

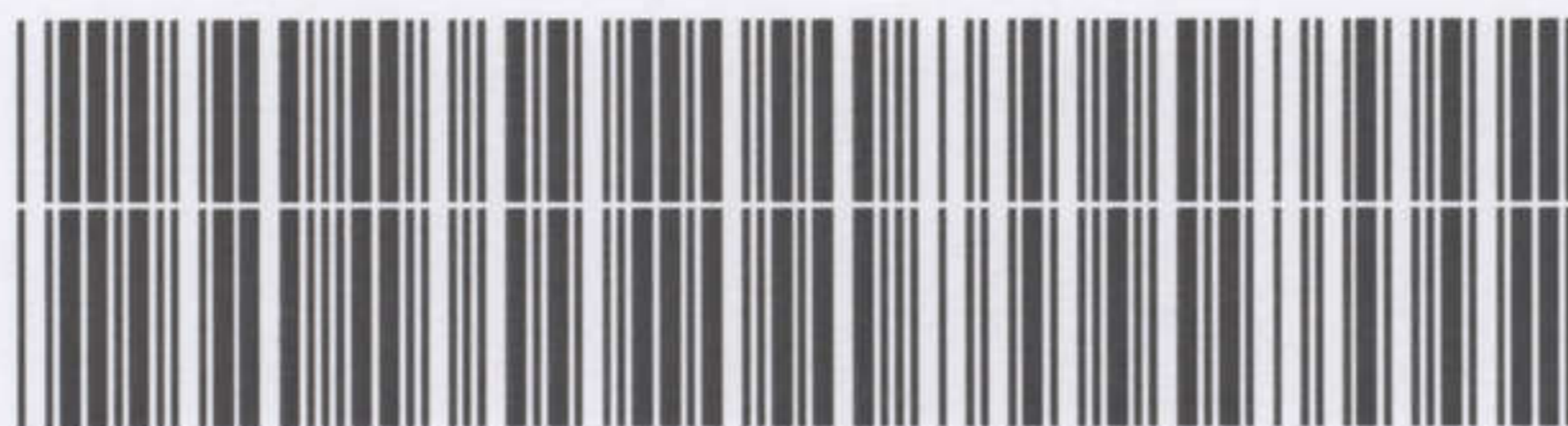
AWM4
**Australian Imperial Force unit war diaries,
1914-18 War**

Medical, Dental & Nursing

Item number: 26/14/1

Title: Deputy Director of Medical Services,
ANZAC Corps

September 1915



AWM4-26/14/1

ORIGINAL.

D.D.M.S.

ANZAC CORPS.

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 1915.

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.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

ADMS ANZAC Army Corp

Army Form C. 2118

Shm No I

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Anzac	11 ⁹ / ₁₅		Sent the ADMSME & HQ of Anzac for summary permission to act as DDMS ANZAC Proc 310. Attached Com-Dampier RAME attached to HQ 13 th CCST. Proposed to send report to DDMS 9 th AC Distribution to DC's CCST to report return of six wounded evacuated by 24 hours	
"	12 ⁹ / ₁₅		Proc 305. Inspected area with HQ Williams RE for placing sick wounded under cover. Instructed CCST to cover tents without delay. Find that ADMS 1734 th Dir is compelled to treat 200 patients in the open.	
"	13 ⁹ / ₁₅		Proc 322 again inspected Anzac area which was under command of Base Commandant & found it satisfactory. There is no definite system. Find that Air Section are under orders of DC Base, informed him that they cannot be placed under any order without delay Instructed DC's CCST to make War Establishment accommodation of ground available. Re + 5 minutes for	
"	14 ⁹ / ₁₅		Proc 294. DC 13 th CCST complaining of primary shed. (See RE) also complaining of irregular storage for wounded. (Report to HQ WME) Again inspected Sunday condition & note serious change	
"	15 ⁹ / ₁₅		Proc 236. Tents are by report erected at HQ 11 + 13 th CCST. There demands immediate delivery of Tents for 154 th Dir: Reported by ADMS 1734 th Dir that he is still making cases in the open, have informed him that we can procure Tents if space available for erection.	
"	16 ⁹ / ₁₅		Proc 305 Report HQ WME of ANZAC report marked I attached ADMS 1734 th reports storage of Tents and 200 cases are by treated in the open	Marked I

ARH.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 211

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 2.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ANZAC	17 ⁹ / ₁₅		<p>1058 hrs sum from col sent to DC HCCSR. Summary Reports show increased change in Beach area since 271. Great difficulties reported in processing (a) Drugs & (b) Medical Complaints. Instructing ADMS to coordinate all requirements for Drugs in HQ Admins Dept of Medical Store</p> <p>From ADMS ME 7 Dr H 820 calling for criminal rolls by limits of all Dr of serving.</p>	
"	18 ⁹ / ₁₅		<p>Since 282 DDMS M notes arriving for equipment & personnel of all CCs at Anzac to sent immediately from C.R.E. arriving for examination of stores only lost by tracking. Done + report prepared.</p> <p>From ADMS 54th Div arriving for Sanitation & Remaining Personnel of CCs</p> <p>Diff. inevitable. It is not recommended S.S. enough at Anzac.</p> <p>Understand that cases reported by Ambulance Company should be covered $\frac{AT}{10}$.</p>	
"	19 ⁹ / ₁₅		<p>Since 217. ADMS states Italian ambulances to be sent during winter but they should provide $\frac{1}{2}$ accommodation.</p>	
"	20 ⁹ / ₁₅		<p>Since 454 Call to ADMS arriving that some suitable CCs to sent, especially for maintenance. ADMS arriving for some with base experience same prepared. Reported absence of Hospital ship from Anzac</p>	
"	21 ⁹ / ₁₅		<p>Since 177. From ADMS 1st Div 503 hrs + 3 CTR with ADMS, arrangements made for Dr's to be sent or some others. Nothing possible only to make arrangements</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DPA</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 3.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Congo	21 ⁹ / ₁₅	2 ⁰⁰	To D.A.W.M.G. reporting reports regarding ACCS to Congo copy memo attached from A.D.S. covering about 1000, other stating that out-requirements	Manned 2
	22 ² / ₁₅		From 364. Further from L.G.C. re working.	
	23 ⁹ / ₁₅		From 224. When visit to examine status summary in drawings. D.A.S. stating that 15 units would shorten current military unit. 13 + 16 4 and ACCS - see above.	
	24 ⁹ / ₁₅		From 220 To D.A.W.M.G. reporting upon long time cases are coming from Congo copy memo	3.
"	25 ⁹ / ₁₅		From 157. From D.A.W.M.G. covering that one of 4 S. line operators in D.A.W.M.G. be killed. D.C. 24 S. in unit reports after about 1000 were reported, as it shows a good percentage of D.A.W.M.G.	
"			From 02 D.A.W.M.G. stating that Congo is again left without hospital staff	
"	26 ⁹ / ₁₅		From 291. Query for appointment of D.D.M.S. who would be responsible for all minor accommodation B.A.W.M.G. Further stating that D.A.W.M.G. has been provided for 300 at 13 + 16 1/2 + many 400 in D.A.W.M.G. When visit that situation concerning be used by order of D.A.W.M.G.	
"	27 ⁹ / ₁₅		From 288. Instruction issued that ground staffs must accompany all men when movement full months then. Count from Congo to unit on the way to C.C.S. there. Fuller	
"	28 ⁹ / ₁₅		Manned 21. Unit signed by D.A.W.M.G. Officer. D.C. 24 instructed accordingly 234 From. Report written to D.A.W.M.G. showing that B.A.W.M.G. should be provided	

D.P.H.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 21

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Security

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Cairo	28 th 15	Cnd	and for each bath at least one pint of warm fresh water with 2 gal of warm saltwater, with Soap - Essential Oils + Zinc dust etc provided. also recommended washing linen + drying room with proper sanit with immediately at least once a week.	
	29 th 15		From 292. To DMS ME & acting that a small office sent from Egypt complete from reports instructions to report at Cairo immediately for duty there. first obtained in work + attached to other units for duty. To DMS ME & acting Cairo with copy to DMS ME & report that British are required at the moment. if possible they have an office necessary & other work complete	
	30 th 15		From 224. At L & C report on the same basis would be placed to have one in the staff, as as to coordinate important information elements, and included one proposed to be placed by the staff on 15/15. letter to DMS ME & acting that arrangements for the 22nd have had been arranged at the moment by DMS ME & acting, and acting that they might be given to their unit which was very much. D.C. 24 th S.S. study information about Serken Bama Dampun.	

[Handwritten signature]

746
 DA and GMS
 A.M.Z.A.C.

I have the honour to report that I agree in every detail with extract from report of Advisory Sanitary Commission Sept. 5th 1915.

I have today instructed A.M.S. of 1st Australian Division to requisition for olive oil ration.

Referring to copy of remarks by D.S.T., in my opinion it conveys the impression

- (1st) That a regular supply of dried fruits has been issued as an equivalent. This has not been so in the case of the 1st Aust. Div.
- (2nd) That a full ration of bread was always issued. Schedule marked "A" shows that the issue has been spasmodic, that from 1-8-15 to 14-9-15 a great number of days occurred when no bread was issued, and on others only a half ration.
- (3rd) That $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of potatoes and $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of onions have been issued daily. Reference to schedule marked "B" will show that no ration of fresh potatoes has been issued to 1st Aust. Div. since Aug. 2nd 1915 and very frequently no ration of onions.
- (4th) That frozen meat was refused. D.T. reports that no instructions were ever given ^{by him} that frozen meat was not required, nor was a consignment refused. The issue of meat has been spasmodic and reference to schedule marked "A" will show issue. Personally I am strongly of opinion that frozen meat should be a daily issue. Could mutton not be alternated with beef. At least 80% of Australians prefer mutton.

5^{thly} That the abnormal amount of jam and molasses consumed might be a factor in explaining the increase of Diarrhoea. As no molasses has been issued to 1st Aust. Div. it cannot have been ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{factor} ~~cause~~ and I do not believe that well made jam could account for such a type of Dysenteric Diarrhoea that exists at Anzac.

Sept. 16th, 1915.

Colonel.
A/ & S.M.S., ANZAC.

Bread

746

1. O. C. Div 1 says. I have no correspondence on the subject, was verbally informed that issue to 1st Div could only be made every other day

2. Extract from correspondence. 68/26. Aust Div. 2 1690. A NZ A. Corp.

"Bread is issued only every other day on account of it being impossible to provide transport for a daily issue, not for any other reason."

Capt. H. C. Knox.

Lt. Col.

A & M O Aust NZ Army C

3. 1 Sep 15. Extract from war diary D.A.A.M.O 1st Aust Div Bread to be baked at Kemnos issued to troops every second day. 7.6.15.

4. Schedule showing dates of bread issue Period 1st Aug. - 13 Sept. attached.

5. Bread was issued first on 10 June issue fairly regular up to latter end of July averaging certainly three times weekly.

Meat

1. C. C. Div 2. No instructions were ever given that frozen meat was not required, nor was a requisition ever refused.

2. The issue of this has been spasmodic but never more than three weekly. Supplies ceased & re-commenced to arrive without previous notice. Frozen mutton, which would have been appreciated by the troops has never been received.

3. Schedule attached showing dates on which fresh meat has been issued period 1st Aug. 13 Sept attached

1. During May June July, a fairly regular issue has been made of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb onions & potatoes when available. ^{not $\frac{1}{2}$ lb potatoes & $\frac{1}{4}$ lb onions} July 50% more onions have been received than potatoes. The ration of fresh vegetables was only $\frac{1}{2}$ lb daily. This Div was not aware of an increase to $\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
2. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb daily. This Div was not aware of an increase to $\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
3. Schedule attached showing issue period. 2/10/1918. 13/11/18.

Canned.

This was never asked for by this Division as it was expected that a regular supply of the other equivalents would be available.

Bread & Biscuits.

This Division is satisfied with the present method of packing bread in sacks. There has been some pilfering en route but this would not be prevented by the use of barrels.

Canteen.

The need of a canteen is still felt.

Olive oil.

This is being asked for at the rate of 1 oz per man per day.

Extract D.A. 2 M.G. diary 18 June / 8 July attached.

The diary from this date onwards is in possession of the present D.A. M.G. who is now at Anzac.

Bread Was there ever any correspondence by P.T. on subject of bread for daily ration. Please give examples, result also.

Wheat Did you ever give any instructions that wheat flour was not required, or have you ever refused allotment.

Vegetables Supplies of Potatoes, Onions, What approximate ratio in lbs per man has been issued since landing.

Oatmeal Was there ever any enquiry by you for this commodity.

Jam alternatives How many times weekly was jam allowed as an alternative.

Dried Fruits how many shipments have been received.

replied by Col. Howle

Bread No correspondence
 on subject { D.T. but
 verbally informed, that
 issue to 18Dⁿ could not
 be every day.

ment No — II

Vege from landing up to
 end of July, fresh vegⁿ
 issued very regular —
 at $\frac{1}{4}$ lb of each of onion
 & potatoes — when available
 if only onion available
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb issued & vice versa

15.9.15 — F.M.W.

Obtment. only asked
for as med. comforts
and then obtained -

Tam Alice - Tam
issued twice weekly
(403) when of 60 went
trained - up to ^{about} end of
July, since then, Sub-
Pace & I had fruit has
been issued when of went
and only occasionally Tam.

15-9-15 F. J. W. H.

746

Med Unit
 Issue irregular -

9.11.15
 15.9.15

Extracts from Diary of D.A.M.G. 1st Anst Div

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- 1 1.6.15. D.A.M.G. raises question of decreasing meat & increasing jam ration. All Bde. Div. Art. Div. Coy. asked opinion as to making meat ration 8oz (disease 8oz) & jam ration 6oz (median of 2 or 4oz).
- 2 4.6.15. Jam in lieu of meat all Bde. Art. Coy. desire change. 2 Batter 2 rations only do not. Matter put forward to G.O.C. who approves. Submission to Anzac. also suggested by D.A.M.G. that Treacle or Golden Syrup be substituted for jam.
- 3 7.6.15. Bread to be baked at Lemnos & issued to troops every second day commencing 9.6.15
- 4 13.6.15. G. HQ approves extra jam & treacle issue.
- 5 18.6.15. D.A.M.G. informed D.A.M.G. verbally that certain Canteen stores are available on Leany Bee. The stores will be divided up between both Divisions pro rata. Arrangements made accordingly with S.S.O. to take over & method of distribution will be decided later.
- do Scurvy among native troops of 2nd Anst Div reported. D.A.M.G. suggests extra issue of dried fruits none in stock in lieu of those suggested. Letter to Anzac accordingly.
- 6 19.6.15. Letter to Anzac asking whether the Canteen stores may not be gift stores.
- 7 21.6.15. Canteen stores sold at prices fixed by D.A.M.G. no complaint. Total receipts £145-4-6.
- 8 24.6.15. G. HQ ask whether any further addition to ration scale can be suggested. D.A.M.G. suggests rice & paste to ADMS.
- 9 5.7.15. Spoke ADMS reference 27 Canteen. W.O. has been asked to send one out. No reply yet. Navy will not undertake responsibility.
- 10 6.7.15. Consider it would be a good thing if condiments could be issued. Already coffee and cocoa in lieu of tea have been suggested.
- 11 7.7.15. Letter to Anzac re canteen, pickles sauce etc.
- 12 8.7.15. Spoke ADMS reference canteen - no hope.
- diary
19.7.15.

746

Appendix No. 2. " 2 "

14



To: -D.A. & Q.M.G.,
A. & N.Z. Army Corps.

I have the honour to report that great difficulties still exist in obtaining an adequate supply of medical comforts and drugs. The shortage of farinaceous foods is a question of great urgency to the welfare of the Army Corps. Strenuous efforts are being made to prevent evacuation of slight cases owing to the fact that if Officers and men once leave Anzac, only a very small proportion return for duty after a prolonged absence. In previous reports upon this subject I have instanced cases of Officers and men sent from Anzac in April and May of this year suffering from slight wounds or illness, who have not yet returned to Anzac.

As provision is now being made to accommodate one or two thousand serious and slight cases which it may be impossible to evacuate owing to stress of weather, it will be absolutely essential that some provision should immediately be made to meet such an emergency.

I would most respectfully suggest:-

- (a) That a more judicious selection of medical comforts be made. This would include a much greater proportion of farinaceous foods.
- (b) That a large quantity of invalid foods be stored to meet such an emergency as being compelled to hold up a number of cases which cannot be evacuated.
- (c) An adequate supply of the requisite drugs, as it is quite impossible for No4 Advanced Depot of Medical Stores to supply six Divisions with the supply available.

I attach extracts from reports of
A.Ds., M.S., Army Corps, Anzac.

Sept., 21st, 1915.

Colonel,

(1) From A.D.M.S., 1st Aust., Divn.

"(a) Attached is a table of drugs requisitioned for but unobtainable on the dates given (see Table A, attached). There is always a heavy demand for drugs used in the treatment of diarrhoea, influenza, ordinary coughs, colds, as the Regimental sick parades are large.

"(b) Cornflour, arrowroot, tapioco, oatmeal and sago have been difficult to obtain in small quantities and on some days lately have been unobtainable. The absence of the above medical comforts has proved a serious matter and resulted in cases having to be evacuated, which might have been kept in the lines if proper diet could have been supplied them at the outset of their illness.

"For example on 12 Sept., of the foods mentioned above, only 4 lbs of sago was available."

(2) From A.D.M.S., 2nd Aust., Divn.

"The Advanced Depot of Medical Stores is carrying out its duties in a helpful manner as far as this Division is concerned.

"The stock of salicylic acid derivatives is quite inadequate, and as the winter is coming on, I would suggest that large orders be placed for acetyl salicylic acid, salicylate of soda, and salicylate of bismuth, as medical Officers prescribe these drugs freely and I think advisedly. The Depot cannot at present fill the demand. Cough tablets are also short supplied.

"As regards medical comforts, the position is unsatisfactory. Supply Depot has given me a return of arrowroot, cornflour and bovil etc., on hand for this Division. The stock on hand is sufficient for one Field Ambulance for one day. I would suggest that arrowroot, cornflour and sago, bovil or other meat extract, be requisitioned for in far larger quantities. Diarrhoea is so prevalent that these are absolutely essential if we are to maintain the strength of fighting Units. The alternative is to send all cases of diarrhoea to Mudros."

(3) From A.D.M.S., N.Z. & A. Divn.

"The supply of drugs from No 4 Advanced Depot of Medical Stores is never efficient. Rarely, if ever, has a requisition been completed. Quite recently an imperative order was sent from G.H.Q., that all cases of diarrhoea were to have emetine administered. A wire to No 4 Advanced Depot of Medical Stores elicited the reply that none was available. Hypodermic syringes and surgical needles have never formed part of the stock. The common drugs Sodii, salicyl, oil. ricini, mag. Sulph., and chlorodyne, have never been kept in sufficient quantity, and it has therefore been impossible to keep on the Peninsula many men, who had the supply of necessary drugs been available, could have been retained and treated.

"As regards medical comforts, some articles, such as tinned fowl, paste, eggs, brandy, and other stimulants, have been amply provided, but in regard to farinaceous foods such as cornflour and arrowroot, the supply has been extremely limited, in fact on many occasions none was available whatsoever. During the present week for example there has been available for issue to the whole of this Division, only 10 lbs of arrowroot; usually meat extract is not obtainable."

(4) From A.D.M.S. 54th E.A. Division.

"Immediate requirements are:-

(a) Increased supply of drugs, especially castor oil, magnesia sulphate, emetine and opium preparations, calomel and purgative pills.

(b) A very large increase of hospital comforts especially milk, arrowroot, beef tea, sago, rice, cocoa, as with these men can be dieted for two or three days with their Regiments, and often recover without further medical treatment. They are also required for use in the ~~five~~ Field Ambulances with the addition of tinned chicken etc.,

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~~xxx~~ alcohol is little used."
(c) A supply of syringes for the purpose of injecting
anti-tetanic serum has not yet been available at No 4
Advanced Depot of Medical Stores.

Headquarters
1st Australian Division
17-9-15

7 D.D.M.S. ANZAC.

In reply to your enquiry re difficulty in obtaining (1) DRUGS (2) MEDICAL COMFORTS for the 1st Australian Division:

1. Attached is a list of drugs requisitioned for, but unobtainable on the dates given. There is always a heavy demand for drugs used in the treatment of Diarrhoea, Influenza, Ordinary Coughs & Colds, as the Regimental Sick Parades are large.
2. Cornflour, Arrowroot, Tapioca, Oatmeal Sago have been difficult to obtain even in small quantities, and on some days lately have been unobtainable. The absence of the above medical comforts has proved a serious matter and resulted in cases having to be evacuated, which might have been kept in the lines if proper diet could have been supplied them at the outset of their illness. For example on 12th Sept of the foods mentioned above only 4 lbs of Sago was available.

W. W. Hearn Lt. Col.
of A.D.M.S.

From RMC -
S.L.H. Reg

Chatham's Post
18.9.15

To Adams
8 Aust Div -

I have been unable to obtain
any arrowroot, cornflour or Barley
for the last 4 days. I have a
large number of Diarrhoea cases
& treat in the lines - Is there
any possibility of getting any
material for light diets, elsewhere
than Supply Depot, who don't hold
any prospects of getting supplies
in the immediate future.

W. D. Dorman Cpl
- RMC S.L.H.

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See D.D. 25


 Appendix No. 2
 2nd Australian Division
 Headquarters

19

17-9-15

 To: D.O.M.S.
 From: A.D.M.S.

Medical comforts + Drugs

The Advanced Depot medical stores is carrying out its duties in a helpful manner as far as this Division is concerned.

The stock of Salicylic Acid derivatives is quite inadequate & as the winter is coming on I would suggest that large orders be placed for, Acetyl Salicylic Acid, Salicylate of Soda, and Salicylate of Bismuth. Medical Officers prescribe these drugs freely, & I think advisedly, the Depot cannot at present fill the demand. ~~2~~ ² ~~Loose Tablets~~ ^{Loose Tablets} are also short supplied.

As regards medical comforts, the position is unsatisfactory. Supplies Depot has given me a return of Arrowroot, Cornflour + Bovril to on hand for this Division. The stock on hand is sufficient for one Field Ambulance for one day. I would suggest that Arrowroot, Cornflour + Sago, Bovril or other treat extract be requisitioned in far larger quantities. Diarrhoea is so prevalent that these are absolutely essential if we are to maintain the strength of fighting units. The alternative is to send all cases of Diarrhoea to hospital.

Agued Sutton Colonel
 A.D.M.S.



N.Z.Ma/64.

NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.

No. 2. Post,

17th. September, 1915.

FROM. The A. D. M. S.

TO. The D. D. M. S.

A N Z A C.

In reply to your D.D.25.:-

(1) The supply of drugs from No. 4. Advanced Depot of Medical Stores is never efficient. Rarely, if ever, has a Requisition been completed. Quite lately an imperative order was sent from G.H.Q. that all cases of Diarrhoea were to have Emetine administered. A wire to No.4. Advanced Depot of Medical Stores elicited the reply that none was available. Hypodermic Syringes and Surgical Needles have never formed part of the stock. The commoner drugs, e.g. Sodii. Salicyl, Ol. Ricini, Mag. Sulph, Chlorodyne, have never been kept in sufficient quantity, and it has therefore been impossible to keep on the Peninsula many men, who, had the supply of necessary drugs been available, could have been retained and treated.

(2) As regards Medical Comforts, some articles, such as Tinned Fowl, Paste, Eggs, Brandy, and other stimulants, have been amply supplied, but in regard to Farinaceous Foods such as Cornflour and Arrowroot, the supply has been extremely limited, in fact on many occasions none was available whatsoever. During the present week for example, there has only been available for issue to the whole of this Division, 10 lbs of Arrowroot; usually Meat Extract is not obtainable.

I recommend that Australia be asked to send a supply of such articles of diet as the above, together with Benger's, Mellins' or Nestle's Foods.

A cable would, I think, enable us to have a supply from there within six weeks.

Colonel, A.A.M.C.

A. D. M. S.

58.

From - D.C. No 4 Advance Depot of Medical Stores

To D.D.M.S Anzac.



Sir,
 With reference to your orders of to-day I beg to inform you that I have done all in my power to meet the requirements of different units made on my store.

The amount of Anti-Tetanic Serum is very limited and the syringes are not all stocks but both were ordered for two weeks ago and have not arrived yet, although I have been notified that they have been sent.

Supplies from Haidros have never been regular and take approximately 10-12 days to arrive here.

We are supplying six divisions

Hewille. G. Linzee
 D.R.A.M.C (S.R.)

17/9/15
 Anzac



To:-D.A. & Q.M.G.,

A. & N.Z. Army Corps.

I have the honour to report that a very large percentage of Officers and men who have been evacuated from Anzac suffering from slight wounds or illness have not yet returned. Many of these were evacuated in April and May. Whilst it is reasonable to assume that a small percentage of these cases may have subsequently become more serious, it is impossible to conceive that this can be the full explanation. Under ordinary conditions of active service about 50% of these should have been returned to duty within three or four weeks. The difficulties of keeping Officers and other ranks of Regular Armies has been recognised by all men of experience and naturally these conditions exist with a citizen force.

The weekly evacuation from Anzac under the present conditions of harmony and good weather is over 2,000; the number will be increased during the winter. In view of the small number that are returning it appears to be essential that urgent steps be immediately taken to return all Officers and other ranks who are fit for duty.

In my communication of 18/8/15 I called attention to a specific case and have no hesitation in saying that the same applies to many hundreds of others, as I hear complaints both from A.I.F., and Imperial Officers; in fact it has become a by-word at Anzac that, once evacuated, it is improbable that they will return for many months. Both medical and combatant Officers inform me that they have been encouraged to proceed to England, and nearly every report from Malta points out the great difficulties which exist there against returning to duty.

In my communications of 18/8/15, and 30/8/15, I respectfully suggested that certain steps should be taken, which in my opinion would give some control over the A.I.F., and would reduce the enormous monetary wastage which the Commonwealth is now incurring owing to ~~the~~ a large number of men not returning when fit for duty. With great diffidence I wish to point out on behalf of the A.A.M.C.

2.

that I have urged the appointment of an Australian Officer who would be responsible to G.O.C., A.I.F.,, who, I understand, represents the Commonwealth of Australia. The A.A.M.C., which now consists of nearly 1,000 Officers and many thousand other ranks has been placed entirely under R.A.M.C., control. A.A.M.C., Officers have been selected for appointments they were palpably unfitted to fill, and a great deal of friction exists, which, if permitted to increase must ultimately mitigate against success, which can only be obtained by co-ordination.

The Minister for Defence, Australia, states in an Official reply published in the "Age" of 12/7/15, that no Official statement suggesting ~~friction~~ friction in A.A.M.C., has been received. Might I ask that a copy of this correspondence, with attached reports, may be forwarded to him.

Sept., 23rd, 1915.

Colonel,
a/D.D.M.S.,
A. & N.Z. Army Corps.

1st Aust. Divⁿ

Headquarters

29.9.15

A.I.M.S.

The following is a report from Major St. Vincent Welch Acting OC. 1st Field Ambulance dated 23.9.15 from Mudros West SARPI CAMP.

The following men arrived here as 8th reinforcements and are physically fit. I have attached them to this Unit for rations and discipline. Their pay books show that they were enlisted as 8th Reinforcements for 1st Field Ambulance, but the 3rd General Hospital claims them, supported by A.I.M.S. Mudros West. Please authorise me to attach them to 1st Field Ambulance. No 4211 Ste Rice H.C.

" 4213 " Shepherd C.V.

" 4214 " Chissold L.

" 4215 " Burke B.H.

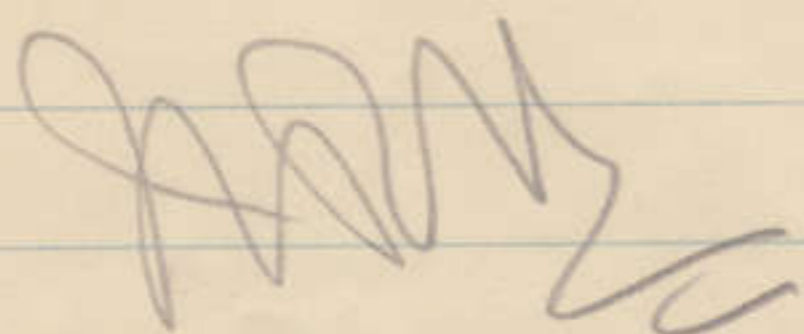
" 4216 " McClure B.H.

General Health of Troops gradually improving, but sick parades of genuinely sick are abnormally large.

Dentists The dentists at Mudros are absolutely unable to cope with the work required - only 2 dentists being available. Extra assistance is imperative, if the condition of the mouths of the 1st Brigade is to be benefited. Many men are suffering from toxicæmia due to septic condition of ~~mouths~~ or from asthenia due to urgent need of dentures.

R.M.O.s Captain Wentworth Thompson is the only R.M.O. of the 1st Brigade ~~in addition~~. The 1st F. Amb. is doing practically all sick parades of 1st Brigade & in addition those of A.S.C., Artillery, Engineers, Divisional details as well as our own work.

Captain C.E. Wassell and myself are the only medical officers here belonging to our unit."



A.J. Aspinall Major
A.I.M.S.