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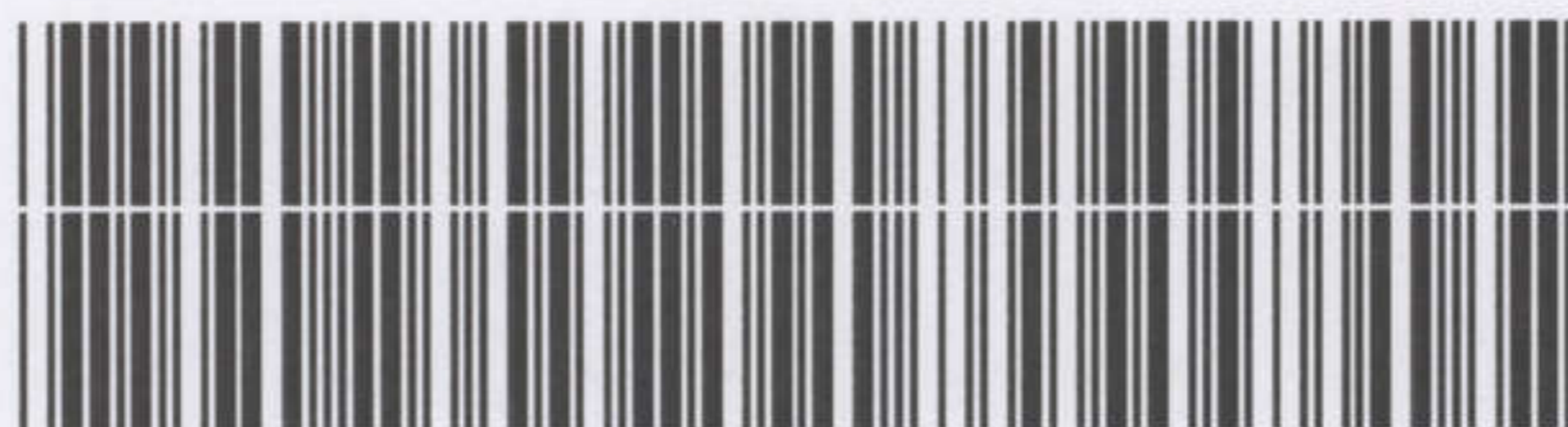
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/12/6

Title: Deputy Director of Medical Services,
20th Corps

March 1917 Eastern Force



AWM4-26/12/6

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
will be prepared in manuscript.

or
INTELLIGENCE-SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date 1917.	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
EL ARISH.	MCH 1st.		<p>O.C., No. 5 Advanced Depot Medical Stores states that he will be ready to issue on 3rd proximo. Instructed 24th Stationary Hospital to evacuate all cases fit to travel except infectious cases, in order to be able to admit approximately 400 cases from No. 2 Australian Stationary, 53rd and 54th C.C.S.. Instructions to 53rd C.C.S. to clear, and submit marching-out State. Report received from O.C., Pipe Line, suggesting improvements in method of addition of bleaching powder at No. 1 Plant filters at Kantara, and also suggesting cessation of chlorination of 12" main at Kantara, in order to avoid over-chlorination and unpleasant taste. C.E. approved. Instructions issued to O.C., Pipe Line to get into communication with A.D.W., Kantara, who will carry out the work.</p>	
	2nd		<p>D.M.S. wires re No. 7 Hospital Train, that he approved of ^{allotted} carriages for E.L.C. - letter to follow. I consider that this will seriously cripple means of evacuation of wounded to the Base. Wrote D.M.S. re water supply and necessity for the retention of a Sanitary Section for supervision of water, both filtration plants, reservoirs, and chlorination posts, for safety of health of troops.</p> <p>A.D.M.S. of 54th Division called, and A.D.M.S., Imperial Mounted Division reported arrival. O.C., No. 2 Australian Stationary called re move of his Unit. Asked that a hut might be provided for an operating theatre, and that arrangements for laundry work might be made locally, and in connection with his Hospital.</p> <p>D.D.M.S., later, visited proposed site and called on Administrative Commandant to ask for new site for No. 5 Advanced Depot Medical Stores.</p>	
	3rd		<p>D.M.S. sent copy of wire instructing O.C., 36 Stationary Hospital, Suez, to hold his Unit in readiness to move.</p> <p>Wire dispatched to O.C., 31 Sanitary Section to be ready to move to El Arish to join the Imperial Mounted Division, to which formation this Section has been allotted.</p> <p>D.D.M.S. decided not to move No. 5 Advanced Depot Medical Stores, as he considers that No. 2 Australian Stationary will have plenty of room to expand to 800 beds.</p> <p>O.C., 53rd C.C.S. states that the Unit will be ready to move on 9th inst.</p> <p>D.D.M.S., Desert Column, telephoned at 2115 to say that G.O.C., Desert Column was anxious to have a C.C.S. moved to Sheikh as soon as possible, at any rate within three days. Wired 53rd C.C.S. evacuation, and striking camp, must be expedited via wire earliest date tentage and equipment prepared to entrain via obtain assistance from Camp Commandant via expect ready Tuesday via No. 6 Train Sunday 4th reserved for your cases. Dispatched 2150.</p>	<p>076 11/11/17</p>

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1917		
3rd March (contd). EL ARISH.	<p>Also instructed D.C., 54th C.C.S. to meet train at El Arish and admit all patients on board to his Unit.</p> <p>D.D.M.S., Desert Column, reports that 21 Ford ambulances have arrived at El Arish.</p>	
4th March.	<p>Telephoned to O.C., 26 C.C.S., at Mazar, to say that evacuation by train from his Unit must be held up, except for urgent cases, for the next two days.</p> <p>O.C., 30 Sanitary Section reports that the bacteriological examinations shew a great improvement in the water supplied from the Mazar reservoir, and does not therefore think it necessary to take any further steps. The water from stand pipes at El Arish off the 12" main gives a good result before chlorination, B.Coli in 10 c.c. not in 5.</p> <p>Capt. Briercliffe visited wells at EL ARISH which are used for drinking purposes, accompanied by Capt. Pierce, Special Water Duty Officer, Details of supply and purification were explained to Capt. Briercliffe, who will take over the well water supply in addition to the pipe water.</p> <p>D.A.D.M.S., Egyptian Hospitals, called, re train arrangements for daily evacuation of sick, and provision of camels and cacolets of Prisoners of War Reception Station.</p>	
5th March.	<p>A.D.M.S., Imperial Mounted Division, called re modified establishment for Australian Light Horse Field Ambulance. Scale for above was worked out and forwarded to D.A. & Q.M.G..</p> <p>O.C., 26 C.C.S., called and received instructions re move of Unit. Recommendation to move from Mazar to El Arish submitted to G.S. - reasons, easier control of entraining and acceleration of service.</p> <p>Draft of Yeomanry reported to be Measles contacts, retained at Kantara. Details from same ship for 52nd 53rd and 54th Divisions also detained at Romani. D.A.D.M.S., Northern Section informed.</p>	
6th March.	<p>A.Q.M.G. informs that 53rd C.C.S. will not move till H.Q., Desert</p>	

D11

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EL ARISH	1917. 5th March	(ctd)	<p>Desert Column definitely say it is required. G.O.C., Desert Column, has been asked to say when this will be. Unit reported ready to entrain at 1200 to-day.</p> <p>D.M.S. approved increase in beds for E.L.C. Hospitals as follows :- Ismailia, 200. Kantara 300 El Arish 100.</p> <p>Reports on medical arrangements with Southern Section Mobile Column during operations on Nekkel submitted by D.A.D.M.S.</p> <p>Military Infectious Hospital at Port Said to be closed down. Instructions to O.C. as to disposal of Ordnance and Medical equipment, after disinfection. A.D.M.S., Egyptian Hospitals notified as he originally drew the equipment, also D.A.D.M.S., Northern Section. Notice to be given at once to Dr. Archerouni.</p> <p>Move of 94 Sanitary Section from Abd to El Arish recommended to meet request of Administrative Commandant.</p> <p>26 C.C.S. instructed to stand by, leaving accommodation for 200 patients. Other than infectious cases are to be evacuated.</p> <p>Scheme for laying out mamure roads submitted to D.A. & Q.M.G.</p> <p>Instructed O.C., 30 Sanitary Section to take over charge of wells at El Arish, in addition to Pipe line and filters. Ordered him to proceed to El Arish at once, as D.D.M.S., Desert Column and Capt. Pierce, M.O. 1/c water were leaving on 7th inst.</p> <p>On closing Military Infectious Hospital, Port Said, D.M.S. approved increase of beds at 24 Stationary to 520.</p> <p>Copy of recommendation for increase of Hospital accommodation at El Arish, and additional Hospital trains attached, owing to increased length of line and possibility of considerable casualties. The Hospital trains cannot now complete a return journey to Railhead and back to Kantara in one day, therefore, No. 4 will make repeated journeys from Railhead to El Arish with wounded, and No. 7 will run from El Arish to Kantara. Evacuation of light cases by ration trains will be utilized. Evacuation by sea thought to be too problematical, on account of weather, to be considered. One, if not two, additional Hospital trains therefore considered necessary, and a second Stationary Hospital capable of expansion to 800 beds recommended to be placed at El Arish. Further train accommodation for evacuation of E.L.C. sick also considered necessary.</p> <p>A state, showing numbers of sick evacuated daily for past week, both British and Native, submitted to D.M.S.</p>	D12

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EL ARISH	1917. 7th MCH		D.D.M.S., Desert Column, left El Arish for Sheikh Zowaid, Headquarters of the Column. O.C. 30 Sanitary Section ordered to report here as soon as possible	
	8th		C.E. states that transport of water by rail will cease from 11th inst. Water will be taken from 12" main by stand pipes into storage tanks at RaBa, Khirba, Salmana, Abu Tilul, Maadan, Bardawil, Abd, and Mazar, be chlorinated at Romani, and secondary chlorination at storage tanks when found necessary by testing. Move of 94 Sanitary Section from Abd to El Arish approved. Informed Administrative Commandant that this Unit is for L. of C, duty in accordance with his request for a permanent section at El Arish. Move of 26 C.C.S. to El Arish also approved.	
	9th		O.C., A.S.C., Port Said informs that the "Niagara" is being returned to Cairo and will be replaced by the "Indiana", now capable of doing a daily trip from Kantara to Port Said, carrying 150 patients.	
	10th		H.Q., 74th Division asked to carry on cholera inoculation. D.D.M.S. called on Administrative Commandant El Arish re site for 26 C.C.S. No site near the hospital siding can be allowed. Difficulties of transport arise if sites suggested are taken up. Visited No. 5 Advanced Depot Medical Stores. Decided to place Red Cross stores alongside Medical Stores. Accommodation required is one marquee, excluding personnel. Red Cross representative called on D.D.M.S.	
	11th		G.O.C., Desert Column asks for No. 4 Egyptian Hospital to be transferred to Sheikh Zowaid. The following moves were completed :- 31 Sanitary Section, Mazar to El Burj, No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital, Mohamdiya to El Arish.	
			Heavy rain, wind, and dust storms all day. Hospital train service interrupted. Capt. Robb, D.A.D.M.S., Egyptian Hospitals, called re move of No. 4 Egyptian Hospital forward, giving marching-out state. Application to move forwarded to A.Q.M.G., and approval obtained. S.M.O., 74th Division reported arrival. No A.D.M.S. or D.A.D.M.S. has yet been appointed. D.A.D.M.S. Northern Section called to explain medical arrangements available along his Section. He asks for additional M.O's and R.A.M.C. personnel at Abd and Mazar.	

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EL ARISH.	12th MCH.		<p>Stormy weather continues. Major Fowler, A.D.M.S. (San)., G.H.Q. arrived. Move of No. 4 Egyptian Hospital approved. Instructions issued. Two dental surgeons reported from Dental Annex and were posted to 53rd and 54th Divisions. Equipment drawn at Alexandria, and is to follow.</p>	
	13th		<p>O.C., Military Infectious Hospital, Port Said, reports that this institution was closed down on 10/3/17. Medical and Ordnance equipment were handed in, and a Board is convened for assessing damage to buildings. Capt. Barefoot, O.C., 94 Sanitary Section, reported the arrival of his Unit for duty at El Arish. D.D.M.S. visited No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital, 54th C.C.S., and No.5 Advanced Depot Medical Stores. Move of No. 4 Egyptian Hospital to Sheikh Zowaid completed.</p>	
	15th		<p>O.C., 26 C.C.S. ordered to detail 1 officer and 2 O.R. for duty at Mazar. Medical and Ordnance equipment for Reception Station to be indented for by D.A.D.M.S., Northern Canal Section. Similar personnel are to be provided by O.C., 54th C.C.S. for El Abd and equipment drawn. D.A.D.M.S., Egyptian Hospitals, called and sanitary arrangements for E.L.C. discussed. O.C., 121st Indian Field Ambulance called to discuss transport of his Unit. Suggested increase of sandcarts and mules. O.C., 94 Sanitary Section received orders as to his duties in El Arish. He will take over sanitary Supervision of the whole area on departure of 54th Sanitary Section with its Division. O.C., 30 Sanitary Section will continue to supervise wells in this district, and chlorination of well water. Colonel Hunter, President Epidemiological Bureau, arrived.</p>	D74
	16th		<p>Saw Administrative Commandant, El Arish re site for 26 C.C.S. O. C., 30 Sanitary Section ordered to give definite written instructions to men detailed for chlorination of wells Lieut-Col. Knox, I.M.S., appointed acting S.M.O., El Arish pending final instructions from D.M.S.</p>	ms

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EL ARISH	17/3/17.		<p>No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital opened 300 beds, and took over cases from 54th C.C.S., who are now packing preparatory to move. A railway ramp asked for, for hospital siding. Drew attention of Administrative Commandant to necessity for closing, or carefully guarding any drinking wells from which chlorination plant and pumps had been removed. Asked that shelters might be erected at hospital siding for Egyptian sick awaiting arrival of Hospital Train. Major Fowler, A.D.M.S.(San)., called to discuss camp site for Loyal North Lancs. Regiment, who are largely infected with Malaria of a malignant type.</p>	
	19/3/17.		<p>Lieut-Colonel Knox, I.M.S., definitely appointed S.M.O. Lieut-Colonel MacDonald, O.C. No.2 Australian Stationary Hospital, states that he has his hands full with administration of his Hospital without extra outside work. Administrative Commandant agreed to assist formation of laundry for No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital. Site for Red Cross Stores fixed. G.O.C., Northern Section, interviewed D.D.M.S. and offered help in evacuation of sick from Hospitals in the district.</p>	
	20/3/17.		<p>Report on camp selected for Loyal North Lancs Regiment called for by G.H.Q. Correspondence to D.A.D.M.S., Northern Section, for compliance. O.Cs. 229 and 231 Field Ambulances instructed as to scale of transport to be drawn - vide War Establishments, Part VII. Asked "Q" to move No. 26 C.C.S. as soon as possible. D.M.S. instructs that Egyptian Hospital, El Arish, be increased to 500 beds, and Kantara reduced to 150. No. 1 Australian Field Laboratory submitted Marching Out State. They will move on arrival of No. 26 C.C.S. with No. 8 Laboratory. C.E. submitted sample of water from old well near ammunition dump which he suggests using for soda water factory. Result "unfit for use". Discussed advisability of altering Hospital Train runnings, No. 6 to run from EL ARISH to RRFA, and No. 7 from EL ARISH to KANTARA daily. O.C. 94th Sanitary Section sent in adverse report on site occupied by Eastforce Headquarters. A.D.M.S.(San). G.H.Q., consulted. He agrees with A.D.M.S.(Sanitary), E.F., that site is much</p>	D.F.

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EL ARISH.	20/3/17.		<p>above the average, well sheltered, shady, and free from objection: Possibility of mosquito-breeding noticed, but can be prevented.</p> <p>O.C. No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital, requested to expedite completion of erection of his Hospital. Reports 360 beds ready, and another 300 to be up by this evening.</p> <p>Office closes at 2000 and opens at the same hour at Rafa.</p>	
RAFA.	23/3/17.		<p>D.D.M.S., Desert Column, called and discussed medical appreciation for expected operations.</p> <p>A.D.M.S., 52nd Division, and S.M.S., I.C.C. Brigade, called later and were given instructions as to points selected for dressing stations and line of evacuation.</p> <p>D.D.M.S., D.C., reported that he had been unable to obtain trucks for the removal of the 53rd C.C.S. and one Section of 121st Indian Field Ambulance. Marching Out States for these units were submitted to A.Q.M.G., E.F. who obtained trucks and timings for moves.</p> <p>All medical units will be grouped on the north of the siding west of the station at RAFA.</p> <p>D.D.M.S., D.C., asked for additional 20 motors. He has now 21 at his disposal, 6 being allotted to 53rd Division and 3 to each Mounted Division, the remainder to act as an Ambulance Convoy.</p> <p>O.C. 54th C.C.S. reported by wire that his baggage was loaded and would leave on the 1355 train from EL ARISH.</p> <p>Wire sent to A.D.M.S., 54th Division, to report H.Q., E.F., for instructions.</p> <p>Wrote D.M.S. pointing out shortage of personnel of No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital, and asked for 48 O.R. to complete establishment.</p> <p>Wired D.A.D.M.S., Northern Section, for statement of medical officers and personnel available for duty at ROMANI, with reference to a query by D.M.S. Reply wired that there were 4 M.Os., 4 O.R., R.A.M.C., and 1 Sanitary Section Detachment.</p> <p><u>Moves.</u> 53rd Division to KHAN YUNUS on 24th. 54th Division to KHAN YUNUS on 25th. Occupying BENI SELA - MAAIN area.</p> <p>Asked D.D.R.T. to re-arrange running of Hospital Trains, No. 6 daily from EL ARISH to RAFA and return, No. 7 daily from KANTARA to EL ARISH and return.</p> <p>A.Q.M.G. informs me that trucks for 53rd C.C.S. will be at SHEIKH ZOWAID at 0600 25th, and despatched on completion of loading to RAFA.</p> <p>Wired A.D.M.S., Egyptian Hospitals, that personnel for Prisoners of War Hospital is required at Rafa.</p>	

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RAFA.	24/3/17.		<p>D.D.M.S., D.C., discussed further arrangements and informed me that a dressing station would be formed at the road crossing the Wadi El Guzze by the 53rd Division Field Ambulances, one Tent Subdivision being opened and rest held in reserve, an advanced dressing station being situated at a point to be selected. Cases would be evacuated along the Gaza-Rafa road to KHAN YUNUS to 54th C.C.S., and thence by sandcart to RAFA where 53rd C.C.S. will be opened</p> <p>Eastforce Order No. 33, dated 24th:-</p> <p>MEDICAL. A C.C.S. will be established at KHAN YUNUS to which patients will be evacuated from the front. The C.C.S. will be laid out on the 25th, ready to be set up, but no tents will be pitched on that day. G.O.C., 52nd Division, will arrange to pitch the tents on the morning of the 26th.</p> <p>The 54th Division will form a Dressing Station if required near IN SEIRAT on the GAZA-RAFA road, as near as possible to DEIR-EL-BELAH.</p> <p>The 52nd Division will form a Dressing Station if necessary at KHAN YUNUS.</p> <p>Evacuation will take place from the Dressing Stations to the C.C.S. at KHAN YUNUS by motor ambulance convoy.</p> <p>D.D.M.S., D.C., has at his disposal 21 Ford Ambulances for use as an ambulance convoy. In the event of motor ambulances not being available for evacuation purposes the A.Ds.M.S. 54th and 52nd Divisions will use their own transport. Ends.</p> <p>54th C.C.S. and P. of W. Hospital arrived Rafa about 1530. Following instructions issued to 54th C.C.S. at 2100:-</p> <p>Your unit will move by road to KHAN YUNUS. Camel transport will be available at 0700 25th, and the unit will proceed on completion of loading (hour stated verbally as 0900). Four days' rations should be taken. The Dental Annexe will remain at RAFA and be attached temporarily to 53rd C.C.S., on the arrival of the latter unit on the 25th. On arrival at KHAN YUNUS the camp will be marked out at allotted site and tents laid out but not pitched until receiving orders, probably on morning of 26th. Fatigue party should be obtained to assist from 52nd Division. Medical Comforts sufficient to last a week will be drawn. Two G.S. wagons of 53rd Divisional Train will be placed at your disposal. You will detail a N.C.O. to fetch these and draw rations and comforts. Ends.</p> <p>A.D.S.T. wires 53rd Divisional Train as follows :- 2 G.S. wagons and teams will be attached to 54th C.C.S.aaa A N.C.O. will be sent to take these from your lines at 0700 25/3/17aaa 4 days mobile rations should be taken for theseaaa 12 G.S. wagons with teams are required to take tents of 54th C.C.S. to KHAN YUNUS to be at RAFA station at 0800 25/3/17.aaa These 12 vehicles are to return to your lines by tomorrow evening aaa Acknowledge. Addressed 53rd Divisional Train. Re-peated D.D.M.S., E.F.</p>	D1

T2134. Wt. W708-776. 500000. 4/15. Sir J. C. & S.

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RAFA.	24/3/17.		<p>O.C., C.T.C., reports that a camel convoy of 500 camels will be at the camp at 0700. Wired O.C. 31 General Hospital, 24th Stationary Hospital, and No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital to evacuate all possible general cases.</p> <p>O.C. No. 2 Australian Stationary wires:- Accommodation for 600 now ready and Guarantee 800 Monday next and will evacuate as instructed presuming sufficient room arranged for on Hospital Train.</p> <p>A.D.M.S., Egyptian Hospitals, wires:- Personnel for P. of W. Hospital will be at RAFA within 24 hours.</p> <p>Captain Whitelocke proceeded with A.D.M.S. (San.), D.C., to KHAN YUNUS to select a site for 54th C.C.S. Reported suitable site allotted on railway siding east of line and opposite supply and water dumps.</p> <p>A suitable site for Tent Subdivisions, 54th Division, also selected south of C.C.S.</p> <p>D.D.M.S. called on O.C. 54th C.C.S. and gave verbal instructions.</p> <p>A.D.M.S., 54th Division, reported arrival and received instructions.</p> <p>Consulting Surgeon arrived for duty.</p> <p>54th Division will be ready to move at 0530 on the 26th to position in neighbourhood of SHEIKH ABAS (less one Brigade group). The Brigade group, 54th Division, will be at IN SEIRAT - consists of 1 Infantry Brigade, 1 Field Artillery Brigade, and 1 Field Ambulance.</p>	
	25/3/17.		<p>500 camels for transport of 54th C.C.S. to KHAN YUNUS from RAFA arrived at 0755. No G.S. wagons available. Loading completed at 0930 and convoys proceeded. 2 G.S. wagons allotted to the unit will proceed tomorrow morning, taking any stores which could not be loaded on camels.</p> <p>Informed D.D.M.S., D.C., that medical comforts for his Ambulances must be drawn from KHAN YUNUS Supply Depot by returning Ambulances.</p> <p>17 G.S. wagons placed at disposal of D.D.M.S. on 26th for moving of medical unit forward if required.</p> <p>Decided to move a portion of a Lowland F.A. forward to DEIR-EL-BELAH to accommodate 200 sick.</p> <p>Asked D.A. & Q.M.G. when horse transport for Immobile Sections of Field Ambulances might be expected. Question has been referred to G.H.Q. and is under consideration.</p> <p>A.D.M.S., 52nd Division, reported on route from Sheikh Zowaid to Khan Yunus. Stated that he could form a modified C.C.S. from a section of his Ambulances without interfering with their efficiency for field work.</p>	D.M.

FORM. W. 1708 - 116. 500000. 4/15. 54 J. C. & R.

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25/3/17. H.Q., E.F., RAFA.	Continued.		<p>Tentage available 8 E.P. and 20 Bell tents. Ground Sheets, blankets, ordnance and medical equipment. 2 Officers and 24 Other Ranks could be spared.</p> <p>32 Motor Ambulances arrived at Kantara for Eastforce.</p> <p>Captain Rosewarne, O.C. No. 1 Field Laboratory, reported arrival of unit.</p> <p>O.C. 121st Indian Field Ambulance (1 Section) reported arrival of Section. Sites allotted.</p> <p>53rd C.C.S. arrived at 1840. Ordered to erect tents at once.</p> <p>D.M.S. informs me that a Hospital Ship will be available for evacuation. Port of evacuation to be notified. Wired accordingly to D.D.M.S., Desert Column.</p>	
	26/3/17.		<p>Despatched 17 G.S. wagons to KHAN YUNUS to convey tents and equipment for extemporary C.C.S. from KHAN YUNUS to DEIR-EL-BELAH. Wagons took a supply of medical comforts to supply dump, Khan Yunus. Asked A.D.S.T. to land medical comforts at or near GAZA.</p> <p>A.D.M.S., 52nd Division, informed of despatch of wagons and ordered to forward to D.D.M.S.; D.C., with 2 M.Os. and 24 O.R. Equipment sent, 8 E.P. tents, 20 Bell tents, Ground sheets 200, Blankets 400, Panniers, A 8, G 6, E 4., Dickhsies 24, Nest of stools 8 commodes.</p> <p>After despatch of wagons, A.D.M.S., 52nd Division, wires equipment still at Rafa. Can it be sent on by camels? Equipment therefore conveyed by camel convey to KHAN YUNUS.</p> <p>39 wounded arrived 54th C.C.S. on evening of 26th.</p> <p>Unit ready to receive. This number was passed on to 53rd C.C.S. by construction train.</p> <p>EVACUATIONS - By Construction Train from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 39.</p>	
	27/3/17.		<p>No. 6 Train to proceed to Khan Yunus from Rafa on departure of No. 7 for Kantara.</p> <p>Wired D.D.M.S. to state where C.C.S. Section was required.</p> <p>Unable to communicate with A.D.M.S., 52nd Division.</p> <p>Later received wire stating that equipment for C.C.S. Section was still at Rafa and asking for it to be forwarded by camel convoy. This was done (44 camels).</p> <p>54th C.C.S. wires for specialist surgeons and 20 Other Ranks reinforcements.</p> <p>A.D.M.S. proceeded to KHAN YUNUS. Saw O.C. 54th C.C.S. Wired A.D.M.S., 52nd Division, re. convoy. Saw O.C. 2nd Lowland F.A. re. convoy. Stated he had had no instructions from his A.D.M.S. to supply. Spoke to B.G. Brigade and obtained permission to send 16 sandcarts and 50 pairs sitting caacolets to Rafa. These left 1800.</p> <p>Told O.C. Ambulance to send all available help, Officers and Men to 54th C.C.S., including R.M.Os. Fatigue from 23rd Pioneers obtained for carrying stretchers. Telephone to be put up at once at 54th C.C.S. Informed A.D.M.S., D.C., verbally, that tents, comforts, blankets, and dressings were being sent up tomorrow morning, also 2 M.Os. and 24 men to DEIR-EL-BELAH.</p>	<p>DM</p> <p>728</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.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RAFA.	27/3/17.		EVACUATIONS. By Construction Train from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 161. By No. 7 Train, ...from.Rafa to.Kantara, 97. By Ambulance Convoy (1/2nd Lowland F.A.), 148. Khan Yunus to Rafa.	
	28/3/17.		53rd C.C.S. at Rafa rapidly putting up tents. M.Os. and Immobile Sections of F.As. instructed to assist. Also Sanitary Sections as bearers. EVACUATIONS. By Ambulance Convoy (1/2nd Lowland F.A.) from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 150. By G.S. wagons from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 160. By Limber Wagons from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 46. By Construction Train, from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 119. By Bruchet Train from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 300. By No. 6 Train from Khan Yunus to El Arish, 168.	
	29/3/17.		EVACUATIONS. By No. 7 Train from Khan Yunus to Kantara, 300. By Bruchet Train from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 256. By Bruchet Train from Rafa to El Arish, 203. By No. 6 Train from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 183. By No. 6 Train from Khan Yunus to El Arish, 144. By Supply Train from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 44.	
	30/3/17.		1091 cases at 53rd C.C.S. at 1000. Told D.A.D.M.S., Northern Canal Section, to get all possible tents pitched for 26th C.C.S., El Arish, and obtain assistants of M.Os. and personnel from Sections of Ambulances, and R.M.Os. Also to arrange for food at ABD for light cases on returning empty ration trains from El Arish to Kantara, and to send off as many as possible and warn O.C. No. 24 Stationary Hospital. Instructed all Hospitals and C.C.Ss. to wire twice daily numbers remaining in hospital at 1200 and 2400. Headquarters moved to DEIR-EL-BELAH. Instructed R.T.O., Rafa, to bring No. 7 Train to KHAN YUNUS, to return to KANTARA and thence to EL ARISH. No. 6 Train to EL ARISH and return to KANTARA. D.A.D.M.S., N.C.S., telephoned that he can take 400 cases at EL ARISH tomorrow morning. He has arranged evacuation by empty ration trains according to instructions. Also states that rail to MAHAMDIYA will be open to traffic on Sunday. No. 7 Train arrived at KHAN YUNUS and loaded, but was unable to leave owing to derailment of	Drs

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RAFA.	30/3/17.		<p>engine between Khan Yunus and Rafa. Informed O.C. 53rd C.C.S. and asked him to inform D.A.D.M.S. Egyptian Hospitals, who is to put on 50 sick at KANTARA.^{RAFA}</p> <p>D.D.M.S. instructs that 121st Indian Field Ambulance is to move unit on emergency train to Khan Yunus from RAFA. (1 section)</p> <p>D.D.M.S. visited Dressing Station and combined Ambulances on Rafa-Gaza Road.</p> <p>EVACUATIONS. By Bruchet Train (2 journeys) from Khan Yunus to Rafa, 521. By No. 6 Train from Khan Yunus to Kantara, ... 144. By Construction Train from Khan Yunus to Rafa, ... 191.</p>	
	31/3/17.		<p>No. 7 Train arrived Rafa 0945.</p> <p>O.C. 229th Field Ambulance reported with 7 Officers, 143 R.A.M.C., and 40 A.S.C., complete transport less motors and 7 mules.</p> <p>Rang up S.M.O., Kantara, re. evacuation. Told him to put up all tents of 231st F.A. and use for light cases up to 500. Stores of mugs, comforts, etc., to be obtained. More tents should be indented for if required.</p> <p>229th Field Ambulance opened at KHAN YUNUS.</p> <p>D.D.M.S. asked D.M.S. for additional Hospital Train from Egypt.</p> <p>Captain Drinkwater and 6 O.R., 3rd Welsh F.A., reported at Khan Yunus and were ordered to proceed by motor ambulance to rejoin their unit.</p> <p>74th Divisional Motor Ambulance Convoy arrived at Khan Yunus. Reported by wire to D.D.M.S.</p> <p>D.D.M.S. visited beach with D.D.M.S., D.C., and consulted with S.K.O. re. embarkation of wounded.</p> <p>EVACUATIONS. By No. 7 Train from Khan Yunus and Rafa to Kantara, 350. By Bruchet Train (2 journeys) from Rafa to El Arish, 521. By Supply Train from El Arish to Kantara, ... 473. By No. 6 Train from El Arish to Kantara, ... 235.</p>	D4