

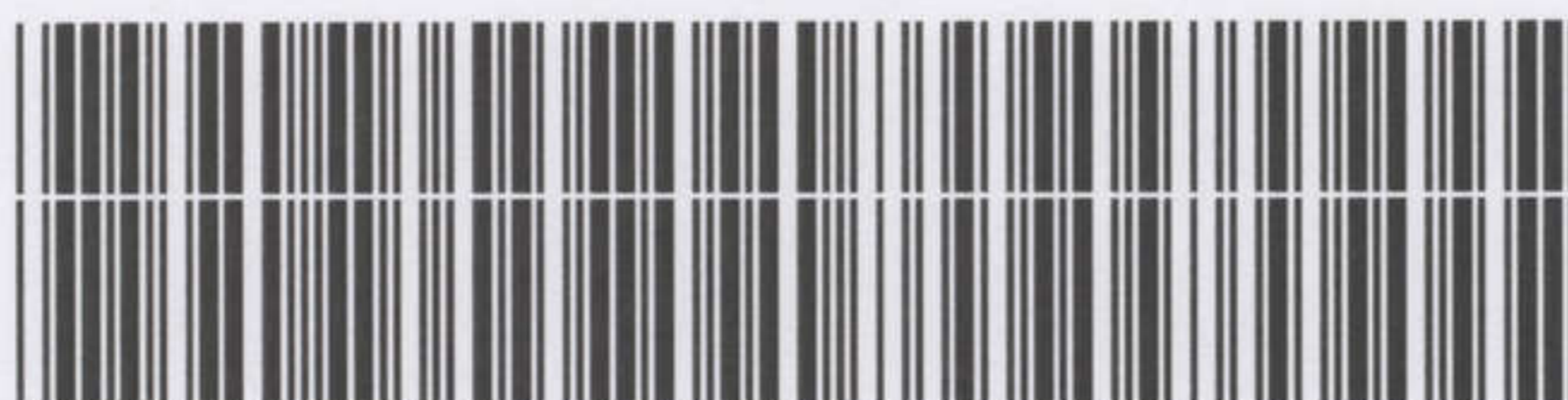
AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/12/12

Title: Deputy Director of Medical Services,
20th Corps

September 1917



AWM4-26/12/12

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.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
XIXth CORPS HEADQUARTERS. BELAH, EL FUKHARI.	1-9-17.		(1) <u>Inspected</u> Field Ambulances of 53rd Division, 1/2nd and 1/3rd Welsh Field Ambulances in detail. (2) <u>Inspected</u> part of new camping ground of 74th Division, S. of Railway and S.W. of C.C.S. site.	
	2-9-17.		(1) <u>Captain Bird</u> departed for duty with 1st Echelon G.H.Q. (A.D.M.S.) (2) <u>Inspected</u> 1/1 Welsh Field Ambulance in detail. (3) Took up with "Q" the necessity of allotment of 10 E.L.C. labourers for menial sanitary duties and incineration in new camp of XXth Corps Headquarters at FUKHARI. (4) Circulated instructions re use of <u>Eusol</u> instead of Hydrogen Peroxide. (5) Received summarized orders re <u>Classification Boards</u> from D.M.S., S.E.F. (6) Took up with "Q" the question of renewal of <u>A.S.C. native drivers</u> on expiry of term of contract when attached to Field Ambulances. (7) D.M.S. was notified of admission to Hospital ^{yesterday} of A.D.M.S. 53rd Division - <u>Col. Evatt</u> .	
	3-9-17.		(1) <u>Inspected</u> sanitation of all units of 158th Brigade, 53rd Division and found condition excellent. (2) <u>Office moved</u> to FUKHARI, with XXth Corps Headquarters.	
	4-9-17.		(1) Undertook a <u>reconnaissance</u> of roads for evacuation around area N.W. and W. of BIR ABU TAHIA and thence to SHELLAL. Made road reconnaissance E. of WADI GHUZES taking 3 Ford Ambulances. (a) Explored ABU SHAWISH road S. of FARA + SEERSEBA road and track thence leading part of way to TAHIA. (b) Explored ABU SHAWISH road crossing over WADI - possible for car but very bad going. (c) Explored routes leading E. and N.E. from SHELLAL. Report to D.M.S. and D.A. & Q.M.G., XXth Corps. (2) <u>Sand-fly fever</u> . Sanction was obtained for supply to Immobile Section of 74th Divisional Field Ambulances at BELAH of S.E.P.I.R. tents to accommodate larger number of cases. This Division's troops (1 Brigade) moved from Cliff area N.E. of BELAH to area S.E. of Railway line. Phoned A.D.M.S. 1st Echelon suggesting retention of cases in one of C.C.Ss at RAFA to avoid losing cases down L. of C. (illness over in 7 days). Called for a daily return of number of cases of Sand-fly fever by A.D.M.S. (3) <u>Col. Evatt</u> replied to wire from D.M.S. that he has amoebic dysentery and would probably be in Hospital for 3 weeks.	Duo

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
XXth CORPS HEADQUARTERS, EL FUKHARI.	4-9-17.		(4) <u>Sweepers</u> applied for urgently to "Q" for 74th Div. Amm. Col. Indians' sweepers.	
	5-9-17.		(1) <u>Y.M.C.A.</u> (Mr. Owens) representative called and offered to establish kitchens at C.C.Ss during battle. He was referred to A.D.M.S. 1st Echelon G.H.Q. (2) <u>Inspection reports</u> made to "Q" on Field Ambulances of 53rd Division and on sanitation of units of 158th Brigade. (3) <u>Reconnaissance reports</u> submitted, re roads for evacuation by Motor Ambulances.	
	6-9-17.		(1) Return showed that 53rd and 74th Divisions are practically complete to scale. A return from 60th Division was called for of <u>Portable Sanitary Equipment</u> . (2) <u>Cholera</u> . Whole arrangements for control and sterilization of water supplies were carefully reviewed with regard to revision under altered conditions on passing out of Desert areas. Scheme put up to "Q" for dealing with water during an advance. (3) <u>Oil</u> . Representations made regarding shortage for anti-mosquito work.	
	7-9-17.		(1) <u>Field Ambulance Workshop Unit</u> was applied for for XXth Corps. (2) <u>Chemists</u> . Nominal roll called for from A.D.M.S. with view to use for testing water for chemical poisons and assisting Divisional Water officers. (3) <u>Evacuation</u> . Scheme drawn up for guidance of A.D.M.S. on general principles. To be discussed at the next conference of A.D.M.S. (4) <u>Inoculation</u> . Representation made to D.A. & Q.M.G. regarding low percentage of inoculation in 74th and 53rd Divisions in spite of action taken re low percentage in July 31 return.	
	8-9-17.		(1) <u>Equipment</u> . A.D.M.S. were instructed to certify that all Regimental units are furnished with medical equipment and <u>Improvised Well Sterilising Outfit</u> . The scale of latter was included and R.M.Os and Water Duty men are to be conversant with use.	
	9-9-17.		(1) <u>Bleaching Powder</u> . Special complaint put in to A.D.S.T. XXth Corps re fresh complaint just to hand of issue of bad bleaching powder in spite of recent promise by D.S.T. (2) <u>Indian Field Ambulance Lt. Col. Knox</u> (181 I.F.Amb.) called with reference to my application for provision to be made for accommodating Indian casualties on the RAFA - SHEBIL road.	
	10-9-17.		(1) <u>Water Duty men</u> - 50 from each of 53rd and 74th Divisions were ordered (by "Q") to report to O.C., 88 C.C.S. for temporary duty.	

A5834 Wt. W4973/M687 750,000 8/16 D. D. & L. Ltd. Forms/C.2118/13.

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
XXth CORPS HEADQUARTERS EL FUKHARI.	10-9-77.		<p>(2) Divisional Immobile Sections of 53rd Division were reported as amalgamated under Major Dunbar of 1/2nd Welsh Field Ambulance.</p> <p>(3) Skin Diseases Hospital of 53rd Division was reported as closed as from 7th inst.</p> <p>(4) Sand-fly fever. 278 cases reported in weekly report by A.D.M.S. 74th Division, 183 of which occurred in 231 Brigade which occupied an infected area instead of that recommended by D.D.M.S. XXth Corps. This Brigade moved out of this area after Divisional A.D.M.S.'s further representations, but the 3 Brigades of XXXXXX R.D.A. of the 74th Division are still kept in this area, on tactical grounds. To lessen wastage from this disease, by transfer down L. of C., as many cases as possible were treated in the Combined Immobile Sections of Field Ambulances of 74th Division and many of the convalescents will be sent to EL ARISH Rest Camp.</p>	
	11-9-17.		<p>(1) Corps Commander sanctioned circulation of letter summarizing the organization - as recently modified - for dealing with water supplies, drinking. Copies sent to D.M.S. (with covering letter); to G.O. Units and all R.M.Os in Corps.</p> <p>(2) 60th Division returns to Corps administration from to-night, but no Corps area has yet been definitely allotted to include area occupied by 60th Division troops.</p> <p>(3) Railway. All Railway lines, sidings and including environments of stations, etc., now come under direct control of L. of C. (including C.C.S. sidings, loading ramps, etc., etc.,)</p> <p>(4) Conference of Divisional A.D.M.S.</p> <p>(i) Water. Instructions given re the M.O, i/c Divisional R.E. acting as tester of water for poisons and having 4 trained chlorinators and apparatus under him, one of these men to be a chemist if possible.</p> <p>(ii) Outfitting of Field Medical Units. Instructions re Dressings, Bleaching Powder, Anti-Tetanus serum toxin, hypodermic syringes and needles, Red Cross comforts. A.S.C. supplies and reserves to be assured. Also blankets, stretchers, hot-bottles and Thomas's splints.</p> <p>(iii) Immobile residues to be known for telegraphic purposes as "Field Amb. immobile". Their use as combined units was indicated.</p> <p>(iv) Routes. Various routes discussed.</p>	D
	12-9-17.		<p>(1) Road reconnaissance. Reconnoitred various roads for evacuation from area S. and S.W. of ABUSHAR.</p> <p>(2) D.D.M.S. XXth Corps proceeded on 7 days leave, by night train, leaving D.A.D.M.S. to act in his absence.</p>	

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
XXth CORPS HEADQUARTERS EL FUKHARI.	13-9-17.		<p>(1) <u>Road reconnaissance report</u> on yesterday's work, completed and illustrated by map. Copies sent to D.A. & Q.M.G. and to A.D.M.S. 1st Echelon G.H.Q.</p> <p>(2) <u>Water</u> Draft for operation order re water sterilization was put up to "Q".</p>	
	14-9-17.		<p>(1) <u>Cacolets</u> File from A.D.O.S, re Turkish Cacolets, to say that they will not be issued unless specially sanctioned by G.H.Q. Telegraphed D.D.M.S. to get his instructions by telephone - which were to ask A.D.O.S. to take the matter to G.H.Q. as suggested. Therefore said "yes" to A.D.O.S.'s query if we wished him to take it up.</p> <p>(2) <u>Food</u>. Took up at "Q" Conference the need of keeping troops on full rations for as long as possible and fortifying them some extra food after having been on mobile scale for 4 or 5 days.</p> <p>(3) <u>Roads</u>. Took up at "Q" Conference the need for keeping tracks for Motor Ambulances only. This was promised and A.P.M. is to consider means for keeping convoys off these roads at night when most of damage is done.</p> <p>(4) <u>Captain R.G. Riches</u> reported for duty with 230th Field Ambulance in place of Major Treves.</p> <p>(5) <u>Water sterilization</u>. Showed 6 tins to A.D.S.T. so corroded that the sides crushed in under the slightest pressure. These tins had been supplied for water sterilization of XXth Corps Headquarters on indent. He 'phoned to O.C., Supply Depot to take immediate action to stop any more such issues.</p> <p>(6) <u>Bleaching Powder</u> 60th Division wired none available for water sterilization. A.D.S.T. ascertained by urgent 'phone that 3 drums "Chloride of Lime" had been issued to 60th Supplies to-day. Informed A.D.M.S. 60th Division of this and asked for telegraphic information of position tomorrow morning. Ascertained that KANTARA now holds 1690 lbs in good drums.</p>	
	15-9-17.		<p>(1) <u>Bleaching Powder</u> 60th Division wired "120 lbs Chloride of Lime now issued in bulk" Circular sent to A.D.S. that, pending arrival of supplies, Chloride of Lime is only to be used for water sterilization and noting identity of "Chloride of Lime" and Bleaching Powder.</p> <p>(2) <u>Field Ambulance Workshop Unit</u> No. 29 detailed to XXth Corps.</p> <p>(3) <u>Motor Roads</u>. Saw S.E. XXth Corps re R.E. survey at next reconnaissance of main evacuation roads to determine the work required by R.E. personnel possibly in advance.</p> <p>(4) <u>Motor Ambulance Convoy</u> A.D.S.T. stated that he had vigorously protested against the order to move Lieut. Constable, J.T. Coy. from charge of XXth Corps Convoy, on the grounds that</p>	D113

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
XXth CORPS HEADQUARTERS EL FUKHARI.	15-9-17.		<p>that he alone knew the roads for evacuation, having been on all three reconnaissances.</p> <p>(5) <u>Food.</u> A.D.S.T. has consulted D.S.T. re note on 14th. The H.A.S. view is that D.M.S. has approved of mobile mobile ration scale; that the only permissible modification would be a general daily one fully arranged for in advance; that every effort will be made to continue the full ration as long as possible (to Z-1) and resume it as soon as possible. If, however, reserves permit and mobile scale continues, an extra issue of 1/3 tin Macconachie, 4oz. biscuit and 2oz jam might possibly be arranged for with the existing transport. The idea of placing certain Troops on mobile scale ration for some days before Zero day has been abandoned on my suggestion.</p>	
	16-9-17		<p>(1) <u>Camel Cacolet Saddles.</u> Instructions were issued that these saddles when not in use must be laid on their sides (and not apex upwards) and that all padding displaced in pads must be restored to the proper shape.</p>	
	17-9-17		<p>(1) <u>M.Os reporting.</u> Captain O'Flynn and Captain J.A.C.Kidd reported for duty.</p> <p>(2) <u>29th Field Ambulance Workshop Unit.</u> Notified as due to arrive today and site selected in rear of 39 M. Workshop of XXth Corps A.O.D. at WELI SHEIKH NURAN.</p> <p>(3) <u>Climate.</u> Slight shower (trivial) during night 16/17 Sept. Heavy N. wind all day.</p>	
	18-9-17		<p>(1) <u>Corps Troops.</u> Further arrangements made for maintaining scrutiny of Sick Rates and supervision of Sanitation in odd and scattered units.</p> <p>(2) <u>Climate.</u> Slight shower at GAMLI last night. Hard N. wind all day.</p>	
	19-9-17		<p>(1) <u>Indian Casualties.</u> A.D.M.S. 1st Echelon G.H.Q., was asked to issue instructions for daily casualty telegram re XXth Corps Indian casualties to be sent to this Office.</p> <p>(2) <u>Five Galion Fanatis.</u> Two asked for for each Motor ambulance car.</p> <p>(3) <u>ambulance Sandcarts.</u> Opinions asked for re satisfactoriness of bracket for securing water tank. A.D.M.S. 53rd Division was asked ('phone) to take strong action to have all water tanks put into good repair.</p> <p>(4) <u>Bisulphate Tablets.</u> Further action taken to ensure supply to Corps Troops units.</p>	

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
XXth CORPS HEADQUARTERS EL FUHHARI.	20-9-17		(1) <u>D.D.M.S.</u> returned from leave. (2) <u>Inspected new ramps</u> for loading Hospital Train. (3) <u>Diphtheria and Septic Sores.</u> Captain Craig's report considered; summarized for circulation to M.O.s and forwarded to D.M.S. with copy of our summary.	
	21-9-17		(1) <u>Deficiencies in medical Equipment.</u> On considering a mass of forms re deficiencies, a Board of Enquiry was asked for on some, and further explanation from M.Os now serving elsewhere, were asked for from D.M.S. (2) <u>C.C.S. reserves for replenishing Field Ambulances.</u> The D.M.S. was asked to arrange for stretchers, blankets and Thomas' leg splints to be returned in exchange for those sent in by Field Ambulances with patients. (3) <u>Petrol for Motor Ambulances.</u> A.D.S.T. was requested to establish an adequate reserve at EL AMARA for the Motor Ambulance Convoy. (4) <u>Sanitary Equipment for newly arrived units.</u> Action taken to get these units provided rapidly and to ensure that further units arrive fully equipped (per "Q") (5) <u>Shortage of M.Os</u> The total deficiency in XXth Corps was represented to D.M.S.	
	22-9-17		(1) <u>Motor Ambulances.</u> Arranged for each car to carry 5 gallon fanatis and 25 yards of wire netting. (2) <u>Rum Ration,</u> asked for, after an engagement. (3) <u>D.D.M.S.</u> had a consultation with A.D.M.S. 1st Echelon G.H.Q. regarding evacuation arrangement. (a) Location of units at IMARA. (b) Distribution of casualties at IMARA. (c) Responsibility for C.C.Ss at IMARA. (d) Ramps for loading hospital Trains, number required. (e) Reserves of stretchers, splints and blankets. (f) Advance Depot Medical Stores - replenishing of. (g) Relation between evacuation of XXth and Desert Corps. (4) <u>Operations.</u> A summary was made of necessary measures of preparation. (5) <u>Insect borne infections.</u> Major Austen lectured to M.Os and other officers of the 53rd Division on methods of reducing these infections.	D125
	23-9-17		(1) <u>Operations.</u> Calculations were made, and a draft prepared, for a new and full appreciation. (2) <u>Alleged Food Poisoning.</u> Enquiry was ordered by A.D.M.S. 53rd Division re tinned lobster.	
	24-9-17		(1) <u>Road Reconnaissance</u> was made for Motor Ambulance routes in the Southern extremity of the	

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
XXth CORPS HEADQUARTERS EL FUHARI.	24-9-17		<p>principal area.</p> <p>(2) <u>Inspection</u> was made of Main Dressing Station of 2/5th London Field Ambulance and of 29th Motor Ambulance Workshop and Repair Unit.</p> <p>(3) <u>Cacolets</u>. Showed I.E.O.S., G.H.Q., the defects in existing patterns and more especially in the stretcher caolet.</p> <p>(4) <u>Operations</u>. Received confidential instructions from D.M.S. (D.A.G's (D.M.S's.</p>	
	25-9-17		<p>(1) Conference of Divisinnal A.Ds M.S. - to discuss:-</p> <p>(a) <u>Operations</u>, discussion of outline scheme of medical arrangements.</p> <p>(b) <u>Kit</u>, discussion re clothing and bedding to be taken by Troops.</p> <p>(c) <u>Rum Issue</u>. Two or three rations to be taken for issue under orders of G.O.C. Divisions.</p> <p>(2) <u>Operations</u>. Scheme being worked out in detail re Phase 1 and typed. Difficulty arose owing to lack of a typewriter in D.D.M.S's office.</p>	
	26-9-17		<p>(1) <u>Operations</u>. Scheme for Phase 1 was passed to, and approved by, D.A. & Q.M.G. Scheme for Phase 2 was proceeded with, on certain further information having been received verbally. Copy of Phase 1 scheme sent to D.M.S.</p> <p>(2) <u>M.O.</u> Lieut. Marron reported for duty and was posted to 60th Divisinn.</p> <p>(3) <u>Mule litters for wounded</u>. A request by G.O.C. 60th Division for mule litters for transport in difficult country. This was passed to "Q" and recommended for adoption - 8 mules to replace 2 Sandcarts. This is a more comfortable but a less economical means of conveyance of wounded.</p> <p>(4) <u>Tinned Lobster</u>. Report from 53rd Division re ptomaine poisoning from Daisy brand by Neville Canneries Ltd. Halifax. Two poisoning cases have occurred and several blown tins have been found. Six tins ordered to be sent to Laboratory at Alexandria for examination.</p> <p>(5) <u>Re-Classification Board</u>. All available papers sent to D.M.S. 1st Echelon re cases for Board at AL ARISH on October 1st.</p>	216

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.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HEADQUARTERS, XXth Corps, FUCHARI.	27-9-17.		(1) <u>Captain S.P. Moore</u> , 60th Division, was interviewed re renewal of his contract. (2) <u>Operations</u> . Appreciation for Phase 2 was completed and passed to D.A. & Q.M.G. (3) <u>Lieut. Cockcroft</u> reported for duty with 303 Bde. R.F.A. of 60th Division.	
	28-9-17.		(1) <u>Cacolets</u> . I.E.O.S., G.H.Q., has represented to D.O.S. that stretchers cacolets are of bad pattern, faulty material and unfit for use. This question was brought by me to the notice of D.M.S. personally during my recent visit to Cairo but no communication has yet reached me regarding action taken by him. Action has now been taken by me through XXth Corps Headquarters to get them replaced by Turkish pattern cacolets or by slung nets. (2) <u>Operations</u> . Scheme for Phase 2 was approved by XXth Corps Headquarters. Copies were despatched to D.M.S., and A.Ds M.S. 53rd, 60th and 74th Divisions. (3) <u>Re-classification Board</u> . The numbers sent for the Board at EL ARISH on October 1st are:- 107.	
	29-9-17.		(1) <u>Consultation with D.D.M.S. Desert Corps</u> regarding various matters re taking over of Desert Corps area on 1st inst proximo (especially anti-mosquito and sanitary work) and operations (especially roads and distribution bureau at IMARA).	
	30-9-17.		(1) <u>A Medical Board</u> under presidency of D.D.M.S. classified 30182 a/Sergt. Knight G.L., R.E., Corps Headquarters F.P.O., as in Class "A".	
			Highest Maximum Temperature during month 96° F. Lowest Minimum Temperature during month 53° F. Mean Temperature for the month 78° F.	div
			8.10.17 P. White DOTS XX Corp	