually would at present justify the expenditure of any large quantity of material as a precautionary measure.</p>

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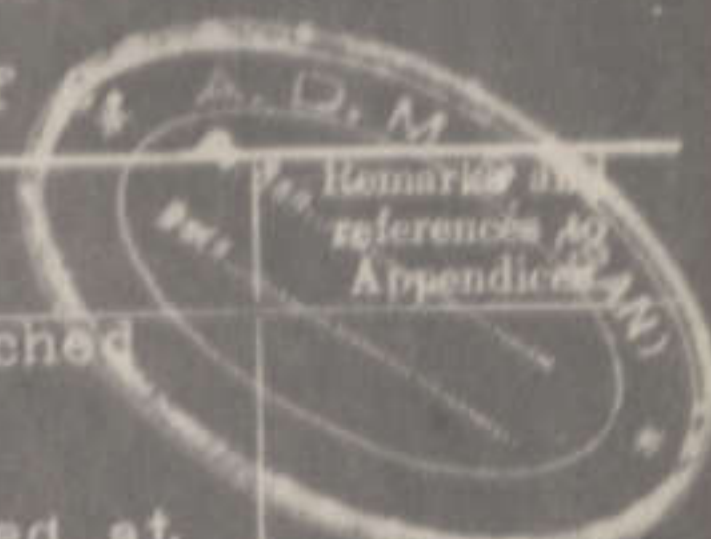


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A.D.M.S., Sanitation. H.Q., L.of



Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	1918. 4th.March.		<p>D.M.S. forwarded application of S.S.O., Calis for an additional Sanitary Squad to be attached to that Base. I recommended same.</p> <p>Received from D.M.S. correspondence and plan of an improvised steam disinfecter constructed at Marseilles. I asked that a detailed report be called for from S.S.O., Marseilles before I expressed an opinion.</p> <p>D.G.M.S. asked if there were any alterations to suggest as regards scale of Winter Clothing for next year. I replied that present scale appeared to be satisfactory and that I had no alterations to suggest.</p> <p>D.G.M.S. forwarded correspondence reference rations for Italian Labourers. I forwarded a Ration scale which I based upon the Italian Service Ration.</p> <p>D.G.M.S. forwarded application by Fifth Army for crude oil for spraying mosquito breeding waters. I replied that the amount of oil asked for was not excessive, also suggested other measures against mosquito larvae.</p>
	5th.March.		<p>D.G.M.S. forwarded for my remarks a letter from Q.M.G. reference unsuitability of amended scale of rations for Naga Labz Coys at Abancourt. I replied that on account of an outbreak of beri beri amongst a Manipur Lab. Co. which consumes the Naga Ration, the S.M.O., Indian Lab. Corps had recommended substitution of 1 lb. rice by other foodstuffs. This was given effect by replacing 1 lb. rice by 1 lb. atta. As unpolished rice cannot be supplied it was deemed desirable to reduce the quantity of polished rice in the ration as much as possible. The modified ration in which 1 lb rice is replaced by 1 lb atta is I understood giving satisfaction in Third Army and beri beri is disappearing, but if there is a strong feeling amongst Naga Natives at Abancourt against this liberal supply of atta the original modification of ration in which only 1/2 lb rice was replaced by 6 oz atta and 2 oz dhal may be resumed there although this is dietetically not so satisfactory owing to relatively large amounts of polished rice it contains which is devoid of anti beri beri constituents. I remarked that I assumed that the Advisers in Native Labour matters had borne in mind the fact that polished and not unpolished rice was the only variety available.</p> <p>Received request per 'phone from the D.G.M.S. for several copies of circular on Typhus Fever, and same were forwarded.</p> <p>D.A.D.M.S. (San) Fourth Army forwarded report on Haringhe Water Works for February, also report on Sea Water in the Yser River.</p>

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. F. A. D. M. S. C.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville.	<u>6th March.</u>		<p>Captain Gebbie, O.C., 17th Sanitary Sanition requested to be supplied with statistics concerning infectious diseases for lecturing purposes. I replied that the information required was confidential, but that helpful and suggestive lectures could be given in which the beneficent results of hygiene and sanitation are treated in a general way; - also remarked that the most important matters to dwell on in lectures such as he proposed to give are the sanitary details and methods which should be observed by all units in the Field and forwarded to him "Notes for Sanitary Officers" hoping he would find same useful in this connection.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded minute of D.G.M.S, asking if 2nd grade greatcoats should be issued in lieu of "Gowns Serge lined". I referred him to my minute of 21-2-18 wherein I stated that these greatcoats were suitable as substitutes for "gowns blue serge, "unlined".</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded for remarks a complaint received from DDMS XXII Corps re Measles contacts being sent up in drafts from Etaples Base to the Front Area. I replied that in a large draft of men such as the one in question it was impossible to ensure freedom from infectious diseases such as Measles, Rose Measles and Mumps and that segregation in the case of the two former diseases had proved to be of little use. I stated that I considered the DDMS, Etaples had taken every possible step to prevent spread of the disease, having taken even more rigid precautions than those laid down in D.Gs Circ, Mem. No: 19.</p> <p>Received correspondence from D.M.S, with reference to Cerebro-spinal Meningitis Contacts sent down to Base from Front Area without being notified as such on the training state. I replied that it was evident that a mistake had been made, but that I thought all contacts of infectious diseases sent down by Ambulance Train should be distinctly marked as such on the training state.</p> <p>Forwarded my office copies of Nephritis and Albuminuria Returns for week ended 23-2-18 to Captain McLean, 46 Stationary Hospital.</p>	<p>N 4</p>
	<u>7th March.</u>		<p>The D.M.S, forwarded a circular for information correcting a previous circular which had been issued in regard to 2nd grade greatcoats. These are understood now to substitute "gowns, blue serge "unlined" only.</p>	

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WAR DIARY

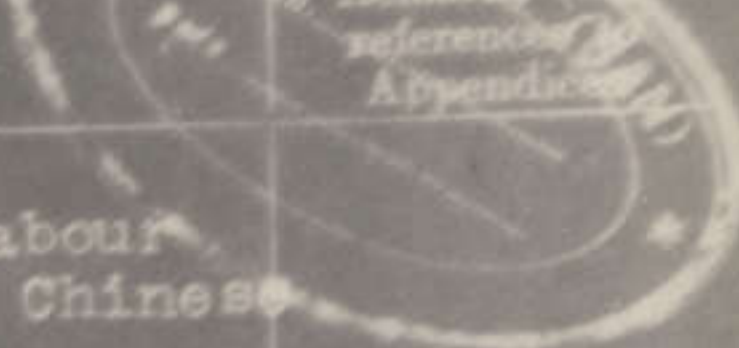
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q., *1st Div.*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks or references to Appendix
Abbeville.	March 7th (cont'd)		<p>Received from D.M.S, a memorandum by Lt-Col. G.D.Gray, R.A.M.C, O.C., No: 3 Native Labour General Hospital which it is proposed to issue to Officers and N.C.Os serving with Chinese Labour Companies.</p> <p>I forwarded to D.G.M.S, a minute with reference to sanitary appliances in unoccupied areas, as it had been found that appliances are often damaged or stolen by civilians. Much of this loss could be avoided if movable sanitary appliances were handing into the charge of the local Commandant to be reissued to other troops when they arrive. In case of fixed appliances a list could be compiled and the Commandant could instruct his billet warden to take steps to prevent damage by civilians whilst the area is unoccupied.</p> <p>The D.D.M.S, Etaples forwarded a minute stating that he had issued orders that no Medical Units in his Area should keep pigs and asked if I approved of this action. I stated that no Medical Units should keep pigs in hospital precincts, but there was no objection to them being kept some distance away.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded file with reference to rations of men undergoing imprisonment with hard labour. I replied that in the circumstances the energy value of the ration was sufficient but that certain items required modification, and forwarded to him a suggested modified ration scale.</p>	
	8th March.		<p>The D.M.S, forwarded for remarks a suggestion of the D.D.M.S. Boulogne that Portuguese Troops should be segregated for 14 days at Port of Disembarkation on account of the outbreak of Typhus reported from Portugal. I replied that such steps had already been recommended by me in my minute dated 1-3-18 to him.</p> <p>Received from the D.M.S, report for information on Medical Occurrences at Cherbourg for the week ending 2-3-18.</p>	
	9th March.		<p>Received from D.M.S, through the A. in P, a memo asking if it was considered that leave might be again safely opened to Lyons. The A. in P considered that leave might safely be re-opened and I concurred, as no new case of Smallpox had been reported since that diagnosed on the 14th ulto.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p>



# WAR DIARY

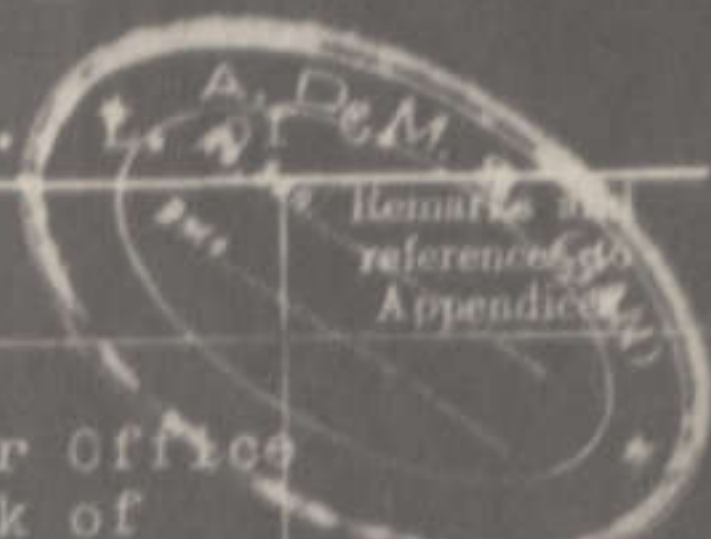
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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville.	9th March.	(cont'd)	<p>The D.G.M.S, communicated to me over the telephone, text of a telegram received from War Office by A.G, stating area which had been placed out of bounds on account of an outbreak of Small-pox, also text of letter from A.G, regarding vaccination of men proceeding on leave. It was desired to publish a G.R.O. and the following was decided on:-</p> <p>"Until further orders troops will not be allowed to proceed on leave to London unless they show marks of successful vaccination. This will also apply to troops passing through London.</p> <p>It was pointed out that men should not start on leave until a fortnight had elapsed after being vaccinated or revaccinated for the first time. Objectors to vaccination should not be allowed to go on leave to London although they might be allowed to go elsewhere if passage through London is not involved. It was also stated that units were not usually in possession of date of vaccination and men should be individually asked or arm examined. G.R.Os, 3575 &amp; 3585 were published later in this connection.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded for information Q.M.Gs approval for 1½ lb. Rice, 6 ozs. Atta and 2 ozs Dhal to replace 2 lbs. Rice, for Naga Labour Companies at Abancourt. It was stated that if symptoms of beri-beri subsequently appeared it might be necessary to go back to the amended scale as laid down by Q.M.G. on 20-1-18. In this connection see my Diary for the 5th inst.</p> <p>Received from D.M.S, copy of correspondence, forwarded by Portuguese authorities to the Portuguese Secretary for War, reference outbreak of Typhus in Portugal, urging that reinforcements be kept under observation for ten or twelve days prior to embarkation to prevent spread of the disease to this country, as there were no facilities for isolation at the Port of Debarkation in France for Portuguese Troops.</p>	
	10th March.		<p>Received from D.G.M.S. an application for salt for pickling fresh beef for Canadian Forestry Companies in the Bordeaux Group. I remarked that under the circumstances it appeared that pickling of meat was desirable. I informed him that for every 14 lbs. of beef or mutton, 1½ lbs of salt and ½ oz. saltpetre would be required.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded a list of articles asked for by A.D.M.S. Dieppe for Laboratory work at No: 5 Stationary Hospital. The Adviser in Pathology had marked certain articles that he considered should be supplied, and I stated that apart from these there did not appear to be any necessity for further provision.</p>	25

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q., L.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville.	10th March	(cont'd)	<p>The D.G.M.S, asked if I had any instructions for issue with regard to measures to be taken in dealing with mosquito-breeding waters, also if issue of crude mineral oil was recommended for issue if provision were arranged for. I forwarded to him copies of instructions I had drawn up, and also recommended the issue of oil, mineral, wood preserving.</p> <p>Lieutenant &amp; Quartermaster W.A.Muirhead, R.A.M. Corps (appointed temporary Quartermaster vide War Office telegram D.M.17720 AMD.1.) proceeded to 52 Stationary Hospital for duty.</p> <p>Received from D.G.M.S, scale of rations for Italian Civilian Labour in Italy for information and remarks. I replied that this Ration Scale was less ample than the one I had recommended on 4-3-18, but as it had been found sufficient it might be given a trial in this country. It could be amplified at a later date if necessary.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded application from Director of Forestry for issue of Drawers, cotton, short, and Khaki Drill clothing for Canadian Forestry Coys operating in the Bordeaux Area. I recommended these issues as from April 1st, in view of the climatic conditions in the districts mentioned.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded for my remarks an application which had been made to the Director of Supplies for the issue of 2 ozs Flour in lieu of 2 ozs of Bread to Chinese Labourers. I replied that the Chinese used flour for making "Chapatties" which they prefer to bread and recommended issue of a further 2 ozs of Flour in lieu of 2 ozs of Bread.</p> <p>Received from the D.G.M.S, an extract from War Office Letter of the 5-3-18, with reference to the issue of Frozen Fish in lieu of Bacon to Portuguese Troops and Chinese Labourers. The Medical Authorities at home had been consulted and they considered that this might be done. I replied that as it was now proposed to issue dressed fish, owing to the shortage of Bacon, I recommended the issue of 8 ozs of dressed frozen fish in lieu of 2 ozs bacon to Portuguese Troops and Chinese Labourers.</p> <p>D.M.S, forwarded copy of report on Medical Occurrences at Cherbourg for week ending 2-3-18.</p> <p>D.M.S, asked if I had any information regarding complaints from St. Germain aux Mont d'Or with reference to bread baked by the French for British Troops at Rest Camp. I replied that I had received not received any information or complaints.</p>	<p>27</p>

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A. D. M. S., Sanitation.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks refer to Appendices
Abbeville.	11th March.		<p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded for remarks, through the Adviser in Pathology, a demand made by Fifth Army for Mosquito nets. The Adviser in Pathology considered that a certain number of these mosquito nets might advantageously be provided to protect any possible cases of Malaria in Medical Units from being bitten while their blood was infective. I agreed with the A. in P, there having been 139 cases of fresh malarial infection since July, 1917, including 42 in which place of origin was doubtful.</p> <p>The D.M.S., forwarded for my remarks application of O.C., 20th Labour Group for restoration of flour issue to the amount previous to GRO. 3497 being issued. I replied that the D. of S, had already asked the B.G.M.S whether he approved of the issue of a further 2 ozs of flour in lieu of 2 ozs. bread. The D.G.M.S, referred the question to me and I recommended the issue.</p> <p>The D.M.S, returned my minute of the 7th re Ration Scale for men undergoing imprisonment with hard labour. The main question appeared to be that of adjustment of equivalents. I therefore forwarded to him a scale of rations which I considered would meet the case.</p> <p>Received a message by telephone from D.G.M.S, <sup>1st Section</sup> requesting that he may be supplied with various tables of infectious diseases for 1917. I forwarded same.</p>	
	12th March.		<p>The A.D.M.S. Dieppe asked for 6 copies of plan of Improvised Box Disinfector, D. of W, No: DP. 287. I forwarded three copies, these being the only ones available and suggested that an improvement would be affected if the height of the box were raised to 3 feet.</p> <p>Received from the D.M.S., L. of C, for information, a copy of a telegram which had been sent to War Office asking that a request be made to the Portuguese Government to temporarily suspend traffic of Portuguese Troops whether on leave, duty or drafts, between Portugal and this country.</p>	
	13th March.		<p>D.M.S, forwarded file with reference to precautions to be taken to prevent spread of Typhus from Portugal to this country. I replied that the most important measures to be undertaken were Disinfestation and Segregation at Port of Embarkation of reinforcements, and that troops should not be allowed to proceed to Ambleteuse unless these measures have been carried out. I also stated that it was presumed that the authorities were taking the necessary precautions to prevent the disease being imported by land.</p>	28



WAR DIARY

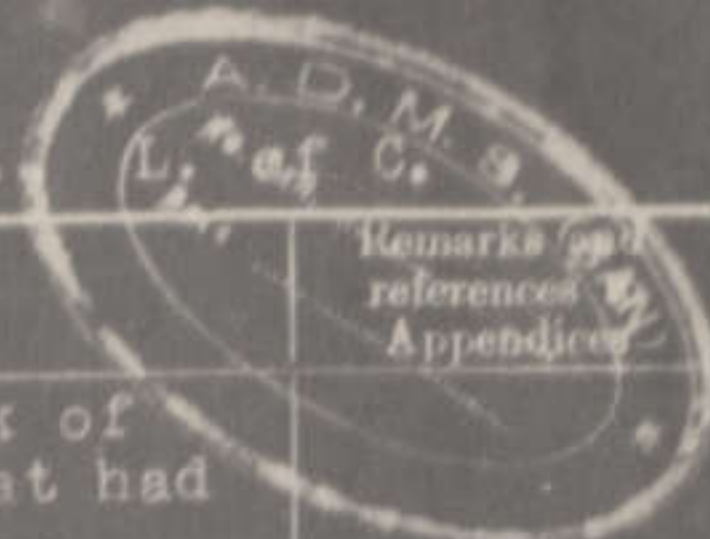
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S., Sanitation. H.Q.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks (with references) Appendices
Abbeville.	14th	March.	<p>The D.M.S, forwarded copy of a report from the S.M.O., Cherbourg reference an outbreak of Mumps amongst the 1st Cape Coloured Labour Regiment, outlining the precautions that had been taken to prevent spread of the disease.</p> <p>Received from the D.M.S, correspondence with reference to Private J.R.Gilfillan. This man had been a student at the City Analysts Laboratory, Glasgow, and it was thought that his services might be of value in a Laboratory in France. I agreed with this and recommended that the O.C., Base Hygiene Laboratory should be given an opportunity of ascertaining whether this man was suitable for employment in a laboratory.</p> <p>The D.M.S, asked for my remarks in connection with a letter he proposed forwarding to the A.Q.M.G., H.Q., L.of C. Area, with reference to the installation of disinfecting apparatus and bath house at the Portuguese Camp at Brest. The proposal was to install a Clayton Disinfector, but I replied that in the circumstances I preferred steam disinfection. I also stated that I was not aware of the number of reinforcements that passed through Brest normally, but that if this number was not large it might be possible to cope with them by means of a suitable number of Thresh or other disinfectors which could be sent to Brest forthwith. If the number of troops passing through was large these disinfectors could be replaced as soon as circumstances would permit by a Steam Disinfesting Chamber similar in type to that constructed by the R.E. at Poperinghe.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded correspondence for remarks reference the outbreak of Measles in drafts to the Front from Etaples Base. I replied that when Measles and Rose Measles contacts are segregated only a small proportion usually develop the disease. It is possible that many contacts may have had the disease previously and others may be relatively insusceptible. "Missed cases" or cases in which symptoms are so mild as not to come to notice are undoubtedly responsible for spread of infection and segregation would be applicable in such cases. Segregation of contacts is an additional precaution and may be adopted when opportunity offers, but is is questionable whether the advantages to be gained justified the holding up of large numbers of men when military exigencies require them elsewhere. Isolation of cases when they occur has an influence on checking the spread, but as Measles is highly infectious in the early catarrhal stages before the appearance of the rash, isolation should be effected at the earliest possible moment. D.G. Circ. Mem. No: 19 recommends daily medical inspection of contacts with view to early detection, but segregation is not insisted upon though there is no objection to this being carried out as an additional precaution where facilities exist and opportunity offers.</p>	

← segregation of contacts

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks, references, Appendices
Abbeville.	14th March	(cont'd)	<p>The D.M.S, forwarded correspondence with reference to a proposal to buy fresh fish locally by units from Surplus By-products Funds, this fish being intended to replace the meat ration and thus effect a saving of this commodity. I replied that there would be no objection to private purchase of fish to supplement the ration and to introduce variety, but that the utilisation of fish in place of meat was a larger question. I also stated that it was understood that the issue of fish in lieu of a portion of the meat ration was under consideration.</p>	
	15th March.		<p>The D.M.S, forwarded through the Adviser in Pathology a memo. from the A.D.M.S. Abbeville Area concerning 4 cases of Leprosy which had been sent to No: 3 Native Labour General Hospital diagnosed syphilis. The A.D.M.S. Abbeville considered that it might be of advantage to bring to the notice of Administrative Officers in other areas the presence of Leprosy (diagnosed Syphilis) in order that Medical Officers may be on the look-out for this disease and have them transferred to Noyelles where a special compound was being arranged. The Adviser in Pathology was in agreement with the A.D.M.S., Abbeville as regards medical officers being warned to look out for possible cases of Leprosy and that he presumed that such men would be repatriated as soon as means of transport were available, and I concurred.</p> <p>I forwarded a minute to the D.M.S, stating that since my minute to him dated the 11th inst on the question of rations for men undergoing imprisonment with hard labour, the whole subject of ration scales and equivalents had come up for revision and that I thought it would save further alterations if consideration of a new ration for such prisoners was held over until the revised ration scales should come into force when the prisoners' ration scale could be amended so as to be in accord with them.</p> <p>I received from the Director of Works drawings of Portable Latrine and Portable Ablution Bench.</p> <p>The D.A.D.M.S. proceeded to G.H.Q., to attend a Food Conference held in the office of the Quartermaster General.</p>	
	16th March.		<p>The D.M.S, asked for my opinion regarding a request made to him by the O.C., No: 3 Sanitary Section for Zinc Sulphate for use with Levick Sprays. I stated that the consumption of Zinc Sulphate would depend upon the number of sprays and extent of treatment undertaken, but as the O.C., 3rd Sanitary Section had certified that 14 lbs per month had hitherto been necessary I considered that the demand might be regarded as not unreasonable.</p>	<p>216</p>

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation., H.Q., 1st Div., 5th Army.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendix
Abbeville.	16th March (cont'd)		<p>The D.G.M.S., asked in what localities it was thought necessary that Mosquito nets should be provided. I replied that I thought it would be sufficient at present if these nets were provided for use in the Oise Valley by Medical Units of the Fifth Army. The D.G.M.S., also asked in what localities it was thought essential to carry out preventive measures against mosquito breeding places. I replied to this query that it would not be practicable to carry out these measures universally on a comprehensive scale and such an attempt would probably not succeed in exterminating the mosquito. It might be possible however to lessen their numbers in selected areas by the adoption of measures such as I had suggested. Where these measures are deemed advisable they might in the first place be attempted in the immediate neighbourhood of Field Medical Units and Camps where mosquitos abound. I stated that up to the present the amount of disease traceable to the mosquito was not large enough to say that such measures were essential.</p> <p>Received from the D.G.M.S., a minute in connection with an increase in the Bread and Meat ration for bakers of the W.A.A.C. I replied that when this application for an increased ration was submitted it was understood that these women were mainly occupied in kneading dough which is hard manual labour, but apparently this is not the case, but the fact that men bakers draw increased L. of C Ration under GRO.2663/17 was indicative that the work was considered hard manual labour and women engaged in the same work might equitably claim that their ration should be augmented beyond the ordinary ration found necessary for those engaged in sedentary work. I stated that it might be well to defer the consideration of an increased ration for these women bakers as I had gathered at the Conference held at the office of the Q.M.G, that it was intended to make a scrutiny of the list of men drawing increased rations under GRO2663/17.</p> <p>The D.M.S., forwarded for my remarks an application for the provision of meat safes for P. of W. Camps in the Calais Area. I replied that I recommended the provision of meat safes for all camps in my minute dated 24-2-18 and this recommendation might include P. of W. Camps. It should be possible for prisoners to construct their own safes out of materials available.</p>	
	17th March.		<p>The D.M.S., forwarded his file for an opinion in connection with <sup>forwarding of</sup> waste surgical dressings <sup>from the front</sup>. I stated that there would be no objection to the despatch of these dressings to salvage depots provided they were sterilised before being packed into sacks. Dressings from hospitals for infectious disease, or from cases of infectious disease, should not be sent down for salvage.</p>	N



# WAR DIARY

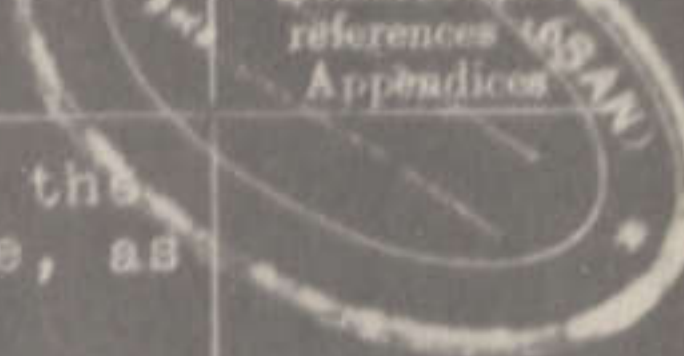
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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references Appendices
Abbeville.	17th March.	(cont'd)	<p>The D.M.S, forwarded further reports from the D.Ds.M.S., Havre and Rouen in respect of the Indian Labour Camps at these Bases. I replied that I had no further remarks to make, as the arrangements at these Camps appeared to be satisfactory.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded for information copies of correspondence in connection with further cases of measles occurring in drafts sent up to the Front from Etaples Base Depots.</p> <p>A further case of Relapsing Fever was notified to me by the D.M.S., L.of C, as having occurred at Marseilles.</p> <p>Received from the D.M.S, various wires in respect of 2 cases of smallpox which had occurred at Rouen. I replied giving him the necessary precautions which I considered should be carried out, stating that I understood that measures on these lines were already being carried out, also that it was proposed to vaccinate men in the area who could not produce evidence of recent successful vaccination.</p>	
	18th March.		<p>The D.M.S, consulted me with reference to a wire that had been received from him asking if No: 23 Mobile Hygiene Laboratory was required in France, and later forwarded correspondence stating that this unit would be parked on the L. of C pending further instructions.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded a circular on the treatment of clothing which had been contaminated by dichlorethyl sulphide.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded a minute of the D. of S, wherein it was asked for the proportions of the supply of dried fruit which should consist of raisins, currants, figs and dates. I replied that as the supplies of the various dried fruits would appear to be liable to fluctuations according to what might be available I did not think that anything definite in the way of proportions could be usefully stated. Dates figs and raisins, I stated, were the most desirable and as much of the supply as possible should consist of these.</p> <p>The D.M.S., forwarded for information approval of the A.Q.M.G, L. of C. Area for the provision of meat safes for the Dunkirk Area, as recommended by me on the 16th.</p> <p>The D.M.S, proposed to apply for 2 Thresh Disinfectors, in addition to the one already there, for Brest and asked if I concurred in this demand. I applied that I agreed as in the circumstances sample facilities should be provided at Brest for dealing expeditiously with all troops who may arrive from Portugal.</p>	<p style="margin-top: 20px;">212</p>



WAR DIARY

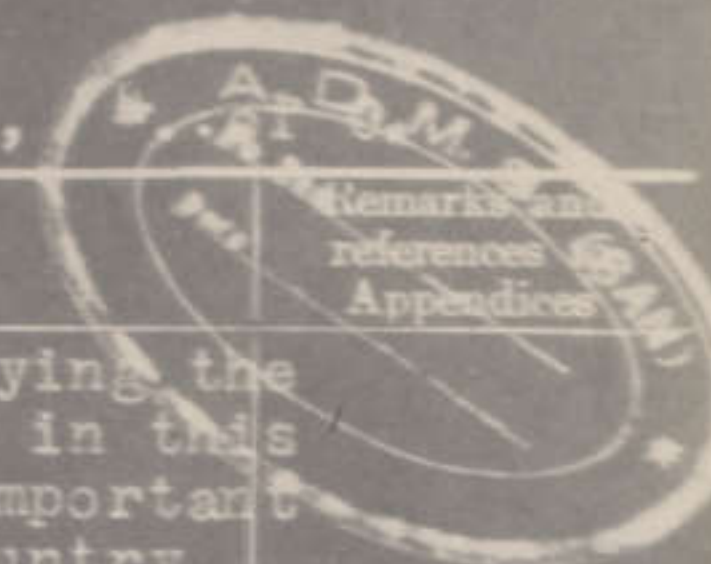
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q.,



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Abbeville.	18th March. (cont'd)		<p>Received from the D.M.S, a draft of a letter which he proposed to send to D.G.M.S. embodying the preventive measures considered necessary in dealing with drafts of Portuguese arriving in this country. I stated that his letter would appear to meet the case, remarking that the important point was to carry out preventive measures immediately on arrival of troops in this country before allowing them to proceed elsewhere.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded for remarks, a proposal which was under consideration for baking cakes for hospital use in Army Bakeries in France. I replied that there seemed to be advantages in making these cakes in France rather than importing them, and stated that plain cake or some simple form of fruit cake would be suitable for hospital purposes. If fruit were used "stoned" raisins were suggested rather than currants. It should suffice if the cakes were wrapped in paper and packed in cases as it was presumed they would be for immediate consumption.</p> <p>The D.G.M.S received from the D. of S a minute asking if margarine may be issued to Chinese in lieu of nut oil, and forwarded same to me for remarks. I replied that there would be no dietetic objection to the issue of margarine in lieu of nut oil when the latter was not available. I stated however that Chinese liked a certain proportion of the nut oil in the ration for cooking purposes and that as far as circumstances permit it would be desirable to avoid replacing the whole of the nut oil ration by margarine. One ounce of margarine would be equal to one ounce of nut oil.</p> <p>Received from D.G.M.S, a minute, for information, with reference to the result of an investigation carried out by Prof. Leonard Hill in connection with a recent outbreak of scurvy.</p>	
	19th March.		<p>The D.M.S. asked if I had any information regarding the investigation of an outbreak of Scurvy, (as mentioned above). I replied that I had received no details of the particular investigation which had been carried out by Prof. L.Hill.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded an application by the O.C., 9th B.W.I.Rgt., for a reduction of the tea ration to his battalion by 50% as these men are said to drink very little of this commodity. It was asked that an issue of rice might be sanctioned to replace half the tea ration. I replied that there would be no dietetic objection to the reduction of the tea ration for these men but before this was done I thought it might be well to ascertain the views of the Regiment as a whole. The issue of rice in lieu of tea, however, I did not recommend as this would be equivalent to an increase in the ration scale which is at present considered adequate.</p>	Z 13



WAR DIARY

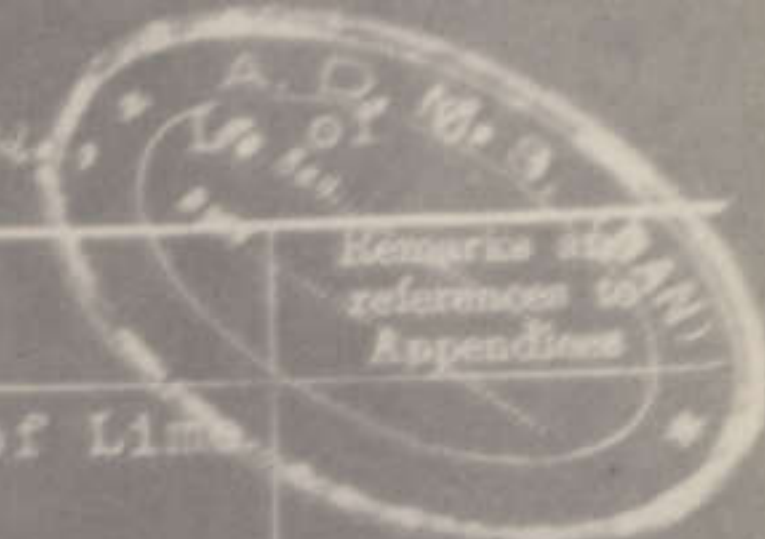
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A. D. M. S., Sanitation. H. 4.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	20th March. (cont'd)		<p>The A. D. M. S., St. Omer asked to be supplied with 12 copies of memo. "Use of Chloride of Lime for Clarification of Waste Water from Laundries, etc". These were forwarded.</p> <p>The D. G. M. S, forwarded correspondence with reference to a request received from Fifth Army for the issue of Dried Fish in lieu of meat, once a week, to the 59th and 78th Burma Labour Companies. Dried Fish had been previously issued to these two Units and had been much appreciated and the men were asking for a repetition. I replied that this issue might be sanctioned, stating that 4 ozs of Dried Fish in lieu of 4 ozs Meat, as had been proposed in D. Gs minute M.2307/46 dated 10-10-17, should be a suitable amount.</p> <p>Received from D. G. M. S, correspondence regarding Dried Eggs. I replied asking to be supplied with a sample of these eggs which, together with the report of the O. C., Base Hygiene Laboratory would assist me in giving an opinion.</p> <p>The D. G. M. S. asked for my remarks in connection with correspondence received from D. of S, regarding reductions and alterations in Native Labour Prison Rations. I replied that it was possible to make certain reductions and alterations in these rations, but which, if adopted, would furnish rations which are by no means too ample for hard labour. I gave details of various commodities which could be altered or deleted.</p> <p>The D. G. M. S. forwarded a request from the D. M. S., 2nd Army who wished to be supplied with the calorie values of Dried vegetables, Fruit, fresh and tinned, tinned salmon, cafe au lait, cocoa au lait and dried milks. I replied to D. G. M. S. that the energy values of certain of the articles varied considerably, the energy value of fresh fruit depending upon the kind of fruit, of tinned fruit upon the fruit and the amount of sugar used in canning, and tinned fish upon the variety of fish; also samples of dried milk differ somewhat in composition. I forwarded a list which I stated might be taken as approximate average values.</p> <p>Received from the D. M. S? copies of telegrams re Dvr. A. Petitt, 24th Divisional Trench Mortars, who left England for France on the 11th March, He was contact of smallpox, his father having developed the disease on the 12th March.</p>
	21st March.		<p>The D. M. S, forwarded correspondence reference an issue of 3 cwts of coal per week as asked for by the Commandant, Amiens Area, for excreta burning. I stated that the amount of coal demanded was not excessive and the issue might be sanctioned on the certificate of the S. S. O.</p>

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WAR DIARY

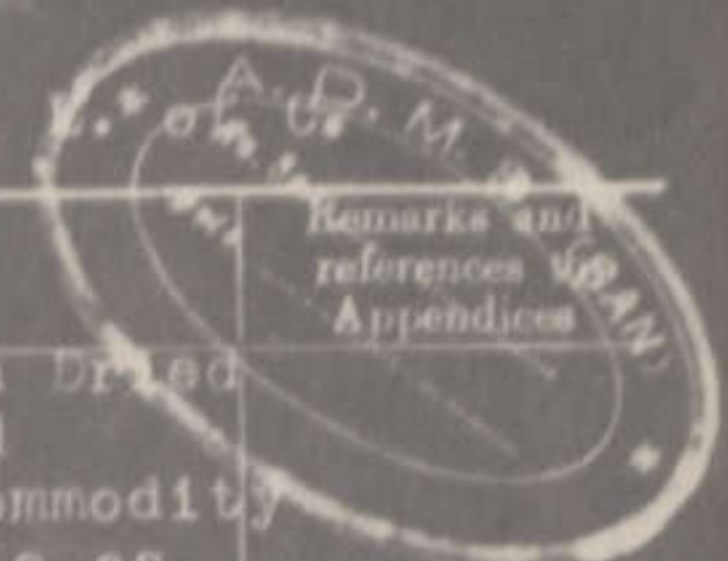
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q.,



Summary of Events and Information

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references Appendices
Abbeville.	21st March (cont'd)		<p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded a copy of an extract from a War Office letter in connection with Dried Fruits which it was intended to issue in equal proportions in substitution of Dried Vegetables as it had been definitely decided not to issue any more of the latter commodity after the stocks in hand had been used up. The D. of S desired to know if possible as regards the proportions of the supply of Dried Fruits should consist of raisins, currants, figs and dates. I replied that as the Dried Fruits were to replace Dried Vegetables I thought that, if possible, currants should not be issued for this purpose. Dates, figs and raisins were much to be preferred.</p> <p>The D.D.M.S, Rouen, asked me over the telephone to supply him with copies of War Office Memo. 24/Gen No:4910 (A.M.D.2) on the Diagnosis of Smallpox. These were forwarded.</p> <p>The D.M.S, notified me of a further case of Relapsing Fever which had occurred at Marseilles.</p> <p>No: 1 Sanitary Section having arrived in France from Italy, the D.M.S, asked for my opinion as to where this Section should be posted for duty. I replied that this Sanitary Section would be very useful in Rouen to assist in preventive measures against Smallpox, and I strongly recommended that it be sent there.</p>	
	22nd March.		<p>Received from D.G.M.S, a minute of the D. of S, who wished to know whether, in view of the fact that 1 oz. of Margarine was no longer included in the Chinese Ration, 4 ozs of Rice might be drawn in lieu of the 1 oz. of Cheese. I replied that 4 ozs of rice was rather more than was necessary to replace 1 oz. of Cheese, and as an amendment to S.S.571 Section 4 (b), recommended that 2½ ozs of rice might be issued in lieu of 1 oz cheese. I stated that this substitution should not be reversible, i.e., one ounce of cheese should never be issued in lieu of 2½ ozs of rice.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded statement showing consumption of food per 100 patients in Hospitals on L. of C, for Feb, 1918, for my remarks before circulation. I replied that in some hospitals the diet for Officers was in excess of what is needful. In some cases even when allowance is made for special requirements there appears to be an unduly large consumption of meat, although in general an improvements is noticed in this respect. Quantity of tea used varies greatly, one hospital showing the excessively large amount of 38 lbs per 100 officers. In hospitals for other ranks consumption of food appears to be within more reasonable limits, though it is thought that with good cooking palatable and nourishing food might be prepared without undue recourse to eggs. Instances were observed where the number of calories assigned to a diet do not represent the energy value of the diet.</p>	215

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q.,



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	23rd	March.	<p>The D.M.S, informed me that in accordance with his request to H.Q., L.of C, 2 Thresh Disinfectors had been loaded at Havre on 18-3-18 for despatch to Brest.</p> <p>The D.M.S. forwarded to me a copy of a letter he had forwarded to the Commandant, Portuguese Base, asking if he approved of the erection of a disinfector and large bath-house at Brest, as the Medical Authorities there considered these necessary, especially in view of the recent outbreak of Typhus at Lisbon</p> <p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded a minute of the Q.M.G for remarks with reference to wastage in the tobacco ration owing to the great majority of men smoking cigarettes only, and in order to reduce such waste it was suggested that the tobacco ration should be issued on the scale of 75% cigarettes and 25% pipe tobacco. I replied that there would be no hygienic objection to the issue of the tobacco ration on the above scale.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded for information a minute circulated to all Armies by the G.O.C., L. of C, stating that owing to an outbreak of smallpox, leave for Rouen should not be approved.</p> <p>I forwarded to the D.G.M.S, and A. in P, copies of a report received from the British Mission, Paris, on Public Health in Germany and Austria.</p> <p>With reference to a conversation I had with the D.M.S, today on the subject of smallpox, I stated that there was nothing contradictory in the instructions contained in my minute to him dated 17-3-18. In explanation I stated that when cases of smallpox occur it may not always be possible to secure suitable attendants who had been very recently vaccinated, and if a sufficiency of such attendants is not available persons may be selected from those who have been vaccinated within 5 years. Naturally, of course, the more recently they have been vaccinated the better. I also stated that my suggestions were based on instructions issued in a War Office Circular on Smallpox 24/Gen No/4910 (A.M.D.2) dated 27th May, 1918.</p> <p>Received from the D.M.S. weekly report of Medical Occurrences at Cherbourg Base, for the week ending 16-3-18.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded copies of wires in connection with L/Cpl. Luke, 38th Troops, R.E, who was smallpox contact. He left England to rejoin the B.E.F. on 19th inst.</p> <p>I forwarded my weekly Nephritis and Albuminuria Returns to Capt McLean, 46 Stationary Hos.</p>

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## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H. 4



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	23rd March (cont'd)		<p>The D.M.S, forwarded for my remarks, reports received from the D.D.M.S. Rouen and A.D.M.S. Calais and Abbeville on the subject of Ablution Rooms in connection with Venereal Disease. I replied that the matter did not lend itself readily to statistical inquiry, but what information of this nature had been obtained indicated that good results may be expected when adequate facilities exist and proper use is made of them.</p> <p>The A.D.M.S. Sanitation returned from the Conference at Paris.</p>
	24th March.		<p>The D.G.M.S, forwarded a minute of the Director of Ordnance Services, in connections with demands for wooden tent bottoms for the summer months. I replied that the proposed arrangements would appear to be satisfactory for the summer months, but, in certain areas notably at Calais, the level of the ground water is high and consequently the soil is damp at all times of the year. I therefore recommended the retention of wood tent bottoms in such situations.</p> <p>Received from the D.G.M.S, correspondence reference two kinds of edible fat, regarding which the D. of S, had enquired as to suitability of issue of either or both to Chinese Labourers in lieu of nut oil in the event of the latter not being available. I replied that these samples of edible fat appeared to be suitable for issue in lieu of nut oil for cooking purposes, when nut oil was not available, but that they were probably not of sufficiently high grade or bland enough for use on bread.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded a recommendation from the D.D.M.S, Trouville that Captain Cameron, R.A.M.C., T.C should be appointed Specialist Sanitary Officer for Trouville Area. I replied that Capt. Cameron was fully qualified for the post of a S.S.O, and I recommended his appointment as Specialist Sanitary Officer for Trouville Hospital Centre.</p> <p>The D.M.S, forwarded further correspondence and reports regarding cases of Rose Measles which had arrived in Front Area in drafts from Etaples Base Depots. I replied that in the circumstances it would be impossible for the D.D.M.S, Etaples to recognise that these men were infected. There are always a certain number of persons specially susceptible, and opportunities for infection exist universally, and it is difficult to prevent such persons taking the disease at some period of their military career.</p> <p>The A.D.M.S. Sanitation attended a meeting of the Advisory Board at G.H.Q.</p>

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WAR DIARY

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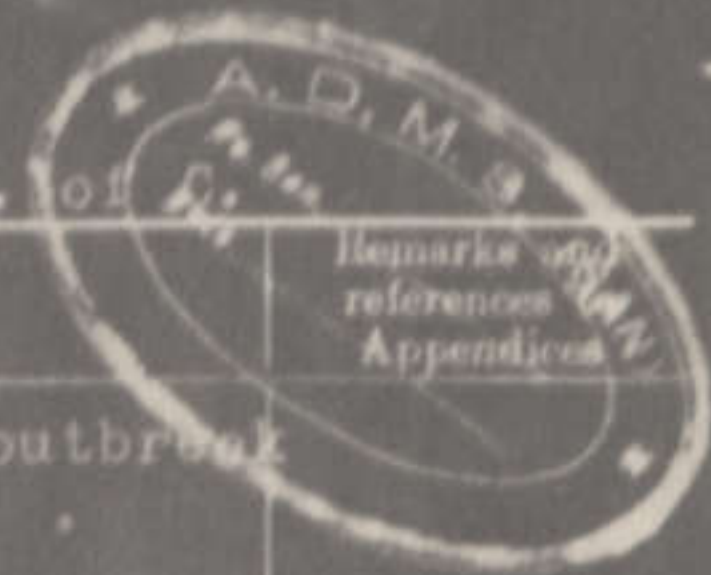
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A.D.M.S. Sanitation.

H.Q., L. of



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references Appendices
Abbeville.	25th	March.	The A.D.M.S., Sanitation proceeded to Rouen on inspection duty in connection with the outbreak of Smallpox at that Base.	
	26th	March.	<p>The D.C.M.S. forwarded correspondence for remarks with reference to Soda Tablets, the Director of Supplies having raised the question as to the necessity for such large stocks being kept at Bases. I replied that the occurrence of dysentery during the summer months of 1916 and 1917 had shown the necessity for the provision of an adequate supply of sodium bisulphate tablets for use in circumstances where recourse had to be made to water in shell holes and other unsatisfactory sources. I remarked that the present stocks of tablets should suffice to meet requirements during the coming summer, but should not be excessive if at all extensively used since two tablets are necessary to sterilise one water bottle, and I recommended that the stocks be retained at the Base in anticipation of demands. I also stated that these tablets do not deteriorate on keeping.</p> <p>The D.M.S. forwarded a report of the D.D.M.S, Rouen on two cases of smallpox which had occurred amongst British Troops in that Area. I replied that I had visited this area and the preventive measures already taken appeared to be satisfactory. Two more cases of smallpox were notified today among the Civil Population, the total Civil cases now amounting to 14, with 3 deaths. The French Authorities have vaccinated all the Tramway Employees and are offering facilities for general vaccination. 1500 Belgian Troops were also being re-vaccinated by the Belgian Military Authorities.</p> <p>I received from the D.M.S, First Army, papers on the Preventive Measures to be taken against Lice and Scabies and kindred skin diseases.</p> <p>The A. D.M.S. Sanitation returned from Rouen.</p>	
	27th	March.	<p>The D.M.S. forwarded a report by the S.S.O., Marseilles on the "Heath Robinson" improvised disinfectant. I replied that this improvised disinfectant would not appear to be reliable in unskilled hands, and therefore do not recommend it as suitable for general use, stating that appliances of this sort were never to be relied upon for disinfection as opposed to disinfection.</p> <p>Received from the D.M.S, further correspondence with reference to the outbreak of Diphtheria at No.7 Gen Hospital. Segregation had been carried out and all contacts examined and proved negative.</p>	

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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A. D. M. S., Sanitation.

H. C.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	27th March. (cont'd)		I forwarded to Prof. Nuttall a description of Captain Jacob's Hot Air Steriliser, also some orders issued by the D.M.S, First Army on the subject of prevention of Scabies and Lice infection.
	28th March.		Received from the D.G.M.S. a sample of "Layton Dried Eggs" for remarks as to suitability for issue. I replied that these eggs were suitable for replacing eggs for cooking purposes in hospitals and other places where eggs are used.  The D.G.M.S. forwarded correspondence on Granulated Potatoes, and also forwarded a sample for an opinion, as War Office were anxious to know whether these might be accepted for issue to Troops in lieu of ordinary potatoes during July and August. I replied that these granulated potatoes might be used as a substitute for fresh potatoes during the months of July and August when the latter were not available. I stated that they were more suitable for use in stews or in the composition of various dishes than when cooked alone. One ounce of granulated potatoes may replace four ounces of ordinary potatoes.
	29th March.		The D.M.S, forwarded a minute of the D. of Works, who proposed that in future a definite distinction be made in nomenclature of the apparatus for disinfecting clothing. The D. of W suggested that all apparatus for disinfecting by steam under pressure, such as Manlove & Alliot, Thresh's, etc, should be known as <u>Steam Disinfectors</u> ; likewise all apparatus open to the atmosphere and supplied with steam at atmospheric pressure, such as Steam Box Disinfectors and Steam Chambers should be known as <u>Steam Disinfestors</u> . I replied that I agreed with the D. of W, that a definite distinction should be made between Disinfection and Disinfestation for practical purposes. I suggested, however, that the term Disinfector should be reserved for all recognised manufactured or Trade sterilising appliances and should not be made to depend upon whether the steam is under pressure or at atmospheric pressure, as is the case for example in the Portable Thresh. The D. of W, proposed to issue a Circular on the subject and I suggested several amendments to the draft circular which I considered would better meet the case.  I forwarded to the D.G.M.S, monthly return of Infectious Diseases for January 1918.  Received from the D.M.S, a recommendation that Captain Dickenson, R.A.M.C, be appointed S.S.C. for Trouville Hospital Centre. I agreed with this appointment.

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WAR DIARY

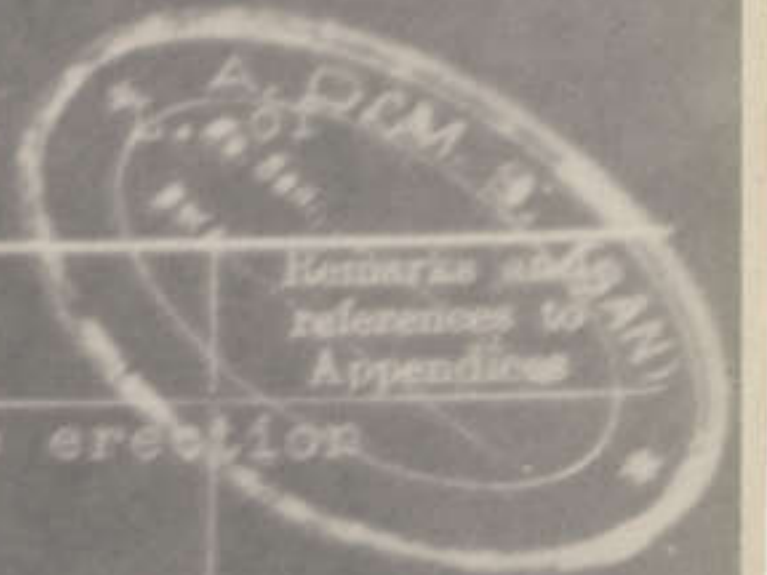
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	29th March.	(cont'd).	The D.M.S, forwarded for information, the approval of the Portuguese Authorities for the erection of a Disinfector and Bath House at the Portuguese Camp at Brest.
	30th March.		The D.M.S, forwarded the approval of the A.Q. M.G, H.Q., L. of C.Area for the issue of 3 cwts of coal per week for burning human excreta at MONTIERES.
			I forwarded my returns of Nephritis and Albuminuria for week ending 16-3-18 to Captain McLean, 46 Stationary Hospital.
			Received from the D.M.S, for information a circular reference Cholera which had been observed amongst enemy troops on the Italian Front.
			The A.D.M.S. Sanitation attended a meeting of the Medical Investigation Committee at St. Pol.
	31st March.		The D.G.M.S, forwarded plans of an improvised disinfector submitted by the Controller of Salvage. I replied that this was a modification of the Serbian Barrel and was probably quite an effective form of of small extemporised steam disinfector, but that, however, it possessed no advantage over other similar and even simpler types which would make it deserving of special recommendation. I also stated that the addition of "disinfectant" to water in the boiler was unnecessary.
			The D.G.M.S, forwarded for remarks a proposal for the reduction of the meat ration in Prison Scale for Chinese, the Controller of Labour having observed a considerable difference in the quantity of meat issued per week under Prison Scale and amended Chinese Ration Scale in favour of Chinese Prisoners over Chinese Labourers. In my reply I stated that this presumably related to Chinese undergoing Field Punishment and not to Chinese prisoners sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour. I stated that there would be no objection to the reduction of the meat ration in the Field Punishment Diet Scale, given in G.R.O. 3498, to 5 ozs. of Preserved Meat on 5 days a week if the rice issue were supplemented by 3 ozs. of rice or flour on each of the three days a week on which at present no rice is supplied.
			I forwarded a report to the D.G.M.S, on three cases of smallpox which had occurred amongst British Troops at Rouen, in addition to the two previously notified. One of these was an R.E, of the 366th Forestry Company and 2 were Italian Labourers, all of whom had been contacts in the same ward at 8 General Hospital with Pte. Ford, who was diagnosed Smallpox on 16th March, 1918.

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WAR DIARY

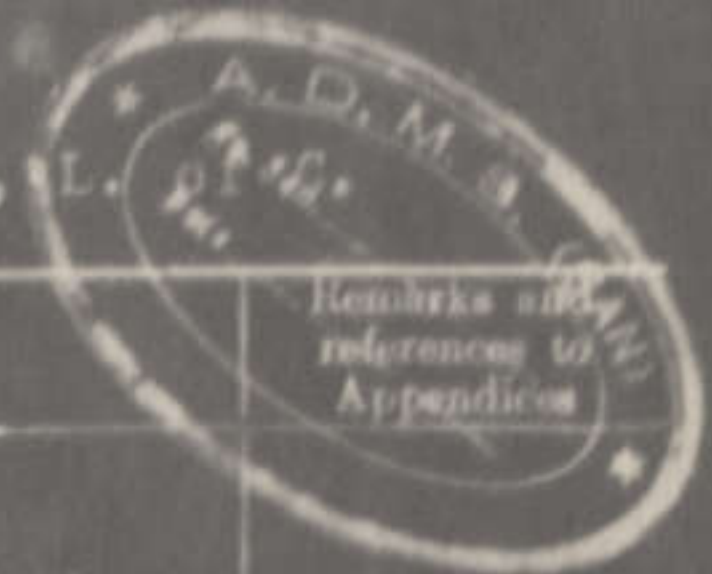
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

A.D.M.S. Sanitation. H.Q., L.



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Abbeville.	31st March. (cont'd).		<p>Received from the D.M.S, Notes on the diagnosis of early cases of Leprosy.</p> <p>H.Q., L. of G.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>W. W. O. Burridge</i> Colonel. A.D.M.S. (Sanitation).</p>

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